

Books of the New Testament

Howard Culbertson
Southern Nazarene University

A harmony of the gospels

	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
Pre-Incarnation Existence of Jesus				1:1-3
Jesus' Birth and Childhood	1, 2		1, 2	
John the Baptist	3:1-12	1:1-8	3:1-20	1:6-42
Jesus' Baptism	3:13-17	1:9-11	3:21-22	
The Temptation	4:1-11	1:12-13	4:1-13	
Preliminary Miracle				2:1-11
Early Judean Ministry (about 8 months)				2:13 to 4:3

A harmony of the gospels

	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
Visit to Samaria				4:4–42
Galilean Ministry (about 2 years)	4:12 to 19:1	1:14 to 10:1	4:14 to 9:51	4:43–54 6:1–7:1
Visit to Jerusalem				5:1–47
Perean and Later Judean Ministry (about 4 months)	19, 20	10	9:51 to 19:28	7:2 to 11:57
The Last Week	21 to 27	11 to 15	19:29 to 24:1	12 to 19
Post-Resurrection Ministry	28	16	24	20 to 21



Matthew

- Link between Old and New Testaments
- Jesus is the true Messiah, the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies
- A Jew writing to fellow Jews
- Systematic use of Jesus' sermons
- Key chapters: 5-7 – Sermon on the Mount

Mark

- The gospel of action (emphasizes works more than words)
- Writing to Romans
- Starts with John the Baptist
- Short and rugged gospel



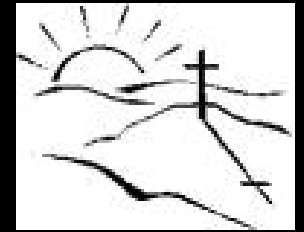
Luke



- Written for Theophilus, a Roman official
- Christ is savior of every person, not Jews only
- Reflects doctor's heart
- Great joy
- Gospel of prayer

John

- Written to everyone
- Established deity of Christ
- Not so much on what Jesus did as what kind of person He was
- Great themes: light, life, love, truth, the Father-Son relationship
- John 17 -- High Priestly prayer

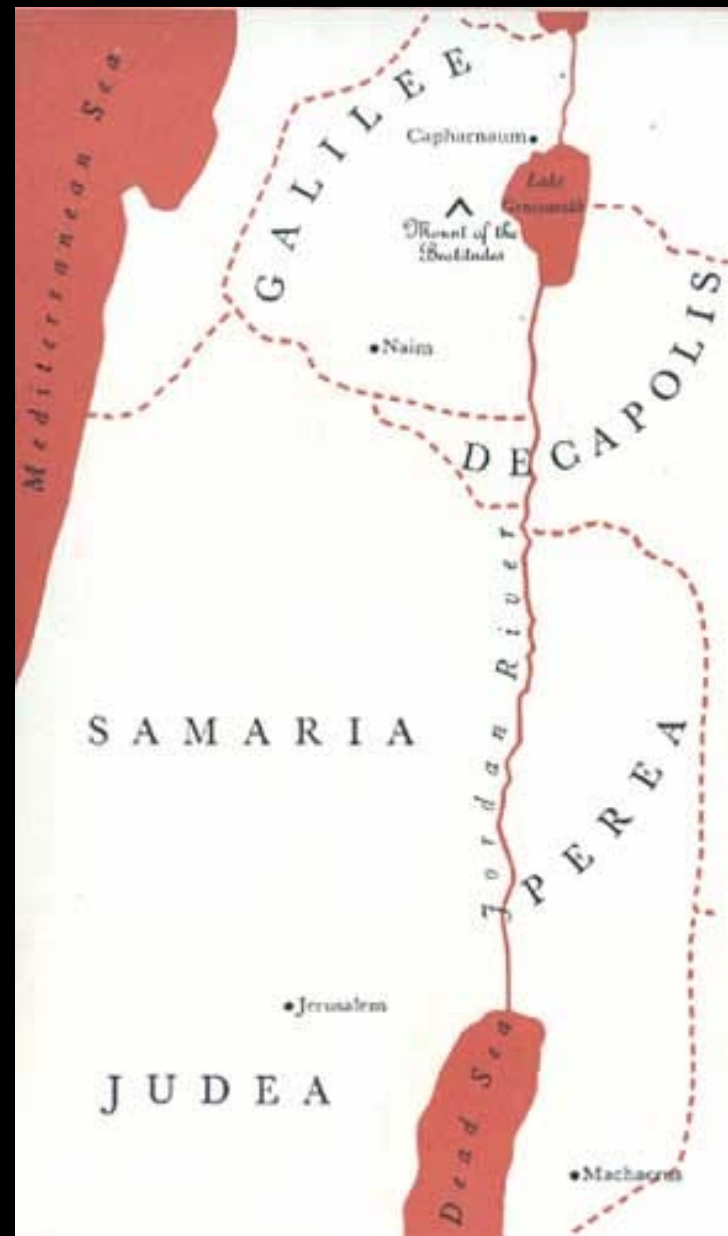


Gospel comparison

- Matthew is longest; Mark is shortest
- Only Matthew and Luke tell of Jesus' birth and childhood

