

**Luke presents his work in “historical” context**

**1:1** Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have reached their fulfilment among us,

<sup>2</sup> as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word,

<sup>3</sup> I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus,

<sup>4</sup> so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

<sup>5</sup> In the days of King Herod of Judaea there lived a priest called Zechariah....

**2:1** Now it happened that at this time Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be made of the whole inhabited world.

<sup>2</sup> This census -- the first -- took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria,

<sup>3</sup> and everyone went to be registered, each to his own town....

**3:1** In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the territories of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene,

<sup>2</sup> and while the high-priesthood was held by Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah, in the desert....

**Peter's proclamation of the Gospel (Acts 10)**

'God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ -- he is the Lord of all.

<sup>37</sup> You know what happened all over Judaea, how Jesus of Nazareth began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism.

<sup>38</sup> God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.

<sup>39</sup> Now we are witnesses to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and they killed him by hanging him on a tree,

<sup>40</sup> yet on the third day God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen,

<sup>41</sup> not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses that God had chosen beforehand.

Now we are those witnesses -- we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead-

<sup>42</sup> and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to bear witness that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead.

<sup>43</sup> It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

**The Star of Bethlehem in Numbers 24**

The prophecy of Balaam son of Beor, the prophecy of the man with far-seeing eyes,

<sup>16</sup> the prophecy of one who hears the words of God, of one who knows the knowledge of the Most High. He sees what Shaddai makes him see, receives the divine answer, and his eyes are opened.

<sup>17</sup> I see him -- but not in the present. I perceive him -- but not close at hand: a star is emerging from Jacob, a sceptre is rising from Israel, to strike the brow of Moab, the skulls of all the children of Seth.



### **The Thirty Pieces of Silver paid to the Prophet Zechariah (ch 11)**

<sup>12</sup> I then said to them, 'If you see fit, give me my wages; if not, never mind.' So they weighed out my wages: thirty shekels of silver.

<sup>13</sup> Yahweh said to me, 'Throw it to the smelter, this princely sum at which they have valued me!' Taking the thirty shekels of silver, I threw them into the Temple of Yahweh, for the smelter.

### **The Throwing of Dice for Jesus' robe: Ps 22:18**

<sup>7</sup> I can count every one of my bones, while they look on and gloat;

<sup>18</sup> they divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

### **The Origin of the Messiah in Jn 7**

<sup>40</sup> Some of the crowd who had been listening said, 'He is indeed the prophet,'

<sup>41</sup> and some said, 'He is the Christ,' but others said, 'Would the Christ come from Galilee?

<sup>42</sup> Does not scripture say that the Christ must be descended from David and come from Bethlehem, the village where David was?'

<sup>43</sup> So the people could not agree about him.

### **Paul's exclamation at Rm 11**

<sup>33</sup> How rich and deep are the wisdom and the knowledge of God! We cannot reach to the root of his decisions or his ways.

<sup>34</sup> Who has ever known the mind of the Lord? Who has ever been his adviser?

<sup>35</sup> Who has given anything to him, so that his presents come only as a debt returned?

<sup>36</sup> Everything there is comes from him and is caused by him and exists for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

### **Paul announces the Gospel (Rm 1)**

<sup>3</sup> This is the gospel concerning his Son

- who, in terms of human nature <sup>4</sup> was born a descendant of David and
- who, in terms of the Spirit and of holiness, was designated Son of God in power by resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ, our Lord

### **The Beloved Disciple (Jn 21)**

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them -- the one who had leant back close to his chest at the supper and had said to him, 'Lord, who is it that will betray you?'

<sup>21</sup> Seeing him, Peter said to Jesus, 'What about him, Lord?'

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, 'If I want him to stay behind till I come, what does it matter to you? You are to follow me.'

<sup>23</sup> The rumour then went out among the brothers that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus had not said to Peter, 'He will not die,' but, 'If I want him to stay behind till I come.'

<sup>24</sup> This disciple is the one who vouches for these things and has written them down, and we know that his testimony is true.

