

THE FOURFOLD GOSPEL NARRATIVE · SDA BIBLE COMMENTARY

# Six Perspectives

*New visual insights from the NT Chronology & Harmony data*

Matthew

Mark

Luke

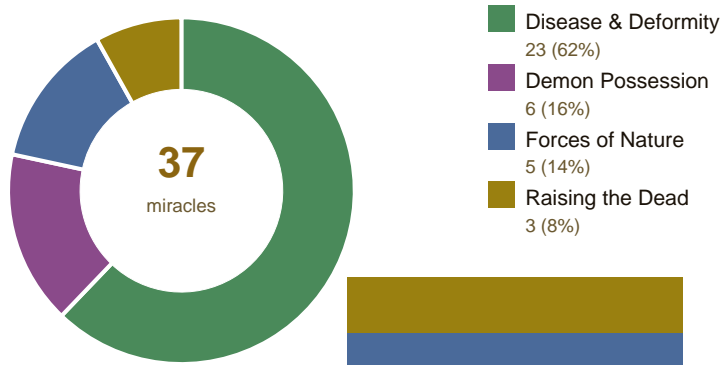
John

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## 35 Miracles by Category

The document classifies every miracle into four types: disease/deformity, demon possession, death, and forces of nature — revealing what kind of power Jesus most frequently demonstrated.

### Distribution - All 35 Miracles by Type



### Miracle Types Across the Ministry - By Phase



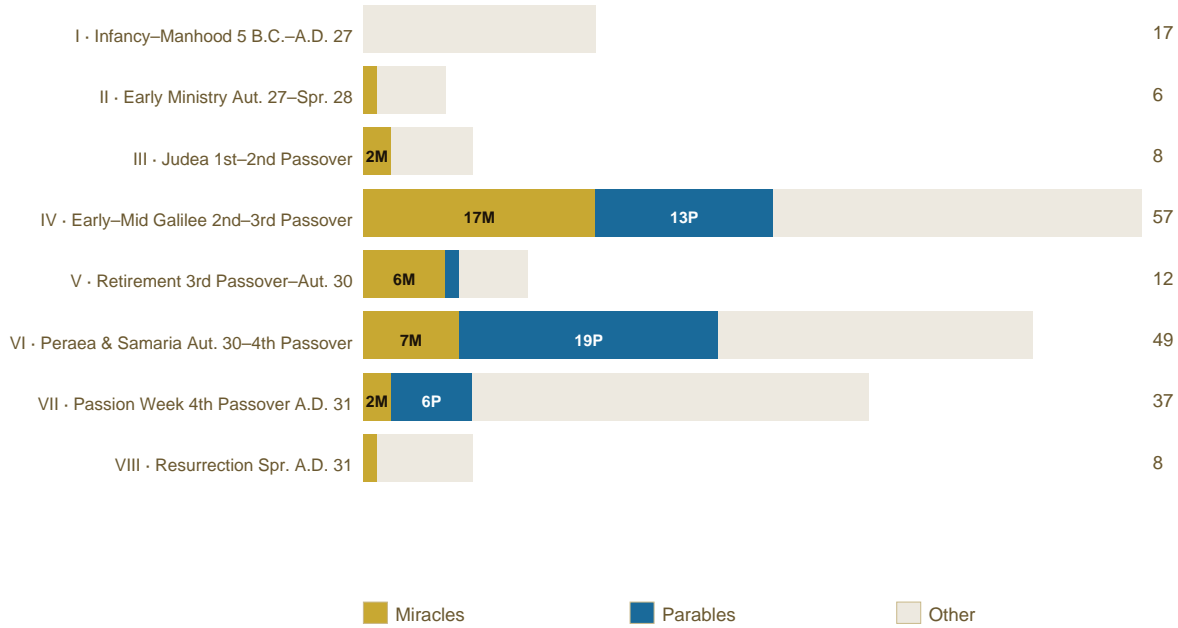
The overwhelming dominance of healing miracles (66%) reflects Jesus' compassionate response to human suffering. The Galilean phases are by far the most miracle-dense part of the ministry.