Gospel comparison

- Geography of ministry:
 - Matthew and Mark: Galilean ministry
 - Luke: ministry in Perea
 - John: ministry in Judea



Acts

- Church history (acts of some of the Apostles – primarily Peter and Paul)
- Paul's 3 missionary journeys
- Key chapters
 - Acts 2 – Day of Pentecost
 - Acts 15 -- pivotal decision

Romans

- Righteousness of God and salvation through faith
- Established Paul's credentials with church he had never visited
 - missionary fund-raising letter
- Luther / Wesley

1 Corinthians

- Serious problems and disorder in a divided church
- Immorality
- Order in services 13:1; 14:33
- Key chapter: 1 Corinthians 13 -- love chapter



2 Corinthians

- Paul defends his ministry as an Apostle and as founder of Corinthian church, profound concern for young Christians
4:5
- 5:20-21

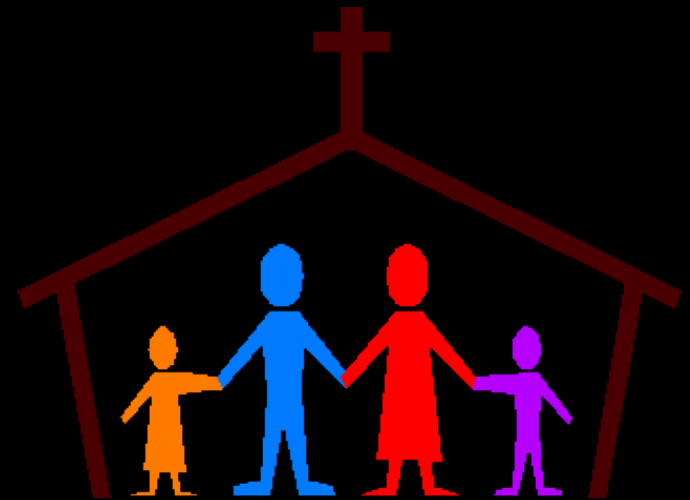
Galatians

- Settle the debate: Must one submit to Jewish law, including circumcision, to become a Christian? (5:1)



Ephesians

- A prison epistle
- The grandeur of the Church
 - Body of Christ 1:23, 4:16
 - Temple of God 2:20-22
 - Bride of Christ 5:23-32



Philippians

- A prison epistle.
- Beware of legalism
- Live joyfully in Christ in the midst of adverse circumstances



Colossians

- Prison epistle
- Against Gnosticism (superior knowledge)
 - Believed in a ladder of deities
 - Asceticism (isolation from the world and all luxury)
- The deity and all-sufficiency of Christ

1 and 2 Thessalonians

- Eschatology,
 - Last things
 - Christ's Second Coming



1 Timothy

- Care of the church at Ephesus
- Emphasizes godliness in a minister of Gospel
- Beliefs and feelings about Church administration
4:12



2 Timothy

- Paul's final letter
- His dying shout of triumph
- Tells Timothy to stand by his faith and to live by high convictions
- "Last words from death row"

Titus

- Warns against counterfeit Christians
- Qualifications for church leaders
- Concerning churches at Crete



Philemon

- Letter from prison
- On behalf of a runaway slave, Onesimus



Hebrews

- Written to persecuted Christian Jews tempted to deny their faith
- Better: The superiority of Christ and faith in Him
- Key chapter: Hebrews 11 -- Faith chapter

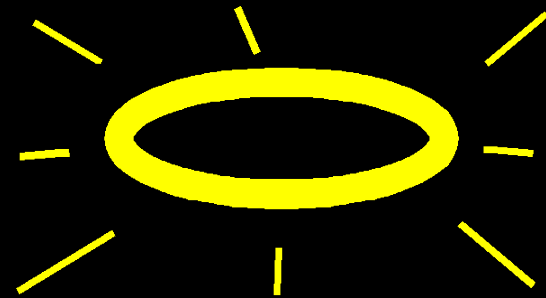


James

- 1:27 Good works and pure religion
- The necessity of a living faith
- Exposes subtle sins
 - pride, gossip, aloofness, materialism and practical atheism
- Proving your faith by your works

1 Peter

- The Christian attitude or frame of mind in the midst of suffering
- Emphasis on holiness



2 Peter

- Affirms Second Coming
- Cries out against evils of heresy and teachers of error
- A prediction of apostasy



1 John

- A letter written from Ephesus
- If we are His, we will love one another and live righteously



2 John

- Denounces false and heretical teachers
- Walking in truth and love



3 John

- Vast difference between good and bad behavior
- Emphases:
 - Prayer
 - Faithful work in the Church
 - Christian integrity
- Hospitality toward itinerant ministers, v 11

Jude

- The faith once for all delivered to the saints
- A great doxology
- Immoral character of heretics

Revelation

- The grand finale
- Visions about the future
- Ultimate triumph of Christ and the New Heaven and New Earth



This PowerPoint presentation is available along with related materials and other PowerPoint presentations at <http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/ppt.htm>