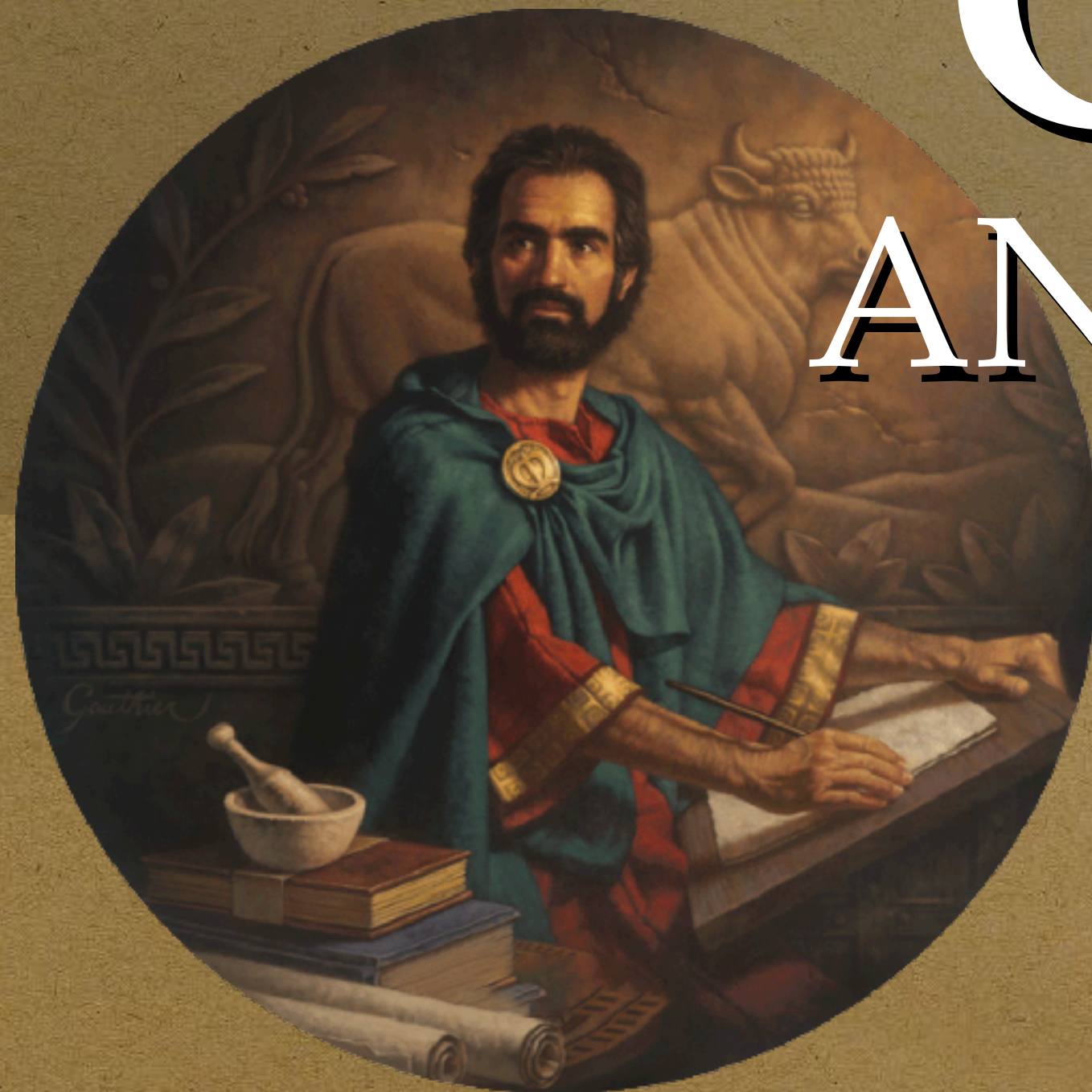
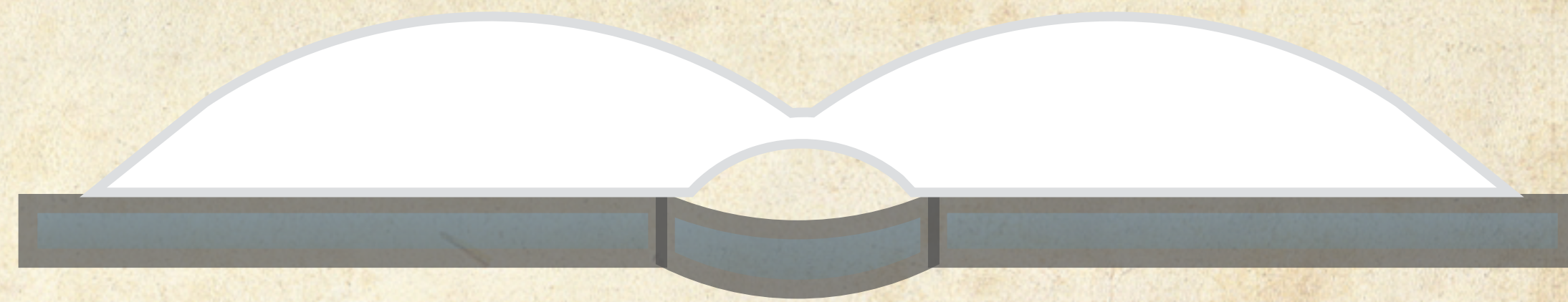




