

September 22, 2019

The Gospel According to...

LSC is called to unite the Thumb in spiritual warfare, lifting up the Word of God and casting down deception, exposing the lies of the enemy under the rally cry “I am not ashamed of the Gospel!” The Final Battle has begun, and the “Accuser of the Brethren” is being cast down (**Rev 12:10**). We must be careful not to become the “Accuser of the Brethren” because we see the Gospel differently from other Christians. Got grace? We’re good!

The New Testament starts with the four Gospels and each is worded “The Gospel According to...”. The Gospel According to Matthew...According to Mark...According to Luke...According to John. Each Gospel varies in how they describe certain events. Some events mentioned in one Gospel may not be mentioned in another. Matthew was a tax collector, Mark wasn’t even an Apostle, Luke was a Gentile doctor and John believed he was Jesus’ favorite! God chose four very different people, with diverse backgrounds in order to get four different perspectives of the life of Jesus Christ. **They each see and write their Gospel according to their purpose.**

Matt 1:1 *The book of the **genealogy** of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:*

Matthew being a tax collector understood genealogy, because back then, no one had a social security number; people were identified by their genealogy. Matthew not only presented Jesus as the Messiah, but as the Son of David, who was the son of Abraham in order to fulfill prophecy; *And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed,*’ (**Gen 12:3**). Part of Matthew’s purpose was to be a tax collector. Because of this, he knew how to write the genealogy of Jesus Christ as he saw the Gospel through his purpose.

Mark was not an Apostle, and was believed to be the interpreter for Peter on mission trips, and was a companion of Paul and Barnabas. His purpose was to serve, and his emphasis was on discipleship, and having the heart of a servant. Also being an interpreter, Mark gave more graphic, vivid descriptions of Jesus. Mark contains no genealogy and no account of the birth of Christ, and starts with the prophecy of John the Baptist.

Luke was a Gentile physician. He stated the purpose in writing this Gospel was to present an “orderly account” with accurate detail. Physicians have to pay attention to detail and through his purpose, he wrote the Gospel According to Luke. Most theologians believe he also wrote the book of Acts.

John “the beloved disciple” wrote from a personal discourse instead of the familiar parables. He ties Jesus to three Passover Feasts instead of one. We could say John was “up close and personal” with Jesus as he was referred to the one who “leaned on Jesus breast” and was part of His “inner circle.”

The Resurrection: One of the most important aspect of our Christian faith is the resurrection of Christ.

Matthew: An angel from Heaven rolled back the stone and sat on it as the guards became like dead men. The angel told Mary Magdalene and the other Mary not to be afraid, He is risen, come see where He laid. They ran to tell the disciples, and Jesus met them telling them to rejoice and to go tell the others to meet Him in Galilee.

Mark: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went to anoint the body of Jesus, and when they got there, the stone had been rolled away, so they went into the tomb and they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe and he told them He is risen, and to go tell the disciples, and Peter that you will see Him in Galilee.

Luke: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joanna came to the tomb with spices, and it was empty. Two men stood by them in shining garments and said “He is risen!” and the women went and told the apostles. Peter got up and ran to the tomb and saw the cloths lying by themselves.

John: Mary Magdalene went to the tomb while it was still dark, and saw the stone had been taken away from the tomb. She ran and told Peter and the other disciples telling them “*They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.*” Peter and John ran to the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there, and they returned to their own homes. Mary Magdalene stood outside the tomb weeping, and Jesus appeared to her, and then she went and told the other disciples.

It is imperative that we see who we are in Christ and stand strong on what the Holy Spirit has shown. We are One, united in purpose, and we will “Ignite the Thumb with Praise, Worship and the Glory of God!” We are pulling down strongholds and casting down everything that exalts itself against the Word of God.

Life Song Church: Living the Power of Praise!