

# BREAKING



# BREAD

Lesson 11:

New Testament Survey pt1

“The Gospels”

“In the light of the king's  
countenance is life; and his  
favour is as a cloud of the  
latter rain.”

- King Solomon (Proverbs 16:15)

# Section I. The Gospels

4 Books of the Gospel (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)

## Quick Overview:

- These books are all the good news about the life, ministry, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ the Son of God. (Matthew & Luke include his birth and parts of his childhood.) All 4 also include the ministry of John the Baptist who was the forerunner to prepare the way of Jesus the Messiah.
- Jesus Christ came into the world for MANY purposes and to manifest the fulness of the Godhead bodily. Thus, we have 4 different books written by 4 different men all inspired by the same Holy Ghost to emphasize different aspects of his ministry, his fulfilment of the will of God on earth, and how it relates to the different people groups (Jew, Gentile, & Church).

# Survey of the Gospels:

## 1. Matthew

Written around A.D. 40-45

This book shows Jesus as the promised seed of Abraham and David to be the Messiah and King of the Jews. It shows Jesus, (the King), offering the "kingdom of heaven" (found only in Matthew) that was promised in the OT to the nation of Israel. He also chooses his 12 princes that will reign with him. However, throughout the book, it shows that the nation as a whole wouldn't receive him but that the Gentiles would get in on this kingdom. Matthew is the 40th book of the Bible! Thus, it is just as much the completing book of the OT as the 1st book of the NT. It shows Jesus, the Messiah of Israel, fulfilling the law and the prophets and finishing the old covenant through his perfect sacrifice. This book emphasizes clearly that Jesus first and foremost "came to his own" (Israel), but since "his own received him not", the apostles are commissioned to take the instruction of this new covenant to "all nations" as Jesus builds his church upon himself.

- *Key Verse: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." – Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:17)*

# Survey of the Gospels:

## 2. Mark

Written around A.D. 50-55

Mark is short and to the point (“Mark” means “hammer”). You can tell Mark was a preacher as he is very expressive and powerful in what he tells. This book is action packed with the most miracles (for it’s size) and shows Jesus as the humble Son of man working, serving, and ministering to others during his short life on earth. It stresses repentance, humility, and action. It shows Jesus bringing the kingdom of God in power through the anointing of the Holy Ghost to Israel (mostly focuses on his ministry in Galilee). It ends with the great commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature with signs and wonders to accompany this great gospel.

- *Key Verse: “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister and to give his life a ransom for many.”  
– Jesus Christ (Mark 10:45)*
- *Key Verse: “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” – Jesus Christ (Mark 16:15-16)*

# Survey of the Gospels:

## 3. Luke

Written around A.D. 60

This book is written to confirm the authenticity of the gospel of Christ to a learned Gentile named Theophilus. It is the longest of the gospels. It has the most detailed account of Christ's birth and lineage. It has many long teachings by Jesus. It shows Jesus as the wisest man ever to live in dealing with people (the Greeks seek after wisdom). Luke was a physician (doctor), and thus, he reveals Jesus as the greatest spiritual doctor in piercing through to men's hearts using proper judgment (not according to appearance). Therefore, the grace of Jesus Christ is ministered to the humble & wounded, while the proud and self-righteous miss his grace and await his wrath. This book is written to confirm the historical certainty of the events surrounding the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- *Key Verse: “(Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” – Simeon (Luke 2:35)*
- *Key Verse: “And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?” – 2 disciples (Luke 24:32)*

# Survey of the Gospels:

## 4. John

Written around A.D. 65

This book is written to show Jesus as the incarnation of God. It shows his deity more clearly than any other gospel. It shows him as the eternal Word and Light of God. Throughout the gospel it confirms his deity through his words and his works. Those who receive the truth of his words and works become sons of God and those who reject are left in darkness. John is unique from all other gospels as it is the only book that focuses quite a bit on Jesus' time spent in Jerusalem at the feast days throughout his 3-and-a-half year ministry. John also is the only gospel that reveals Jesus' private instruction to the 11 true apostles in the upper room where he teaches thoroughly on the Holy Ghost and his Father in heaven. John is written to the whole world to show them that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that anyone may have the gift of eternal life through faith in him. No other book opens up the Son, the Father, and the Spirit so clearly and directly as John's gospel account.

- *Key Verse: "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." – Jesus (John 17:3)*