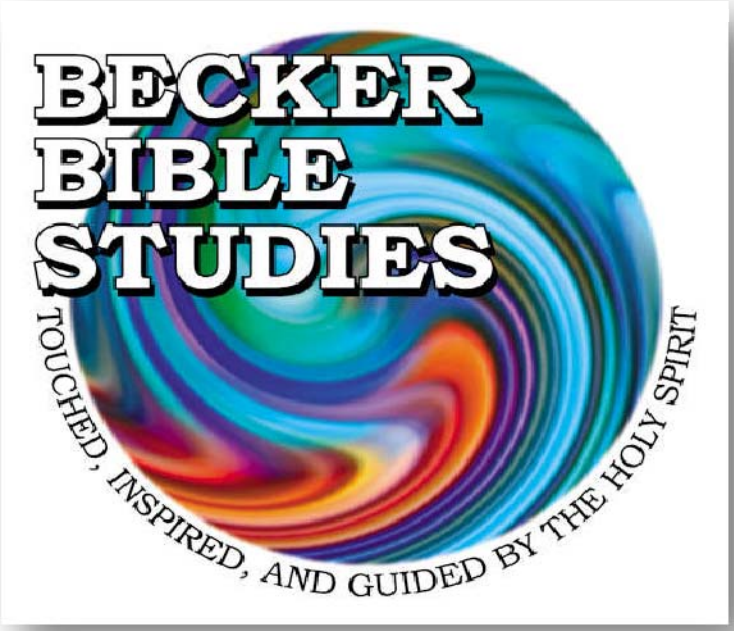

Luke Authorship Evidence for the Book of Acts

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Evidence	Type	Reference	Proof
Luke and Acts linked	Internal	Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-5	Both Luke and Acts mention Theophilus, which indicate the same author of both
"We" sections	Internal	Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16	Author was witness to some events in Acts and a sometime companion of Paul as second-generation convert to the Christian faith
Luke is known to Paul	External	Colossians 4:14; Philem. 24; 2 Timothy 4:11	While Luke is recorded as knowing Paul, other candidates for authorship that knew Paul include Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, Timothy, Titus, Silas, Epaphras, and Barnabas
Justin Martyr	External	*Dial* 103.19 (AD 200)	Speaks of Luke as companion of Paul
Muratorian Canon	External	Lines 34-39	Refers to Luke as author who compiled Acts for Theophilus
Anti-Marcionite Prologues	External	Prologue to the Gospel of Luke which appears in several dozen early Latin Bible Manuscripts, uncertain date around 4th century	"Indeed Luke was an Antiochene Syrian, a doctor by profession, a disciple of the apostles: later however he followed Paul until his martyrdom, serving the Lord blamelessly. He never had a wife, he never fathered children, and died at the age of eighty-four, full of the Holy Spirit, in Boetia. Therefore --- although gospels had already been written ---- indeed by Matthew in Judaea but by Mark in Italy ---- moved by the Holy Spirit he wrote down this gospel in the parts of Achaia, signifying in the preface that the others were written before his, but also that it was of the greatest importance for him to expound with the greatest diligence the whole series of events in his narration for the Greek believers, so that they would not be led astray by the lure of Jewish fables, or, seduced by the fables of the heretics and stupid solicitations, fall away from the truth. And so at once at the start he took up the extremely necessary [story] from the birth of John, who is the beginning of the gospel, the forerunner of our Lord Jesus Christ, and was a companion in the perfecting of the people, likewise in the introducing of baptism and a companion in martyrdom. Of this disposition the prophet Malachi, one of the twelve, certainly makes mention. And indeed afterwards the same Luke wrote the Acts of the Apostles. Later the apostle John wrote the Apocalypse on the island of Patmos, and then the Gospel in Asia. "[2]
Irenaeus	External	*Ag. Her* . 3.1, 14	Refers to Luke as Paul's companion, the recorder of his Gospel, and inseparable from Paul. (This is a clear exageration; the brief references to Luke's presence in the "we sections," and Eusebius (*Eccl Hist* . 3.4) stating Luke was with Paul "a good deal." This is also noted in 3.24, where Luke is said to have had contact with "the rest of the apostles").
Clement of Alexandria	External	*Stromata* 5.12	Calls Luke the author of Acts when alluding to Acts 17
Tertullian	External	*Against Marcion* 4.2	Connects Luke and Paul
Origen	External	According to Eusebius, *Eccl. Hist* . 6.25	Also connects Luke and Paul

Reference

[1] Bock, D. L. (2007). Acts: Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

[2] Anonymous. (Fourth Century). *Anti-Marcionite Prologues to the Gospels* . Retrieved August 24, 2009, from CCEL.org: http://www.ccel.org/p/pearse/morefathers/anti_marcionite_prologues.htm