

Jesus Says

Words You Can Trust

Luke 1:1-4

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

- **Introduction – *Jesus Says!***
 - Luke the longest Gospel
 - ‘**Red Letter**’ Luke!
 - Uniquely suited for us
 - Somewhat removed from the scene and events
 - Writes as a non-Jew, primarily for other Gentiles
 - Shows us Jesus in ways we can easily relate to

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

- **Introduction**
- **Observing the Text**
 - A serious historical text
 - Product of a 1st-class writer
 - Three main points:
 - Reliable sources of information were available to him (vs. 1-2)
 - the things accomplished among us*
 - servants of the Word*

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

- **Introduction**
- **Observing the Text**
 - A serious historical text
 - Product of a 1st-class writer
 - Three main points:
 - Reliable sources of information were available to him (vs. 1-2)
 - He carefully researched and assembled an ordered narrative (vs. 3)
 - That we can be assured of the truthfulness (vs. 4)
 - To not slip, totter, or fall
 - See John 6:60,61; 66-69; 20:30,31

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

- **Introduction**
- **Observing the Text**
- **Applying the Text Personally**
 - God sovereignly guides people, not robots, to accomplish His good and perfect will
 - Luke's fingerprint is all over this gospel
 - Yet see II Peter 2:20,21; II Tim 3:16; Phil 2:12,13
God doesn't need and want you to be someone else to serve Him and to do His will. Nor does He eliminate you personality or override your will. Don't try to be someone you are not; instead, be all God has uniquely made you to be!

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

- **Introduction**
- **Observing the Text**
- **Applying the Text Personally**
 - God sovereignly guides people, not robots, to accomplish His good and perfect will
 - The NT writings are historically reliable – you can trust them!
 - *The New Testament Documents – Are They Reliable?* by F. F. Bruce
 - *Evidence that Demands a Verdict – Historic Evidences for the Christian Faith* by Josh McDowell

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

The Bibliographical Test

1. How many manuscripts are available to us?
2. How many years between the original and the copies?

New Testament:

- 5,000+ copies in Greek, 10,000 in other languages
- Complete copies – 300 years later
Fragments – a few decades later

Classical writings:

- Caesar's *Gallic War* – 10+ copies, oldest 900 years
- Tacitus *Histories* – 10 copies, oldest 800-900 years

Words You Can Trust – Luke 1:1-4

To be skeptical of the text of the NT books is to allow all of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity, for no documents of the ancient period are as well attested bibliographically as the New Testament.

J.W. Montgomery