

Synoptic Gospels

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Syn-optic = SAME _____

SYN-ONYM **WORDS WITH THE SAME
MEANING**

SYN-CHRONIZE **SET TO THE SAME TIME**

SYN-THETIC **MATERIAL MADE
COMBINED TO BE THE
SAME**

2

Syn-optic = SAME VISION _____

OPTIC-AL ILLUSION **SEEMING TO SEE
SOMETHING OTHER THAN
IT IS OR APPEARS**

OPTIC- IAN **VISION DOCTOR**

OPTIC NERVE **TRANSMITS IMPULSES OF
VISION FROM THE EYES**

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Same Vision: Jesus Heals a Paralytic

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* **MATTHEW 9: 2-8** Faith; "Take heart, son, your sins are forgiven"; "Blaspheming"; "Why do you..."; "Get up..."; Got up and went home; praised God.

* **MARK 2: 3-12** "Son, your sins are forgiven", "Blaspheming"; "Why are you thinking..."; "Get up..."; Got up and walked; amazed everyone.

* **LUKE 5: 18-26** Faith, "Friend, your sins are forgiven"; "Blasphemy"; "Why are you thinking"; "Get up"; praising God; everyone amazed.

Example:

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- Matthew 13:31-32
- Mark 4:30-32
- Luke 13: 18-19
- Similarities? Differences?

Synoptic Gospels:

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- * Matthew, Mark and Luke often have the same stories.
- * Sometimes, they even use the exact same words.
- * They often have events in the same order.

Synoptic Gospels:

- * Well, they should have the same words, stories, and order of events. They're all the same thing: Jesus' life, teachings, death, and resurrection.
- * But, sometimes they're STRANGELY similar.
- * It's like they must have been in the same room:

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Same Vision:

- * Matthew 10:22
ALL MEN WILL HATE YOU BECAUSE OF ME
- * Mark: 13:13
ALL MEN WILL HATE YOU BECAUSE OF ME
- * Luke: 21:17
ALL MEN WILL HATE YOU BECAUSE OF ME

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Jesus calls his first disciples:

- Matthew 4: 18-22 "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men"
- Mark 1: 16-20 "Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men"
- Luke 5: 1-11 "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men."

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Triple Tradition

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- Material that is present in all three gospels.
- 76% of Mark is also found in Matthew and Luke.
- Basically, it's the events of the life of Jesus-- baptism, betrayal, death, resurrection.

Mark vs. Matthew & Luke

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- Almost everything in Mark (except for just 40 verses) are also found in Matthew, Luke, or both.
- Other stories are found only in Matthew, only in Luke, or in both Matthew and Luke.
- Just a few stories are in Mark and Matthew, not Luke.
- Exactly one story is found in Mark and Luke, not Matthew (Mk. 1:21-28).

Synoptic Gospels:

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- *Matthew, Mark, and Luke have each looked at Jesus life, teachings, death, and resurrection in very similar ways.
- *They often use the same words, tell the same stories, and tell events in the same order.

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We think of this as a problem...

- *WHY do Matthew, Mark, and Luke use the same words, same stories, and same order?
- *This question is called the SYNOPTIC PROBLEM.

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The Synoptic Problem IS:

- *WHY do Matthew, Mark, and Luke often contain the same material, in the same order, using the exact same words?

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Answer #1:

- *They have the same words, same stories, same order because they have really good memories.

Answer #2:

*They have the same words, same stories, and same order because God wanted it that way.

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Answer #3

*3. Mark was written first (Mark is the shortest, and has the least details), and Matthew and Luke used Mark as a source for their books.

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Answer #4

*4. Mark was not written first; all three authors were in the same circle of friends, and remembered the same stories.

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FutureQuiz question:

*Q: What is the synoptic problem, and what do you think the answer is?

A: THE SYNOPTIC PROBLEM IS THE FACT THAT MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE ARE WRITTEN WITH THE SAME WORDS, SAME STORIES, AND SAME ORDER OF EVENTS. I THINK THE REASON FOR THIS IS...

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Synoptic Answer:

* 1. WELL, DUH. THEY ARE ALL TELLING THE SAME STORY. IT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR THEIR STORIES TO BE SIMILAR. THEY JUST HAD REALLY GOOD MEMORIES.

* 2. GOD WANTED IT THAT WAY.

* 3. MARK WAS WRITTEN FIRST, AND MATTHEW AND LUKE USED MARK AS A SOURCE.

* 4. ALL THREE AUTHORS WERE IN THE SAME CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, AND AS A RESULT REMEMBER THINGS IN SIMILAR WAYS.

* 5. YOUR OWN EXPLANATION WHICH MAKES SENSE.

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Why do we need all 3?

- Each give a different “window” into the life of Jesus.
- Three different interpretations of the life of Jesus.
- (God wanted it that way.)
- They reinforce each other.

Essay: Homework

60 words+

- A. What is the Synoptic Problem?
- B. What do you think is the answer to the Synoptic Problem?
