

Luke's Preface: An Orderly Account (c. 5/4 BC)

Luke 1:1–4

1 Since many have attempted to compile an account concerning the events that have been fulfilled among us,
2 just as those who were eyewitnesses and servants of the word from the beginning passed on to us,
3 it seemed best to me also—*because I* have followed all *things* carefully from the beginning—to write *them* down
in orderly sequence for you, most excellent Theophilus,
4 so that you may know the certainty concerning the things about which you were taught.

John's Preface: The Word Became Flesh (c. 5/4 BC)

John 1:1–18

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2 This one was in the beginning with God.
3 All *things* came into being through him, and apart from him not one *thing* came into being that has come into being.
4 In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity.
5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.
6 A man came, sent from God, whose name was John.
7 This one came for a witness, in order that he could testify about the light, so that all would believe through him.
8 That one was not the light, but *came* in order that he could testify about the light.
9 The true light, who gives light to every person, was coming into the world.
10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, and the world did not recognize him.
11 He came to his own *things*, and his own *people* did not receive him.
12 But as many as received him—to those who believe in his name—he gave to them authority to become children of God,
13 who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of a husband, but of God.
14 And the Word became flesh and took up residence among us, and we saw his glory, glory as of the one and only from the Father, full of grace and truth.
15 John testified about him and cried out, saying, “This one was *he* about whom I said, ‘The one who comes after me is ahead of me, because he existed before me.’”
16 For from his fullness we have all received, and grace after grace.
17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came about through Jesus Christ.
18 No one has seen God at any time; the one and only, God, the one who is in the bosom of the Father—that one has made *him* known.

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