THE FOUR GOSPELS AN INTRODUCTION



THE BIOGRAPHY OF JESUS?



MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE


JOHN



BIRTH

LIFE OF JESUS

DEATH



“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.”

(John 21:25)



WHY

did the authors choose what they did?

WHAT

did they want us to know **most** about
Jesus and His divine role as our Savior?

MATTHEW

LUKE

MARK

JOHN



Jerusalem



Rome



Antioch



Alexandria



Jerusalem



Apparently, churches in some cities or regions had a particular Gospel which was most closely connected to their history and traditions. Such was the case, for instance, with the gospel of Luke in Antioch and the surrounding area. As contact among these churches developed, they began sharing their manuscripts and traditions, and thus the acceptance and use of a variety of gospels came to be seen as a sign of the unity of the church. At a later time many have pointed out the inconsistencies among the four gospels in matters of detail.

(Gonzalez, Justo L. (2010). *The Story of Christianity, Volume 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* (2nd edition). HarperOne, p. 75-76)

Early Christians were well aware of those differences, and that was precisely one of the main reasons why they insisted in using more than one book. They did this as a direct response to the challenge of Marcion and Gnosticism. Many Gnostic teachers claimed that the heavenly messenger had entrusted his secret knowledge to a particular disciple, who alone was the true interpreter of the message...

(Gonzalez, Justo L. (2010). *The Story of Christianity, Volume 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* (2nd edition). HarperOne, p. 75-76)

The church at large sought to show that its doctrines were not based on the witness of a single Apostle or gospel, but on the consensus of the entire Apostolic tradition. The very fact that the various gospels differed in matters of detail, but agreed on the basic issues at stake, made their agreement a more convincing argument.

(Gonzalez, Justo L. (2010). *The Story of Christianity, Volume 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* (2nd edition). HarperOne, p. 75-76)

details details details details
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TRUTH

The Greco-Roman biography (“bios”)

Less Concerned

- Relating historical events

More Concerned

- Showing the character of the main figure through his or her words, deeds, and interactions.





MATTHEW

LUKE

**More concerned with
the divine purpose of the ministry of Jesus**

MARK

JOHN

MATTHEW

LUKE

THEOLOGY
in the form of a
NARRATIVE

MARK

JOHN

“In thought and speech the Oriental...

“The Occidental, on the other hand...



...may be thought of as an architect” **... is an artist.”**

(“Hebrew Manners and Customs,” Sidney B. Sperry, Ensign May 1972)

“...the Oriental [Eastern culture] paints a scene whose total effect is true...”



(“Hebrew Manners and Customs,” Sidney B. Sperry, Ensign May 1972)

...the Occidental [Western culture] tends to draw diagrams accurate in detail.

