

Jewish Dispensation – Jesus Christ, Son of God Luke 24:25-27

Jesus Christ In The Old Testament

The Old Testament teaches much about the glory of Jesus. In fact, Jesus Himself alludes to this multiple times - **Luke 24:25-27**.

John 5:39 *"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,"*

The presence of the Son of God during Old Testament times is evident:

Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."*

Genesis 11:7 *Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech."*

John 8:54-59 *"Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."*

1Corinthians 10:1-4 *For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.*

The Old Testament contains dozens of prophecies fulfilled only in Christ!

Here are several we have already identified in our previous lessons:

Genesis 3:15 *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*

Genesis 12:3 *I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

2Samuel 7:12-17 *When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.' "* In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

Daniel 2:44 *And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,*

Prophecy is a primary proof of Jesus used in the Gospels!

Matthew, for instance, uses the power of prophecy to show people that Jesus is the Messiah for whom they had been waiting. As you see the references below, keep in mind that Matthew is writing in about 60 A.D., Jesus has ascended, the story of His life on earth is complete. Now, the author is showing the audience the amazing fulfillment that has taken place.

- Matthew 1:22-23** - Isaiah 7:14 (c. 700 B.C.)
- Matthew 2:3-6** - Micah 5:2 (c. 700 B.C.)
- Matthew 2:14-15** - Hosea 11:1 (c. 700 B.C.)
- Matthew 2:16-18** - Jeremiah 31:15 (c. 600 B.C.)
- Matthew 3:1-3** - Isaiah 40:3
- Matthew 4:12-16** - Isaiah 9:1
- Matthew 8:14-17** - Isaiah 53:4
- Matthew 12:9-21** - Isaiah 42:1-3
- Matthew 21:1-5** - Zechariah 9:9 (c. 500 B.C.)
- Matthew 21:12-13** - Isaiah 56:7; Jeremiah 7:11
- Matthew 21:33-44** - Psalm 118:22 (c. 1000 B.C.)

On the day of Pentecost, as recorded in **Acts 2**, the apostles continued to use prophecy about Christ as a proof of His glory!

- Acts 2:14-21** - Joel 2:28-32 (c. 800 B.C.)
- Acts 2:24-28,31** - Psalm 16:8-11 (c. 1000 B.C.)
- Acts 2:29-30** - 2Samuel 7:12-17 (c. 1000 B.C.)

Acts 2:33-36 - Psalm 110:1 (c. 1000 B.C.)

If ever a loved one of mine determined to deny the Lord and walk away from faith in God, my first question would be: What about the prophecies? We would all do well to have a dozen or so marked in our Bibles and accessible in a moment's notice.

Jesus Christ In The Gospels

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are commonly called "the Gospels." They tell us the "good news" story of Jesus (**Mark 1:1; 16:15-16**). Below is a condensed outline of Jesus 3+ year ministry.

Passages have been provided on the right. Note the different points of emphasis in each Gospel.

From Birth to Age Twelve

Jesus is born in Bethlehem to Mary. (c. 4 B.C.) **Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-7**

His family flees to Egypt and then returns to Nazareth. **Matthew 2:13-18**

Jesus is in Jerusalem at age 12 for the Passover. **Luke 2:41-51**

John the Baptist's Ministry

John begins his forerunner work. **Matthew 3:1-6; Mark 1:1-6; Luke 3:1-6**

He warns, teaches, and proclaims the Christ. **Matthew 3:11-12; Mark 1:7-8; Luke 3:7-18**

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry

Baptized by John and then Tempted in Wilderness. **Matthew 3:13-4:11; Mark 1:9-13; Luke 3:21-4:13**

First miracle: Water to Wine. **John 2:1-11**

First ministry visit to Jerusalem (Cleansed the Temple). **John 2:13-25**

Jesus with the Samaritan women at the well. **John 4:5-42**

Jesus' Ministry in Galilee

Jesus calls Peter, Andrew, James and John to the work. **Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11**

Jesus heals many, including paralytic from the roof. **Matthew 8:14-9:8; Mark 1:40-2:12; Luke 5:17-26**

Tax collector, Matthew, is called to the work. **Matthew 9:9-13; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32**

Disciples pick grain and Jesus heals on the Sabbath. **Matthew 12:1-14; Mark 2:23-3:6; Luke 6:1-11**

Selection of the 12 and the Sermon on the Mount

The 12 Apostles are listed. **Mark 3:13-19; Luke 6:12-16**

Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Mount in Galilee. **Matthew Ch. 5-7; Luke 6:12-49**

Increasing Fame and Rejection

Jesus raises the widow's son from the dead. **Luke 7:11-17**

A woman anoints Jesus' feet. **Luke 7:36-50**

Blasphemous accusations are made against Jesus. **Matthew 12:22-45; Mark 3:20-45**

The Parables of the Kingdom

Jesus teaches 10 parables about His Kingdom. **Matthew 13:1-52; Mark 4:1-34; Luke 8:4-18**

Growing Opposition to Jesus' Ministry

Jesus calms a storm, heals demonic and raises a girl. **Matthew 8:18-9:26; Mark 4:35-5:43; Luke 8:22-26**

Unbelief is evident in Jesus' hometown of Nazareth. **Matthew 13:54-58; Mark 6:1-6**

End of Galilean Ministry

The 12 Apostles are called upon to follow from then on. **Matthew 10:1-42; Mark 6:7-11; Luke 9:1-5**

Christ's Ministry Extends Beyond Galilee

Jesus crosses Sea of Galilee feeds 5,000. **Matthew 14:15-21; Mark 6:31-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15**

He heals many and feeds 4,000 more in Decapolis. **Matthew 15:29-31; Mark 8:1-9**

