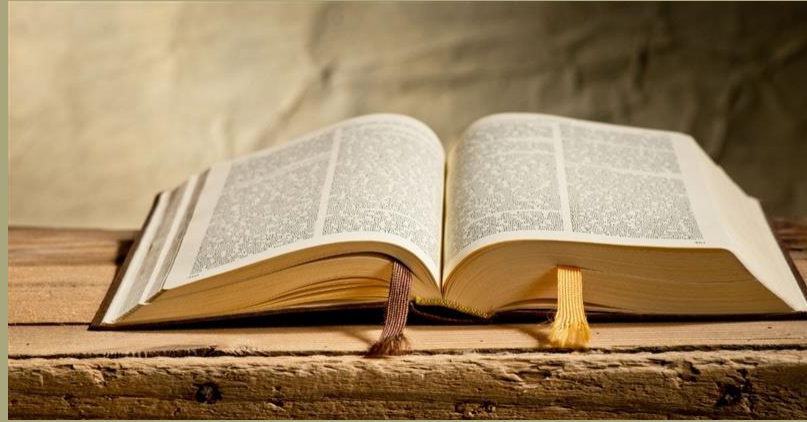


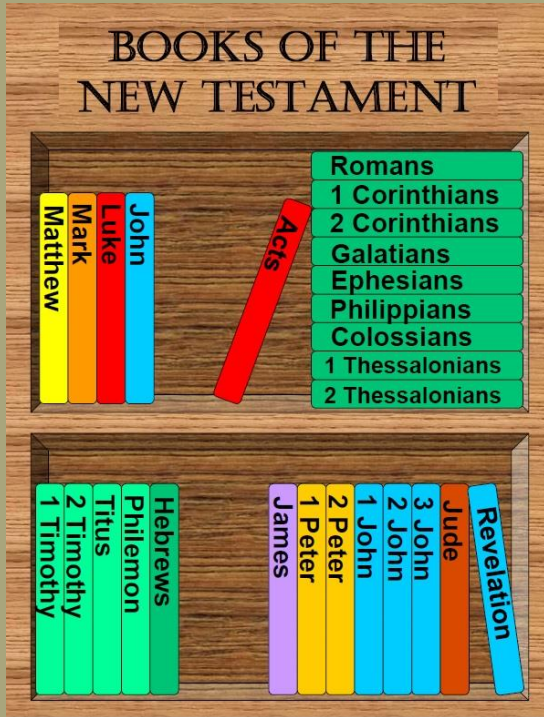
The Gospel According to Luke

The Basics

- Bible
- Old Testament
- New Testament



