

Chapter 1 : Gospel of Luke - Bible Survey

Purpose of the Gospels 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 might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you might have life in His name.

So concludes the wonderful Gospel of John. John is often called the fourth Gospel record. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John form a biographical record of the birth, life, work, and destiny of Jesus Christ. They are possibly the most valuable documents in existence. In order to appreciate and understand the Bible it is essential to know how the parts of the Bible fit together. The two main sections of the Bible are the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament has specific sections that serve different purposes. Jesus mentioned the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms. Luke And all of these sections have different purposes. The same is true with the New Testament. Then comes the Acts of the Apostles followed by the various letters and the concluding section is the Apocalypse or the book of Revelation. All parts of the Bible relate to each other to produce a single message of God, man, sin, and eternal salvation. They mesh together in such harmony that no one section of the Bible stands alone. Without the New Testament records the Old Testament is an incomplete work. Without the Old Testament the New Testament has no foundation. It is a tragic mistake to isolate any section of the Bible from the whole picture. It is equally tragic not to recognize the purpose of each of these sections. The Gospel Records have a very definite purpose and design. They do not propose to give a full account of everything Jesus said and did. The material found in these records, however, is complete and full. It sufficiently serves the intended purpose. That is their design and purpose. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John reveal the Savior, not salvation. They tell us of what Jesus did in order to make salvation possible. Now the terms of salvation are made known in these records but the primary purpose served is to establish the basis for faith in Christ. The last time is now, not during the days of Jesus on earth. After he ascended, the last days began. While it is important to know why these records are in the Bible, it is equally important to understand what they are not designed to do. The things revealed in these records have a definite purpose and design. It is fundamentally wrong to attempt to make them something they were never designed to do. Consider a few things not intended for these books. Jesus taught His disciples to observe the law. He taught them to listen to those who were teachers of the Law. Jesus would not tell anyone to day to observe any of the Mosaic precepts. No one can be right and observe any of the Mosaic precepts for that law has been removed. It was Paul who wrote in Gal. You, see, Paul said so. These books that make up the first section of the New Testament tell us of the birth of Jesus. The law in force at the time Jesus was born, lived, and was crucified was the Old Testament law. It was not until his death that the law was taken out of the way. The Mosaic law did not furnish evidence for saving faith. Paul wrote to Timothy: The New Testament was in the process of formation. It was not complete at the time Paul wrote this to Timothy. But note carefully that these scriptures were able to make Timothy wise to salvation, and that salvation was possible only through faith in Christ Jesus. It is the faith in Christ that saves -- not adherence to the Old Testament scriptures. The summation written by John tells us that Jesus said and did enough to convince any honest heart that He is the one and only Savior. The gospel of John is not a full biography of Christ. Not much of his boyhood days are particularized. John simply gives us those facts respecting our Lord which are capable of producing faith in him as the Messiah, the unique son of God. It is most imperfect as a biography; it is complete as a gospel. First, we should understand very clearly that the man Jesus is the Christ. Jewish people had for thousands of years waited for their promised Messiah. The Messiah would be a deliverer who would usher in a kingdom of peace and prosperity. Psa. These are all Old Testament passages that look toward the time of peace and prosperity when the ruler, the Messiah, would come. The second thing that must be believed is that those who believe this are to understand that Jesus is the son of God, the divine Word and truly God. If Jesus were not truly the son of God and fully deity, he would not have been the Christ. Please consider the following very astute observation taken from the Cambridge Greek New Testament for Schools and Colleges: Some have been looking for a mere prophet and a wonder worker, a second Moses or a second Elijah. Others have been looking for an earthly

kind and conqueror, a second David or perhaps a second Solomon. These views were all far short of the truth and too often obscured and hindered the truth. Belief in Christ is the solid assurance that one may have eternal life. Belief in Christ is an expanding experience. He was no mere man to whom for a time a divine being attached itself. Jesus is God who took to himself human nature, being found in fashion as a man Phil. Eternal life is not obtained through human intelligence or human experience. It is obtained by faith in Jesus Christ that will obey him implicitly. Faith in his name means faith in him. Through no other name is salvation possible. It was Peter who said in Acts 4: The purpose and design of the gospel records can be summed up in one sentence. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are designed to provide sensible people with credible evidence that Jesus Christ is the son of God and through him alone is salvation possible. Can any rational being successfully deny or refute this simple fact. To be saved, a believer then must obey Christ. Those who believe the gospel and who will be baptized will be saved. Dear friend, please consider these words of our Lord Jesus Christ. Do not dismiss them from your consciousness. If today you believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God, then obey him today. If you have a question about this, or anything else you hear from us, please contact us:

John's gospel spells out his overall purpose for writing: "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John).

