

June 2, 2019

Preparing the Way

Things to Ponder This Week

### Introduction to the Gospel According to Luke

(Luke 1:1-4)

Luke was a G\_\_\_\_\_ believer, who was a physician by trade. He was a close associate of the Apostle Paul. What he wrote in his gospel was handed down by those who were with Jesus from the beginning, and were e\_\_\_\_\_ and servants of the word. His job in writing was to investigate everything c\_\_\_\_\_, and to write things down in consecutive; chronological, order, so the reader would know the t\_\_\_\_\_ concerning Jesus Christ.

### Historical Context of the Gospel According to Luke

(Luke 3:1-2)

Luke begins at the very b\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' earthly life. He sets the stage for Jesus' birth by writing about John the Baptist, who according to Old Testament p\_\_\_\_\_ was to prepare the way for the coming Messiah. The public ministries of both John the Baptist and Jesus began around AD \_\_\_\_.

### Preparing the Way for Jesus Christ

(Luke 3:3-6; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Acts 18:9-10; Romans 10:11-17)

John's role was to make r\_\_\_\_\_ the way of the Lord; to prepare a straight path for the coming Messiah. It meant preparing the h\_\_\_\_\_ of the people, so that their hearts would be ready; have a clear path to receiving the Messiah. As those who profess faith in Jesus Christ, we too are to prepare the way for others to come to k\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

Based on Luke 1:1-4, what was Luke's purpose for writing his Gospel? If you were to write a book, what would you write about? What would be your intent and purpose for writing that book, and how would you go about writing it?

Based on Luke 3:1-2, what was the political and spiritual climate like at that time? What is the political and spiritual climate like in the world we live in today? How is it similar to the time of first century Palestine? How is it different?

Based on Luke 3:3-6, what was John the Baptist's primary responsibility (calling) given to him by God? What is the primary responsibility (calling) that God has given to you? If you are not sure what your calling is, then prayerfully seek and ask God to make clear the way you should go.

Next Sunday, we will look at "Our Relationship in Relation to Christ." Prayerfully read Luke 3:7-20, and consider how John the Baptist viewed himself in relationship to Jesus, who to him was the coming Christ.