

# Diocese of Boise

## Office of Religious Education and Catechetical Leadership

The Office of Religious Education and Catechetical Leadership of the Diocese of Boise by assisting the Bishop in carrying out his role as the chief catechist of the Diocese.

### Advanced Catechist Certification Survey of New Testament



Kathy Barkdull, Presenter

# OUTCOMES FOR SURVEY OF NEW TESTAMENT

- Identify the contents of the New Testament and its three sections.
- Explain highlights from Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation) for a deeper understanding of the New Testament and its application to our lives.
- Outline the three stages of Gospel development.
- Identify the audience, purpose and vision of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- To understand the meaning of “low and high Christology” and eschatology.
- Explain the purpose, structure and symbols in the Book of Revelation.

## OPENING REFLECTION

*“The Word of God, which is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, is set forth and displays its power in a most wonderful way in the writings of the New Testament which hand on the ultimate truth of God’s Revelation. Their central object is Jesus Christ, God’s incarnate Son: his acts, teachings, Passion and glorification, and his Church’s beginnings under the Spirit’s guidance.”*

CCC 124

# WHAT IS THE NEW TESTAMENT?



"See, days are coming when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors the day I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt... But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days. I will place my law within them, and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. They will no longer teach their friends and relatives, "Know the Lord!" Everyone, from the least to greatest, shall know me for I will forgive their iniquity and no longer remember their sin."

Jeremiah 31:31-34



# salvation

IS FOUND IN NO ONE ELSE. FOR THERE IS NO  
OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN TO  
MANKIND BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED.

ACTS 4:12

# THE NEW TESTAMENT IN DEI VERBUM

- The 'mystery' of God's great plan of salvation for all humankind is revealed
- The role of the Holy Spirit in the evangelical mission of the apostles
- A Christ-centered (Christocentric) focus
- The privileged place of the gospels in Church tradition
- The Historical truth of the gospels
- The importance of the epistles of St. Paul

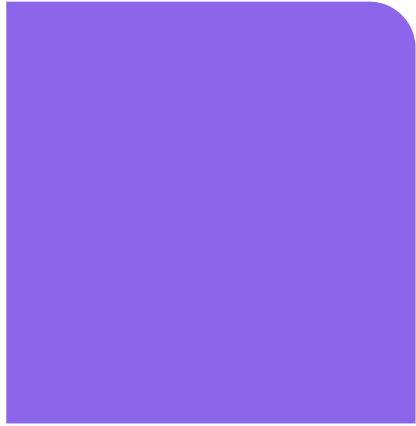


"The sacred scriptures contain the word of God, and because they are inspired, they truly are the word of God; therefore, the study of the sacred page should be the very soul of sacred theology." DV 24



# THE NEW TESTAMENT ERA OF JESUS





# THE JEWISH REVOLT



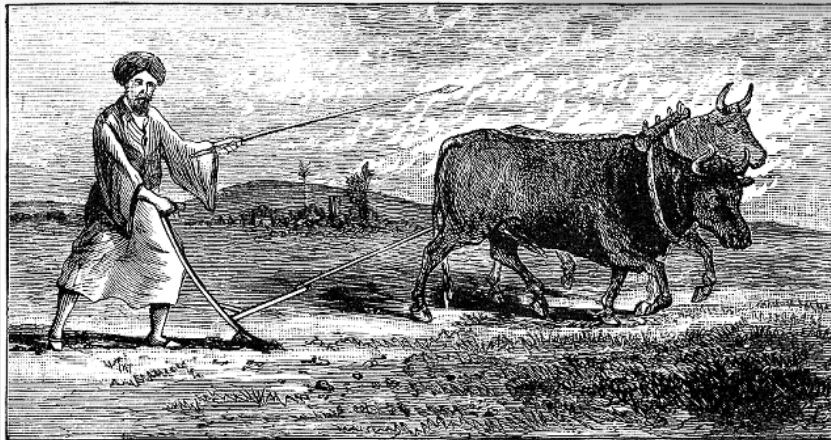




# GRECO-ROMAN CULTURE

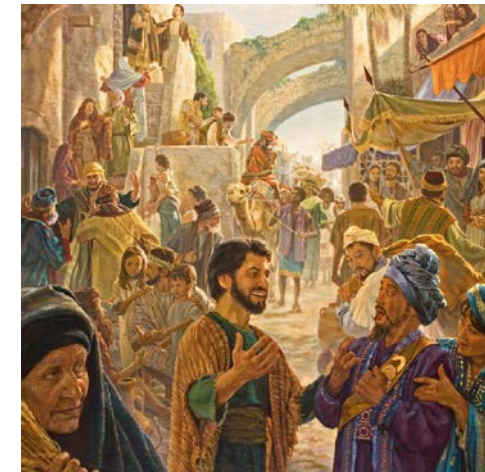
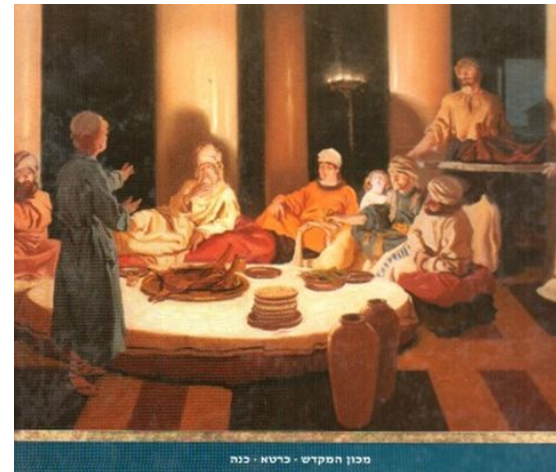
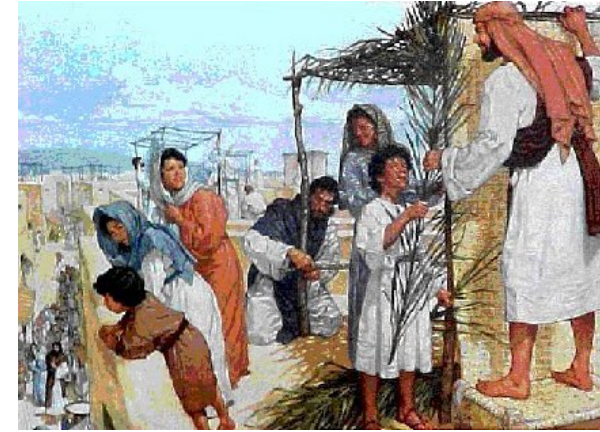


