

THE FOUR GOSPELS

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Author	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish • Tax collector (Roman employee) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish • Associate of Peter • Likely mentioned in other parts of the NT • Home in Jerusalem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gentile • Historian and doctor • Author of Acts (Luke Part II) • Paul's associate on 2nd journey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jewish • Apostle and at Transfiguration • Author of Revelation and 1 – 3 John
Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jews • Religious 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romans • Pragmatic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theophilus • Greeks/Gentiles • Idealistic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christians • All
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show Jesus is the promised Messiah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show Jesus is the Son of God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell story of Jesus' life as Son of Man 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show Jesus' deity
Key themes/ distinctives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messiah-King • Genealogy • Words rather than deeds • More prophecy than other gospels • Kingdom of [Heaven] • Rejection of the King • Most OT references • New lawgiver/new Moses • Son of David • Disciples' faith • Conflicts with leaders • Church 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Servanthood and obedience of Jesus • Deeds of Jesus rather than words • Power - "Immediately" • "Jesus is Son of God" – Roman soldier (15:39) • Wilderness theme related to persecution during period • Jesus never called Lord • Disciples' lack of faith 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humanity of Christ (most info about earthly life) – Perfect Man • Unique parables • Compassionate Savior to all - poor, Gentiles, women, slaves • Work of the Holy Spirit • Prayer in Jesus' life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Messiah/Savior • Who Jesus is rather than what he does • Theological meaning • God's eternal Son • "Believe" • Seven miracles • "I am"
Date written	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-70? A.D. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~65 A.D. after persecution began • Considered as source for Mark and Matthew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~60 A.D. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80-90 A.D. • After the fall of Jerusalem and destruction of the temple
Teaching method	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allegory
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galilean focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galilean focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Galilean focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judean focus

Source: The New Open Bible (1990), Jesus and the Gospels (Blomberg) various other sources

Web location: jamesmirror.com