## Miracles & Parables by Ministry Phase

*Plotting when miracles and parables occurred across eight ministry phases reveals a distinct shift: heavy miraculous activity in Galilee gives way to intensive teaching in Perea.*

### Incidents per Phase · Miracles (gold) · Parables (blue) · Other (light)

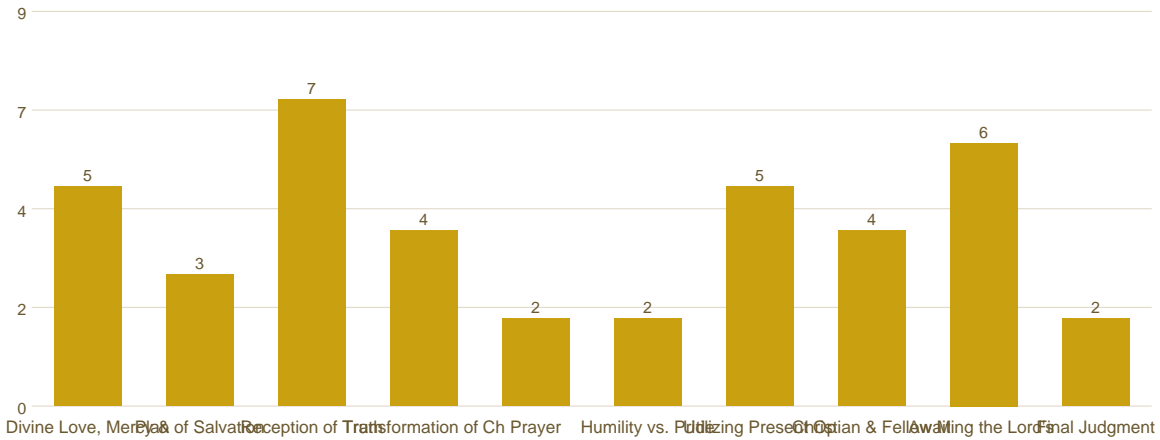


*The Galilean phases (IV–V) are the most miracle-dense. Perea (VI) is parable-rich with comparatively fewer miracles — consistent with Luke devoting 31% of his Gospel to this period's discourse material.*

## 40 Parables Grouped by Theme

The document organises all 40 parables into 10 thematic categories, revealing what Jesus most wanted to teach — and which themes He returned to most insistently.

### All 40 Parables · 10 Thematic Categories



### Parable Catalogue by Category

<b>A · Divine Love</b>	Pearl of Great Price, Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Prodigal Son, Barren Fig Tree
<b>B · Plan of Salvation</b>	Mustard Seed, The Tares, Wicked Husbandmen
<b>C · Reception of Truth</b>	The Sower, Great Banquet, Hidden Treasure, New Cloth & Wine, Two Debtors, Building a Tower, Seven Unclean Spirits, Two Sons, Building on Rock
<b>D · Transformation</b>	Growing Seed, The Leaven, Man Without Wedding Garment, Rich Fool
<b>E · Prayer</b>	Friend at Midnight, The Unjust Judge
<b>F · Humility</b>	Choosing Places of Honor, Pharisee & Publican
<b>G · Opportunities</b>	Nobleman & Pounds, The Talents, Dishonest Stewart, Rich Man & Lazarus, Laborers in Vineyard
<b>H · Fellow Man</b>	Good Samaritan, Unforgiving Servant, Treasures Old & New, Faithful Steward
<b>I · Lord's Return</b>	Ten Virgins, Watchful Servant, Vigilant Home Owner, Unprofitable Servants, Sheep & Goats, Signs of Return
<b>J · Final Judgment</b>	The Dragnet, Sheep and Goats

"Reception of Truth" leads with 7 parables. "Utilizing Present Opportunities," "Awaiting the Lord's Return," and "Transformation of Character" together account for over 30% of all parables.

## The 7 Sabbath Miracles

The commentary explicitly flags 7 of the 35 miracles as performed on the Sabbath — each provoking conflict and advancing Jesus' teaching on the true purpose of the Sabbath day.