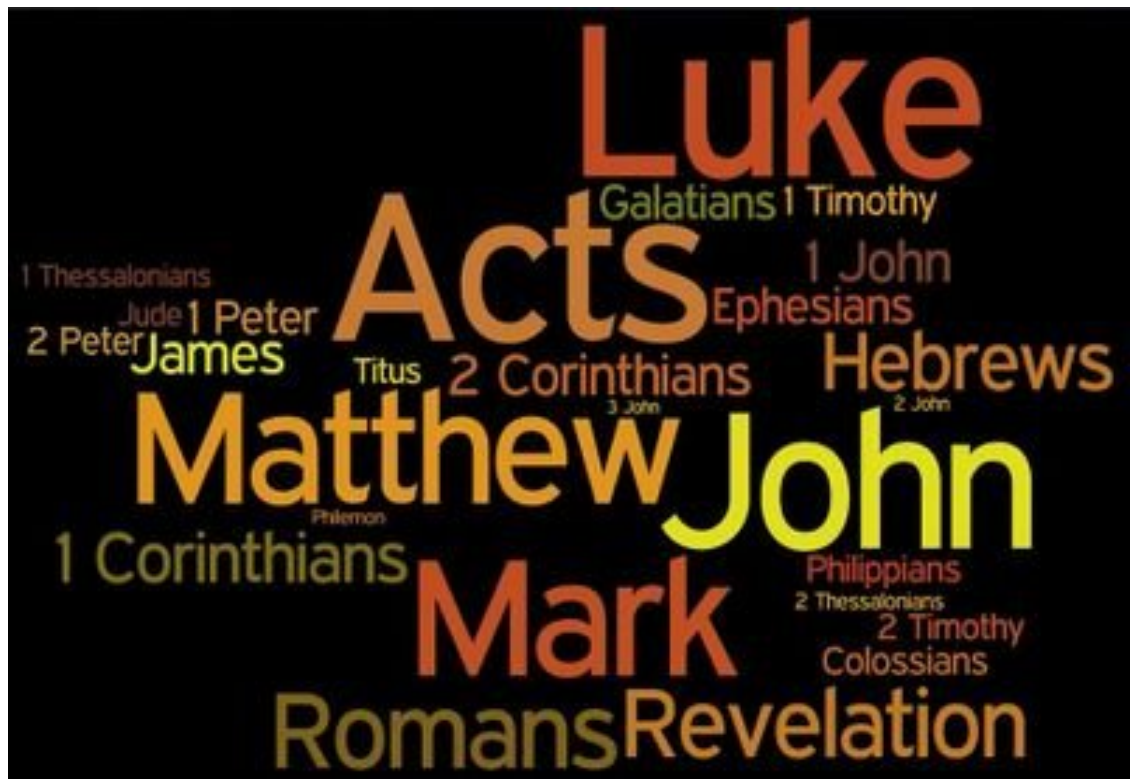
# SOCIOECONOMIC STATE OF PALESTINE



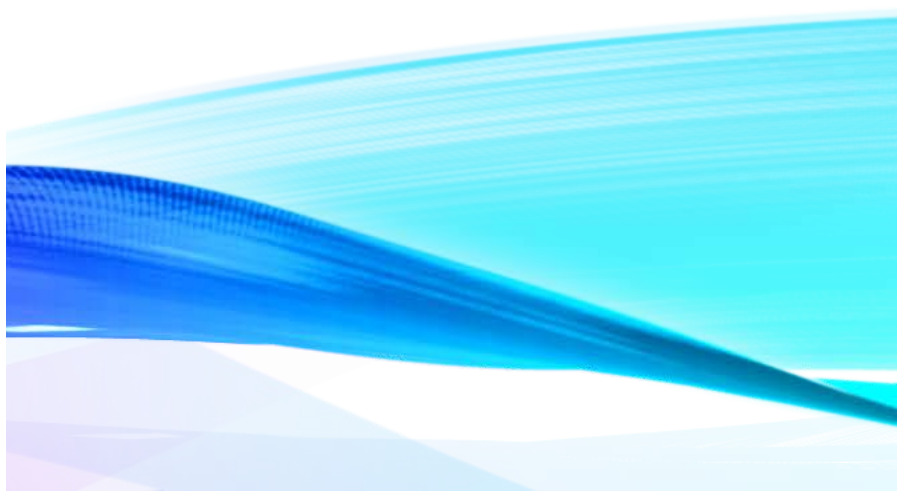


# JEWISH RELIGION

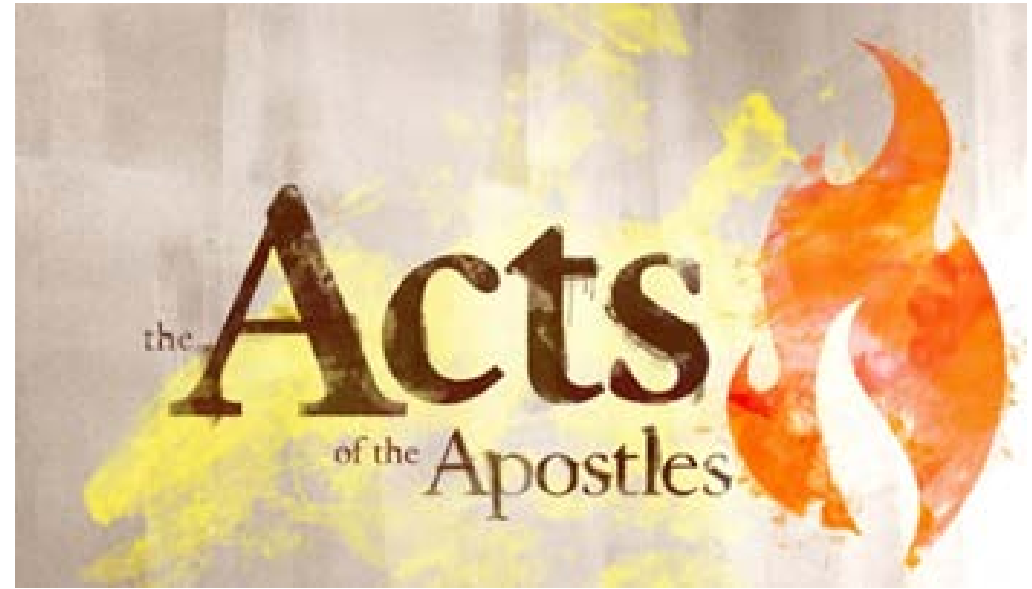




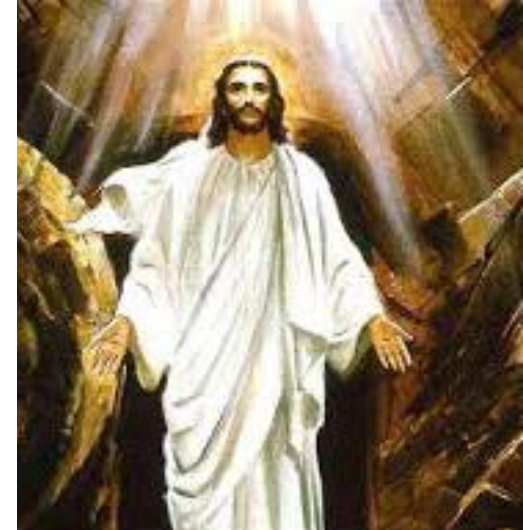
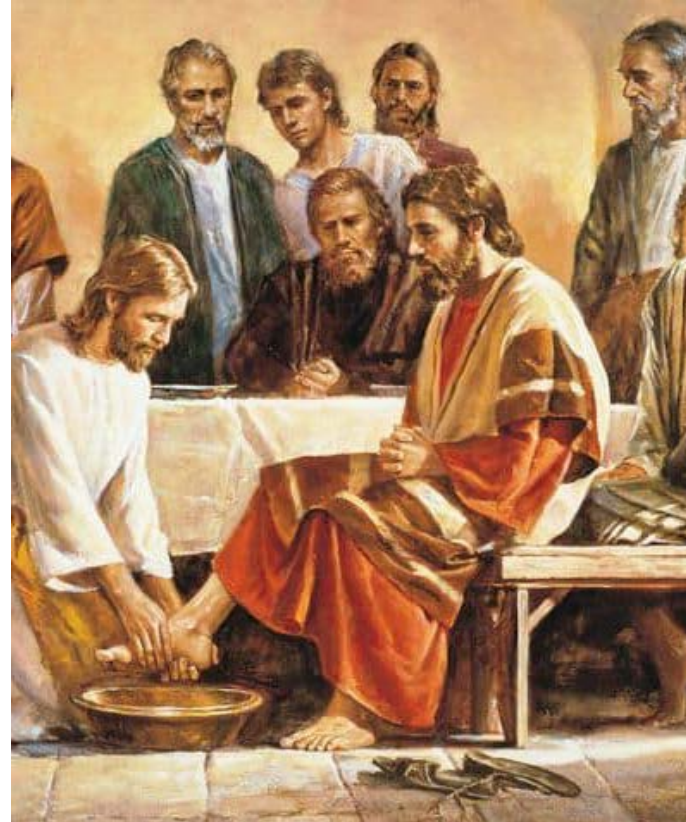
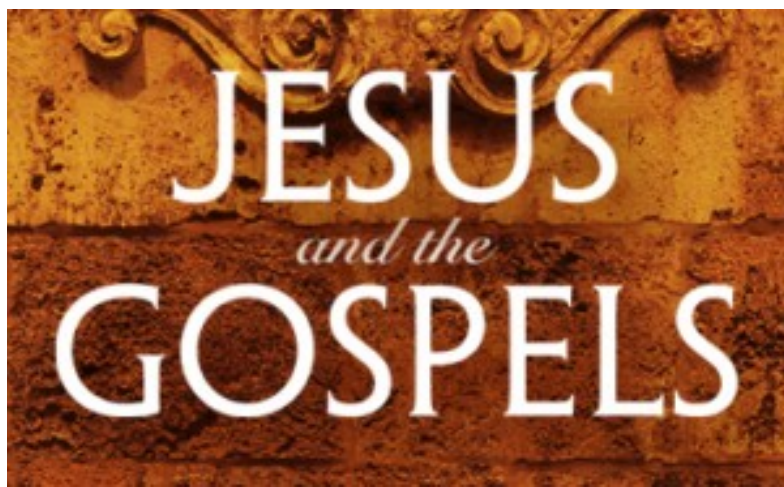
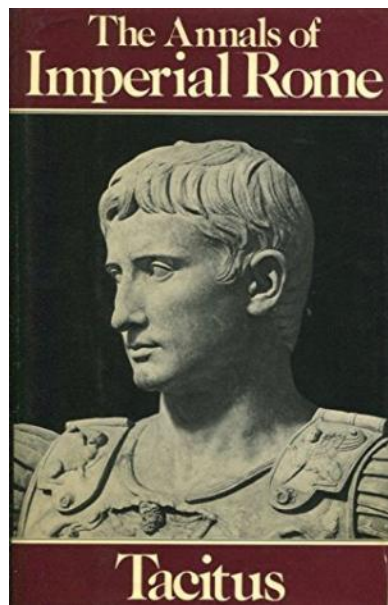
# PARTS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT



# THE GOSPELS



# THE HISTORICAL JESUS



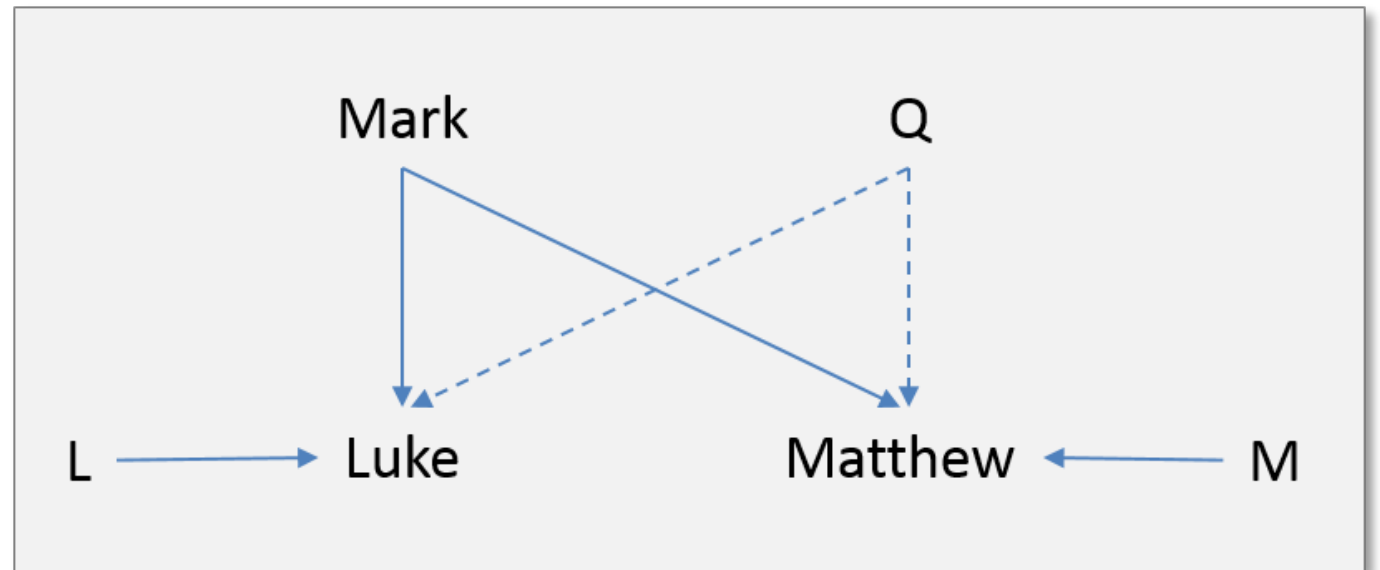
# THE STAGES OF GOSPEL DEVELOPMENT

- The Life and Teaching of Jesus
- Oral Tradition
- The written Gospels



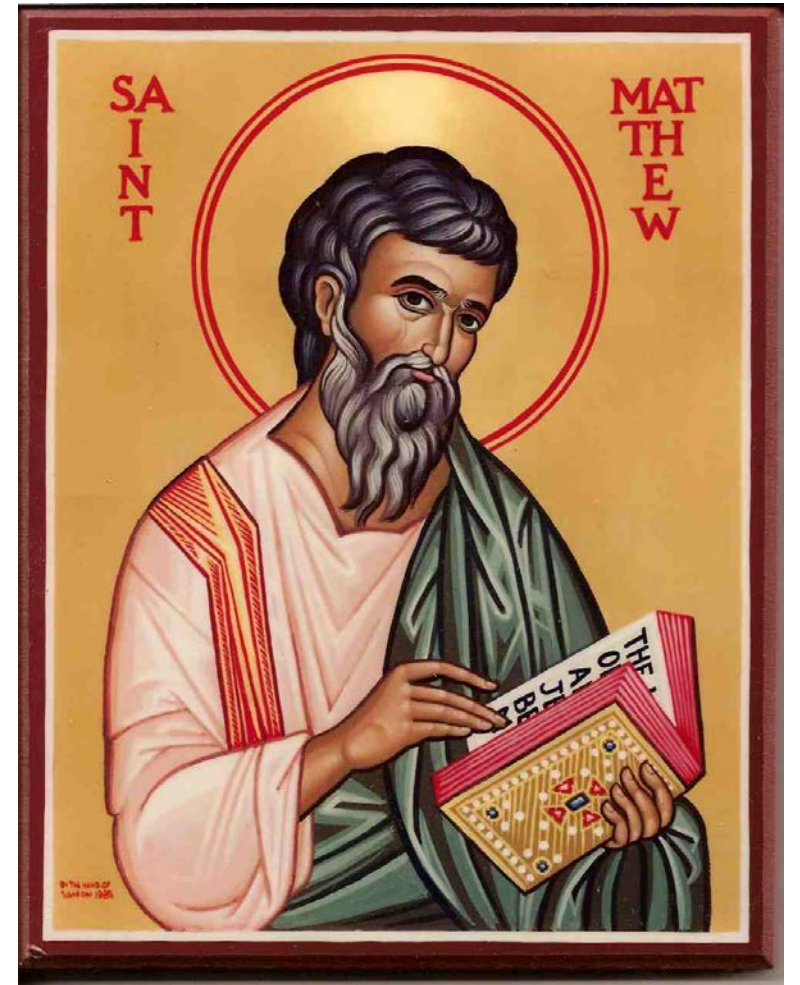


# THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS



# THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

- Not one of the Twelve Apostles
- A Jewish Christian
- Gospel dated around 85 C.E.
- Predominately Jewish Community - Possibly Antioch





# REASONS FOR MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

## Event

- Destruction of the Temple
- Exclusion from the Synagogue
- Delay of the Parousia
- Influx of Gentiles