How are the Gospels of John and Matthew different? The Gospel According to St Matthew is one of the Synoptic Gospels, so called because they are substantially similar in content. The Gospel According to St John differs to such an extent that Origen, in defending the Gospel, said "although he does not always tell the truth literally, he always tells it spiritually" Origen, Commentary on John. Whereas Matthew is considered not have regarded Jesus as pre-existing and divine, John is quite clear, from verse 1, that Jesus was with God in the beginning. Matthew says that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, whereas John appears to say that he was not. What is the significance of Word in the Gospel of John? Another answer from our community: This is used 22 times in the Gospel of John in the singular and 18 times in the plural, including 3 in the first verse: The way that this is used in John demonstrates amply the two characteristics which set this Gospel apart from the others. John has both simplicity and profundity. Secondly, it has a more normal use in relation to the word or words which Jesus spoke. It is so used in 2: Just as the divine word was active in creation calling into existence the things which did not previously exist, so the divine word of Jesus creates new life in those who receive it. Jesus words are thus not just His own but are also those which He, in His state of humiliation and emptying while on earth, has been directed to speak by the Father. These include the word and words which bear witness to Himself as divine. Verses in this category include 3: The following verse indicates that Jesus was claiming divine authority for His word and words. Fourthly Jesus speaks of those who would believe through the word spoken by the disciples. Even this brings in the main theme of believing as they did not wish to express any faith or support for Jesus, even though they knew Jesus had healed their son of congenital blindness. What is the purpose of gospel music? The purpose of Gospel music is to: Uplift and encourage the Body of Christ Christians. To preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music in hopes of bringing salvation to non-believers 3. To entertain Christians and non-Christians alike with positive messages and values. What can be learned about John from the Gospel of John? The very reason the second-century Church Fathers decided that the last New Testament gospel was probably written by the apostle John is that John is never mentioned in the Gospel. As the author was not really John, there is no good reason to believe the beloved disciple was also John - we do not know who he was. The consequence of this is that we learn nothing about John from the authorship of the Gospel nor from the events surrounding the beloved disciple. The Gospel of John provides no information about the apostle John. Hope this somewhat helps Share to: John emphasizes the divinity of Jesus. Full summary of the Gospel of John? It is somewhat gnostic in tone, compared with the other gospels. Some scholars believe that it was originally written in a community with gnostic tendencies but that it was altered after the split in this community, identified in 1 John, to make it more acceptable to the Church that was by then becoming the dominant Christian sect. The author draws material from Mark and Luke; doubtless also from independent tradition, neither the extent nor historical value of such tradition would seem great. According to Mark, Jesus had some extraordinary powers and God called him his son, but Mark did not believe him to be one with God. There is none good but God. This disciple reclined next to Jesus at the last supper. Peter dared not ask Jesus who would betray him, but this disciple did.. Even after Peter betrayed Jesus and fled, this disciple remained with his mother at the cross. Jesus entrusted him with the care of his mother.. He and Peter ran to the grave, but this disciple arrived first, so he was the first who "saw and believed".. When the risen Jesus appeared by Sea of Tiberius, this disciple was the first to recognise him, saying to Peter, "It is the Lord". Also at this appearance, Jesus said that this disciple shall not die.. Even by keeping the special disciple deliberately anonymous, he could have been avoiding the risk of creating a cult around that disciple. The Greek language has different words for different types of love, including agape unconditional love and philia brotherly love. Critical portrait of Thomas. Elaine Pagels sees a principal objective to refute the beliefs of the Thomas Christians. Only John presents a challenging and critical portrait of the disciple he calls

"Thomas, the one called Didymus". Of all the disciples, Thomas was made to show doubt at different times. So, once again, John can be seen as opposing a cult around one of the disciples. He transposed the Cleansing of the Temple, wherein he overturned the tables of the moneychanger, from the end of the gospel to the very beginning. He moved a scene in which Jesus told the fishermen to cast their nets on the other side, from a period before the crucifixion to the very last appearance after the resurrection. The miracles that John described were more impressive than those of the earlier synoptic gospels. Whereas Luke has Jesus talk in a parable of the hypothetical resurrection of Lazarus, John has Jesus really raise him from the dead. Each was generally written for a specific community or sect of Christianity, and included support for the theology of that community. John contains some Gnostic themes and was probably somewhat more gnostic in its earliest version, before being amended to make it suit a wider audience. It could be said that to a significant extent, the Gospel of John was a political document. The glad news of salvation, the substance of saving truth centered in the Lord Christ Jesus.