● Disease/Deformity

● Demon Possession

● Forces of Nature

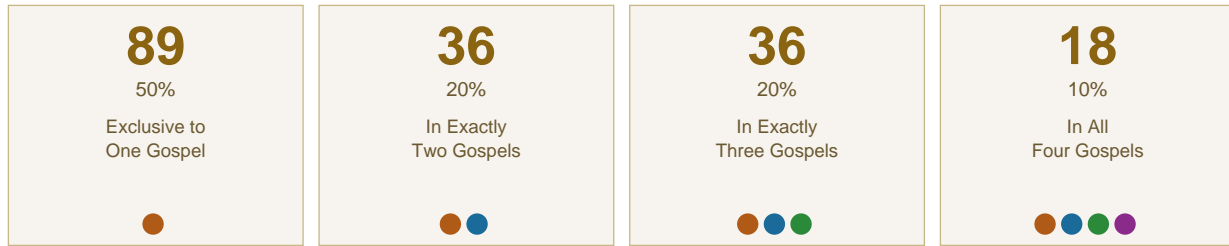
● Raising the Dead

#	Miracle	Phase	Type	Sabbath
1	● Water Turned Into Wine	Early Ministry	Nature	
2	● Nobleman's Son	Judea	Disease	
3	● Invalid at Bethesda	Judea	Disease	1st Sabbath
4	● Great Catch of Fish	Early Galilee	Nature	
5	● Demoniac in the Synagogue	Early Galilee	Demon	2nd Sabbath
6	● Peter's Mother-in-law	Early Galilee	Disease	3rd Sabbath
7	● First Healing of Leprosy	Early Galilee	Disease	
8	● Paralytic Through the Roof	Early Galilee	Disease	
9	● Man With Withered Hand	Early Galilee	Disease	4th Sabbath
10	● Centurion's Servant	Mid Galilee	Disease	
11	● Two Blind Men	Mid Galilee	Disease	
12	● A Dumb Demoniac	Mid Galilee	Demon	
13	● Widow's Son at Nain	Mid Galilee	Death	
14	● Blind & Dumb Demoniac	Mid Galilee	Demon	
15	● Storm on the Lake	Mid Galilee	Nature	
16	● Demoniacs of Gadara	Mid Galilee	Demon	
17	● The Invalid Woman	Mid Galilee	Disease	
18	● Jairus' Daughter	Mid Galilee	Death	
19	● Feeding the 5,000	Mid Galilee	Nature	
20	● Jesus Walks on the Lake	Mid Galilee	Nature	
21	● Syrophenician Woman's Daughter	Retirement	Demon	
22	● Deaf-mute of Decapolis	Retirement	Disease	
23	● Feeding the 4,000	Retirement	Nature	
24	● Blind Man Near Bethsaida	Retirement	Disease	
25	● Demon-possessed Boy	Retirement	Demon	
26	● Temple Half Shekel	Retirement	Nature	
27	● Man Born Blind	Peraea	Disease	5th Sabbath
28	● The Crippled Woman	Peraea	Disease	6th Sabbath
29	● The Man With Dropsy	Peraea	Disease	7th Sabbath
30	● Raising of Lazarus	Peraea	Death	
31	● The Ten Lepers	Peraea	Disease	
32	● Blind Bartimaeus	Peraea	Disease	
33	● The Fruitless Fig Tree	Passion Week	Nature	
34	● Malchus' Ear	Passion Week	Disease	
35	● Second Great Catch of Fish	Resurrection	Nature	

