

Reasons For The Four Gospel Records

1. **Credibility** – Four different records attesting to the life and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. It would be very difficult to give credibility to the attestation of one individual. The Gospel records are not contradictory, they are complementary.
2. **Different Audiences** – Matthew – Jewish Audience¹ (Jesus as the Messiah, the King), Mark – Roman Audience² (Jesus as the Servant), Luke – Greek Audience³ (The Perfect Man), John – Gentile Audience⁴ (The Son of God). The synoptic Gospels mainly discuss Jesus Christ in His Galilean ministry, whereas John has Jesus mostly in Judea and around Jerusalem and then Temple.
3. **The Nature of the Gospel** – The Gospel records are for delivering the Good News to all people. The major people groups of the day are captured – the Jew, the Roman, the Greek, and the Gentile. (The sayings above the cross – Latin, Greek, Hebrew – **Luke 23:38**)
4. **The Supremacy of the Lord Jesus Christ** – The Lord Jesus Christ being God in the flesh is worthy of a fourfold description of His life during His earthly ministry. (*“And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.”* **John 21:25**)

¹ The Jews held very high the Old Testament Scriptures. They looked for the Messiah or Anointed One, A King. Matthew references Old Testament Prophecy frequently, proving that Jesus is the Christ.

² The Romans would not have taken kindly to a presentation of Jesus as King. In the Roman mindset only, Caesar is king.

³ The Greeks were thinkers. They were meticulous. Luke is very detailed and documents proof for everything.

⁴ Could also be called the general Gospel. This record is to all Gentiles. This is the Gospel that shows the deity of Jesus Christ, He is God in the flesh. John’s Gospel holds up the Savior high to draw all men to Him.