Chapter 3 : The Purpose of the Gospel of John – theinnatdunvilla.com

The gospel is good news, but it makes known to man God's wrath (His purpose in judgment). This enables man to identify sin and its consequence. Sin is a transgression of God's law, or lawlessness (1 Jn.).

Donate Gospel of Luke Author: The Gospel of Luke does not identify its author. The tradition from the earliest days of the church has been that Luke, a physician and a close companion of the Apostle Paul, wrote both Luke and Acts Colossians 4: This would make Luke the only Gentile to pen any books of Scripture. The Gospel of Luke was likely written between A. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While many believe in this unprejudiced love that surpasses all human limits, many others – especially the religious leaders – challenge and oppose the claims of Jesus. Finally, Jesus is betrayed, tried, sentenced and crucified. But the grave cannot hold Him! His Resurrection assures the continuation of His ministry of seeking and saving the lost. The Gospel of Luke gives us a beautiful portrait of our compassionate Savior. Israel at the time of Jesus was a very class-conscious society. This is a message we must carry to those around us who desperately need to hear it. Even in comparatively wealthy countries – perhaps especially so – the spiritual need is dire. Christians must follow the example of Jesus and bring the good news of salvation to the spiritually poor and needy. The kingdom of God is near and the time grows shorter every day.

Chapter 4 : Purpose of the Gospels Â« That You Might Believe

The gospel before Paul was the "gospel of the kingdom," believing that Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Son of God. As we have seen above, this was the gospel Paul preached immediately following his own conversion.

Bible Software Want a great, free, electronic Bible and study tool? The Blue Letter Bible is an excellent online bible tool! It includes written and audio commentaries, allows for examining all translations of a verse at one time, etc. The purpose of the gospels? To give us reason after reason after reason to believe. Faith is not without reason. The very existence of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John is because God Himself wants you to have a basis for believing the truth. You will never regret it. You cannot spend your time any better than this. As you read about this man, you will discover that He is anything but normal. You will also find that He makes many claims about Himself. He also compels you to make some decisions. Will you believe His claims? Will you obey His commands? The stakes are high, but the rewards are even higher. Some say Jesus was a great teacher, but they will credit him with nothing more than that. He was and remains the greatest teacher that ever walked the face of this earth. Some will go further and say Jesus was a prophet of the Living God. Moses said as much in Deuteronomy Even Muslims will credit Jesus as a prophet. Was Jesus a prophet? You better believe it. He even prophesied about me and you that is if you are a follower of His: And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover. I have heard foolish men make the erroneous statement that Jesus never claimed to be the Son of God or that Jesus never claimed equality with God. The Gospel of John is chock full of these statements. In fact, this is the very reason the Pharisees had him crucified! If Jesus was not really the Son of God who came to liberate mankind and He claimed these things , then He is a liar knowingly trying to deceive the people, or he is out of his mind being deceived Himself. If either of these 2 things is true, then He is not a good teacher nor a true prophet, and should be regarded as nothing. But if Jesus is telling the truth, we had better pay attention! No one comes to the Father except through Me. See the miraculous things that followed Him wherever He went. See how prophecies He made even regarding His own death came true. Most importantly, find out the truth of His crucifixion and resurrection. If you are already a believer and follower of Jesus, you also go back and read those 4 accounts. But this time, do something different. Search for more than just who Jesus was, and look for the things He said about you: Look for the awesome promises He made to His followers. Study John 14, 15, 16 and learn about the person of the Holy Spirit. If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! And perhaps more importantly, take your time. Fall in love with the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit. Let your gospel reading be followed with a reading of the book of Acts, that you might believe that what Jesus began to do and teach was to be continued by His followers. To introduce you to Jesusâ€™the Messiah who came to save the world you and me from sinâ€™and that by believing that God raised Him from the dead, you should have eternal life. Salvation, or laying hold of eternal life, is not the finishing point, but the starting point. The gospels give us a blue-print for living, because Jesus is not just our Savior, but He is our very example, modeling for us how to live. He instructs and equips us for the abundant life. He teaches us how to overcome our adversary, the devil. He teaches us how to pray, and gives us lessons in faith. He instructs us with the core values of the Kingdom of Heaven: Consider them love letters written to you, that you might know that you are not insignificant, you were created in the image of God for grand purposes, and that He sacrificed everything out of love for you. Consider them a marriage proposal from your groom, the creator of all things that ever were and ever shall be. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. To lift up Jesus. As you read

the gospels, you are allowing Him to be lifted up. Let it be so.