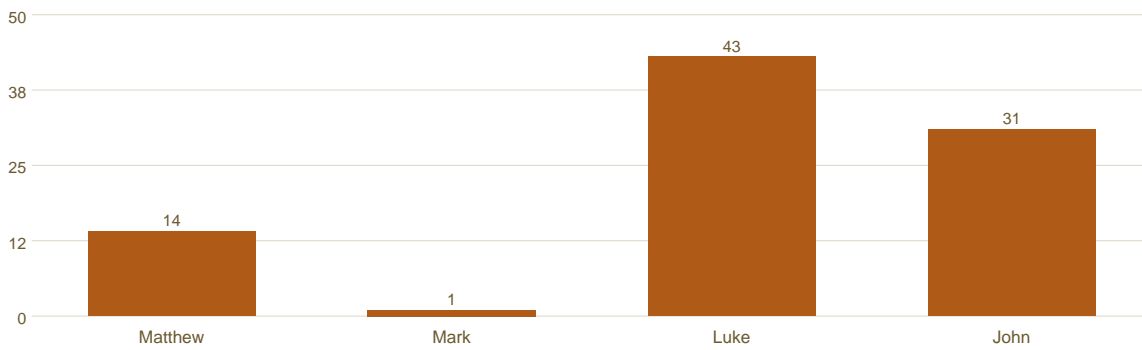
7 of 35 miracles (20%) were performed on the Sabbath — striking given the Sabbath occurs one day in seven (14%). Each provoked escalating opposition, from amazement (M-5) to conspiracy to kill Jesus (M-9, M-27). The progression documents a deliberate theological strategy.

## How Many Gospels Cover Each Incident?

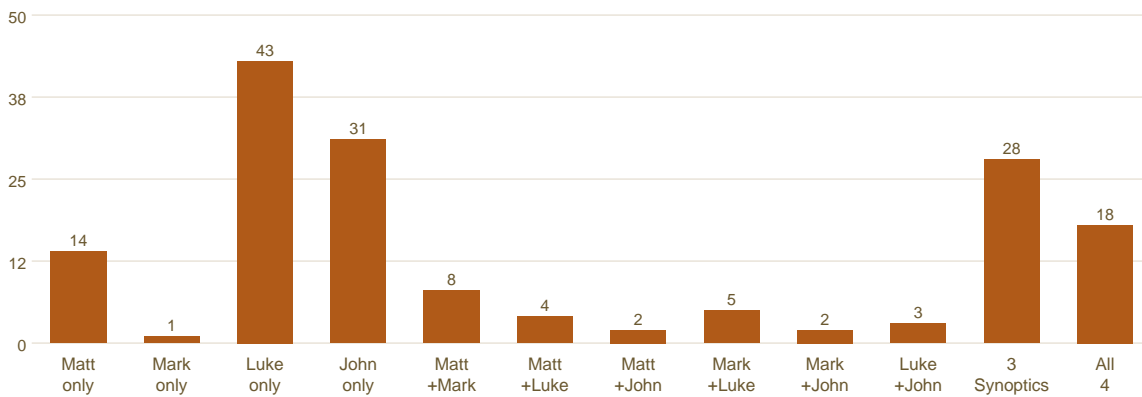
Of the 179 Harmony incidents, how many appear in just one Gospel, two, three, or all four? This reveals the architecture of shared tradition vs. unique testimony.