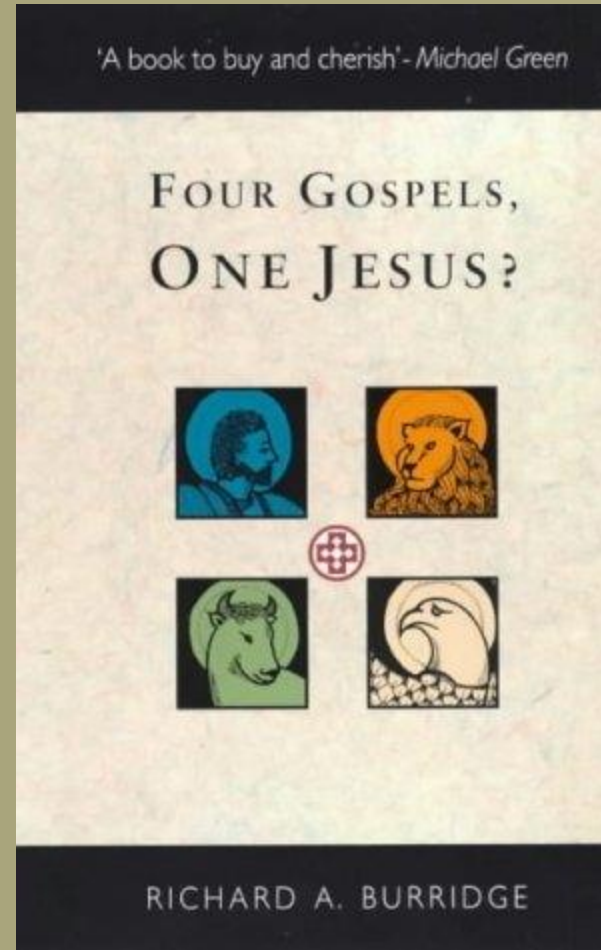
New Testament



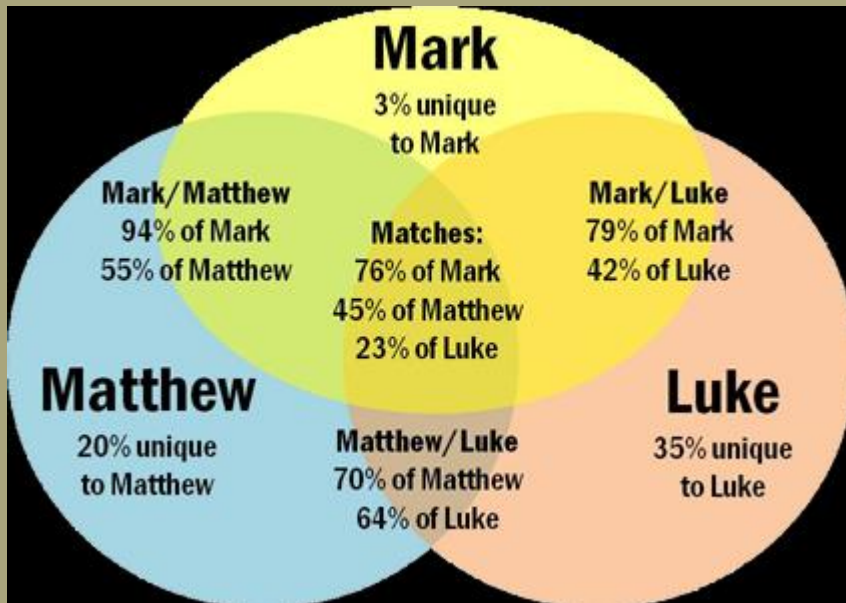
- 4 Gospels
- Acts of the Apostles
- 21 Letters
- Revelation

