

# Luke 1:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

That thou mightest know the certainty of those things,  
wherein thou hast been instructed.

## Analysis

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The purpose statement reveals Luke's pastoral concern: 'that thou mightest know the certainty' (Greek 'aspaleia' - security, firmness). Christian faith rests on historical facts, not subjective experience or philosophical speculation. The word 'catechized' (katechethes) indicates Theophilus had received instruction but needed confirmation. This establishes the biblical pattern of teaching leading to assurance, grounded in objective historical events of Christ's life, death, and resurrection.

## Historical Context

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Early Christian catechesis involved systematic instruction in the faith before baptism. Luke's Gospel served to provide documented certainty for what Theophilus had been taught orally, establishing a written foundation for Christian doctrine.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does the historical certainty of the Gospel provide assurance of salvation?
2. What role does sound doctrine play in establishing believers in the faith?
3. How can you grow in certainty of the things you have been taught about Christ?

## Interlinear Text

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ἵνα	ἐπιγνῶς	περὶ	ὧν	κατηχήθης	λόγων
That	thou mightest know	of	wherein	thou hast been instructed	those things
G2443	G1921	G4012	G3739	G2727	G3056
τὴν	ἀσφάλειαν				
G3588	the certainty	G803			

## Additional Cross-References

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**John 20:31** (Parallel theme): But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

**Acts 18:25** (Parallel theme): This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.