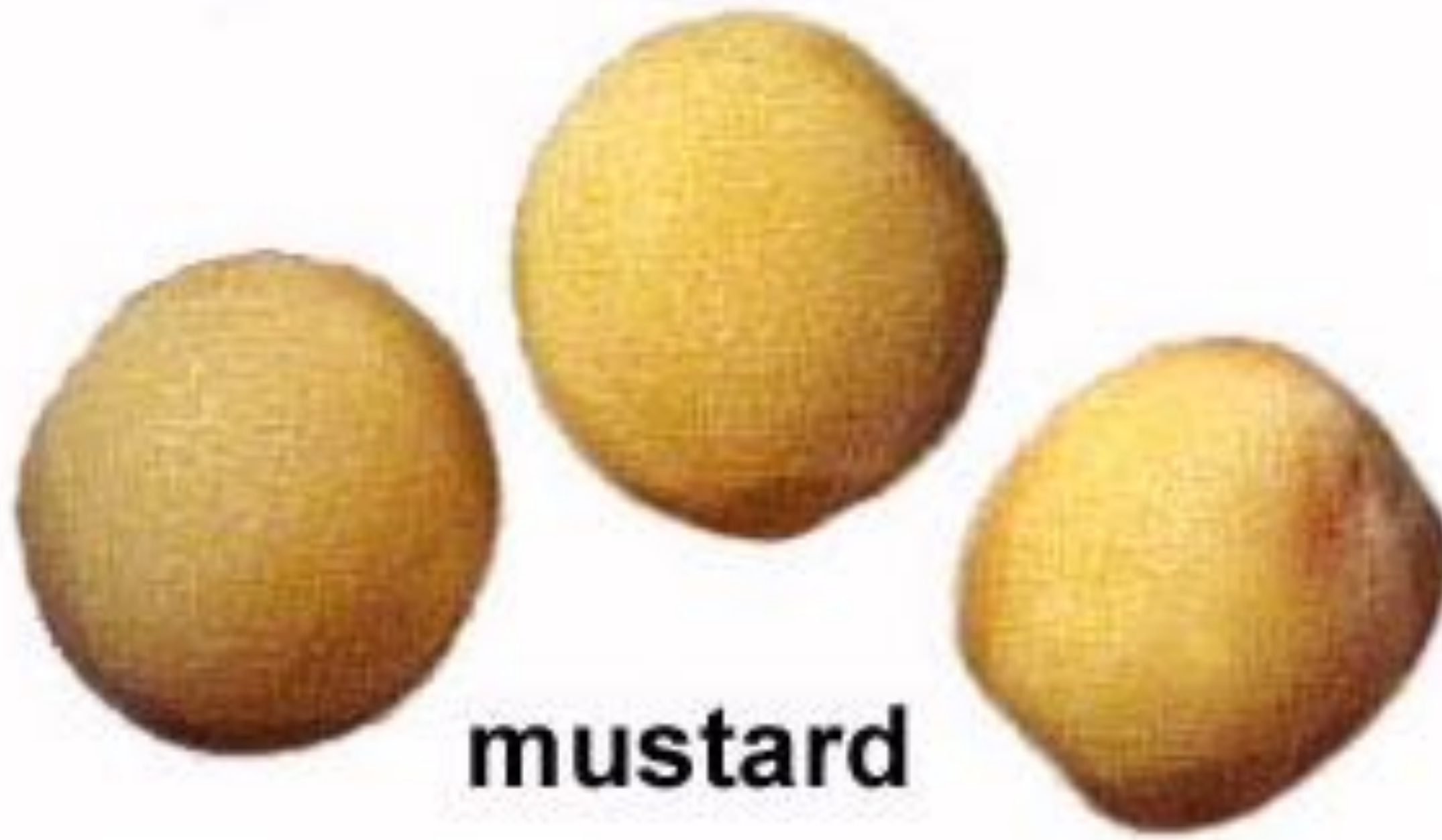


(“Hebrew Manners and Customs,” Sidney B. Sperry, Ensign May 1972)



(Mark 4:31–32)

*("Hebrew Manners and Customs," Sidney B. Sperry,
Ensign May 1972)*



mustard



orchid

© W.P. Armstrong 2003



wolffia



salt grains



poppy





MATTHEW

LUKE

HARMONY

MARK

JOHN

Offers a sense of the life and ministry of Jesus in some sort of chronological order.

