THE QUESTION

Which Gospel book was written first?

Asked by a THF member on May 19, 2026 · published November 9, 2026, updated November 11, 2026 · 8 numbered quotations · the 16 early Christian passages and 176 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/which-gospel-book-was-written-first

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

The early writers here say Matthew's Gospel came first: Origen says he learned by tradition that it was written first, in Hebrew. Irenaeus also puts Matthew before Mark, Luke, and John, and an early fragment calls Luke the third book of the Gospel and John the fourth. Tertullian ranks the Gospels by apostolic authority instead.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 6

Matthew's Gospel was written first

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Origen says he received this by tradition: of the four Gospels the whole Church accepts, Matthew's was written first, in Hebrew, for believers from Judaism. He then gives the full order: Mark second, written as Peter instructed; Luke third, for believers from the Gentiles; and John last of all.

1

> “About the four Gospels, which alone are undisputed in the Church of God under heaven, I learned by tradition that the Gospel according to Matthew was written first. Matthew had once been a tax collector and later became an apostle of Jesus Christ. He wrote it in the Hebrew language and published it for converts from Judaism.”
>
> *later in the same passage*
>
> “The second Gospel written was the one according to Mark. Mark wrote it according to Peter's instruction.”
>
> *later in the same passage*
>
> “Third was the Gospel according to Luke, the Gospel commended by Paul, which Luke composed for converts from the Gentiles. Last of all was the Gospel according to John.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on Matthew* 1 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 13, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 6

Irenaeus gives the same order earlier

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Writing in the second century, Irenaeus names Matthew first, writing in Hebrew while Peter and Paul preached in Rome. After they departed, Mark wrote down Peter's preaching; Luke recorded the Gospel Paul preached; and later on John published his Gospel at Ephesus.

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2

"Matthew also wrote a Gospel in the Hebrew language while Peter and Paul were preaching in Rome and laying the foundations of the Church. After their departure, Mark, the disciple and interpreter of Peter, wrote down what Peter had preached. Luke, the companion of Paul, recorded in a book the Gospel preached by him. Later on, John, the disciple of the Lord, who had leaned upon His chest, published a Gospel during his time in Ephesus in Asia."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book III* (c. 175–202 AD)
THF's updated English

Source 6, page 6 Read it in the library ›

POINT 3 OF 6

One Gospel told in four numbered books

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

A fragment under the name of Caius numbers the books of the Gospel: Luke's is the third book, written by Luke the physician after the ascension, and John's is the fourth. It adds that the several books teach different points but one faith, under one Spirit.

3

"The third book of the Gospel, the one according to Luke, was written by Luke, the well-known physician, in his own name and in order after the ascension of Christ, when Paul had taken him with himself as one devoted to what is right."

later in the same passage

"The fourth Gospel is that of John, one of the disciples."

later in the same passage

"And so, although different points are taught to us in the several books of the Gospels, there is no difference in the faith of believers, since in all of them all things are told under one ruling Spirit."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Caius,** *Fragments* 1 (c. 200–220 AD)
THF's updated English

Source 11, page 6 Read it in the library ›

POINT 4 OF 6

Matthew's book opens with Jesus' family line

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tertullian puts Matthew first among the Gospel witnesses, calling him most faithful because he was a companion of the Lord. He notes that Matthew begins his Gospel with Jesus' family line from David and Abraham (Matthew 1:1), as a sign of Christ's bodily origin.

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4 “First of all, there is Matthew, that most faithful writer of the Gospel, because he was a companion of the Lord. For one reason above all, to show us clearly Christ's bodily origin, he begins his Gospel like this: "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *On the Flesh of Christ* 22 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 9, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 6

Tertullian ranks the apostles' Gospels first

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Tertullian orders the Gospels by who wrote them. John and Matthew were apostles, so their Gospels come first; Luke and Mark were followers of apostles and come afterward. Arguing against Marcion, who kept only Luke, he says the Gospels of John and Matthew, being the work of apostles, were earlier and as old as the churches themselves, but he does not give a one-two-three-four order.

