

THE GOSPELS COMPARED

By Mark Moore

BOOK	CHARACTERISTICS	KEY WORD	JESUS	AUTHOR CLUES	DATE	PURPOSE
MT	Prophecy Jewish Interests Liturgical -- 5 major discourses	FULFILLED	PROMISED KING	Mt 9:9 (cf. Mk 2:14; Lk 5:27f)	c. A.D. 42	Demonstrate fulfilled prophecy
MK	Action Gentile/Roman Interests Candid	IMMEDIATELY	POWERFUL SERVANT	Mk 14:51-52	c. A.D. 47	Give a clear concise presentation of redemption in Christ (Mk 10:45)
LK	Interest in the downtrodden Intellectual vocabulary Lengthy, 2 Vol. Historical	COMPASSION	COMPASSIONATE CHRIST	Acts 16:10-17; 20:5-15; 21:1-18; 27:1-28:16	c. A.D. 60	Give a precise picture of Jesus and the church. Also perhaps to give a legal defense of Christianity.
JN	Philosophical View of Christ: With God; Messiah; Logos. Great Themes: Love, Life, Light, Holy Spirit	LOVE	PERSONAL GOD	Jn 21:24; 19:35	c. A.D. 95	John 20:31 -- Belief in Jesus (1) Add information to the synoptics (2) Polemic against unbelieving Jews (3) Fight incipient Gnosticism