

THE GOSPELS

Mark written between 65-75 CE, in Rome
 Matthew -- in 85, in Antioch
 Luke (and Acts) -- in 83-90, in Caesarea Maritime
 John -- c 100 (?), in Ephesus

SOURCES

Q When Mark's passages are deleted from Matthew and Luke, some 200 verses remain that are strikingly similar. These are assumed to be from a **common source**, called Q (from the German quelle, "source.")

M Material peculiar to Mark.

L Material peculiar to Luke

Then when the **L** source is compared to John, there seems to be more than coincidental affinity, indicating still another source known to both Luke and John.

Paul's first letter -- 1 Thessalonians, c 48-49. Last letter -- Colossians, c 62. Paul probably died in 67 (according to Eusebius), so none of the Gospels had been written down at the time of his death.

Wm Newell: In Matthew he walks before us as the King of Israel; in Mark as the Servant of Jehovah; in Luke as the Son of Man; in John as the Eternal Word, "the only begotten Son," Creator-God.

GOSPEL -- from the Anglo-Saxon "godspell," meaning "good news."

Bethesda – House of Grace

Bethel – House of God

Bethlehem – House of Bread

Bethsaida – House of Fishing

Eden – delight

The parables. Giza Vermes: Only one of the 40 parables foreshadows the cross (wicked tenants in the vineyard (Matt 21:33 et al). That and all other allusions to the role of the Son of Man's delayed return are later additions to the original central message of Jesus.

OT quotes in the gospels: There are 41 quotes from the OT attributed to Jesus in all three synoptic gospels. Paul's letter to the Romans alone contains twice as many.