

Synopsis of the Four Gospels

Explanation

Altogether, the four Gospels report 290 episodes, vignettes, or pericopes connected with the life of Jesus. By knowing these 290 segments, modern readers have in broad view all that the Gospels reveal. Chart 7-6 lists all these segments. For convenience, this chart largely follows the order of Matthew. Highlighted in italics are those sections that are found in all three of the so-called synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Although John contains by far the most unique information, Matthew and Luke each present information that no other Gospel preserves.

References

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- Thomas M. Mumford, *Horizontal Harmony of the Four Gospels in Parallel Columns* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1976).
- Bernard Orchard, *A Synopsis of the Four Gospels, in a New Translation* (Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1982).
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Synopsis of the Four Gospels

GOSPEL AND <i>SYNOPTIC</i> ENTRIES	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
1. The Word Becomes Flesh				1:1–14
2. Luke's Sources and Purpose			1:1–4	
3. Birth of John the Baptist Foretold			1:5–25	
4. Annunciation to Mary			1:26–38	
5. Mary Visits Elizabeth			1:39–45	
6. Mary's Song of Praise			1:46–56	
7. Birth of John the Baptist			1:57–63	
8. Prophecy of Zacharias			1:64–80	
9. Genealogy of Jesus	1:1–17		3:23–38	
10. Birth of Jesus	1:18–25		2:1–7	
11. Angels Visit the Shepherds			2:8–14	
12. Shepherds Visit Jesus			2:15–20	
13. Presentation of Jesus in the Temple			2:21–39	
14. Wise Men Visit Jesus	2:1–12			
15. Flight to Egypt	2:13–15			
16. Slaying of the Infants by Herod	2:16–18			
17. Return to Nazareth	2:19–23		2:39	
18. Jesus' Childhood			2:40, 52	
19. Jesus as a Boy in the Temple			2:41–52	
20. <i>Preaching of John the Baptist</i>	3:1–12	1:1–8	3:2–18	1:6–8, 15–28

21. John Teaches Generosity and Moderation			3:10-14	
22. John's Messianic Preaching	3:11-12		3:15-18	1:19-28
23. <i>John's Imprisonment</i>	<i>14:3-5</i>	<i>6:17-19</i>	<i>3:19-20</i>	
24. John Recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God				1:29-34
25. <i>Baptism of Jesus</i>	<i>3:13-17</i>	<i>1:9-11</i>	<i>3:21-22</i>	
26. <i>Temptation of Christ</i>	<i>4:1-11</i>	<i>1:12-13</i>	<i>4:1-13</i>	
27. <i>First Preaching in Galilee</i>	<i>4:12-17</i>	<i>1:14-15</i>	<i>4:14-15</i>	
28. <i>Jesus Calls His First Disciples</i>	<i>4:18-22</i>	<i>1:16-20</i>	<i>5:1-11</i>	1:35-51
29. Wedding of Cana				2:1-11
30. Teaching with Authority and Casting Out a Devil in Capernaum		1:21-28	4:31-37	
31. <i>Healing Peter's Mother-in-law</i>	<i>8:14-15</i>	<i>1:29-31</i>	<i>4:38-39</i>	
32. <i>Evening of Healing</i>	<i>8:16-17</i>	<i>1:32-34</i>	<i>4:40-41</i>	
33. Departure from Capernaum		1:35-38	4:42-43	
34. <i>Preaching and Healing in Galilee</i>	<i>4:23-25</i>	<i>1:39-44</i>	<i>4:42-44;</i> <i>6:17-19</i>	
35. Miraculous Catch of Fish			5:1-11	
36. Jesus Instructs Nicodemus to Be Born of the Spirit				3:1-21
37. Sermon on the Mount Introduction	5:1-2			
38. The Beatitudes	5:3-12		6:20-23	
39. <i>Salt of the Earth, Light of the World</i>	<i>5:13-16;</i> <i>6:22-23</i>	<i>9:50</i>	<i>14:34-35</i>	
40. Jesus Came to Fulfil the Law	5:17-20			
41. Be Not Angry, Agree with Adversary	5:21-26		12:57-59	
42. The Higher Law on Adultery	5:27-30			

