

Name _____

Jesus Christ: God's Revelation to the World
Chapter 6 *The Synoptic Gospels*

Date _____

Directions: Read through the chapter and fill in the missing information. All the questions run sequential to the chapter. If a true/false statement is false, correct it.

Introduction: Good News (Pages 181–182)

1. Fill in the blanks: The word gospel means “_____” and the life of Jesus Christ is the best news the _____ has ever heard. The four Gospels are the primary _____ of information about Jesus and because _____ of the four Gospels are so closely related scholars call them the _____ Gospels: Matthew, _____, and Luke.
2. What does *source criticism* reveal about the authors of the synoptic Gospels?

Section 1: The Synoptic Gospels: An Overview (Pages 183–186)

3. True or False? Mark's Gospel is considerably longer than either Matthew or Luke.
4. True or False? Matthew and Mark follow the general outline of Luke's Gospel in reporting the events of Jesus' life.
5. What does the Gospel of Matthew emphasize?
6. Which Gospel do biblical scholars consider the oldest of the four? When was it likely written?
7. What three sources were used by Matthew and Luke?
8. True or False? The Q source was likely a collection of Jesus' sayings that came to Matthew and Luke in either a written or oral form.
9. Explain what it means to say that Jesus is God's fullest Revelation.

Section 2: Jesus' Early Life (Pages 187–190)

10. Fill in the blanks: Mark's Gospel begins with _____ announcing the Advent of the _____. Only Matthew and Luke focus on the events surrounding Jesus' _____. There are similarities between their _____ accounts such as the virginity of Mary, the birth in _____, and Jesus's discordancy from King _____.
11. True or False? From the beginning one can see that Jesus came to minister to humble people and this is foreshadowed in the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke.

12. Why were shepherds looked down upon by pious Jews?

13. Fill in the blanks: Jesus' _____ marked him as a member of the _____ of the Chosen People and Mary and Joseph raised him according to the _____. They also followed tradition when they _____ the firstborn son to God in the _____. Here, Simeon and Anna recognized him as the _____.

14. What does the feast of the Epiphany commemorate?

15. What does King Herod's slaughter of the children indicate about the life of Jesus?

16. True or False? The "hidden years" refers to the fact that the Gospels share no stories about Jesus between his return to Nazareth as a toddler and his adulthood.

17. What connection does the author draw between Jesus and Adam?

Section 3: Jesus' Public Life (Pages 191–194)

18. Fill in the blanks: All synoptic Gospels agree that Jesus' _____ ministry began with his baptism by _____, Jesus' cousin. He was the prophet foretold by _____ who would be sent to announce the coming of the _____. John called the people to _____ for the repentance of their sins and told them someone _____ than he would come after him.

19. True or False? The presence of all Three Persons of the Holy Trinity at Jesus' baptism emphasizes that Jesus is God.

20. True or False? Although Jesus did not need Baptism, his willingness to receive it emphasized both his humility and his acceptance of the Father's mission to save people from their sins.

21. Explain the connection between Jesus' time in the desert and the Chosen People.

22. True or False? The Church recalls the forty days of Jesus' trial in the desert during the season of Advent.

23. How did Jesus' response to temptation differ from Adam and Eve? Explain.

24. Fill in the blanks: Jesus began to call and attract _____ following his temptations in the desert, some of whom would become his _____. He had many disciples, including _____ whose presence would have

been _____. Some of these women helped him financially, _____ with him, supplied meals and lodging, witnessed his Crucifixion, and visited his _____ on Easter Sunday.

25. Explain the significance of Jesus' selection of Twelve Apostles.

26. What are two ways that Jesus' relationship to his Apostles differed from a typical relationship between students and their rabbis?

27. True or False? Jesus gave Peter and his successors the authority to govern the Church with the assistance of their successors, the priests.

Section 4: Jesus Proclaims the Gospel (Pages 195–197)

28. According to the Gospel of Mark, how does Jesus summarize his message?

29. Fill in the blanks: “The _____ is at hand” means, among other things, that God’s _____ has come to his people and humans will _____ God’s word. “_____” means to turn away from _____ and toward God. “Believe in the Gospel” means that _____ is the Good News, the Gospel, and the _____ of God the Father.

30. Fill in the blanks: At his _____, Jesus gave his Apostles a quick vision of the Kingdom of God when Jesus is revealed in his _____ before Peter, James, and John. Jesus appears with _____ and Elijah—whose presence recalled the _____ given through Moses, and the _____ through _____ who announced the coming of the _____.

31. What is the Paschal Mystery?

32. Explain the truth that is taught in each of the four Gospels.

Section 5: Individual Characteristics of the Synoptic Gospels (Pages 198–204)

33. Fill in the blanks: The early _____ believed that the author of the Gospel of Mark was _____, a disciple of Peter whose writing included themes of Peter’s _____. The Gospel presents a vivid, human, and down-to-earth _____ of Jesus and highlights Jesus’ _____ more than his words. He wrote for a _____ audience that was undergoing _____.

34. What is the central theme in the Gospel of Mark? What did Mark emphasize theologically?

35. True or False? Mark stressed Jesus' divinity throughout his Gospel, even though the view of Jesus is more blunt when compared to the other Evangelists.
36. What three titles for Jesus are used in the passage from Mark 8:27-34? Summarize the meaning for each.
37. Peter had difficulty with the understanding of the Messiah as the "_____ " and it was not until the Resurrection and _____ of Jesus that the early Church would begin to understand that Jesus' way was that of the _____. Mark want us to see that _____ our suffering for and with the Lord leads to _____ and participation in the Resurrection.
38. Matthew emphasizes the link between _____ and Christianity and he portrays Jesus as the _____: Moses made the _____ on behalf of the Chosen People and Jesus made a New Covenant with _____ people; Moses presented the Ten Commandments from a _____ and Jesus' primary moral teaching is the _____; Jesus' five sermons parallel the five books of the _____.
39. True or False? The Gospel of Matthew emphasizes to both Jewish-Christian readers as well as new Gentile converts, that Jesus Christ is the Messiah foretold in the Old Testament.
40. What other connections does Matthew draw between Judaism and Jesus?
41. Fill in the blanks: The author of the Gospel of Luke was a _____ Christian who also wrote the _____ and Irenaeus believed him to be a _____ and traveling companion of St. _____. Acts tells of the Apostles' journeys which began in _____ on Pentecost and their mission to take the _____ of Jesus Christ to the end of the _____.
42. Explain how Jerusalem serves as a symbol in Luke's narrative.
43. What two major themes are highlighted throughout Luke's writings?
44. Fill in the blanks: The Gospel of Luke emphasizes Jesus' _____ nature. He is not simply _____ for everyone, but he forgives everyone as well and this is eloquently illustrated in the three _____ found in Luke 15. Alternately, Jesus' _____, compassion, and sensitivity reveal _____ to the world: these are divine signs of _____ love.