

Thru the Bible in 8 Weeks

Part 5: The Gospels – Matthew through John

History – Between the Testaments

- Babylon Conquered by Persian Empire
 - Jews Return from Babylonian Captivity
 - Rebuild Temple
 - Persia Conquered by Greece
 - Pharisees (separatists) emerge against Greek influence
 - Greece divided between Alexander's generals
 - Ptolemy's in Egypt, Seleucids in Syria
 - Antiochus Epiphanies Persecutes Jews
 - Desecrates Temple by setting up image
 - Type of Anti-Christ
 - **Matthew 24:15**
“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’ spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),
 - Judas Maccabeus revolts and consecrates temple 165 BC
 - Origin of Feast of Dedication (Hanukah)
- Rome Takes Control 63 BC
 - Herod the Great King of Judea 37 BC

Writings – Between the Testaments

- Septuagint – Greek translation of Hebrew Scriptures – 250 BC
 - Used and quoted by New Testament authors
- Apocrypha – 14 books originating between 1st and 3rd centuries BC
 - Included in some versions of Septuagint but never quoted by NT authors
 - Included in Latin Vulgate
 - Included in Catholic Bible
 - Excluded by the Reformers
 - Canonized by Rome after Reformation. Reactionary?

The Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, & John

- Four men who penned the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 - Birth announced and recorded
 - 1 incident at the feast of Passover when Jesus is 12 in Luke 2
 - 3 ½ year ministry in Galilee and Judea
 - Death and Resurrection in Jerusalem
 - Ascension recorded in Mark and Luke
- Time period – 4 BC – 32 AD

Matthew

- **Author**
 - One of Jesus' twelve disciples
 - Also named Levi. A tax collector
- **Time**
 - Begins by establishing His lineage
 - Son of David - Throne established forever (2 Samuel 7:12-13)
 - Son of Abraham
 - All nations blessed through Abraham's seed (Genesis 12:3 with Galatians 3:16)
- **Theme – King**
 - Presents Jesus as the King of the Jews to a Jewish audience
 - 50 direct citations from the Old Testament.
 - 75 allusions are made to Old Testament events

Old Testament Prophecies Quoted in the Gospels

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|---|---|
| 1) He was to be of David's family | 2 Sam 7:12-16; Ps 89:3-4; 110:1; 132:11; Isa 9:6, 7; 11:1 |
| 2) He would be born of a virgin | Gen 3:15; Isa 7:14 |
| 3) He would be born in Bethlehem | Micah 5:2 |
| 4) He would sojourn in Egypt | Hos 11:1 |
| 5) He would live in Galilee | Isa 9:1, 2 |
| 6) To be announced by an Elijah-like herald | Isa 40:3-5; Mal 3:1; 4:5 |
| 7) Would occasion massacre of Bethlehem's children | Gen 35:19-20; Jer 31:15 |
| 8) Would proclaim a Jubilee to the world | Isa 58:6; 61:1 |
| 9) His mission would include the Gentiles | Isa 42:1-4 |
| 10) Ministry would be one of healing | Isa 53:5 |
| 11) He would teach by parables | Isa 6:9-10; Ps 78:2 |
| 12) He would be disbelieved, rejected by Rulers | Ps 69:4; 118:22; Isa 6:10; 29:13; 53:1 |
| 13) Would make a triumphal entry into Jerusalem | Zech 9:9; Ps 118:25-26 |
| 14) Would be like a smitten shepherd | Zech 13:7 |
| 15) Betrayed by friend for 30 pieces of silver | Zech 11:12-13; Ps 41:9 |
| 16) Would be given vinegar and gall | Ps 69:21 |
| 17) They would cast lots for His garments | Ps 22:18 |
| 18) Not a bone would be broken | Ex 12:46; Num 9:12; Ps 34:20; cf. John 19:33,36 |
| 19) Side would be pierced | Zech 12:10; Ps 22:16 |
| 20) Would die among malefactors | Isa 53:9, 12 |
| 21) His dying words foretold | Ps 22:1; 31:5 |
| 22) Would be buried by a rich man | Isa 53:9 |
| 23) Rise from dead on 3rd day | Gen 22:4; Ps 16:10-11; Jon 1:17; Hos 6:2 |
| 24) Resurrection followed by destruction of Jerusalem | Dan 9:26; 11:31; 12:1,11 |