43. <i>The Higher Law on Divorce</i>	5:31–32; 19:9	10:11–12	16:18	
44. Swear Not at All	5:33–37			
45. The Higher Law on Retaliation	5:38–42		6:29–30	
46. Love Your Enemies, Bless Them that Curse You	5:43–48; 7:12		6:27–36	
47. Give Alms in Secret	6:1–4			
48. On Prayer	6:5–15; 7:7–11		11:1–13	
49. The Lord's Prayer	6:9–15		11:2–4	
50. On Fasting	6:16–18			
51. Lay Up Treasures in Heaven	6:19–21		12:33–34	
52. The Eye is the Light of the Body	6:22–23		11:34–36	
53. No Man Can Serve Both God and Mammon	6:24		16:13	
54. Take No Thought for the Morrow	6:25–34; 19–21		12:22–34	
55. Ye Shall Be Judged with What Judgment Ye Judge	7:1–5		6:37–42	
56. Cast Not Your Pearls before Swine	7:6			
57. Ask, Seek, Knock	7:7–12		11:9–13	
58. The Golden Rule	7:12		6:31	
59. Strait is the Gate, Narrow the Way	7:13–14, 21–23		13:22–30	
60. A Tree Bears Only One Kind of Fruit	7:15–20; 12:34–35		6:43–45	
61. I Never Knew You	7:21–23		13:25–27	
62. Wise Man Builds House on Rock	7:24–28		6:46–49	
63. Jesus Taught as One with Authority	7:28–29			
64. Samaritan Woman at the Well				4:1–42

65. <i>Jesus Heals Faithful Leper</i>	8:1–4	1:40–45	5:12–16	
66. <i>Jesus Heals Centurion’s Servant</i>	8:5–13		7:1–10	4:43–54
67. <i>Jesus Raises Widow’s Son at Nain</i>			7:11–17	
68. <i>Jesus Heals the Sick, Casts Out Devils</i>	8:16–17	1:32–34	4:40–41	
69. <i>Would-be Followers</i>	8:18–22		9:57–62	
70. <i>Stilling the Tempest</i>	8:23–27	4:36–41	8:22–25	
71. <i>Gadarene Demoniacs</i>	8:28–34	5:1–20	8:26–39	
72. <i>Easier to Heal Sick or Forgive Sins?</i>	9:1–8	2:1–12	5:17–26	
73. <i>Matthew and Tax Collecting</i>	9:9–13	2:13–17	5:27–32	
74. <i>Question about Fasting</i>	9:14–17	2:18–22	5:33–39	
75. <i>Jairus’ Daughter</i>	9:18–19, 23–26	5:21–24, 35–43	8:41–42, 49–56	
76. <i>Woman Who Touched Jesus</i>	9:20–22	5:25–34	8:43–48	
77. <i>Two Blind Men Healed</i>	9:27–31			
78. <i>Dumb Man Healed</i>	9:32–34			
79. <i>Compassion of Jesus</i>	9:35–38			
80. <i>Calling the Twelve</i>	10:1–4	3:13–19	6:12–16	
81. <i>Mission of the Twelve</i>	10:1–15	6:7–13	9:1–6	
82. <i>Coming Persecutions</i>	10:16–25	13:9–13	21:12–17	
83. <i>Confessing Christ before Men</i>	10:32–33; 12:32		12:8–12	
84. <i>Whom to Fear</i>	10:26–33		12:4–7	
85. <i>Not Peace But a Sword</i>	10:34–39		12:49–53; 14:26–27	
86. <i>Conditions of Discipleship</i>	10:37–38		14:26–33	

87. Rewards of Discipleship	10:40–11:1	9:41		
88. Messengers from John the Baptist	11:2–19		7:18–23	
89. Christ's Testimony of John			7:24–35	3:22–30
90. Law and the Kingdom of God	11:12–13		16:14–18	
91. On Testimony				3:31–36
92. Woes to Unrepentant Cities	11:20–24		10:13–15	
93. Christ's Thanksgiving Prayer	11:25–27			
94. Healing at the Pool of Bethesda				5:2–18
95. Authority of the Son				5:19–29
96. Come to Me and Rest	11:25–30			
97. Witnesses to Jesus				5:30–47
98. <i>Corn on the Sabbath</i>	12:1–8	2:23–28	6:1–5	
99. <i>Healing a Withered Hand</i>	12:9–14	3:1–6	6:6–11	
100. The Chosen Healer-Servant	12:15–21			
101. The Seaside Multitude		3:7–12		
102. The Servant from Capernaum			7:1–10	
103. A Sinful Woman Forgiven			7:36–50	
104. Women Ministering to Jesus			8:2–3	
105. The Accusation of Devilishness	12:22–23		11:14–15	
106. <i>The Beelzebub Controversy</i>	12:22–32	3:22–30	11:14–23	
107. A Tree and Its Fruits	12:33–37			
108. <i>The Demand for a Sign</i>	12:38–42	8:11–12	11:29–32	
109. Return of the Unclean Spirit	12:43–45		11:24–26	