## Theme

- Jesus as the New Law
- Anti-Pharisee Theme
- Delay Parables
- Lord is present in the Church
- Mixed Church
- Post resurrection ministry to Gentiles

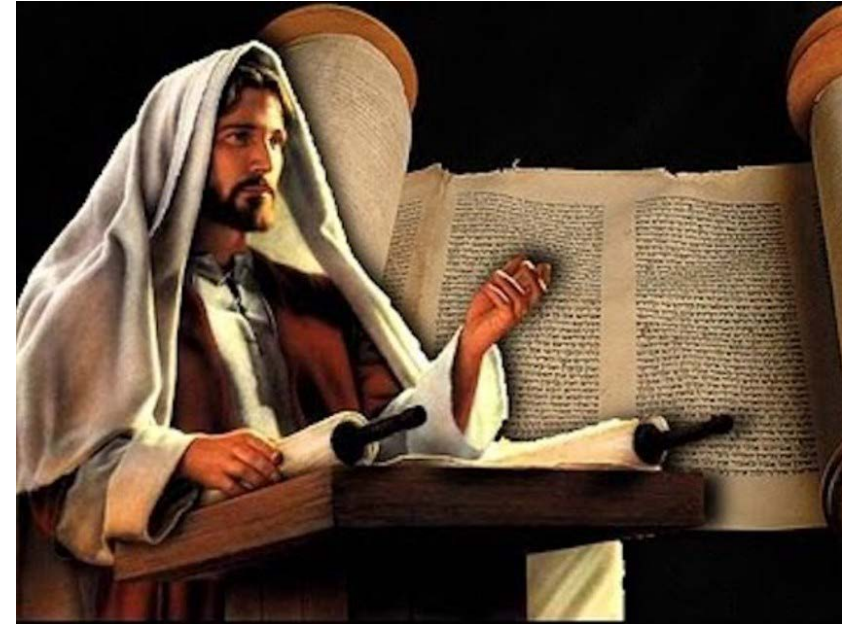
# JESUS AS THE NEW LAW

## Structure of Matthew's Gospel

- 1<sup>st</sup> Discourse: Sermon on the Mount
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Discourse: Missionary Discourse
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Discourse: Parable Discourse
- 4<sup>th</sup> Discourse: Community Discourse
- 5<sup>th</sup> Discourse: End Time Discourse

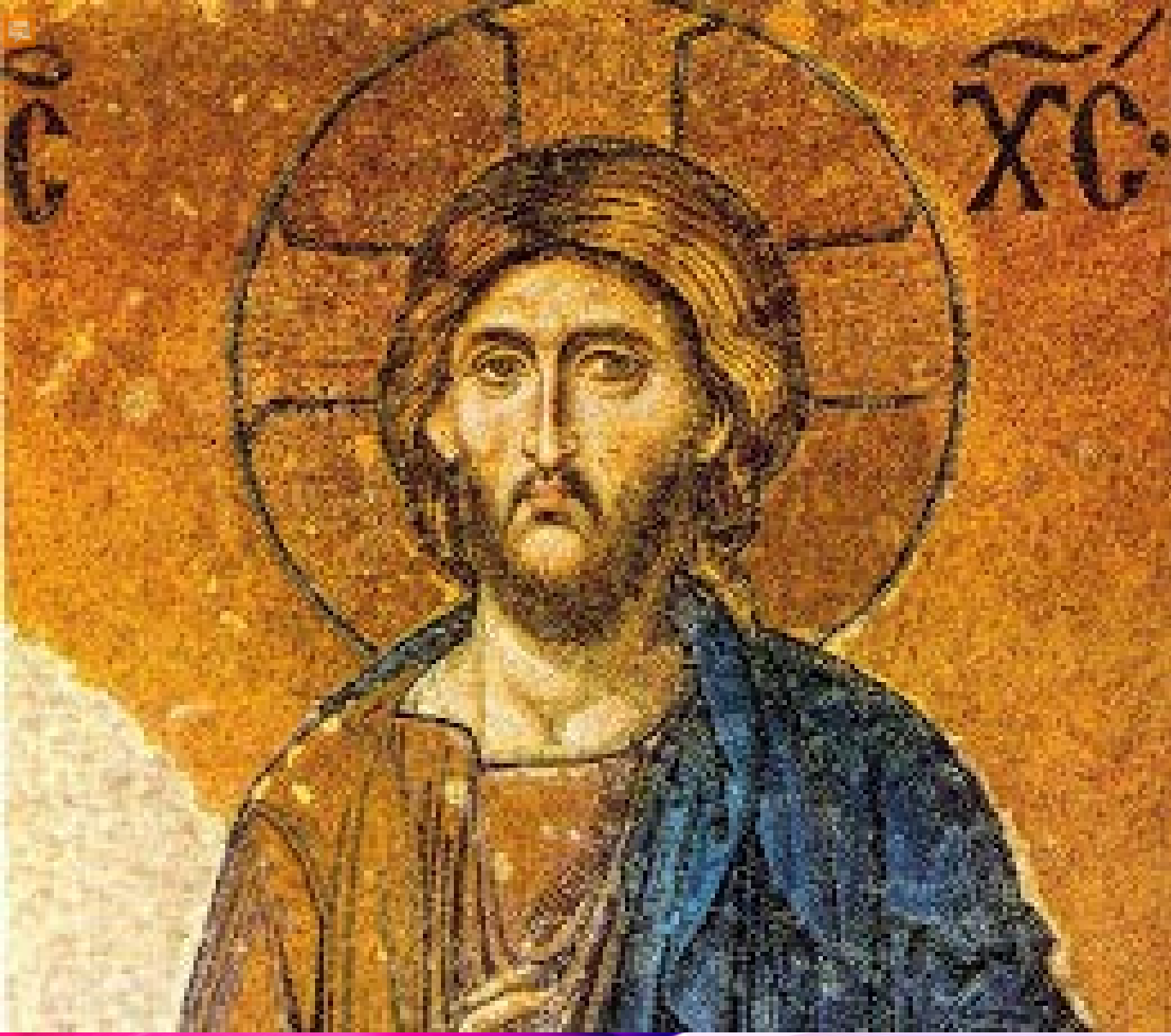
“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.” Mt 5:17

