

# The Four Gospel Tradition

## Intro to Gospel tradition:

Passion Narrative, not an historical analysis

Four canonical Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John)

Canon: meaning official

Finalized around 400 after lots of politics

Many other non-canonical Gospels (The Gospel of Mary, Gospel of Truth, etc.)

## Why important to study:

Primary document for Christians

There is one theme with variants

We experience variants in our faith journeys, helpful to see this

Other New Testament writings interpretive of Gospels

## The Six sources

Oral tradition

Mark

“Q” – lost sayings tradition used by Matthew and Luke

“M” – material only found in Matthew

“L” – material only found in Luke

John

Mark as used by Matthew and Luke

The Sower and the Seed Parable

Mark 4:1-20

Matthew 13:1-23

Luke 8:4-15

“Q” corresponding in Matthew and Luke

Sermon on the Mount/Plain

Matthew 5:1-12

Luke 6:20-26

“M” – Wonderful passage only in Matthew

Mt: 11:25-30

Luke 10:21-22 (missing 28-30)

“L” – Parable of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:35-37

Canonical Gospel Basics

	<b>Author</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Sources</b>	<b>Audience</b>
<b>Mark</b>	companion of Peter in Rome	70	west of Palestine	oral tradition	roman christians and gentiles
<b>Matthew</b>	jewish christian speaking greek	85	around sea of Galilee	Mark, M, Q	jewish christians at odds with
<b>Luke</b>	beloved physician (Colossians 4.14) also wrote Acts	95	Antioch emphasis on gentiles	Mark, L, Q	christians going into gentile world
<b>John</b>	later Theologian	105	developed theology,	unique	christians under persecution

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## Matthew

- 1:17      Genealogy  
Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_
- 3:2      John the Baptist  
The message of John the Baptist is \_\_\_\_\_
- 10:5-7      The Audience  
The mission is to the \_\_\_\_\_
- 13:51-52      New and Old  
What does this mean?
- 15:21-28      Canaanite Woman  
What just happened to the audience?
- 25:31-46      The Judgment  
What does it mean to be faithful in Matthew?

## Luke

- 3:23-38      Genealogy  
Jesus cultural heritage is \_\_\_\_\_, but his first ancestor is \_\_\_\_\_
- 4:18      The beginning of the ministry  
what is upon Jesus and what is the significance of that?
- 20:34-38      The Resurrection  
Who is alive or resurrected?
- 17:20-21      The Kingdom  
The Kingdom of God is \_\_\_\_\_
- 20:45 – 21:4      The two options  
What you do right now matters.

## Mark

- 1:1 Jesus is undoubtedly the \_\_\_\_\_
- 2:21-22 The future of our faith will be \_\_\_\_\_
- 12:28-34 No laws, two commands
1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9:33-37 Who does not understand
- 5:21-43 Who does understand
- 8:34-38 Discipleship is Mark is \_\_\_\_\_

## John

- 1:1-5 Role of God and Christ was to be the \_\_\_\_\_ that overcomes  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notice non-specific language  
Moved to metaphorical language about God and darkness
- 1:18 You know this God by knowing Christ
- 3:1-8 \_\_\_\_\_ is key component to faith
- 4:23-24 worship God in \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Life is not about doing, but “being”
- 11:25-26 Who is invited into this kind of Life?
- 15:1-11 What is a faithful response to this invitation in John?  
Again: notice the metaphorical language

Journey of the soul