

JESUS & HISTORY (2) MT. 4:17,23-25, 9.35

What do we find in the Gospels?

1. The Gospel writers record a **singular message**

Matthew 4:17, Matthew 3:2 Mark 1:1 THE beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; **Mark 1:14** Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, **preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, Mark 1:15** And saying, **The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.**

2. The Gospel writers record an **itinerant ministry**

Matthew 4:23 And Jesus went about **all Galilee, teaching** in their synagogues, and **preaching the gospel of the kingdom**, and **healing** all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. **Matthew 4:24** And his fame went throughout **all Syria**: (ὅλην τὴν Συρίαν) and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils (δαίμονιζομένους), and those which were lunatic (σεληνιαζομένους), and those that had the palsy (παρालυτικούς); and he healed them. **Matthew 4:25** And there followed him great multitudes of people from **Galilee (Γαλιλαίας)**, and from **Decapolis (Δεκαπόλεως)**, and from **Jerusalem (Ιερουσόλυμων)**, and from **Judaea (Ιουδαίας)**, and from **beyond Jordan (πέραν τοῦ Ἰορδάνου)**. **Matthew 9:35** And Jesus went about all the cities (τὰς πόλεις) and villages (τὰς κώμας), **teaching** in their synagogues, and **preaching the gospel of the kingdom**, and **healing** every sickness and every disease among the people.

What else might we learn in this setting? (Multi-linguistic!)

3. The Gospel writers are **selective**

John 20:30 And **many** other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are **not** written in this book: **John 20:31** **But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**

John 21:25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

In any biography we must ask questions:

- What do you include?
- What do you exclude? The Gospel leaves out so much...!

4. The Gospel writers are **slanted!**

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John 21:25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

Luke 1:1 FORASMUCH as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, **Luke 1:2** Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word; **Luke 1:3** It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, **Luke 1:4** **That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.** **1 John 5:13** **These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**

What does & doesn't this mean?

- They **didn't** write exquisite biographies → in fact, they never intended to
- They had purposed
- They wrote from a point of view
- Their point of view was Jesus' point of view!!!

All 4 gospel writers **focus** on Jesus' words & works

Matthew 4:17 **From that time** Jesus began to preach, and to say, **Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.**

Matthew 16:21 **From that time** forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, **how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.**

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

- They selected their material according to their purpose &/ slant
- They recorded what was necessary for their slant
- They made up nothing
- They distorted nothing!

5. The Gospel writers summarized!

Luke 3:18 And many other things in his exhortation preached he unto the people.

Acts 2:40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

Acts 28:23 And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, **from morning till evening.** **Acts 28:24** And **some** believed the things which were spoken, and **some** believed not.

Acts 15:32 And Judas and Silas, being prophets also themselves, exhorted the brethren **with many words**, and confirmed them.

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, **Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.**

- **Jesus taught and preached often & a lot**
- **Jesus taught for long periods of time**
- **The records of His teaching can be read quickly**
- **His teaching might have been summarized in more than one way**
- **The teaching of Jesus might have been used in more than one way**

Mark 14:3 And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head. **Mark 14:4** And there were some that had indignation within themselves, and said, Why was this waste of the ointment made? **Mark 14:5** For it might have been sold for more than three hundred pence, and have been given to the poor. And they murmured against her. **Mark 14:6** And Jesus said, Let her alone; why trouble ye her? she hath wrought a good work on me. **Mark 14:7** **For ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good: but me ye have not always.**

Deuteronomy 15:10 Thou shalt surely give him, and thine heart shall not be grieved when thou givest unto him: because that for this thing the LORD thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thine hand unto. **Deuteronomy 15:11** **For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore** I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.

Luke 5:32 I came **not** to call the righteous, **but** sinners to repentance.

Luke 19:10 **For** the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

6. The Gospel writers stylized

Matthew: Teaching blocks

MT. 5-7

Matthew 7:28 And it came to pass, **when Jesus had ended these sayings**, the people were astonished at his doctrine:

MT. 10

Matthew 11:1 And it came to pass, **when Jesus had made an end of commanding his twelve disciples**, he departed thence to teach and to preach in their cities.

MT. 13

Matthew 13:53 And it came to pass, that **when Jesus had finished these parables**, he departed thence.

MT. 18

Matthew 19:1 And it came to pass, **that when Jesus had finished these sayings**, he departed from Galilee, and came into the coasts of Judaea beyond Jordan;

MT. 24-25

Matthew 26:1 And it came to pass, **when Jesus had finished all these sayings**, he said unto his disciples,

Mark: Action & the longest recordings of the stories

Immediately / straightway (εὐθέως) – 59 total uses in the NT

MT – 6 times

MK – 41 times

LK – 3 times

JN – 3 times

Luke: Parables

They are found in all 4 gospels

They abound in Luke!

John: Passovers & Private conversations