“...whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.” Mt 5:19

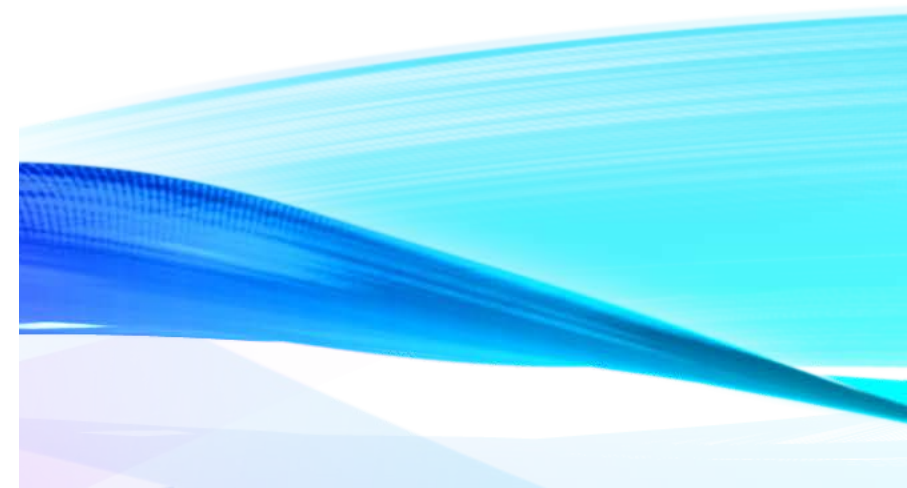


“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me...”

Mt 25:35

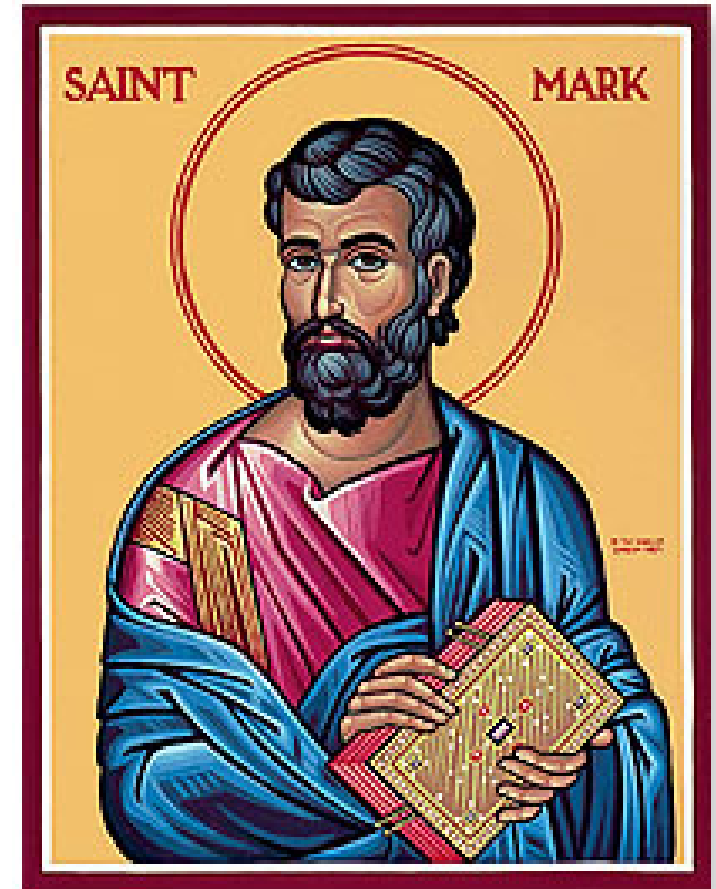


# THE CHRISTOLOGY OF MATTHEW

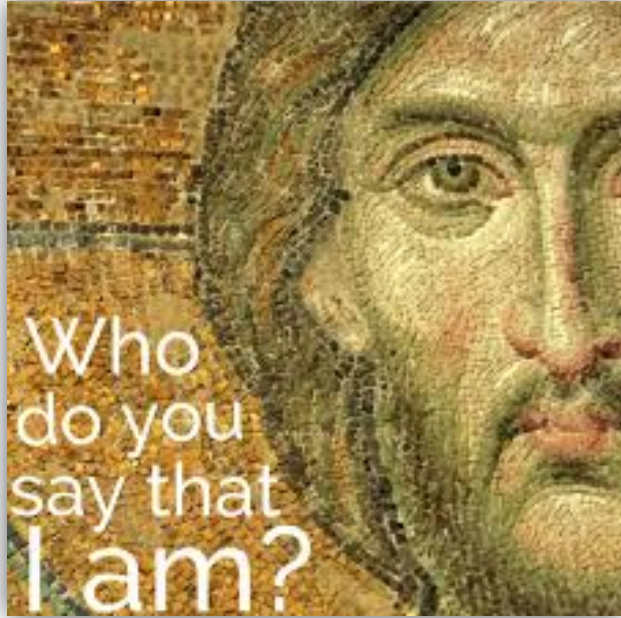


# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

- The first and shortest Gospel written around 70 C.E.
- Author unknown
- Written to a Gentile audience
- Translates Aramaic sayings into Greek
  - *"Talitha koum"* – "Little girl, I say to you, arise."
  - *"Ephphatha"* – "Be opened."
  - *"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani"* – "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"



# THEMES OF THE GOSPEL OF MARK



Jesus asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Messiah." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. MK 8:29



"Get behind me, Satan, You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." MK 8:33



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." MK 8:34-35

# LITERARY CHARACTERISTIC OF MARK

## Intercalation or Sandwiching

- The story of the fig tree – Cleansing of the Temple – the withered fig tree
- The healing of Jarius's daughter – Healing of the woman with a hemorrhage – the raising of the Jarius' daughter
- The healing of the Paralytic – the call of Levi – Picking grain on the Sabbath - The man with the withered hand



# DISCIPLESHIP IN MARK

“But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.” Mk 13:32

“Watch out for yourselves. They will hand you over to the courts. You will be beaten in synagogues. You will be arraigned before governors and kings because of me, as a witness before them. ... You will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who perseveres to the end will be saved.” Mk 13:9,13

“Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven, then come, follow me. At that statement his face fell and he went away sad for he had many possessions.” Mk10:21-22