Chapter 5 : 1: What Is My Purpose as a Missionary?

Join Mark Glanville and Lynn Cohick at Pastorum and unpack the purpose of the Gospel. "The biblical story is the story of God's recovering his purposes for creation through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ, and calling people to live as signs to Christ's restorative reign.

Written by the same author and for the same purpose, both were addressed to a Christian named Theophilus and were designed for the purpose of presenting to him a complete and well authenticated narrative of the early history of the Christian movement. In the introductory paragraph of the gospel, Luke tells us that many lives of Jesus were written on the basis of eyewitness reports. He does not find these narratives satisfactory in all respects and so has set himself the task of examining the records and writing a new account that will establish for all interested parties the certainty of the things about which Christians were instructed. Luke evaluated the materials he wanted to use and then supplemented them in whatever manner seemed to him to be the most appropriate. In writing his gospel, he did not simply piece together bits of information that he gathered from different sources; rather, his own contributions include selecting and organizing these materials, along with whatever interpretation was necessary to make a complete and unified narrative. We can be quite certain that Luke made use of at least three different sources: The Gospel of Matthew may have existed by the time Luke wrote his account, but nothing indicates that Luke knew anything about Matthew or made any use of it. Luke was a companion of Paul, and he was quite familiar with the different interpretations of the life of Jesus held by different groups within the Christian community. His purpose was to minimize the differences between the various groups and thus promote harmony within the church. He was aware, too, of the criticisms concerning Christianity that were being made by people who were outside the church, and he especially wanted to make an effective reply to those who claimed that Jesus was a revolutionist and hence an enemy of the Roman government. By giving to his readers an authentic account of the life and teachings of Jesus, Luke could show that the charges made against Jesus were false. Luke possessed rare ability as a writer, and it has often been said that his gospel is the most appealing of all those in the New Testament. In the opening chapters of the gospel, Luke relates a number of stories having to do with the birth and childhood of Jesus, including the announcements made to Zechariah and to Mary concerning the births of John and of Jesus, and the story of the shepherds watching their flocks at night who came to worship the newborn child. We also have accounts of the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem and of the child being wrapped in swaddling clothes and placed in a manger "because there was no room for them in the inn. These stories are not reported in the other Gospels, and we cannot be sure whether Luke learned about them from an older source or from oral traditions. When Jesus was twelve years old, he went to Jerusalem with his parents to attend the Feast of Passover. On the way home, when his parents discovered that he was not with them, they returned to the Temple and found him involved in a profound discussion with prominent Jewish rabbis. After the introductory chapters, Luke follows the outline of events as they are recorded in the Gospel of Mark. Occasionally, he leaves out some material and substitutes an item of his own. If he and Matthew both used the same source Q, evidently Luke used more material from it than did Matthew. In Luke alone we find the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Publican and the Pharisee who went to the Temple to pray, the rich man and Lazarus, the lost coin, the prodigal son, the unjust steward, the rich fool who would tear down his barns and build greater barns in order that he might store his goods, and the story of Zacchaeus, who climbed a tree in order that he might see Jesus. Jesus was not trying to raise opposition to the Roman government, nor was he lacking in sympathy or understanding of those whom the Jews regarded as foreigners. For example, although many Jews looked with disfavor on the Samaritans, Luke emphasizes that of the ten lepers whom Jesus healed, only the one who was a Samaritan expressed his gratitude for what Jesus had done. And again in the parable of the man who fell among thieves on the road to Jericho, a Samaritan befriended the man and saw to it that he was given proper care. Throughout his gospel, Luke emphasizes the fact that Jesus was a friend not only to Jews but to Samaritans and to so-called outcasts from different races and nationalities. Here, we have a report of Jesus sending out the "seventy" to carry the message of the kingdom to different places. The number "seventy" is