Gospels

- Matthew
- Mark ✓
- Luke
- John ✓

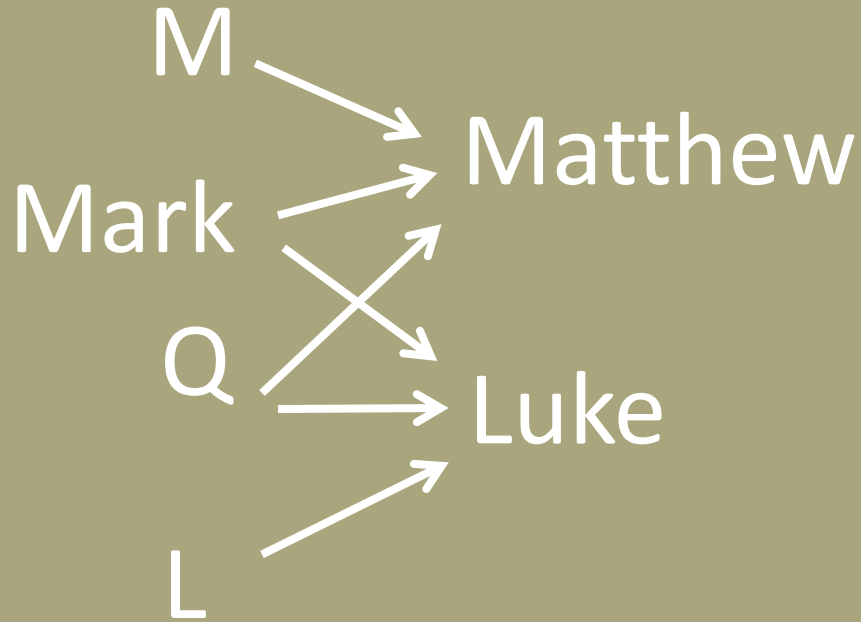


Synoptic Gospels



- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke

Synoptic Problem

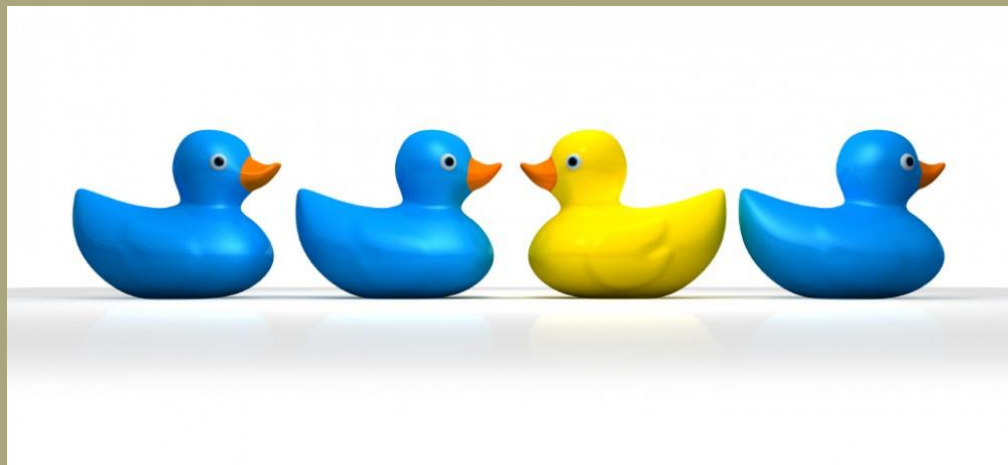


Luke & John

- Of the three synoptic gospels, Luke is most similar to John.
- Some have said that John used Luke as a source; more likely they shared common sources.

Luke

- Longest of the 4 Gospels
- Only Gospel With a Sequel



Luke 1:1-4

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

Acts 1:1-3

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

Luke - Acts

- Explicit, internal, connection
- Almost certainly same author
- More than 1/3 of New Testament
- Narrative & theological continuity
- Value in reading together

Luke - Acts

- Written sequentially
- Never circulated together
- Received separately by Church
- Always kept separate in the Bible
- Value in reading separately

Genre

- Like all the gospels,
 - Luke is a biography, of Jesus
 - With historical, theological, evangelistic, moral, and other intentions
 - And was written first to be heard by a certain audience



Model of Communication

- Authors -> Scribes -> Texts ->
- Texts -> Lectors -> Audiences



Two key points: (1) authors write with audiences in mind and (2) it can matter a lot how a text is vocalized

Date of Authorship

- Luke was written after Mark and before Acts, which suggests an approximate date of 60 A.D.
- It is virtually certain that the date is between 50 and 100 AD.

Audience

- Christians in the late First Century
 - Who understood Greek and forms of communication common to that time.
 - Were familiar with basic themes of Jewish literature (Greek Old Testament) and other Christian literature then read.

Author

- Luke is formally anonymous
- Church tradition has long held that what we call Luke and Acts were written by the man named Luke referred to in Paul's letters.

Traditional View

- Luke was a Gentile Christian from Antioch who was a physician and occasional traveling companion and co-worker with the Apostle Paul, but who did not know Jesus.

Luke & Paul

- Luke portrays Paul favorably in Acts but describes Paul's theology in ways that seem a little different from what Paul writes in his letters and from Luke's own theology.

Luke the Theologian

- Luke is not just a summarizer of primitive material (Mark, Q, and L)
- He is not just a student and teacher of the theology of the Apostle Paul.

Luke the Theologian

- Luke writes compelling historical narrative, to be read to a late First Century Christian audience.
- He means to convey the facts and his own theological convictions.

Luke the Theologian

- It is worth noticing that his theology moves him to begin his narrative before the conception of Jesus and to continue long after the ascension.
- And his genealogy of Jesus (Ch. 3) goes all the way back to Adam.

Luke the Theologian

- Luke's theological perspective and his narrative presentation is broad and beautiful and unique in many respects which we will try to notice as we proceed in this class.

Style

- Luke's command of Greek is good, demonstrating high general literacy and creative writing skill.
- He is a sophisticated writer, who writes simply to accommodate his subject matter and audience.

Style

- He is carefully and skillfully telling a story to make a point to his late First Century Christian audience. Let's try to hear it!