**Redemption in spite of human failure.**



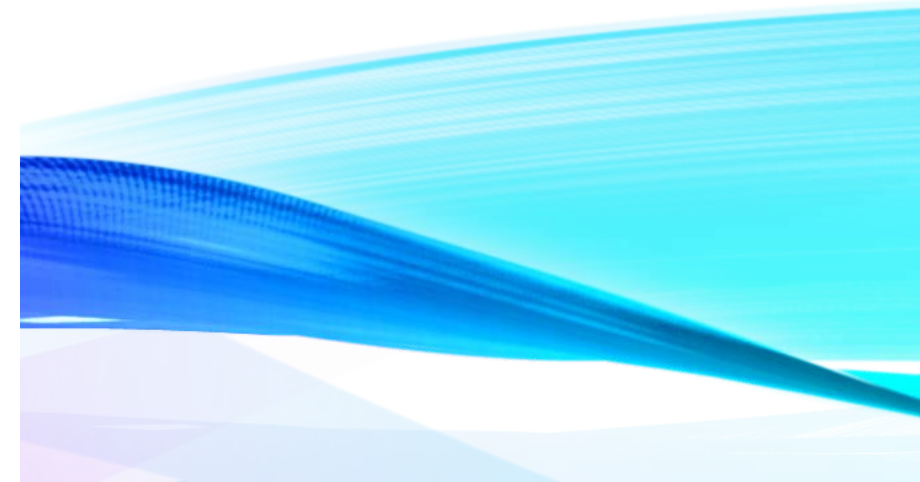
# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

- Luke, the beloved Physician
- A Gentile Christian writing for Theophilus, a Gentile Christian
- Written around the 70's to 80's C.E.
- A historian
- Author of the Book of Acts

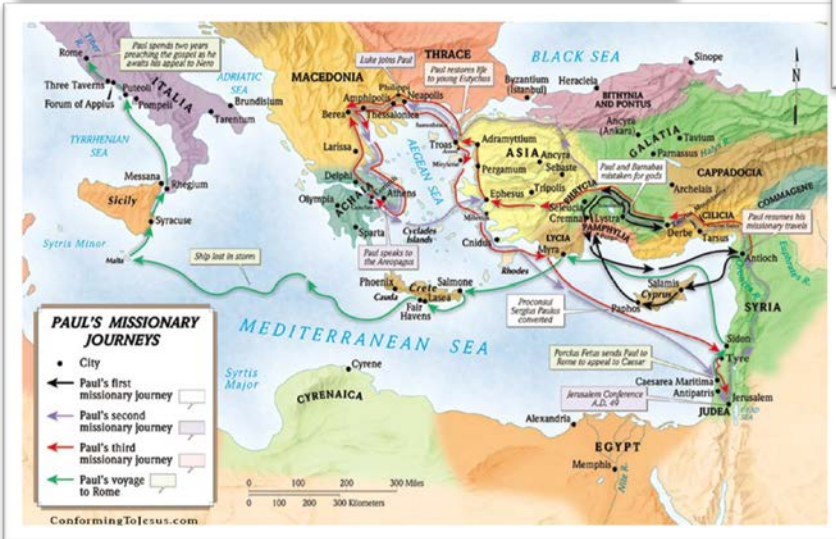
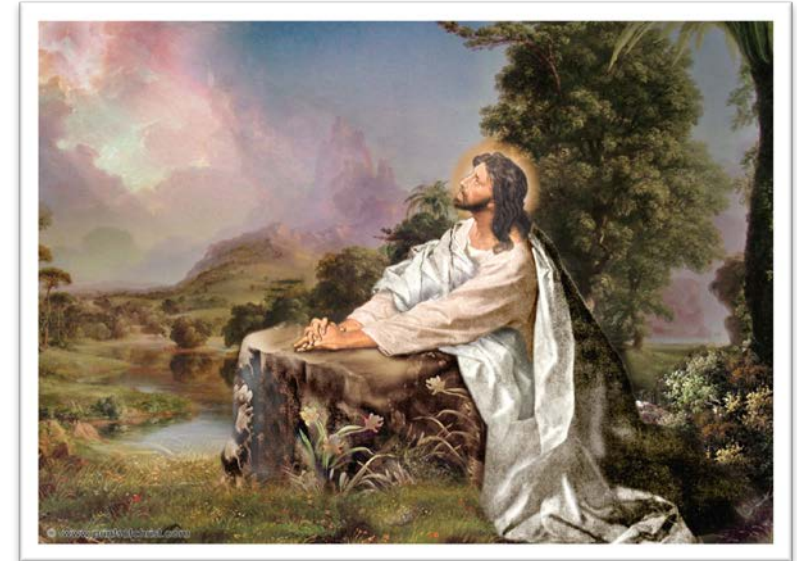




## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE AND ACTS



# JESUS AS PROPHET AND TEACHER



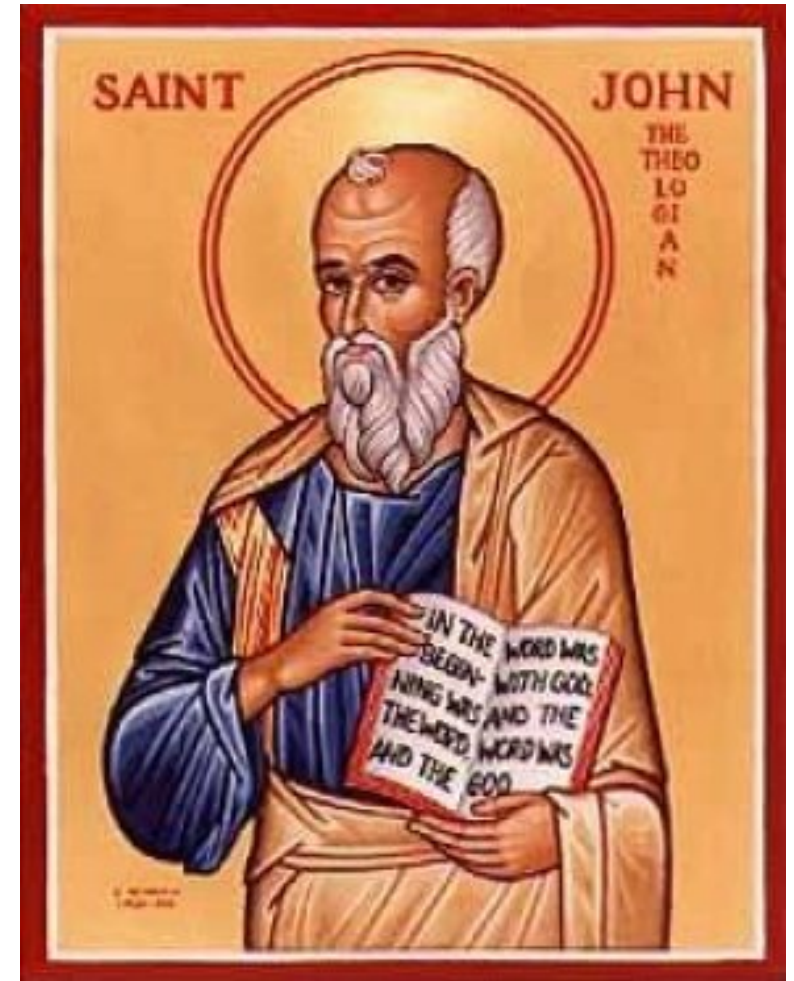


# MARY, THE FIRST DISCIPLE



# THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

- Author unknown
  - “He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.” Jn 19:33
  - “This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know his testimony is true.” Jn 21:24
- Written as late as 90 C.E.
- Jewish Christians who remained connected to a synagogue originally
- Spiritual and Historical
- Johannine Community originally from Palestine