especially significant: In the Jewish Torah, the number refers to all the nations of the earth. In the story that describes the conversation between Jesus and Zacchaeus, we have the statement "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost. Matthew traces the ancestry back to Abraham, who is regarded as the father of the Hebrew people; Luke traces it back to Adam, the father of all humanity. As two men are walking to the village of Emmaus, Jesus joins them, but the men do not recognize Jesus until he sits at a table with them and blesses the food that they are about to eat. Later, Jesus meets with the eleven disciples in Jerusalem and overcomes their suspicions by showing his hands and feet to them. They cook some fish, and Jesus partakes of the food with them. Then follows a farewell discourse to the disciples, during which Jesus gives them instruction concerning what they should do. Afterward, they go together as far as Bethany, and after blessing the disciples, Jesus departs from them. Analysis If the Gospel of Matthew could be called the Jewish gospel because of its leanings toward ideas that were typically Jewish, there is an equal amount of evidence for calling the Gospel of Luke the Gentile gospel. Actually, neither gospel is purely Jewish or purely Gentile in its account of the life and teachings of Jesus, but it is fairly obvious in the case of each of them that the authors were influenced by the point of view with which they were associated. Luke was a companion of Paul, who came to be known in Christian circles as the Apostle to the Gentiles. He emphasized the idea that all humans are sinners and in need of salvation. Jesus was, for him, the supreme example of what the power of God can do in a human life. This point of view evidently made a deep impression on Luke and is reflected throughout the various parts of his gospel. When Jews and Gentiles are contrasted in Luke, often the Gentiles are presented in the more favorable light. For example, in the story of the Publican and the Pharisee, both of whom go to the Temple to pray, only the Publican is commended for the attitude that he expresses. Following his journey into the northwest country, Jesus pronounces woes on Capernaum and other Jewish communities and states, "But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. Paul has often been referred to as a Christian mystic because of his conviction that salvation comes only by a union of an individual and God. But Jewish apocalypticism regarded the coming of the kingdom as a future event, when the Son of Man would descend from heaven. In the Gospel of Luke, we find a blending of these two ideas. The nearness of the event is not stressed as much, and Luke recognizes that there is a sense in which the kingdom is already present. When Jesus was accused of casting out demons because he was exercising the power of a greater demon, he replied, "But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you. When Zacchaeus stands up and says, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay it back four times the amount," Jesus replies, "Today salvation has come to this house. As nearly as we can determine, the Gospel of Luke was written toward the end of the first century, probably between the years 85â€”90 A. By this time, Christianity was fast becoming a worldwide movement. Starting in Jerusalem, it spread to the surrounding territory and reached as far west as the city of Rome. With the increasing numbers of Christians, the movement not only attracted attention but encountered opposition from several different quarters. Rumors circulated to the effect that the founder of the movement was a dangerous character who was trying to overthrow the Roman government. Luke was a peacemaker, and he was anxious to show that Jesus was not the type of person that these critics supposed Jesus to be. Therefore, Luke takes particular pains to point out that Jesus had no quarrel at all with the Roman government. Pilate finds no fault in Jesus, and a Roman centurion declares Jesus innocent. He was the friend of the poor and the outcast and had no political ambitions of his own and no intention of trying to interfere with the orderly processes of government. Jesus never failed to commend those who had a humble and contrite heart, and it made no difference whether they were Jews or Gentiles. What Jesus taught was now accepted to be in harmony with what the church believed. Many of the statements attributed to Jesus were now interpreted in light of what had happened already, implying that at least some of his statements were intended as definite predictions of what was going to occur.

Chapter 6 : Jesus Christ - his true purpose and mission | The Gospel Truth

The Gospel of John is a selective, symbolic, eyewitness account of the person and ministry of Jesus, written so that you may believe in Him as the Christ, the Son of God, and thus have life in His name.

