

The Gospels

Some of the following questions will appear on the Final Exam as they appear here. Others will appear in an altered form (What is a true/false question here, for example, may be multiple choice on the exam). A few other questions on the gospels will be taken from the list of terms and concepts to remember at the end of this file.

You take a quiz online covering the Synoptic Problem and the Authorship of the Gospels by going to <http://greek-language.com/bible/questions/finalexam/gospelsquiz1.html>.

The Synoptic “Problem”

1. The term *synoptic* means
 - a. sharing a common viewpoint
 - b. having little or no agreement
 - c. sharing the same order
2. As used by biblical scholars, the term *evangelist* means
 - a. the writer of a gospel
 - b. a person who preaches at revival meetings
 - c. a missionary who attempts to convert people to Christianity
3. As used by New Testament scholars, the term *Passion* refers to
 - a. Jesus’ suffering and death
 - b. intense emotion associated with following Jesus
 - c. the strong preaching of Jesus’ disciples in the years after his death
4. The *Synoptic Problem* is
 - a. the problem of determining which Gospels were called ‘synoptic’ Gospels by the early Church.
 - b. the problem of explaining the literary relationship between the three Gospels which scholars call the Synoptic Gospels.
 - c. the problem of understanding the meaning of the Gospels called the Synoptic Gospels.
5. According to the *Griesbach Theory*, which Gospel was written first?
 - a. The Gospel of Matthew
 - b. The Gospel of Mark
 - c. The Gospel of Luke
 - d. The Gospel of John
6. According to the *Two Document Hypothesis*
 - a. Matthew wrote first, and Luke wrote second, using Matthew’s Gospel as one of his sources of information. Mark then wrote his Gospel as a summary of certain aspects of Matthew and Luke.
 - b. Mark wrote first. Matthew and Luke then each used Mark’s Gospel as one source of information, but also used a collection of Jesus’ sayings (which scholars now call ‘Q’). Matthew and Luke also each had other sources of information about Jesus’ life and teachings which the other did not have.
7. Which of the following is *not* one of the synoptic Gospels?
 - a. The Gospel of Matthew
 - b. The Gospel of Mark
 - c. The Gospel of Luke
 - d. The Gospel of John
8. The term *Markan Priority* is a label for the view that

- a. Mark's Gospel was written before the other synoptic Gospels
 - b. Mark's Gospel is more important than the others, so it should be given priority when it differs from them
 - c. Mark's Gospel was written last as a summary and authentication of the first two Gospels, so it is the most authoritative and should take precedence in making important decisions about Jesus
9. Which Gospel is the first volume of a two-volume work that includes the book of Acts?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John
10. The order of events in the Gospel of John
- a. is vastly different from the order presented in the other three Gospels
 - b. matches closely the order presented in Mark, but differs from Matthew and Luke
 - c. matches closely the order presented in Matthew and Luke, but differs sharply from Mark
11. Most New Testament scholars think that the Gospel of _____ was the first Gospel written.
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John

Authorship of the Gospels

12. Which of the following best expresses what current New Testament scholars think about the authorship of Matthew's Gospel?
- a. Although Church tradition identifies the author of Matthew's Gospel as the tax collector who traveled with Jesus, most New Testament scholars today think that this Gospel was probably written later, perhaps by a disciple of one of Jesus' disciples.
 - b. Most New Testament scholars think there is good reason to accept the early church tradition that identifies the author of Matthew's Gospel as the tax collector who traveled with Jesus.
 - c. Matthew's Gospel does not name its author, and early church tradition says nothing about who wrote it. It came to be called Matthew's Gospel only much later, and this later tradition is not reliable.
13. Which Gospel does Papias claim was written by a disciple of Peter?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John
14. Which Gospel claims to be based at least in part on the testimony of the 'beloved disciple'?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John
15. Which Gospel is often thought to have been written by a person who traveled with Paul?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John

Content of the Gospels

You can take a quiz on the content of the Gospels online by going to <http://greek-language.com/bible/questions/finalexam/gospelsquiz2.html>.

16. Which Gospel contains the largest amount of Jesus' *teachings*?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John
17. In which Gospel is the role of **fear** as a deterrent to Christian commitment an important theme?
- a. Matthew
 - b. Mark
 - c. Luke
 - d. John
18. The *messianic secret* is a literary motif which