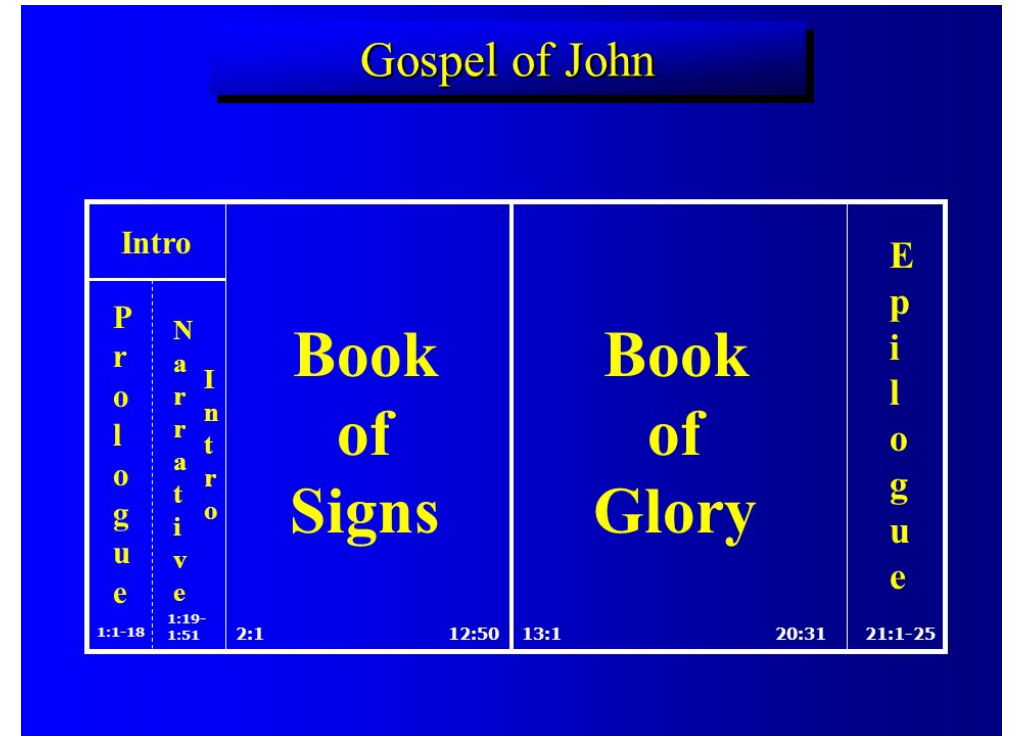
# JOHN, A DISTINCTIVE GOSPEL

- Different set of stories and sayings of Jesus
- Seven Miracles
- No Parables
- Dependent on traditions unique to the Johannine Community
- The Johannine Community was isolated and suffered internal conflict



# STRUCTURE OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

- Prologue – Great Hymn to the Logos
- Book of Signs
  - Changing water into wine at the wedding at Cana (Jn 2:1-11);
  - Healing the royal official's son (Jn 4:46-54)
  - Healing the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem (Jn 5:1-15)
  - Feeding the 5,000 (Jn 6:5-14)
  - Walking on water (Jn 6:16-21)
  - Healing the man born blind (Jn 9:1-7)
  - Raising Lazarus from the dead (Jn 11:1-45)
- Book of Glory
  - Last Supper Discourse, Passion, Resurrection
- Epilogue – Final Resurrection Appearance





# LOGOS CHRISTOLOGY

- Christology that begins with the preexistent Word (Logos)
- The Word “comes down” to assume human flesh on earth
- Highest Christology



# I AM SAYINGS

“When you lift up the Son of Man; than you will realize that I AM, and that I do nothing on my own, I say only what the Father taught me.” Jn 8:28

“Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham came to be, I AM.” Jn 8:58

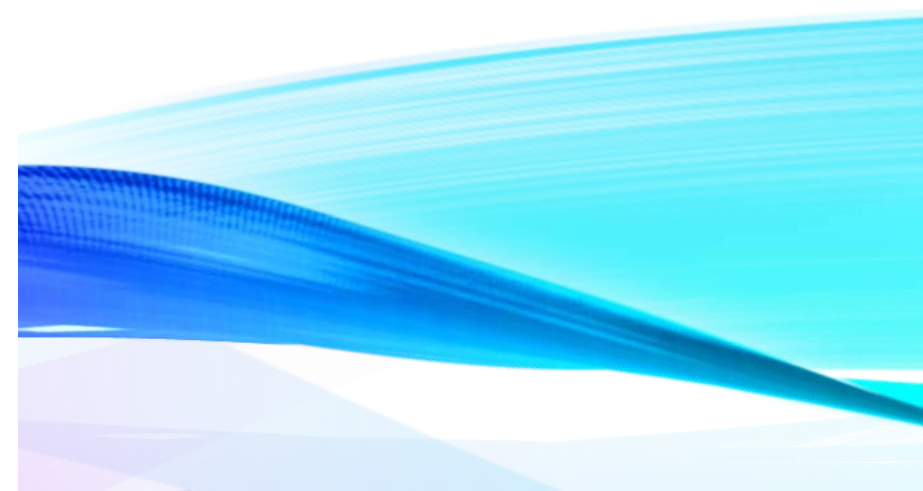
“From now on I am telling you before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe I AM.” Jn 13:19

- ✦ I AM the Bread of Life Jn 6:35
- ✦ I AM the light of the world Jn 8:12, 9:5
- ✦ I AM the door of the sheep Jn 10:7,9
- ✦ I AM the Good Shepherd Jn 10:11,14
- ✦ I AM the Resurrection and the Life Jn 11: 25
- ✦ I AM the Way, the Truth, the Life Jn 14:16
- ✦ I AM the True Vine Jn 15:1





JESUS –  
FULLY GOD  
AND FULLY  
HUMAN



# ACTS OF THE APOSTLES



# DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTS

- Hospitality and sharing with the poor
- Piety
- Persecution





# THE PAULINE CORPUS

- Born to Jewish parents in Tarsus
- Roman citizen by birth
- A Hebrew among Hebrews
- Of the party of the Pharisees
- Neither imposing nor articulate
- Performed miracles
- A theology of the Risen Jesus
- Paul and Women
- Marital state
- Died a martyr in Rome about 66-67 C.E.

# The Letters of St. Paul

- Romans
- 1 and 2 Corinthians
- Galatians
- Philippians
- 1 Thessalonians
- Philemon
- Ephesians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 and 2 Timothy
- Titus

- Authorship of Paul's Letters
- The form of Paul's Letters
  - Salutation
  - Thanksgiving
  - Main Body
  - Closing

"Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, to the church of God that is in Corinth, in you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Cor.

"I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you are called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." 1 Cor.

"Be on your guard, stand firm in the faith, be courageous, be strong. Your every act should be done in love." 1 Cor.

"The Churches of Asia send you greetings, Aquila and Prisca together with the church at their house send you many greetings in the Lord. All the brothers greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write you this greeting in my own hand. If anyone does not love the Lord, let him be accursed. Marana tha. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love to all of you in Christ Jesus." 1 Cor.