Gospel Of Matthew Gospel of Matthew: Matthew was one of the 12 apostles that were with Jesus Christ throughout His public ministry on earth. The consensus among conservative scholars is that this book in the Bible was written between 50 and 70 A. Matthew was a Jewish tax collector that left his profession to follow the Lord. Matthew gives a personal witness account of many miracles that Jesus performed prior to being crucified on a Roman cross. The purpose of this book is to prove to readers that Jesus is the true Messiah that was prophesied in the Old Testament of the Bible. It is an artistically written book and proves to be consistent with the other three gospels in the Bible; Mark, Luke and John regarding the historical events that occurred during the life of Jesus on earth. With 28 chapters, it is the longest Gospel of the four. It begins with the Genealogy of Jesus that establishes and proves that He was a descendant of King David. This fact is important because it is consistent with the Old Testament description of the Messiah. The first section also describes the miracle birth story of Jesus. It also describes in detail the baptism of Jesus and His temptation by Satan in the desert. After 40 days and nights of fasting Jesus resisted all temptation. The next section beginning in the middle of chapter 4 through the middle of chapter 14 covers accounts of the ministry of Jesus while in Galilee. During this time, He commissions the 12 Apostles, preaches The Beatitudes, performs miracles and teaches many lessons on very important subjects including; adultery, divorce, giving, prayer, judging, worry, treasures in Heaven and warnings to people. Also, in chapter 13, Jesus begins teaching in parables to provide examples to His lessons. Jesus withdraws from Galilee in section four and performs the miracle of feeding five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish Matthew He also walks on water Matthew Chapter 17 describes the transfiguration that was witnessed by three disciples, John, Peter and James Matthew Section six indicates the return of Jesus to Galilee and the prediction of His death. The seventh section beginning in chapter 21 marks the triumphal entry by Jesus into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey and ends in the trial and crucifixion of Jesus on the cross as a sacrifice for all the sin in the world. The eighth and last section, describes the events of the resurrection and Jesus defeating death. What is the Significance? The Gospel of Matthew presents many important facts and significant lessons. First, it clearly establishes that Jesus Christ is the Messiah that was prophesied throughout the Old Testament. Second, it proves that Jesus was the Son of God, whom He claimed to be through living a sinless and perfect life. Third, the Gospel records Jesus performing miracles over nature calming the storm; Matthew 8: Fourth, Jesus personally gives over real and practical lessons of how God desires people to live, respond through challenging circumstances, and make choices regarding their future for eternity. A few examples of these include: Every word spoken and written in this Gospel can be applied to life in a practical manner. Of course, a summary of this extremely important book of the Bible can only provide highlights, and is not a replacement for reading the actual text. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: Amen" Matthew Matthew This is the mission of all Christians that have a faithful commitment to Jesus Christ. God , the Father, sent His only Son to satisfy that judgment for those who believe in Him. Jesus , the creator and eternal Son of God, who lived a sinless life, loves us so much that He died for our sins, taking the punishment that we deserve, was buried , and rose from the dead according to the Bible. If you truly believe and trust this in your heart, receiving Jesus alone as your Savior , declaring, " Jesus is Lord ," you will be saved from judgment and spend eternity with God in heaven. What is your response?

Chapter 7 : The Purpose of the Gospel of Mark

The purpose and design of the gospel records can be summed up in one sentence. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are designed to provide sensible people with credible evidence that Jesus Christ is the son of God and through him alone is salvation possible.

By Wayne Jackson When one opens the New Testament, he is introduced to four narratives which are concerned with the activity and teaching of Jesus of Nazareth. These records are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Why are there four accounts that cover so much of the same material? Are the records harmonious or do they conflict? These languages represented the three dominate cultures of the Mediterranean world when the New Testament was produced. It is not without significance that there is a Gospel record designed for each of these societal elements. Matthew was directed to the Hebrews, Mark was written for the Romans, and Luke was designed to address the Greeks. Each of these works deserves careful reflection. The Gospel of Matthew Though the book does not bear his name, early Christian tradition is unanimous in affirming that Matthew was the inspired author of the first Gospel account. Matthew Levi was a Jew who had been called from his position as a tax collector to become an apostle of Jesus Christ Matt. There are indications within the book that the author was very familiar with finances. There are more references to money in this account than in the other three Gospel records. The purpose of the Gospel of Matthew is twofold: First, it is an apologetic, i. It was penned especially to convince the Jews of this fact. It is no surprise, therefore, that this divine writer relied so heavily on Old Testament Scripture to establish his case. Matthew has about fifty direct quotations from the Old Testament; in addition there are some seventy-five allusions to Old Testament events. This would constitute powerful evidence to the Hebrew people, who viewed the Old Testament as a revelation from God. It also would be important to the Jews to learn that the Messiah was about to initiate his reign, and so Matthew called attention to that kingdom in more than thirty-five passages. Second, the book was doubtless intended as a message of encouragement to Jewish Christians. While it is true that the Jews had crucified their own Messiah, there was still hope for the seed of Abraham. Whereas the physical nation would have to pay a horrible price for its rebellion, i. Accordingly, he attempts to condition Hebrew thinking with this concept. He alludes to those who will come from afar to sit with the patriarchs in the kingdom of heaven Matt. Apparently, Mark had a close relationship with Peter 1 Pet. The Gospel of Mark is remarkably different from that of Matthew. A survey of the information in this book reveals that it is for a non-Jewish audience. The writer has to explain Hebrew traditions Mk. The Latinisms within the book indicate that he was writing for Roman readers see Mk. This, of course, explains why Mark does not appeal to the Old Testament as profusely only nineteen times as did Matthew. His narrative was likely written to encourage Christians in Rome who were feeling the effects of tribulation for the cause of Christ. He mentions persecution as the cost of discipleship at a point where both Matthew and Luke, in parallel contexts, refrained from using that term Mk. Whereas Matthew emphasized the words of the Lord, Mark, while recording only one major sermon Mk. Mark is a strong advocate of the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. To that end, he records the testimony of God Mk. By training he was a physician Col. As with the Gospel of Mark, it is clear that Luke is writing for non-Hebrew recipients. This is a treatise designed to reach the Greeks with the message of Jesus Christ. The Greeks were preoccupied with a consideration of man. It is not without purpose, therefore, that Luke focuses upon Christ as the perfect example of humanity. He emphasizes many human traits of the Master, e. John was a part of that inner circle of disciples Mk. Of all the apostles, he was closest to the Lord Jn. This inspired record is in a class by itself. It is designed to appeal to all ethnic groups. Its basic purpose is to offer the evidence of certain signs which prove that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, which facts lead to eternal life Jn. In presenting his case for the divine nature of Jesus, John is very selective in the material he includes. Of the twenty-one chapters, containing verses, about thirty-six percent of the material seven chapters of verses involves only a twenty-four hour period. Surely the abbreviated selectivity of one who was so close to his Lord is evidence of the fact that the Holy Spirit was guiding the production of the fourth Gospel. No New Testament book is stronger in arguing the case for the deity of Christ. Three examples of this theme will suffice: John begins his document:

