

# Luke 1:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,

## Analysis

---

Luke's claim to 'perfect understanding' (Greek 'parekolouthekoti akribos') means he traced everything carefully from the beginning. This demonstrates both divine inspiration and human diligence in Gospel composition. The Reformed principle of verbal inspiration doesn't negate careful historical investigation; rather, God's sovereignty works through providential means. Luke's methodical research serves God's purpose of providing an orderly, accurate account.

## Historical Context

---

As a physician and companion of Paul, Luke had access to eyewitnesses and written sources. His 'orderly account' (kathexes) suggests chronological and theological arrangement to demonstrate the certainty of Christian teaching.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

---

1. How does Luke's careful research demonstrate that faith and reason are compatible?
2. What does this verse teach about how God uses human faculties in inspiration?
3. Why is an 'orderly account' important for understanding redemptive history?

## Interlinear Text

---

ἔδοξεν	κάμοι	παρηκολουθηκότι	ἄνωθεν	πᾶσιν
It seemed	good to me also	understanding	from the very first	of all things
G1380	G2504	G3877	G509	G3956
ἀκριβῶς	καθεξῆς	σοι	γράψαι	κράτιστε
having had perfect	in order	unto thee	to write	most excellent
G199	G2517	G4671	G1125	G2903
Θεόφιλε				
				Theophilus
				G2321

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Acts 1:1** (Parallel theme): The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

**Acts 26:25** (Parallel theme): But he said, I am not mad, most noble Festus; but speak forth the words of truth and soberness.

**Acts 23:26** (Parallel theme): Claudio Lysias unto the most excellent governor Felix sendeth greeting.

**Acts 24:3** (Parallel theme): We accept it always, and in all places, most noble Felix, with all thankfulness.

**Acts 11:4** (Parallel theme): But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,

**Acts 15:25** (Good): It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

**Acts 15:19** (Parallel theme): Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:

**Acts 15:28** (Good): For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

**Ecclesiastes 12:9** (Good): And moreover, because the preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yea, he gave good heed, and sought out, and set in order many proverbs.

**Luke 1:1** (Parallel theme): Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,