

The Passion Week of Jesus in the Four Gospels

I. Introduction: Reading the Four Gospels

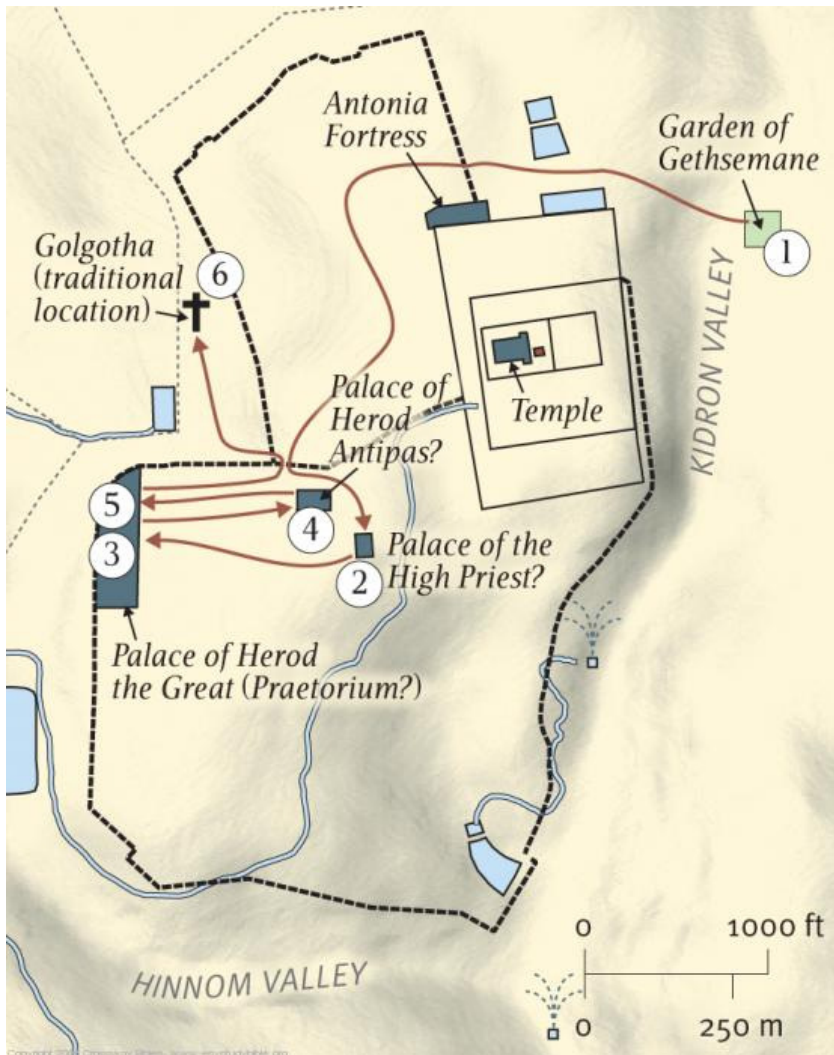
- A. What is the *Genre* of the Four Gospels?
- B. What is the *Focus* of the Four Gospels?
- C. Case Study: The Rich Young Ruler

"It is not possible that the Gospels can be either more or fewer in number than they are. For, since there are four zones of the world in which we live, and four principal winds, while the Church is scattered throughout all the world, and the 'pillar and ground' of the Church is the Gospel and the spirit of life; it is fitting that she should have four pillars, breathing out immortality on every side, and vivifying men afresh..." –Irenaeus of Lyons, *Adversus Haereses*. 3.11.8, ~180 AD

II. The Passion Week

Day	Event	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Friday/Saturday	Jesus arrives in Bethany				12:1
	Mary anoints Jesus				12:2-8
	Crowd comes to see Jesus				12:9-11
Sunday	Triumphal entry into Jerusalem	21:1-11	11:1-10	19:28-44	12:12-18
	Some Greeks seek Jesus				12:20-36
	Jesus weeps over Jerusalem			19:41	
	Enters temple		11:11		
	Returns to Bethany	21:17	11:11		
Monday	Jesus curses the fig tree	21:18-19	11:12-14		
	Clears the temple	21:12-13	11:15-17	19:45-46	
	Returns to Bethany with the Twelve		11:19		
Tuesday	Disciples see the withered fig tree on the return to Jerusalem	21:20-22	11:20-21		
	Temple controversies in Jerusalem	21:23-23:39	11:27-12:44	20:1-21:4	
	Olivet Discourse on the return to Bethany	24:1-26:46	13:1-37	21:5-36	
Wednesday	Jesus continues daily teaching in the temple			21:37-38	
	Sanhedrin plots to kill Jesus	26:3-5	14:1-2	22:1-2	
Wednesday/Thurs.	Preparations for the Passover	26:17-19	14:12-16	22:7-13	
Thursday	Passover meal/Last Supper	26:20-35	14:17-26	22:14-30	
	Upper Room Discourse				13:1-17:26
	Jesus prays in Gethsemane	26:36-46	14:32-42	22:39-46	
Friday	Betrayal and arrest (<i>after midnight?</i>)	26:37-56	14:43-52	22:47-53	18:2-12
	Jewish trial				
	-before Annas				18:13-24
	-before Caiaphas and part of the Sanhedrin	26:57-75	14:53-72	22:54-65	18:19-24
	-before full Sanhedrin (<i>after sunrise?</i>)	27:1-2	15:1	22:66-71	
	Roman trials:				
	-before Pilate	27:2-14	15:2-5	23:1-5	
	-before Herod			23:6-12	
	-before Pilate	27:15-26	15:6-15	23:13-25	18:28-19:16
Crucifixion (~9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)	27:27-54	15:16-39	23:26-49	19:16-37	
Burial (<i>evening</i>)	27:57-61	15:42-47	23:50-54	19:38-42	
Sunday	Empty-tomb witnesses	28:1-8	16:1-8	24:1-12	
	Resurrection appearances	28:9-20	16:9-20	24:13-53	20:1-21:25

III. Jesus' Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion¹



The path from Jesus' arrest to his crucifixion (part of which is often called the Via Dolorosa, "Way of Sorrows") is difficult to retrace with certainty. According to a possible harmony of the Gospel accounts, after the Passover meal Judas led a contingent of soldiers to Gethsemane to arrest Jesus (1). From there Jesus was led to Annas (location unknown), who sent him to his son-in-law Caiaphas, the high priest (2). The Jewish leaders then appealed to the Roman governor Pilate to have Jesus put to death (3). Luke records that Pilate sent Jesus to Herod Antipas (4), who questioned Jesus but returned him to Pilate without rendering any judgment (5). Pilate then sent Jesus to be crucified at Golgotha (6).

IV. Our Perspective as New Testament Christians

- A. The heinous corruption and illegality of Jesus' trial
- B. The zealous obedience of Christ unto death

"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." (John 10:17-18)

- C. The sovereign predestinating plan of God (Matt 16:21, Mark 8:31, Luke 9:22, 24:44)

And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?"²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. (Luke 24:25-27)

"Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know--²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men." (Acts 2:22-23)

¹ Taken from ESV Study Bible (Crossway)