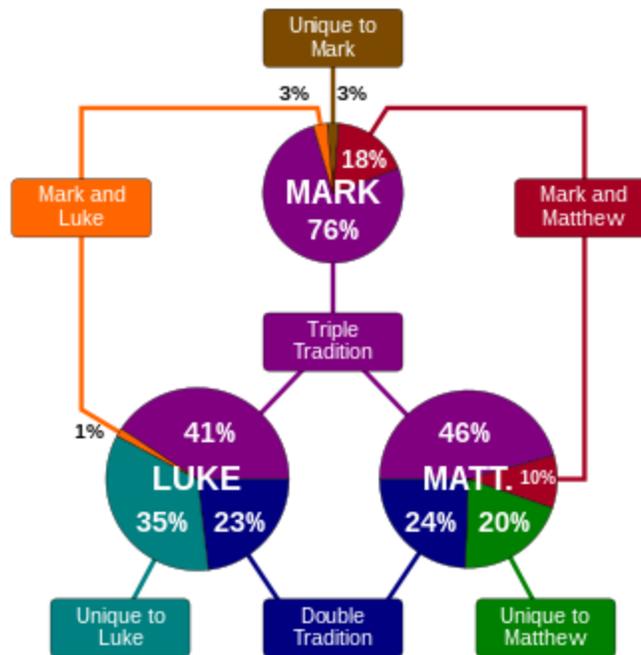


# How The Bible Was Put Together and Why It Is (Still) Our Book

[Week 8]

- BRIEF Review & catch-up from last week:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ # of names for GOD in Scripture.
    - Why/how did they originate?
  - Transition away from anthropomorphism & polytheism/henotheism to \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- Opening Scriptures:
  - Matthew 1:18-25
  - Luke 2:1-20
  - Mark 1:9-14
  - John 1:1-7
  
- THIS WEEK'S Focus:  
**COMPARING/CONTRASTING THE 4 GOSPELS**
  - ✓ **Synoptic Gospels:** the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke in the New Testament, which present similar narratives of the life and death of Jesus Christ. Since the 1780s the first three books of the New Testament have been called the Synoptic Gospels because they are so similar in structure, content, and wording that they can easily be set side by side to provide a synoptic comparison of their content. (The Gospel According to John has a different arrangement and offers a somewhat different perspective on Christ.) The striking similarities between the first three Gospels prompt questions regarding the actual literary relationship that exists between them. This question, called the Synoptic problem, has been elaborately studied in modern times.
  
  - ✓ **John's Gospel:** John's gospel is different from the other three in the New Testament. That fact has been recognized since the early church itself. Already by the year 200, John's gospel was called the spiritual gospel precisely because it told the story of Jesus in symbolic ways that differ sharply at times from the other three. For example, Jesus dies on a different day in John's gospel than in Matthew, Mark and Luke.... Whereas in the three synoptic gospels Jesus actually eats a passover meal before he dies, in John's gospel he doesn't. The last supper is actually eaten before the beginning of passover. So that the sequence of events leading up to the actual crucifixion are very different for John's gospel.

## Relationships between the Synoptic Gospels



## FOUR POINTS OF VIEW

Gospel	Symbol	Viewpoint	Audience	Jesus the Son of God
Matthew	Lion	Palestinian Jewish	Jewish world	Is the Messiah King of Israel
Mark	Bull	Hellenistic Jewish	Greek-speaking world	Is the Power of God in the world
Luke	Man	Greco-Roman	Gentile world	Is the Ideal Man of God
John	Eagle	Heavenly	Whole world	Is the Word of God

- CONTINUING KEY WORDS:

- *Hermeneutic*
- *Semiotics*
- *Transmission*
- *Transliteration (vs. translation &/or paraphrase)*
- *Pseudopigrapha*
- *Inspiration*
- *Divine Superintendence*
- *Textual Reliability*
- *Exogenesis/Isogenesis*
- *Anthropomorphism, Polytheism/Henotheism & Monotheism*