Jesus heals a blind man in Bethsaida. **Mark 8:22-26**

Jesus' Identity as Messiah is Confirmed

Peter confesses that Jesus is Christ, the Son of God. **Matthew 16:13-20; Mark 8:27-30; Luke 9:18-21**

Jesus is "Transfigured" on the mountain. **Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-13; Luke 9:28-36**

Jesus predicts His death, burial and resurrection. **Matthew 17:22-23; Mark 9:30-32; Luke 9:43-45**

He departs for Jerusalem through Samaria. **Luke 9:51-56; John 7:10**

Later Judean Ministry of Jesus

Much conflict arises between Jesus and the Pharisees. **John 7:11-8:59**

70 workers are sent out and then return to Jesus. **Luke 10:1-24**

Good Samaritan story. Visits Mary and Martha. **Luke 10:25-42**

Jesus issues many warnings about the dangers of sin. **Luke 12:13-13:9**

Jesus heals the blind man. **John 9:1-41**

Jesus Works His Way Toward Jerusalem

Luke's gospel documents miracles and parables. **Luke 13:22-18:30**

At some point He crossed beyond the Jordan. **John 10:40-42**

Jesus returned from there to raise Lazarus. **John 11:1-44**

Jesus' Last Week

Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem. **Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19**

Jesus cleanses the temple a second time. **Matthew 21:12-13; Mark 11:15-18; Luke 19:45-48**

Christ's authority is challenged. **Matthew 21:23-27; Mark 11:27-33; Luke 20:1-8**

He laments over Jerusalem for their sinfulness. **Matthew 23:37-39**

The Betrayal, Arrest, and Crucifixion of Jesus

Judas agrees to betray Jesus. **Matthew 26:14-26; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 22:3-6**

Jesus eats the Passover meal with His disciples. **Matthew 26:20-29; Mark 14:12-25; Luke 22:7-16**

John's Gospel adds tremendous detail to this dinner. **John Ch. 13-17**

Jesus was arrested, tried and unlawfully convicted. **Matthew 26:47-27:34; Mark 14:43-15:23; Luke 22:47-23:33; John 18:2-19:17**

Jesus was crucified and laid in Joseph's tomb. **Matthew 27:31-66; Mark 15:24-47; Luke 23:26-56; John 19:18-42**

The Resurrection and Ascension of Christ

Jesus was raised on the first day of week! **Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-10; John 20:1-10**

Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene. **Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18**

Jesus later appears to His Apostles. **Matthew 12:22-45; Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-21:24**

Christ blesses the Apostles and then ascends. **Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53**

The Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John)

The four Gospels will certainly share similarities in approach and historical content, since they were all four written about Jesus and also written by people who lived in the time of Jesus. But also, being written by four different men, they will each be unique in certain aspects. Let's look at both similarities and uniqueness.

Where does each Gospel begin?

Matthew begins with a genealogy of Jesus and then the announcement of His birth. (c. 4 B.C.)

Mark begins with the preaching work of John the Baptist. (c. 26 A.D.)

Luke begins with the announcement of John the Baptist's birth. (c. 4 B.C.)

John begins "in the beginning", then picks up with John the Baptist's work. (??? / c. 26 A.D.)

Where does each Gospel conclude?

Matthew records the commission Jesus gave His Apostles just before they saw Him ascend.

Mark records Jesus ascending into heaven and the Apostles going out to preach the message.

Luke records the Apostles watching Jesus ascend then going to Jerusalem, praising God.

John records Jesus and the Apostles after the resurrection. There is so much more to tell! **(21:25)**.

What is the purpose for the Gospels?

All come together to teach us who Jesus is and what He has offered us all! **(John 20:30-31)**.

"Synoptics"

Matthew, Mark and Luke are called the "synoptic" gospels because their accounts parallel one another. That is, they take a similar (syn) view (optic) of Christ's Life. John does not contradict the synoptics, but merely presents the life of Christ from a different perspective.

The Last Week

One third of the Gospel chapters are devoted to Christ's last week.

The last week begins: **Matthew 21:1; Mark 11:1; Luke 19:28; John 12:12.**

WHY? Certainly, Jesus' death is the single most significant event in the history of the world! (Romans 5:8-9). Also it led up to His resurrection which gives us hope beyond all else (1Corinthians 15).

Credibility of the Authors (Eyewitnesses / Testimony from Eyewitnesses)

Matthew and John were Apostles of Jesus (John 19:35).

Mark and Luke based their work on eyewitnesses (Luke 1:1-4).

"The writings of a contemporary, who is credible, and who has had opportunity for personal knowledge of the facts recorded, have the highest degree of credibility" (George Rawlinson, 1859).

"Those of a writer who may be reasonably supposed to have obtained his information from eyewitnesses possess the second degree of credibility" (J.W. McGarvey, 1956).

The Apostles ("apostle" = "one sent")

Jesus originally chose 12 apostles – Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19.

After Judas' death, Matthias was chosen – Acts 1:15-26 (2 qualifications).

Several years later, Paul became "Apostle to the Gentiles" – Acts 9:15.

Christ – The fulfillment of the Law

Christ was the end or aim of the Law of Moses. It looked forward to Him and told of His dispensation (Matthew 5:17; Romans 10:4; Galatians 3:24).

Christ's kingdom was prophesied in the Law (Daniel 2:44; 7:13-14). It was "at hand" during Jesus' life (Mark 1:15). It did not begin when Christ died (Acts 1:6-8). Not until He sat upon His throne (Ephesians 1:20-21).

Christ – His life and ministry

Jesus was about 30 when He started His ministry (Luke 3:23).

3-year ministry is based on Passovers in John 2:13,23; 5:1; 6:4; 12:1.

He lived and died under the Old Law

Galatians 4:4-5 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Hebrews 9:15-16 Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established.

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