

# Chapter 3

## Scripture-Portrait of Jesus

### Preview/StudyGuide/Review Sheet

*"Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ"*  
St. Jerome

Scripture is the word of God and is divinely inspired and God's message is free of error.

New Testament=Christian Scripture:

Salvation history after the coming of Christ the Savior, life and teachings of Jesus (**Gospels**)

How the Church of Christ was spread by the Apostles with the aid of the Holy Spirit (**Acts of the Apostles**)

Instruction through letters of how the Christian life is to be lived day to day (**Letters/Epistles**)

Inspirational book written to persecuted Christian communities to encourage them in remaining true to Christ and to help them see that God is overcoming evil and the victory and reward has been won for the faithful Christian (**Revelation**) or (Apocalypse)

Gospel=**Good News** 4 books telling the life and teachings of Jesus-Message and purpose of Gospels is to proclaim that **Jesus is the Son of God and Savior**.

Evangelist= Proclaimer of the Good News.

**Matthew**-Apostle who wrote Gospel for the Jewish converts to Christianity

**Mark**-"John Mark" helper and companion to Peter who wrote the first and shortest Gospel

**Luke**-Non Jew (*Gentile*) who was a friend and helper of St. Paul. Wrote his Gospel for non Jewish Christians. Has stories of birth of Jesus. Tradition says he may have gotten this from Mary.

Synoptic= *same view*-Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke-Similarities in these three Gospels, many of the same events told in relatively same order.

**John**-Apostle Evangelist- Longest Gospel and last written. Different from other three, John's Gospel is poetic, reflective and theological. It has discourses (*long speeches* by Jesus)

The four evangelists are shown by symbols in art:

Matthew-Head of a man

Mark-Lion

Luke-Ox

John-Eagle

Scriptures are **not** history, biography, nor are they science-**Scriptures are documents of faith**

Scripture scholars believe that Matthew and Luke used Mark's Gospel in writing theirs, and an unknown source known as Q

## 27 Books in NT

4 Gospels- Life and teachings of Jesus

1 Acts of the Apostles- describes how the church grew under the guidance of the Holy Spirit after Jesus ascended into heaven

21 Letters or epistles- many written by St. Paul, but not all- Instruction to Christians of how to live their daily lives as faithful followers of Jesus.

1 Book of Revelation or (Apocalypse)- Encouragement to persecuted Christians to remain faithful and they will be rewarded by God. God controls all and He is overcoming evil and Jesus has already won the victory, although the battles against evil continue.