**Gospels - Introduction**

# Four Gospels.

## Matthew.

### Apostolic authority – Matthew original disciple. Aramaic version of Mt found in India.

### Emphasis – Jesus as King.

### Audience - Jewish.

### Personality – Analytical (i.e., less aggressive, task oriented).

### Birth narrative – The Kingly genealogy and visit by magi.

## Mark.

### Apostolic authority – Peter’s amanuensis (1 Peter 5:13). Perhaps the streaker of Mark 14:51-52. Bishop of Alexandria, Egypt.

### Emphasis – Jesus as Servant.

### Audience - Roman.

### Personality – Expressive (i.e., more aggressive, people oriented).

### Birth narrative – None.

## Luke.

### Apostolic authority – Companion of Paul. Doctor. Well researched from Paul’s Caesarean’s imprisonment.

### Emphasis – Jesus as Perfect Man.

### Audience - Gentile.

### Personality – Driver (i.e., more aggressive, task oriented).

### Birth narrative – The human genealogy back to Adam. Reflects a doctor’s curiosity about Mary’s and Elizabeth’s pregnancies.

## John.

### Apostolic authority – John original disciple. Took care of Jesus’ mother in Ephesus.

### Emphasis – Jesus as Deity.

### Audience - Universal.

### Personality – Amiable (i.e., less aggressive, people oriented),

### Birth narrative – The Word as Creator Who became flesh and dwelled with us.

# The Introduction of the King.

## As Creator, John 1:1-18.

## As King, Matt 1-2.

## As Perfect Humanity, Luke 1-2.

### As Creator, John 1:1-18.

1. In the beginning was the Word,

The Word as God

And with God.

The Word as Creator

of all things,

The Word as the Light of Life.

But unknown by darkness.

The Witness came.

The Purpose of the Gospel.

Cf John 20:31.

The Witness testified.

The Word as the Light of Life,

But unknown by the world.

The Word as Creator

of new things,

The Word as flesh

And with us.

and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God.

3 All things came into being through Him,

and apart from Him nothing came into being

that has come into being.

4 In Him was life,

and the life was the Light of men.

5 The Light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness did not comprehend it.

**6** There came a man sent from God,

whose name was John.

7 He came as a witness, to testify about the Light,

so that all might believe through him.

8 He was not the Light,

but *he came* to testify about the Light.

**9** There was the true Light which,

coming into the world, enlightens every man.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him,

and the world did not know Him.

11 He came to His own,

and those who were His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him,

to them He gave the right to become children of God,

*even* to those who believe in His name,

13 who were born,

not of blood nor of the will of the flesh

nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us,

and we saw His glory,

glory as of the only begotten from the Father,

full of grace and truth.