Near the middle of the book, the apostle has these words of Jesus: After examining the wounds of the resurrected Lord, the once-doubting apostle confessed: Additionally, note these signs recorded by the apostle: Jesus demonstrated his power over time by instantly changing water into wine Jn. Christ was the master of matter in multiplication of the loaves and fish Jn. He reversed the effect of congenital blindness by restoring the vision of a sightless man Jn. And when Jesus called Lazarus from his tomb, he gave a preview of his power over death, to fully be revealed on the last day Jn. Truly, the signs of this book establish the divinity of Jesus. Indeed, the Gospel narratives testify in eloquent concert. Do the Gospel Accounts Clash? Unbelievers are constantly hawking the tired refrain that the Gospel accounts contradict one another and thus cannot be viewed as inspired history. The fact of the matter is, those making such charges are either unaware of what constitutes a genuine contradiction or else they simply are unwilling to give the Bible a fair hearing. Of course the Gospel documents display some differences, even when describing the same events. Actually, this is evidence of literary independence; it demonstrates a lack of collusion. This circumstance most certainly does not demand historical unreliability. But let us consider an alleged contradiction in the Gospel records. The accounts of the resurrection of Christ are supposed to provide evidence of several discrepancies. Two of these alleged disagreements will be examined here. The apostle John states: The critic sees two problems here. First, it is argued that John records that only Mary Magdalene came to the tomb, whereas Mark mentions other women as well. Second, John says it was dark when Mary arrived, yet Mark states that the sun had risen. What are the facts? Actually, John does not claim that only Mary Magdalene came to the tomb. He merely mentions her specifically. Furthermore, her testimony, subsequently recorded by the apostle, clearly indicates that others were present. With reference to the sunrise, the records do not state that it was both dark and not dark after sunrise when Mary arrived at the tomb. The present tense of the verbs marks the progress of the journey. Obviously, therefore, John was describing the early part of the trip during the dark , which may have involved a considerable distance, whereas Mark speaks of the latter portion of the journey after sunrise. There is no discrepancy! The Gospel accounts are quite harmonious and they continue to enjoy unprecedented popularity as their critics progressively fade into oblivion.

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Each Gospel Was Written For A Distinct Purpose. It is important that we understand these sources and what they are trying to accomplish. The Gospels are neither biographies of the life of Christ nor are they a disinterested record of certain events in His life.