# THE CATHOLIC LETTERS

- Hebrews: The Divine Son & The Heavenly High Priest  
“Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.” Heb 11:1
- James: the Legacy of Jewish Christianity
- 1 Peter: the “Holy People of God”  
“Resist him, steadfast in faith, knowing that your fellow believers throughout the world undergo the same sufferings.” 1 Peter 5:9
- 2 Peter: Christian Eschatology
- 1, 2, 3 John: The Johannine Epistles
- Jude: The False Teachers

**Hebrews**  
**James**  
**1 & 2 Peter**  
**1, 2, 3 John**  
**Jude**  
**Revelation**



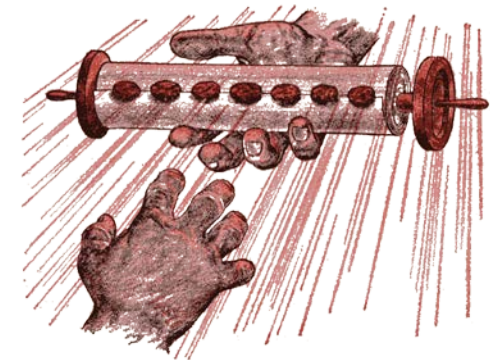
# REVELATION

- John, the author
- Written around 90-96 C.E.
- Christians and the Roman Empire
- Apocalypse
- Prophecy
- Use of Old Testament
- What has happened in Christ



# SEVEN IN REVELATION

- The Seven Churches
  - The Seven Lampstands
  - The Seven Stars
  - The Seven Letters
- The Seven Seals
- The Seven Trumpets
- The Seven Bowls
- Three Scrolls





THE BOOK OF LIFE

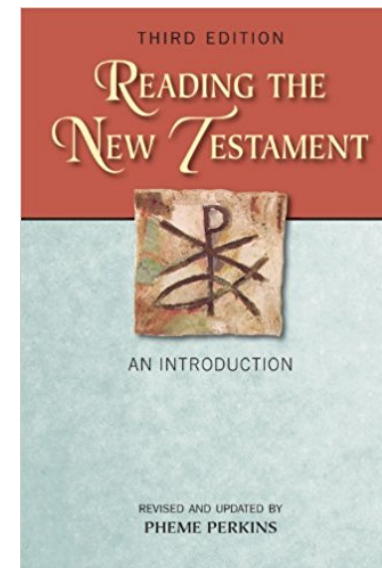
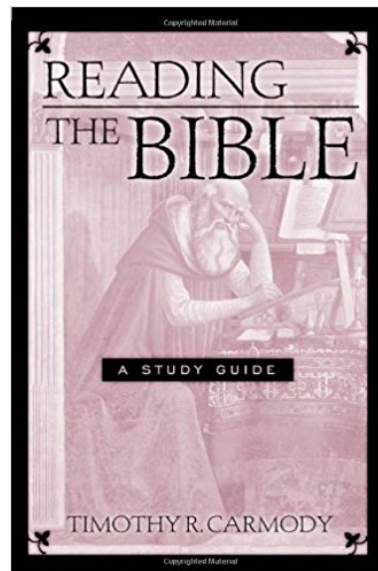
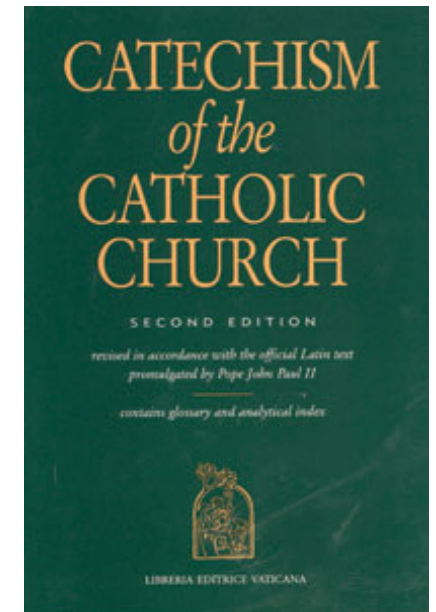
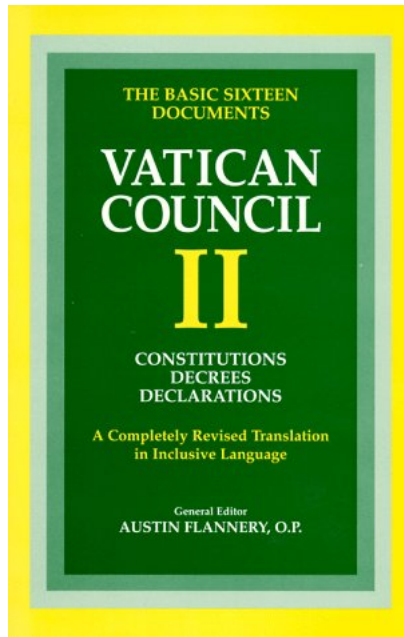
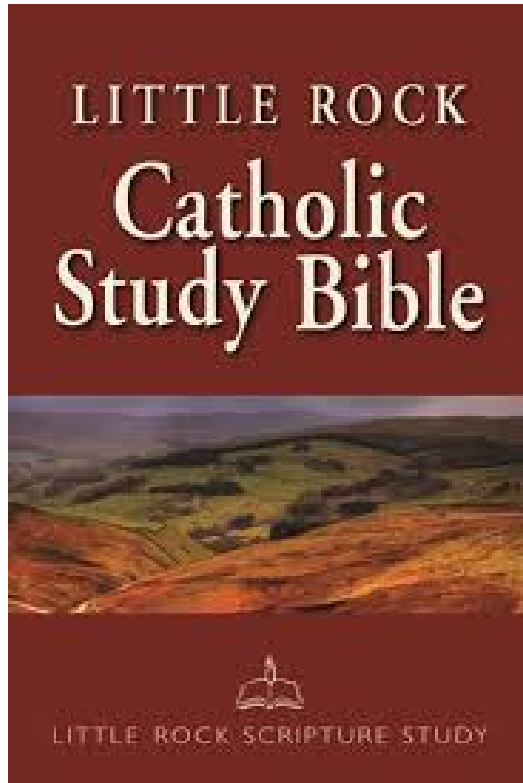




# THE VISION OF JOHN



# RESOURCES FOR SURVEY OF NEW TESTAMENT



DIOCESE OF BOISE  
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND  
CATECHETICAL LEADERSHIP



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# REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How does Dei Verbum explain how Christ fulfilled the hopes of the prophets?
- How did the Synagogue come to be the primary place of worship for Jews?
- Describe the three stages of Gospel development.
- Explain the two-source hypothesis theory for the creation of the gospels.
- What are the five Discourses of the Gospel of Matthew and what were they meant to imitate?
- Explain the two themes of the Gospel of Mark.
- Describe the three stages of the Gospel of Luke and Acts.
- What makes the Gospel of John distinctive from the other gospels?
- What was the purpose behind Paul's letters and which community did he not form?
- What are the Catholic Letters?
- Name the primary groups of seven in the Book of Revelation.
- What is the primary purpose behind the Book of Revelation?



## CLOSING REFLECTION

“And such is the force and power of the Word of God that it can serve the Church as her support and vigor and the children of the Church as strength for their faith, food for the soul, and a pure and lasting font of spiritual life.” CCC 131

“The Church forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful...to learn the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ, by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures.  
‘Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.’ CCC 133