

# "Synopsis of the Gospels"

- The Nativity and the Early Years
- The Ministry
- The Parables-A
- The Parables-B
- The Parables-C
- The Passion-A
- The Passion-B

Footnotes are located at the end of each table.

The Nativity and The Early Years					
		Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
1.	The Preface of John	—	—	—	1:1-18 <sup>a</sup>
2.	The Preface of Luke	—	—	1:1-4b	—
3.	The Birth of John the Baptist announced	—	—	1:5-25	—
4.	The Annunciation to Mary	—	—	1:26-38	—
5.	The Salutation of Mary. Mary's song of praise	—	—	1:39-56	—
6.	Birth of John the Baptist. Zechariah's Prophecy	—	—	1:57-80	—
7.	Appearance of an Angel to Joseph in a dream	1:18-25ac	—	—	—
8.	The Nativity of Jesus	1:25bd	—	2:1-7d	1:14 <sup>d</sup>
9.	The Genealogies	1:1-17e	—	3:23-38e	—
10.	The Announcement to the Shepherds	—	—	2:8-20	—
11.	The Circumcision and Presentation in the Temple	—	—	2:21-38	—
12.	The Visit of the Wise Men	2:1-12f	—	—	—
13.	The Escape to Egypt	2:13-15	—	—	—
14.	The Infants Massacred at Bethlehem	2:16-18	—	—	—
15.	The Return to Nazareth	2:19-23	—	2:39, 40	—
16.	Jesus, 12 years of age, goes up to Jerusalem	—	—	2:41-52	—

- a. This Preface, peculiar to John, indicates the scope of his Gospel. (1) The life and work of Christ are viewed as a revelation in part of an eternal fact. (2) The later date of the Gospel is implied by a statement of positive truth against growing error.
- b. This Preface is most valuable (1) as indicating the existence of many oral or written Gospels; (2) as throwing light on the sources and origin of Luke's Gospel. The language and style exhibit scholarship and literary skill.
- c. Note the citation of prophecy in this passage in accordance with Matthew's plan.
- d. The birth of Jesus is now placed by most scholars in the year 4 BCE. The determining points are: (1) The first rule of Quirinius (Lk 2:2); (2) the accession of Tiberius; (3) the death of Herod.

- e. **Matthew traces from Abraham, the father of Israel, Luke (the Gentile Evangelist) from Adam, the father of the human race.**
- f. **The insertion of this and the following incidents (13, 14) by Matthew again connects the NT with OT prophecy (see Num 24:17; Hos 11:1; Jer 31:15).**

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