Why did God give us four Gospels? Here are some reasons why God gave four Gospels instead of just one: While the entire Bible is inspired by God 2 Timothy 3: Each of the gospel authors had a distinct purpose behind his gospel and in carrying out those purposes, each emphasized different aspects of the person and ministry of Jesus Christ. Mark, a cousin of Barnabas Colossians 4: Mark emphasizes Christ as the suffering Servant, the One who came not to be served, but to serve and give His life a ransom for many Mark Luke is the only Gentile author of the New Testament. He has long been accepted as a diligent master historian by those who have used his writings in genealogical and historical studies. As a historian, he states that it is his intent to write down an orderly account of the life of Christ based on the reports of those who were eyewitnesses Luke 1: The gospel of John, written by John the apostle, is distinct from the other three Gospels and contains much theological content in regard to the person of Christ and the meaning of faith. Thus, in having four distinct and yet equally accurate accounts of Christ, different aspects of His person and ministry are revealed. Each account becomes like a different-colored thread in a tapestry woven together to form a more complete picture of this One who is beyond description. And while we will never fully understand everything about Jesus Christ John The Bible, from earliest times, states that judgment in a court of law was not to be made against a person based on the testimony of a single eyewitness but that two or three as a minimum number were required Deuteronomy Even so, having different accounts of the person and earthly ministry of Jesus Christ enables us to assess the accuracy of the information we have concerning Him. Simon Greenleaf, a well-known and accepted authority on what constitutes reliable evidence in a court of law, examined the four Gospels from a legal perspective. He noted that the type of eyewitness accounts given in the four Gospels "accounts which agree, but with each writer choosing to omit or add details different from the others" is typical of reliable, independent sources that would be accepted in a court of law as strong evidence. Had the Gospels contained exactly the same information with the same details written from the same perspective, it would indicate collusion, i. The differences between the Gospels, even the apparent contradictions of details upon first examination, speak to the independent nature of the writings. Much can be gained by an individual study of each of the Gospels. For instance, in Matthew 14 we are given the account of the feeding of the and Jesus walking on the water. But when we combine it with the account in Mark 6, we see that the disciples had come back from casting out demons and healing people through the authority He had given them when He sent them out two-by-two. So, in sending them off in the evening to go to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, Jesus reveals two things to them. As they struggle against the wind and waves in their own self-reliance until the early hours of the morning Mark 6:

Chapter 9 : Matthew, Mark, Luke & John – A look at the Gospel Writers

The purpose of the gospel of Mark is purely and simply an announcement of the words and works of Jesus. It is the shortest of all the gospels which would have suited the simple, straightforward approach the Romans favored.

What Is My Purpose as a Missionary? A Guide to Missionary Service , 16 Your Purpose Invite others to come unto Christ by helping them receive the restored gospel through faith in Jesus Christ and His Atonement, repentance, baptism , receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost , and enduring to the end. Consider This What is my purpose as a missionary? What is the gospel of Jesus Christ? Why do we preach the gospel? Why must I teach with power and authority? What is the message of the Restoration? Why is it so important? What is my responsibility in helping others become converted? How will I know whether I am a successful missionary? You pass them on the street, visit them in their homes, and travel among them. They are all children of God, your brothers and sisters. God loves them just as He loves you. Many of these people are searching for purpose in life. They are concerned for their future and their families. They need the sense of belonging that comes from the knowledge that they are children of God, members of His eternal family. They want to feel secure in a world of changing values. The gospel of Jesus Christ as restored by the Savior through the Prophet Joseph Smith will bless them and their families, meet their spiritual needs, and help them fulfill their deepest desires. Although they may not know why, they need relief from feelings of loneliness and guilt that come from sin. They need to experience the joy of redemption by receiving forgiveness of their sins and enjoying the gift of the Holy Ghost. You are called to represent Jesus Christ in helping people become clean from their sins and find greater happiness and joy. You do this by inviting them to come unto Jesus Christ and become converted to His restored gospel. To come to the Savior, people must have faith in Him unto repentance—making the necessary changes to bring their life into agreement with His teachings. You can help people develop such faith by teaching them the restored gospel by the Spirit and inviting them to commit to live according to its teachings. Keeping this commitment prepares them for the covenant of baptism and confirmation and the precious gift of the Holy Ghost. What did Lehi desire after he had eaten the fruit? In the vision, what did the people need to do to be able to partake of the fruit? In what ways do commitments and covenants help us partake of these blessings? As a missionary, what is your duty in helping others find and partake of the fruits of the gospel? Lee , On earth, family associations can be the source of some of our greatest joy. Satan is attacking the family on many fronts, and too many families are being destroyed by his efforts. By living the principles of the gospel, families can experience peace, joy, and a sense of belonging and identity in this life. Through the light of the gospel, families can resolve misunderstandings, contentions, and challenges. Families torn by discord can be healed through repentance, forgiveness , and faith in the power of the Atonement of Jesus Christ. Strive to find and teach families—a father, mother, and children—who can support one another in living the gospel and eventually be sealed as a family unit by restored priesthood authority. He is often called the Spirit, and one of His roles is to teach and testify of the truth. As you teach by that power, the Holy Ghost will: Teach you new truths and bring the doctrine you have studied to your remembrance see John Give you words to speak in the very moment you need them see Doctrine and Covenants Testify of the truthfulness of your message and confirm your words see Doctrine and Covenants Help you discern the needs of the people you are teaching see Alma The Spirit is essential for teaching the truths of the gospel in a way that builds faith in others. As you strive to develop the faith to rely on the Spirit, you should: