

# NEW TESTAMENT

# GOSPELS & ACTS

The Gospels, which are the first four books of the New Testament, record the good news of God's plan for a Savior through the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each writer has a particular method or style to communicate the life and message of Jesus Christ.

## MATTHEW

**Who:** Matthew (also called Levi)  
**What:** Gospel  
**Where:** Judea  
**When:** c. AD 60  
**Why:** To show Jesus as the Son of David, the Kingly Messiah who fulfills prophecy.

### Outline (Chapter)

- Birth and Early Life (1-4)
- Ministry of Christ (5-20)
- Death and Resurrection (21-28)

**Key Verse:** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:18-19)

## MARK

**Who:** John Mark  
**What:** Gospel  
**Where:** Rome  
**When:** c. AD 50s  
**Why:** To show Jesus as the Suffering Son of Man sent to serve and not be served.

### Outline (Chapter)

- Introduction (1)
- Ministry of Christ (2-10)
- Death and Resurrection (11-16)

**Key Verse:** Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:43-45)

Acts is the record of the radically changed "acts" or "actions" of the followers of Jesus Christ after the resurrection. Acts opens with the out-flowing of the Holy Spirit and describes the missionary efforts of the early followers of Jesus as they spread the message of the gospel to Judea and Samaria. Acts also records the actions of the apostle Paul as he and other courageous believers continued to spread the good news of Jesus to the Jews and Gentiles of the Roman Empire.

## LUKE

**Who:** Luke (The Physician)  
**What:** Gospel  
**Where:** Caesarea  
**When:** c. AD 60-AD 62  
**Why:** To show Jesus as the Savior of the World who has compassion for all human beings.

### Outline (Chapter)

- Birth and Early Life (1-4)
- Ministry of Christ (5-19)
- Death and Resurrection (20-24)

**Key Verse:** Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it." (Luke 9:23-24)

## JOHN

**Who:** John (The Beloved Disciple)  
**What:** Gospel  
**Where:** Asia Minor  
**When:** c. AD 85-AD 95  
**Why:** To show Jesus as the Son of God, the Word made flesh, who provides eternal life for all who believe in him.

### Outline (Chapter)

- Introduction (1)
- Ministry of Christ (2-12)
- Private Ministry (13-17)
- Death and Resurrection (18-21)

**Key Verse:** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

## ACTS

**Who:** Luke (The Physician)  
**What:** History of Early Church  
**Where:** Caesarea and Rome  
**When:** c. AD 60-AD 62  
**Why:** To record how the Holy Spirit acted through believers to spread the Word of God.

### Outline (Chapter)

- Jerusalem (1-7)
- Judea and Samaria (8-11)
- Paul's Journeys (12-20)
- Paul Taken to Rome (21-28)

**Key Verse:** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)