### Exclusive Sections per Gospel - Unique material found nowhere else



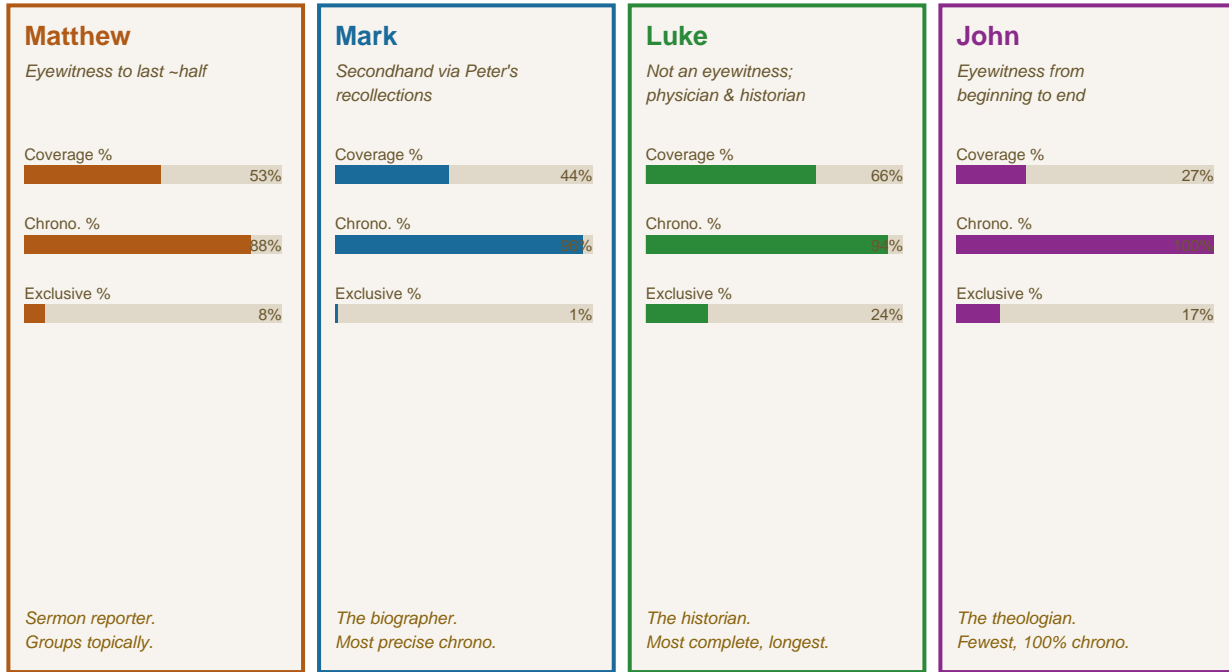
### Coverage Count by Gospel Combination



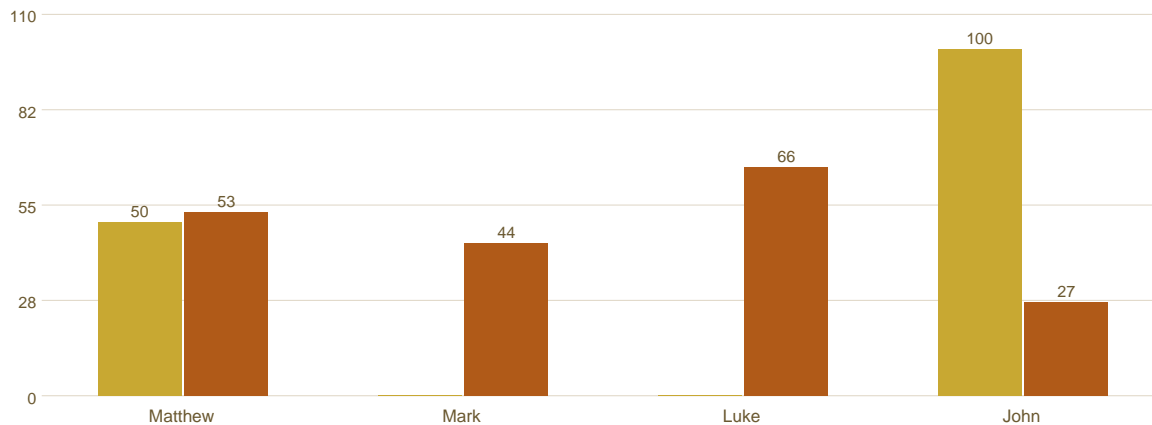
Half of all incidents appear in exactly one Gospel — meaning the full picture requires all four accounts. Remove any single Gospel and the story loses 8-31% of its unique content.

## Eyewitness Status vs. Coverage

A striking paradox: John was an eyewitness to the entire ministry yet records the fewest incidents (27%). Mark recorded secondhand yet achieves 96% chronological precision. Access and completeness are not the same thing.



## The Paradox - Eyewitness Access vs. Incidents Recorded



John's complete eyewitness access and his minimal incident count (27%) is the document's central paradox. John "selected, primarily, those incidents that mark turning points and crises" — a deliberate theological choice, not a failure of memory or access.