

LESSON 2 Jesus and the Gospels

Among the countless books written about people's lives, there are none like the four Gospels, for there is no man like Jesus, whose story they tell. The Gospels are fascinating records of His life, filled with the names of people and places and crowded with descriptions of dramatic and significant events. They command the attention of all who read them.

This lesson will help you understand the Gospels better. In Lesson 1, you learned many facts about the background and overall content of the New Testament. In this lesson, you will take a closer look at the first four books of the New Testament. You will learn how these four accounts are alike in the way they tell the story of Jesus and how they are different. You will also learn about the land where Jesus lived and the places where He ministered. Also, you will become acquainted with some of His teachings and the way in which He taught.

Your study of this lesson will give you greater appreciation for the special features of the Gospel accounts. In addition, it will prepare you to study each of them individually.

Lesson Outline

- A. The Four Gospel Accounts
- B. Where Jesus Lived and Ministered
- C. Events in the Life of Jesus
- D. The Teachings of Jesus

Lesson Objectives

When you finish this lesson, you should be able to:

1. Describe the value and the characteristics of the four Gospel accounts.
2. Identify locations of the four major geographical areas of Palestine.
3. Match descriptions of the districts in Palestine to their names.
4. Identify events and Scriptures associated with the four major periods in Jesus' life.
5. Describe the basis, purpose, method, content, and effect of Jesus' teaching.

Learning Activities

1. Read the lesson development and complete each exercise before you check your answer. In this way, you will see if you have really understood the content. Correct any wrong answers.
2. Study the map of Palestine that is given. Be sure you can find on it each district and city named in the lesson. This will help you visualize the geographical setting of the important events in Jesus' life.
3. Review the lesson and complete the self-test. Be sure to check your answers and correct any that are wrong.

Key Words

controversy

parallel

plateau

Gentile

Passion Week

theme

parable

perspective

A. THE FOUR GOSPEL ACCOUNTS

Objective 1. *Describe the value and the characteristics of the four Gospel accounts.*

In God's wisdom, He gave us not just one account of Jesus' life but four. We may ask this question: *What is the value of having more than one record of the life of Christ?*

The Value of Having Four Accounts

There are two benefits that arise. First, the variety of accounts serves to draw the attention of many different kinds of people. When the Gospels were first written, each had some special features that appealed to certain groups. Matthew, for example, emphasized the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy in the life of Christ. This emphasis gave his account increased meaning for the Jews. Mark focused on the dynamic, active ministry of Jesus. He added details to his record that were of interest to Roman readers. Luke wrote his account from the point of view of a Gentile who had a deep understanding of Christ's mission of salvation. Gentile readers could identify with his perspective as he told the story of the onward progress of that mission. John, with his presentation of Christ as the eternal Word, gained a hearing among thoughtful people who were looking for answers to the great questions about the meaning of life, history, and eternity. Ever since they were written, the Gospels have appealed to people of every circumstance, station in life, and national origin. The same continues today.

Second, the variety of accounts serves to emphasize even more the main events of Jesus' life. Each Gospel writer includes some details and information not found in the others. All of the accounts, however, show the overall character of Jesus' life of ministry, His death for sinners, and His resurrection from the grave. In this way, the central message of Christ is made unmistakably plain. Like four master painters, the Gospel writers have each given a portrait of the Son of God. Though each masterpiece presents its great Subject in a different way, in all of them we recognize the same compelling, matchless face.

Application

- 1 In your notebook, state two benefits of having four different Gospel accounts. Use one sentence to state each benefit.
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The Main Characteristics of the Four Accounts

The Gospel accounts are *selective*. They are not exhaustive lists of everything Jesus said and did. As John remarked, “Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written” (John 21:25). From the multitude of events that occurred during Christ’s earthly life, each author, guided by the Holy Spirit, chose only certain ones to include in his account. Jesus’ childhood and youth, for example, are passed over in silence except for thirteen verses that Luke devotes to them (Luke 2:40–52). The Passion Week, on the other hand, is described in great detail by all four writers. Matthew, Mark, and Luke have much material in common; John, however, includes many things that none of the others do. These facts demonstrate the selectivity of the Gospel accounts.

The Gospel accounts are also *harmonious*. Though each writer was selective in his choice of material, all of them followed the same basic pattern in unfolding the main events of the story. There is the introduction of Jesus to His public ministry by John the Baptist. Next, there are the miracles, teachings, and encounters of Jesus with His disciples, the people, and the Jewish leaders. Most of the events described occur in Galilee or Jerusalem. The division between those who accepted Jesus and those who rejected Him is portrayed. Finally, there is the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, His arrest, trial, crucifixion, and resurrection. In all the accounts are references to various Old Testament prophecies that were fulfilled in Jesus’ life. In a very real sense, there are not four “Gospels” but *one* Gospel—one story of good news about the Son of God who came to save sinners.

Application

- 2** The Gospel accounts are *selective* because they
- say nothing about Jesus' childhood.
 - have very little in common.
 - do not include everything Jesus did and said.
- 3** The Gospel accounts are *harmonious* because they all
- follow the same basic pattern in developing the story.
 - describe all of Jesus' life in great detail.
 - deal mainly with Jesus' ministry in Galilee.
 - include reports of the same main events in Jesus' life.
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B. WHERE JESUS LIVED AND MINISTERED

We have studied some of the main features of the Gospel accounts. They give the names of many places that are associated with Jesus' life, such as Judea, Galilee, Nazareth, Capernaum, and Jerusalem. In this section, we will study the districts of Palestine in which these places are located, and we will study the overall geography of the land of Palestine.

The Land of Palestine

Objective 2. *Identify locations of the four major geographical areas of Palestine.*

Palestine is the name given to the whole area shown on the following map. Jesus lived most of His earthly life in this land. Look at the map and notice the main kinds of land that are indicated; these form four parallel strips from north to south: 1) the *coastal plain*, which extends from the north at Sidon down to Gaza in the south; 2) the *central mountains*, which extend from Dan and Kadesh in the north to Beersheba in the south; 3) the *valley of the Jordan*, which begins north of the sea of Galilee and extends south to the Dead Sea; and 4) the *eastern table land* or plateau on the east side of the Jordan.

Jesus lived and ministered in the districts of Galilee, Samaria, and Judea on the west side of the Jordan and in the districts

of Decapolis and Perea on the east side of the Jordan. He also went to the cities of Tyre and Sidon in Phoenicia. As you read the descriptions of these areas, find on the map each city or district named.

Application

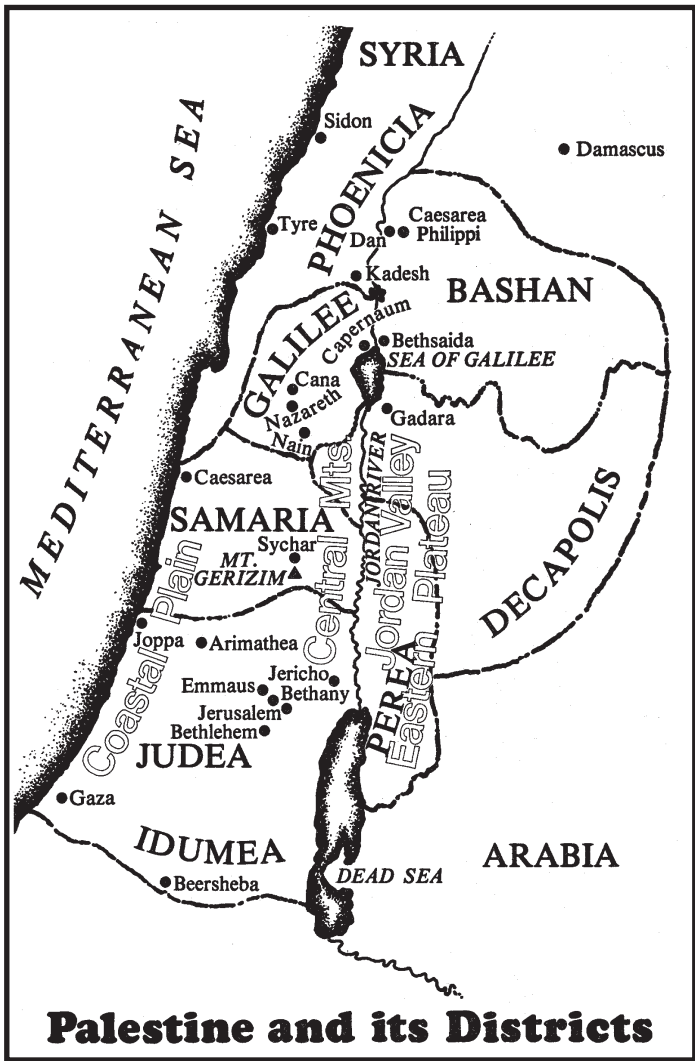
- 4** On the west side of the coastal plain of Palestine is the
- a)** central mountain range.
 - b)** valley of the Jordan.
 - c)** Mediterranean Sea.
- 5** The central range is located
- a)** on the east side of the valley of the Jordan.
 - b)** on the east side of the coastal plain.
 - c)** between the valley of the Jordan and the eastern plateau.



The Districts of Palestine

Objective 3. *Match descriptions of the districts in Palestine to their names.*

During New Testament times, there were several districts in the land of Palestine. These districts were under the overall authority of the Roman government.



GALILEE

Jesus grew to manhood in the town of Nazareth in the district of Galilee (Matthew 2:23, Luke 2:51). He performed His first miracle at Cana (John 2:11). Later, He went to the town of Capernaum and stayed there (Matthew 4:13). The more strict Jews of the other districts of Palestine looked down on

the Galileans because Galilee was located close to the Gentile areas of Phoenicia and Decapolis. The Galileans, however, were deeply committed to their faith and loyal to the Jewish nation. Eleven of Jesus' twelve disciples were from Galilee. He spent a good part of His ministry in the towns, villages, and hillsides of this district.

PHOENICIA

The cities of Tyre and Sidon were located in Phoenicia, a coastal area northwest of Galilee. After He was rejected at Nazareth, Jesus went to this district. There, He met the woman of Syrian Phoenicia whose great faith He praised and whose daughter He healed (Mark 7:24–30).

DECAPOLIS

East of Galilee were the districts of Decapolis and Bashan. Decapolis was an association of Greek cities (*Decapolis* means “ten cities”) founded by followers of Alexander the Great. Jesus visited this area (Mark 7:31–35). He ministered in Gadara (also called Gergesa or Gerasa), where He healed a demon-possessed man (Mark 5:1–20, Luke 8:26–39). He also went to the cities of Caesarea Philippi (Matthew 16:13–20).

SAMARIA

The people of the coastal part of Samaria were Gentiles. Those in the mountainous regions, however, were a mixed race. They were descendants of the ten tribes of the northern kingdom of Israel who had intermarried with Gentiles. They had built their own temple on Mt. Gerizim. Though it was no longer standing in Jesus' day, its site was considered sacred. The Samaritans, as people of this mixed race were called, were greatly despised by the Jews of Palestine. Many Jews would not even travel through Samaria. Jesus, however, ministered many times to the people in this district. In His notable conversation with the Samaritan woman at the well in Sychar, He did not allow the controversy between the Jews and the Samaritans to become the main topic of discussion. Instead, He drew attention to himself as the Messiah (John 4:1–42).

PEREA

Most of the inhabitants of Perea were Jews, though Gentiles also lived there. Perea is often referred to in the New Testament as the land “across the Jordan.” On His way to Jerusalem for the last time, Jesus traveled through this area teaching in its villages and towns (Mark 10:1–45, Matthew 19:1–20:28).

JUDEA

In the district of Judea were located the cities of Bethlehem, Jesus’ birthplace, and Jerusalem, the scene of many crucial events in His life. Near Jerusalem was the town of Bethany, the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead (John 11:1, 32–44). A few miles away was Jericho, where Jesus healed a blind man (Mark 10:46–52). During His ministry, Jesus made several trips to Jerusalem and the towns near it. A number of times, He attended the great annual Jewish feasts that were celebrated in Jerusalem. It was there that He was tried, crucified, and buried (Luke 22, 23). After His resurrection, He appeared to two of His followers on the road to Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem (Luke 24:13–27). Later on, He gave His disciples instructions about their future ministry and led them toward Bethany. Then He was taken up into heaven out of their sight, and the disciples returned to Jerusalem to wait for the promised Holy Spirit (Luke 24:36–53).

Application

6 Match each phrase (left) to the name of the district it describes (right).

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| ... a) Jesus' birthplace was located there | 1) Galilee |
| ... b) The district referred to as the "other side of the Jordan" | 2) Phoenicia |
| ... c) A coastal district north of Galilee | 3) Decapolis |
| ... d) The home of a mixed race of Jews and Gentiles | 4) Samaria |
| ... e) An association of several Greek cities | 5) Perea |
| ... f) The district in which Mt. Gerizim was located | 6) Judea |
| ... g) The district where Jerusalem was located | |

C. EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

Objective 4. *Identify events and Scriptures associated with the four major periods in Jesus' life.*

You have studied the geography of the land of Palestine and learned some facts about the places where Jesus lived and ministered. In this section, you will examine the events in Jesus' life. As you learned in the first part of this lesson, the Gospel writers all followed the same basic pattern in describing His life.

The events in Jesus' life can be divided into four major periods: 1) His birth and preparation for ministry; 2) His early ministry and popularity; 3) His later ministry and controversy; and 4) His death, resurrection, and ascension. Each Gospel account gives these major periods in the same order. However, the writers arranged the particular incidents within each period according to their own purposes. We must remember that their aim was not primarily to give a strict chronological account but to portray accurately the person of Jesus. The following outline

gives the overall progression of events and the chapters in each Gospel record that are associated with each major period.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE LIFE OF CHRIST	
Major Periods and Events	Gospel References
1 Birth and preparation for ministry –Birth and growth to manhood –Introduction, baptism, temptation	Matthew 1:1–4:11 Mark 1:1–13 Luke 1:1–4:13 John 1:1–51
2 Early ministry and popularity –Ministry in Galilee –Ministry in Judea –Return to Galilee –Height of popularity	Matthew 4:12–15:20 Mark 1:14–7:23 Luke 4:14–9:17 John 2:1–6:71
3 Later ministry and controversy –Withdrawal to the north –Ministry again in Galilee –Ministry again in Judea –Ministry in Perea –Last trip to Jerusalem	Matthew 15:21–20:34 Mark 7:24–10:52 Luke 9:18–19:28 John 7:1–12:11
4 Death, resurrection, and ascension –Triumphal entry, trial, death, and burial –Resurrection, commission to disciples, and ascension	Matthew 21:1–28:20 Mark 11:1–16:20 Luke 19:29–24:53 John 12:12–21:25

Application

7 Use the chart to match the major period of the life of Christ (right) to each event or Scripture associated with it (left).

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) Trial | 1) Birth and preparation for ministry |
| b) Luke 4:14–9:17 | 2) Early ministry and popularity |
| c) Baptism | 3) Later ministry and controversy |
| d) Last trip to Jerusalem | 4) Death, resurrection, and ascension |
| e) John 7:1–12:11 | |
| f) Return to Galilee | |
| g) Mark 11:1–16:20 | |



Of course, this chart is a summary of only the major events and periods in Jesus' life. In the following lessons, you will study each Gospel account and specific incidents that occurred during each major period.

D. THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS

Objective 5. *Describe the basis, purpose, method, content, and effect of Jesus' teaching.*

We have examined the characteristics of the Gospels, the land where Jesus lived and ministered, and the major events in Jesus' life. Now, let us look more closely at His teaching activity as shown in the Gospels. Teaching was a vital aspect of His work, for He came with a mission to announce the good news to the poor and reveal the truth about God to all humankind. Almost every page of the Gospels is marked by the presence of His warnings, proclamations, exhortations, and explanations. We will consider five important features of His teaching.

Basis

Jesus' teaching was based on the Old Testament as God's Word and upon himself as the only begotten Son of God. He drew from the resources of the Old Testament. He also placed himself in relation to the Old Testament writings as the one who had complete authority to explain their true meaning.

Jesus applied the prophecies and events of the Old Testament to himself. According to Luke 4:18, He read the description of His mission from the book of the prophet Isaiah. He made it clear that He had come to fulfill the Law (Matthew 5:17–20). When He talked to Nicodemus, He spoke of His death on the Cross by referring to an experience the Israelites had in the wilderness (John 3:14, Numbers 21:8–9). When the Pharisees asked Him for a sign, He told them they would be given “the sign of the prophet Jonah”—meaning that He would rise from the grave three days after His death (Matthew 12:39–40). After His resurrection, Jesus met two disciples on the road to Emmaus. As they walked along, He explained to them “what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself” (Luke 24:27).

Jesus also demonstrated that He had a unique position of authority in relation to the Old Testament Scriptures. For example, He said that He was “Lord even of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:28). According to Exodus 31:15, no work was to be done on the Sabbath, yet Jesus said that both He and the Father continually worked, even on the Sabbath (John 5:16–17). He healed on the Sabbath and taught that it was lawful for Him to do so (Luke 13:10–17). Jesus also introduced a standard of behavior that was superior to what was revealed in the Old Testament (Matthew 5). These examples show that Jesus placed not only the prophecies of the Old Testament but also its Law in relation to himself as God’s Son.

Application

- 8** Read from Matthew chapter 5 the pairs of verses given in the following chart. Then beside each reference, write a short sentence telling what the Old Testament said. Next to that, write what Jesus said. The first is written in to give you an example.

Verses	“IT WAS SAID”	“I TELL YOU”
21, 22	You shall not murder.	Anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.
27, 28		
33, 34		
43, 44		

- 9 Circle the letter in front of the statement that most correctly describes the basis of Jesus' teaching.
- a) Jesus based His teaching on the ideas, thoughts, and traditions held by the religious leaders of His day.
 - b) Jesus' teachings were based on the Old Testament Scriptures and His authority to interpret them as God's Son.
 - c) The rules and laws about the Sabbath formed the basis for Jesus' teachings.
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Purpose

Jesus' purpose was to reveal God and to teach people truths upon which they could build their lives. He said His teachings came from the Father (John 14:10). They were not simply interesting ideas, hopeful thoughts, or entertaining stories. They were the very words of eternal life (John 6:68), words that would last forever (Mark 13:31). People who put Jesus' teachings into practice would find that their lives had a secure foundation (Matthew 7:24).

Method

Jesus taught everywhere as the need arose. He taught in the synagogues (Luke 4:16) and in the temple (John 8:2). He taught on the street (Mark 10:17) and in private homes (Luke 14:1). The number of listeners did not matter to Him. Though He spoke to big crowds, He also took time to talk to single, lonely men and women. Many of His most important teachings were addressed to individuals, such as the one to Nicodemus (John 3). He taught in a variety of places and to a variety of people. He also used several methods. We will examine four of these methods.

PARABLES

Jesus taught many truths by means of parables. A parable is an illustration or story usually drawn from everyday life. As a method of teaching, parables had three advantages: 1) they were easily remembered because the hearers could imagine the story's events even as it was being told, 2) their spiritual messages were

clear both to the educated and the illiterate, and 3) they showed the concern Jesus had for His listeners' needs.

Most parables teach one important truth. The parable of the woman and the coin, for example, illustrates God's persistence in searching for one lost soul (Luke 15:8–10). Some teach more than one lesson. The parable of the lost son illustrates not only God's father-love but also the meaning of repentance and the sin of self-righteousness and unforgiveness (Luke 15:11–32). On some occasions, those who heard the parable were left to draw their own conclusions (Mark 12:1–12). Other times, Jesus stated the truth He was illustrating at the end of the parable (Matthew 25:1–13).

However, Jesus' parables were unlike those told by anyone else, for they could not be separated from His person. Those who did not understand Him did not understand His parables, either. This was a truth Jesus pointed out (Mark 4:11, Matthew 13:13).

SHORT SAYINGS

Jesus used short sayings to fix certain truths in His hearers' minds. Often, these sayings put two opposite ideas together: "Be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16). "Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it" (Matthew 10:39). "He who believes in me will live, even though he dies" (John 11:25). These sayings were thought-provoking and unforgettable.

OBJECT LESSONS

Jesus also used familiar objects to teach spiritual truths. On one occasion, He had a small child stand in the middle of His disciples and pointed to him as an example of humility (Matthew 18:1–6). On another, He drew attention to some rich people and a poor widow who were putting their offerings in the temple treasury. He used the circumstance to teach a lesson on the meaning of true giving (Luke 21:1–4). To the fishermen, He said, "Come, follow me . . . and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). He said the birds of the air and the lilies

of the field were illustrations of God’s care for His creation (Matthew 6:26, 28).

QUESTIONS

Jesus often used thought-provoking questions in His teaching. They went to the heart of people’s deep concerns and needs: “What can a man give in exchange for his soul?” He asked His disciples (Matthew 16:26). “Which is easier: to say ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say ‘Get up and walk?’” He challenged the teachers of the Law (Matthew 9:5). Perhaps the most important question of all those He asked His disciples was this one: “Who do you say I am?” (Mark 8:29).

Not only did Jesus ask questions, but He also answered those put to Him by others. When Thomas asked, “How can we know the way?”, Jesus gladly replied, “I am the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:5–6).

Application

10 Read each passage of Scripture listed (left). Then match the method of teaching (right) to each reference to a Scripture that contains an example of it (left).

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| ... a) Matthew 13:45–46 | 1) Parable |
| ... b) Mark 12:38–40 | 2) Short saying |
| ... c) Luke 6:43, 45 | 3) Object lesson |
| ... d) Luke 10:3 | 4) Question |
| ... e) John 4:11–14 | |
| ... f) John 8:31–36 | |

Content

Jesus’ teaching included a wide variety of subjects, yet among these can be found some major themes. He taught about the kingdom of God—its true nature and its demands. He taught about people—our responsibility toward God and the way we

should treat others. He taught about himself—His mission, His unique relationship with God, His death and resurrection, and His second coming.

In some of the Gospel accounts, the teachings on a similar subject are found grouped in one place. For example, a large share of Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of God is found in Matthew 13. His teaching concerning future events and the end time is found mostly in Matthew 24–25, Mark 13, and Luke 21:5–38. He may have spoken some of His teachings only once. He may have repeated others several times for the benefit of the different people who came to hear Him. His teachings were not set out in a formal, systematic way, but were organized around His person. Those who would understand His teachings must understand Him.

Effect

Jesus' teaching had a great impact on His hearers. When the chief priests and Pharisees sent some guards to arrest Him, the guards came back empty-handed. "Why didn't you bring him in?" the religious leaders asked. "No one ever spoke the way this man does" was their reply (John 7:45–46). When He ended the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7), His audience was amazed because "he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law" (Matthew 7:29). His teachings silenced His enemies (Matthew 22:46) and caused sinners to change their ways (Luke 19:8).

As in the days when He lived on earth, His teachings reach people's hearts today. When I consider what has happened in my country, I see the positive effects Christ's teachings are making. I see people like myself transformed by them. I cannot help but identify with the writer of Hebrews: "The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit" (Hebrews 4:12).

Jesus is revealed in the Gospel accounts as the greatest teacher of all. As we teach His Word, we must follow His example and relate it to people's needs and concerns.

Application

- 11** Complete each of the following sentences in your notebook.
- a)** The two things that formed the basis for the teaching of Jesus were . . .
 - b)** The purpose of Jesus' teaching was to . . .
 - c)** Four methods Jesus used in His teaching were . . .
 - d)** Three of the major themes of Jesus' teaching were . . .
 - e)** Those who listened to Jesus teach said that He taught with . . .
-



Self-Test

TRUE-FALSE. Circle the number in front of each true statement.

- 1** Because of its emphasis on fulfilled prophecy, the Gospel of Matthew appealed more to Gentile readers than to Jewish readers.
- 2** One benefit that comes from having four Gospel accounts is that the most important facts about Jesus are emphasized because they appear in all the accounts.
- 3** Of the four Gospel writers, only Luke gives a detailed account of the week in Jesus' life that ended with His death.
- 4** Most of the events described in the Gospel accounts took place in the district of Samaria.
- 5** The land of Palestine has four main geographical regions or areas.
- 6** Because they lived close to the Gentile areas of Decapolis and Phoenicia, the Jews of Galilee were not very loyal to the Jewish religion.
- 7** Because the Samaritans were despised by the Jews, Jesus avoided ministering to them in order not to offend His disciples.
- 8** The eastern boundary of the district of Judea was the Jordan river and the Dead Sea.
- 9** In the Gospel records, the specific incidents of Christ's life are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.
- 10** In His teaching, Jesus concentrated on speaking to large crowds rather than to individuals or small groups.

MULTIPLE CHOICE. Circle the letter in front of the phrase that best completes each of the following sentences.

- 11** Some people did not understand Jesus' parables because
- a)** the parables were filled with difficult words.
 - b)** they did not believe He was God's Son.
 - c)** Jesus never explained His parables.
- 12** On one occasion, Jesus pointed to a small child as an illustration of the meaning of humility. This is an example of the method of teaching called
- a)** parable.
 - b)** short saying.
 - c)** object lesson.
 - d)** question.
- 13** Jesus was tested by Satan in the wilderness during the period of His
- a)** preparation for ministry.
 - b)** early ministry and popularity.
 - c)** later ministry and controversy.
 - d)** death, resurrection, and ascension.
- 14** Nazareth, the city where Jesus spent His childhood, was in the district of
- a)** Judea.
 - b)** Perea.
 - c)** Samaria.
 - d)** Galilee.
- 15** The main purpose of the Gospel writers was to
- a)** explain the customs and beliefs of the Jewish religion.
 - b)** tell the events of Jesus' life in strict chronological order.
 - c)** give an accurate portrayal of the person of Jesus.
 - d)** describe everything that Jesus said and did.

COMPLETION. Complete the following sentences by writing in the correct word or words.

16 The district north of Judea is named

17 The third period of Jesus' life is that of His

18 Jesus ascended near Jerusalem close to a town named
.....

19 Jesus spent most of His years of ministry in the two
districts of

20 In His teaching, Jesus applied the prophecies of the Old
Testament to

Answers to Application Questions

- 6** a) 6) Judea
b) 5) Perea
c) 2) Phoenicia
d) 4) Samaria
e) 3) Decapolis
f) 4) Samaria
g) 6) Judea
- 1** (In your own words.) The variety serves to draw the attention of many different kinds of people and emphasize the main events in Jesus' life.
- 7** a) 4) Death, resurrection, and ascension
b) 2) Early ministry and popularity
c) 1) Birth and preparation for ministry
d) 3) Later ministry and controversy
e) 3) Later ministry and controversy
f) 2) Early ministry and popularity
g) 4) Death, resurrection, and ascension
- 2** c) do not include everything Jesus did and said.
- 8** 27–28: You shall not commit adultery; Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
33–34: Do not break your oath; Do not swear an oath at all.
43–44: Love your neighbor and hate your enemy; Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.
- 3** a) follow the same basic pattern in developing the story.
- 9** b) Jesus' teachings were based on the Old Testament Scriptures and His authority to interpret them as God's Son.
- 4** c) Mediterranean Sea.

- 10** **a)** 1) Parable
b) 3) Object lesson
c) 3) Object lesson
d) 2) Short saying
e) 4) Question
f) 4) Question

(Of course, many of Jesus' teachings involved more than one of these methods. In Mark 12:13–17, there is a combination of the question-and-answer method with the object lesson method; then, a short saying completes the lesson.)

5 b) on the east side of the coastal plain.

11 (In your own words.)

- a)** the Old Testament Scriptures and His authority to interpret them as God's Son.
b) give people words of truth upon which they could build their lives.
c) parables, short sayings, object lessons, and questions.
d) the kingdom of God, how to treat other people, and about himself.
e) authority and not as their teachers of the Law.