**MATTHEW LUKE
HARMONY
MARK JOHN**

Offers highlights of Jesus' ministry and a broad exploration of divine themes.

MATTHEW

- Apostle - Jewish tax collector
- OT Scriptures testify of Christ
- Written to the Jews
- Compares Moses and Jesus

LUKE

- Gentile convert - physician
- Systematic account
- To gentile audience
- Jesus Savior of all mankind

MARK

- Convert & companion to Peter
- Probably 1st gospel written
- To Romans & other gentiles
- Hope for the suffering saints

JOHN

- Apostle - fisherman
- Emphasized Jesus's divinity
- For church members
- 92% unique

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

SYNOPTIC

JOHN

MATTHEW

MARK

LUKE

SYN OPTIC

To see in a unified way

JOHN

92% unique material



THE NATIVITY

MATTHEW 1-2

- Genealogy: Abraham - David - Jesus
- Joseph sees an angel in a dream
- Jesus born in Bethlehem
- New star, wisemen, kingly gifts
- Joseph and Mary in a house
- Jesus more than a year old
- Joseph flees to Egypt
- Herod kills children
- Joseph returns
- Jesus grows up in Nazareth

LUKE 1-3

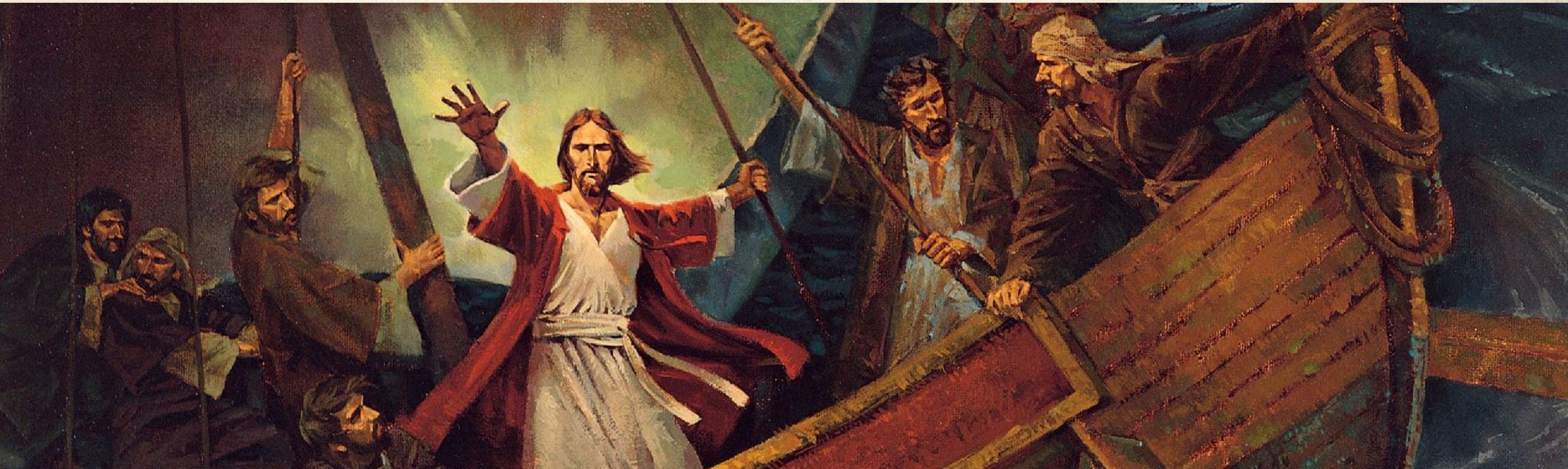
- Genealogy: Jesus to Adam
- John the Baptist
- Mary sees an angel
- Nazareth to Bethlehem
- Jesus born in Bethlehem
- Joseph and Mary in a manger
- Angels appear to shepherds
- Jesus brought to the temple
- Prophecies of Simeon & Anna
- Jesus grows up in Nazareth



MATTHEW 8

LUKE 8

MARK 4



MATTHEW 8

19 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will a follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

20 And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

21 And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, a suffer me first to go and bury my father.

22 But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

MATTHEW 8

23 ¶ And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

24 And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he was asleep.

GK: seismos megas
σεισμός μέγας

Associated with the destructions and tribulations at the end of the world (see Matthew 24:7; Mark 13:8; Luke 21:11; Revelation 6:12; 8:5; 11:13, 19; 16:18; the exception is Acts 16:26).

LUKE 8

22 ¶ Now it came to pass on a certain day, that he went into a ship with his disciples: and he said unto them, Let us go over unto the other side of the lake. And they launched forth.

23 But as they sailed he fell asleep: and there came down a storm of wind on the lake; and they were filled with water, and were in jeopardy.

MATTHEW 8

25 And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us: we perish.

26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye a fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

LUKE 8

24 And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 And he said unto them, Where is your faith? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the a winds and water, and they obey him.

MATTHEW 8

25 And his disciples came to him,

GK: Teacher, chief, commander

26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye a fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

LUKE 8

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MATTHEW 8

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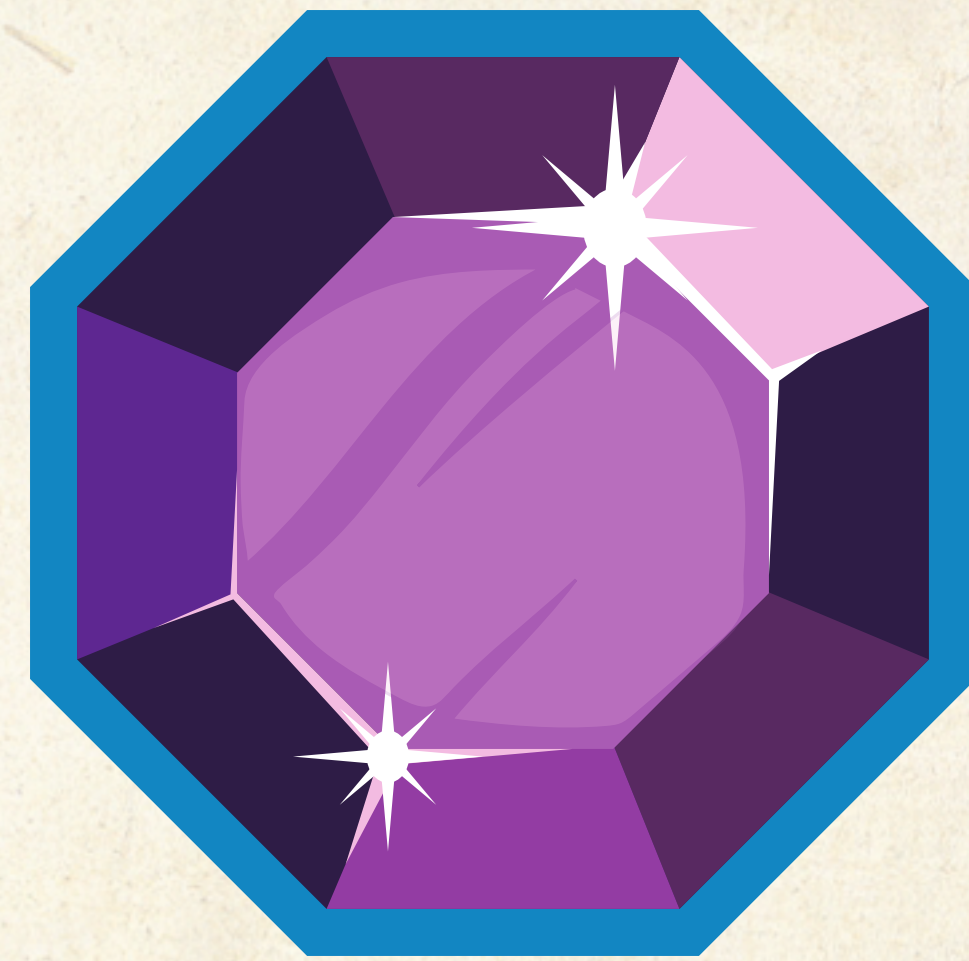
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LUKE 8

GK: Kyrios, God of the Old Testament

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