Pastor’s Notes

March 2025

Ah… the Gospels. We all rely on them for inspiration and guidance in our lives. The Gospels give us a history of the lineage of Christ. They give us a path to forgiveness and enlightenment on securing eternal life. They remind us that Jesus took our sins to the cross, died for us, and rose from the dead. We strive to remember verses from them to give us peace, wisdom and God’s words to guide us when things get difficult in life.

The first four books of the New Testament (Gospels) are divided. The first three are called the synoptics. These three contain many of the same stories, and sometimes, in the same sequence. Some theologians reference a mysterious document called simply, “Q” where these three received the same stories. (that seem ridicules to me too) The book of John was written in a different manor and for a different reason.

The book of Matthew was written by (most agree) the disciple Matthew. The leaning in this Gospel is mainly showing a Jewish Jesus and focuses on how the Jews related to Jesus. The writing even starts with the lineage leading to Christ.

The book of Mark, most agree, was probably written by John Mark. You may recall he traveled with Peter. Some even refer to the book of Mark as the Gospel of Peter since Mark was not a disciple; he was probably retelling the story of Jesus as seen through Peter’s eyes.

The book of Luke gets even more interesting. Luke was also not a disciple. Luke was in fact a physician and gentile Christian and he wrote both this Gospel and the book of Acts. Luke spent a lot of time with Paul as his traveling companion. The Gospel of Luke may have been the telling of what Paul had learned about Christ.

The Gospel of John is different. John, like Matthew, was one of the original disciples and is very different from the first three, or the synoptics as they are referred to. The book of John is relating John’s personal relationship with Christ. This same John is also credited with writing the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd books of John and was the one that penned the Book of Revelations.

The Gospels all come from different points of view just like we may all see a baseball game differently from different seats in a stadium. This I think is another gift from God. Since we all are different culturally, racially, geographically, educationally, this is another one of His ways of relating to ALL of his children.

Thank God for the Gospels,