- **Outline**
 - Ch. 1-2 Birth of Christ
 - Ch. 3 John the Baptist Ministry
 - Ch. 4 Temptation of Christ
 - Ch. 5-18 Ministry in Galilee
 - Ch. 19-25 Ministry in Judea
 - Ch. 26-28 Death and Resurrection
- **Key Passages**
 - Ch. 5-7 The Sermon on the Mount
 - Ch. 24-25 The Olivet Discourse
 - Ch. 28:18-20 The Great Commission

Mark

- **Author**
 - John Mark
 - Cousin of Barnabas
 - Attended Paul and Barnabas on 1st missionary journey
 - Abandoned the mission
 - Cause of rift between Paul and Barnabas at beginning of 2nd journey
 - Rift healed later between he and Paul
 - Companion of Peter
 - The Gospel of Mark is Peter's eyewitness account
 - Thought to be young boy who fled from Jesus' enemies
 - **Mark 14:51-52**
Now a certain young man followed Him, having a linen cloth thrown around his naked body. And the young men laid hold of him, and he left the linen cloth and fled from them naked.
- **Time**
 - Begins from the ministry of John the Baptist
 - Mark is a fast paced book focusing more on what Jesus did than what He said
- **Theme - Servant**
 - Presents Jesus to a Roman audience as the One who came to serve.
 - **Mark 10:45**
For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”
- **Outline**
 - Ch. 1-9 Ministry in Galilee
 - Ch. 10-14 Ministry in Judea
 - Ch. 15-16 Death and Resurrection

Luke

- **Author**
 - Luke the beloved physician
 - A traveling companion of the Apostle Paul
 - The only Gentile author in the Bible
 - Also the author of the book of Acts
- **Time**
 - Begins from the annunciation of the birth of John the Baptist
- **Theme – Son of Man**
 - Luke gives the most complete account of Christ's ancestry, birth, and development.
 - He portrays Jesus as the ideal son of man who identified with the sorrow and plight of sinful men in order to carry our sorrows and offer us the priceless gift of salvation.
 - The primary audience is Gentile.
- **Outline**
 - Ch. 1-2 Births of John and Jesus
 - Ch. 3 John the Baptist
 - Ch. 4-9 Ministry in Galilee
 - Ch. 10-19 Journey to Jerusalem
 - Ch. 20-21 Ministry in Judea
 - Ch. 22-24 Death and Resurrection
- **Key Passages**
 - Luke 10:30f The Good Samaritan
 - Luke 10:38f Mary and Martha
 - Luke 15 The Prodigal Son

Material in Common

	Common Material	Independent Material
Matthew	58%	42%
Mark	93%	7%
Luke	41%	59%
John	8%	92%

John

- **Author**
 - John the beloved disciple
 - One of the inner 3 with Peter and James
- **Time**
 - Begins from eternity past
 - **John 1:1**
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- **Theme – The Son of God**
 - Focus is on the deity of Jesus Christ
 - **John 1:14**
And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **Outline**
 - Ch. 1 The Incarnation
 - Ch. 2-12 Public Ministry to the Jews
 - Ch. 13-17 Private Ministry to the Disciples
 - Ch. 18-20 Death and Resurrection
 - Ch. 21 Post Resurrection Appearances
- **Key Passages**
 - The 7 “I AM” Statements
 - I AM the Bread of Life 6:35,41,48,51
 - I AM the Light of the World 8:12
 - I AM the Door of the Sheep 10:7,9
 - I AM the Good Shepherd 10:11, 14
 - I AM the Resurrection and Life 11:25
 - I AM the Way, the Truth, the Life 14:6
 - I AM the True Vine 15:1, 5
 - Taken from Exodus 3:14 “I Am That I Am”
 - **John 8:57-59**
Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.” Then they took up stones to throw at Him...
 - **John 10:30-33**
I and My Father are one.” Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. Jesus answered them, “Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?” The Jews answered Him, saying, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God.”
 - Jesus is Jacob’s Ladder 1:51
 - Jesus to Nicodemus, “You must be born again” 3:7
 - The Bronze Serpent 3:14-15
 - For God so loved the world...3:16
 - Jesus offered “living water” to the woman at the well 4:10
 - “If anyone thirsts let him come to me and drink...” 7:37-39
 - Thomas, “My Lord and my God!”

John 20:30-31

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.