110. <i>The Brothers of Jesus</i>	12:46–50	3:31–35	8:19–21	2:12
111. <i>Parable of the Sower</i>	13:1–9	4:3–9	8:4–8	
112. <i>Purpose of Parables</i>	13:10–17	4:10–12	8:9–10	
113. Blessedness of Discipleship	13:16–17		10:23–24	
114. <i>The Sower Interpreted</i>	13:18–23	4:13–20	8:11–15	
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118. The Wheat and the Tares	13:24–30			
119. <i>The Mustard Seed</i>	13:31–32	4:30–32	13:18–19	
120. The Leaven	13:33		13:20–21	
121. The Use of Parables	13:34–35	4:33–34		
122. Interpretation of the Tares	13:36–43			
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126. <i>Rejection at Nazareth</i>	13:53–58	6:1–6	4:16–30	7:1–9
127. Herod's Opinion of Christ	14:1–2	6:14–16		
128. <i>Death of John the Baptist</i>	14:1–12	6:14–29	9:7–9	
129. <i>Feeding the Five Thousand</i>	14:13–21	6:30–44	9:10–17	6:1–14
130. Walking on the Water	14:22–33	6:45–51		6:15–21
131. Healings at Gennesaret	14:34–36	6:53–56		

132. Traditions of the Jews	15:1–20	7:1–23		
133. The Gentile Woman	15:21–28	7:24–30		
134. Healing of a Deaf Mute		7:32–37		
135. Healing of Many Persons	15:29–31			
136. Feeding the Four Thousand	15:32–39	8:1–9		
137. <i>Demand for Signs of the Times</i>	16:1–4	8:11–12	12:54–56	
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139. The True Bread of Life				6:22–58
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142. Is This the Christ?				7:25–31
143. Officers Sent to Arrest Jesus				7:32–36
144. Rivers of Living Waters				7:37–39
145. Division among the People				7:40–44
146. Unbelief of the Popular Leaders				7:45–52
147. The Woman Taken in Adultery				8:3–11
148. Light of the World				8:12–20; 9:1–12
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153. <i>First Prediction of the Passion</i>	16:21–28	8:31–9:1	9:22–27	

154. Where I Am Going You Cannot Come				8:21–30
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156. The Truth Shall Make You Free				8:32
157. Sons of the Devil				8:39–47
158. Before Abraham Was, I Am				8:48–59
159. <i>The Son of God Transfigured</i>	17:1–13	9:2–13	9:28–36	
160. The Coming of Elijah	17:10–13	9:11–13		
161. <i>Healing of an Epileptic Child</i>	17:14–21	9:14–29	9:38–42	
162. <i>Second Prophecy of the Passion</i>	17:22–23	9:30–32	9:43–45	
163. The Temple Tax	17:24–27			
164. <i>Dispute about Greatness</i>	18:1–4	9:33–35	9:46–48; 22:24–30	
165. The Strange Exorcist		9:38–41	9:49–50	
166. <i>About Taking Offense</i>	18:6–10	9:42–48	17:1–2	
167. Salt of the Earth, Purity		9:49–50		
168. The Lost Sheep	18:11–14		15:1–7	
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175. The Samaritan Villages			9:51–56	4:1–42
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204. Lazarus Raised				11:38–46
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207. Zacchaeus			19:2–10	
208. Parable of the Talents	25:14–30		19:11–27	
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219. <i>Lesson of the Fig Tree</i>	21:20–22; 24:32–35	11:20–26; 13:28–31	21:29–33	
220. <i>The Question about Authority</i>	21:23–27	11:27–33	20:1–8	
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222. <i>Parable of the Wicked Husbandman</i>	21:33–46	12:1–12	20:9–19	

223. Parable of the Marriage Feast	22:1–14		14:16–24	
224. <i>Tribute to Caesar</i>	22:15–22	12:13–17	20:20–26	
225. <i>Question on Resurrection</i>	22:23–33	12:18–27	20:27–40	
226. <i>The Great Commandment</i>	22:34–40	12:28–34	10:25–28	
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232. Promise of the Spirit				14:14–31
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246. <i>The Coming of the Son of Man</i>	24:29–31	13:24–27	21:25–28	
247. The Faithful Servant	24:45–51		12:41–48	
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251. Anointing at Bethany	26:1–13	14:3–9		12:1–8
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254. <i>The Last Supper</i>	26:17–30	14:12–26	22:7–23	13:21–30
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256. <i>Peter's Denial Foretold</i>	26:31–35	14:27–31	22:31–34	13:36–38
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259. <i>In Gethsemane</i>	26:36–46	14:32–42	22:39–46	
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270. Christ before Herod			23:6–12	
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282. Appearance on the Road to Emmaus		16:12–13	24:13–35	
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