5 “Of the apostles, therefore, John and Matthew first instill faith into us. Of apostolic men, Luke and Mark renew it afterward.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Against Marcion* 2 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 8, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

6 “No, it is even more credible that they existed from the very beginning. For, being the work of apostles, they were earlier, and of the same beginning as the churches themselves.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Against Marcion* 5 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 10, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 6

The Gospel's beginning reaches back to the prophets

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Some writers used the phrase beginning of the Gospel in a deeper way. Irenaeus notes that Mark opens his Gospel (Mark 1:1) by quoting the prophets, and Origen says the Old Testament is the beginning of the Gospel. This is about the message, not which book was written first.

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7 “Therefore, Mark, the interpreter and follower of Peter, begins his Gospel narrative in this way: "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; as it is written in the prophets, 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way. The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare the way of the Lord, make the paths straight before our God.'"”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book III* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 3, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

8 “The Old Testament, represented by John, is the beginning of the gospel.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Origen,** *Commentary on John* 1 (c. 215–254 AD) **Source 15, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages give no years or dates for when each Gospel was written.
- They speak of the order of writing, not of why the books stand in their present order in the Bible.
- Tertullian ranks the Gospels by apostolic authority and does not spell out the same full order as Origen and Irenaeus.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 16 early Christian passages and 176 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–16, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 17–126, in Bible order), then 66 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF’s updated English unless marked “1885 English” (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). “… [continues online]” marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

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EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *16 passages from 6 writers*

Papias, *c. 95–130 AD · source 1*

1 *Fragments* (1885 English; on point 1) “with regard to Matthew he has made the following statements]: Matthew put together the oracles [of the Lord] in the Hebrew language, and each one interpreted them as best he… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 2–7*

2 *Against Heresies: Book III* “faced, and their faces were images of the arrangement of the Son of God. As Scripture says, “The first living creature was like a lion,” symbolizing His powerful work, His… [continues online] **read ›**

3 *Against Heresies: Book III* (1885 English) **Quote 7, page 5** “Wherefore also Mark, the interpreter and follower of Peter, does thus commence his Gospel narrative: “The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Against Heresies: Book III* (on point 2) these points, all who distort the shape of the Gospel are vain, ignorant, and also bold; those, I mean, who portray the aspects of the Gospel as being either more… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Against Heresies: Book III* (on point 6) “Mark also says: "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Against Heresies: Book III* **Quote 2, page 3** “have learned about the plan of our salvation from no others than those through whom the Gospel has come down to us. They proclaimed it publicly at one time and… [continues online] **read ›**

7 *Against Heresies: Book III* (1885 English) “commenced His teaching in the Gospel: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the was God… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 8–10*

8 *Against Marcion* 2 (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 4** “the apostles, therefore, John and Matthew first instil faith into us… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *On the Flesh of Christ* 22 (1885 English) **Quote 4, page 4** “is, first of all, Matthew, that most faithful chronicler of the Gospel, because the companion of the Lord… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Against Marcion* 5 **Quote 6, page 4** “it may well seem that the works which disciples publish belong to their masters… [continues online] **read ›**

Caius, *c. 200–220 AD · source 11*

11 *Fragments* 1 **Quote 3, page 3** “fourth Gospel is that of John, one of the disciples… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 12–15*

12 *Commentary on John* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “Mark says, Mark 1:1 The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Commentary on Matthew* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** “the four Gospels which alone are uncontroverted in the Church of God under heaven, I have learned by tradition that the Gospel according to Matthew, who was at one time… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Against Celsus* 4 (1885 English; on point 6) “even one of the evangelists— Mark — says: The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as it is written in the prophet Isaiah, Behold, I send My messenger before Your… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Commentary on John* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 5** “The Old Testament, Typified by John, is the Beginning of the Gospel” **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · source 16*

16 *Apostolic Constitutions* “our sacred books, that is, those of the New Covenant, are these: the four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John… [continues online] **read ›**

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THE BIBLE *110 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

17 **Genesis 1:1** In the beginning God made the heaven and the earth. **read ›**

18 **Genesis 1:5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening, and there was morning, one day. **read ›**

19 **Genesis 2:4** This is the book of the generation of heaven and earth, when they came to be, in the day that the Lord God made the heaven and the earth, **read ›**

20 **Genesis 33:2** He put the two maidservants and their sons first, Leah and her children behind them, and Rachel and Joseph last. **read ›**

21 **Leviticus 23:5** In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, between the evenings, is the Lord's Passover. **read ›**

22 **Numbers 3:42** So Moses numbered every firstborn among the children of Israel, as the Lord had commanded. **read ›**

23 **Numbers 10:13** They set out first by the voice of the Lord, by the hand of Moses. **read ›**

24 **Deuteronomy 6:5** And you shall love the Lord your God with all your mind, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. **read ›**

25 **2 Samuel 18:19** Then Ahimaaz the son of Zadok said, "Let me run and bring the king good news, that the Lord has vindicated him from the hand of his enemies." **read ›**

26 **2 Samuel 18:26** Then the watchman saw another man running; and the watchman cried out at the gate and said, "Look, another man is running alone." And the king said, "He also is bringing good news." **read ›**

27 **1 Chronicles 9:31** Mattithiah, of the Levites, the firstborn of Shallum the Korahite, was in a position of trust over the work of the high priest's griddle sacrifice. **read ›**

28 **1 Chronicles 12:11** Jethi the sixth, Eliab the seventh, (Septuagint 1 Chronicles 12:12 (1 Chronicles 12:11 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

29 **1 Chronicles 25:21** the fourteenth, Mattithiah; his sons and his brothers, twelve; **read ›**

30 **2 Chronicles 16:11** And behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. **read ›**

31 **2 Chronicles 28:26** The rest of his acts and his deeds, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel. **read ›**

32 **Proverbs 2:1** Son, if you receive the saying of my commandment and hide it with you, **read ›**

33 **Proverbs 3:9** Honor the Lord from your righteous labors, and give him firstfruits from your fruits of righteousness, **read ›**

34 **Proverbs 5:14** I very nearly came into every kind of evil in the midst of the assembly and the congregation." **read ›**

35 **Proverbs 14:19** The evil will fall before the good, and the ungodly will wait at the doors of the righteous. **read ›**

36 **Ecclesiastes 2:23** for all his days are days of pains, and his distraction is one of anger; even at night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. **read ›**

37 **Ecclesiastes 11:7** And the light is sweet, and it is good for the eyes to see the sun. **read ›**

38 **Isaiah 1:12** not even if you come to appear before me; for who has required these things from your hands? You shall no longer tread my court. **read ›**

39 **Isaiah 52:7** like a season upon the mountains, like the feet of one who brings good news of peace, like one who brings good news of good things; for I will make your salvation heard, saying, "O Zion, your God shall reign." **read ›**

40 **Jeremiah 31:11** For the Lord has redeemed Jacob; he has rescued him from the hand of those stronger than he. (Septuagint Jeremiah 38:11 (Jeremiah 31:11 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

41 **Jeremiah 44:16** "As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the Lord, we will not listen to you; (Septuagint Jeremiah 51:16 (Jeremiah 44:16 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

42 **Hosea 10:13** Why have you passed over ungodliness in silence and reaped its unrighteousness? You have eaten false fruit, because you trusted in your sins, in the abundance of your power. **read ›**

43 **Jonah 1:2** "Arise and go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach in it; for the cry of its wickedness has come up to me." **read ›**

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44 **Zechariah 1:1** In the eighth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Zechariah the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo, the prophet, saying, **read ›**

45 **Zechariah 2:1** And I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man, and in his hand a measuring line. (Septuagint Zechariah 2:5 (Zechariah 2:1 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

46 **1 Esdras 3:17** And they said to them, “Tell us about what is written.” Then the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine, began, **read ›**

47 **1 Esdras 9:38** And the whole multitude gathered together in the open square before the gate of the temple toward the east, **read ›**

48 **1 Esdras 9:45** Then Ezra took up the book before the multitude and sat in the place of honor before them all. **read ›**

49 **Tobit 7:18** “Take courage, child; may the Lord of heaven and earth give you favor in place of this sorrow of yours. Take courage, daughter.” **read ›**

50 **Tobit 12:20** And now give thanks to God, because I am going up to him who sent me; and write all that has been accomplished in a book.” **read ›**

51 **Wisdom of Solomon 7:18** the beginning and end and middle of times, the shifting of the solstices and the changes of the seasons; **read ›**

52 **Wisdom of Solomon 14:27** For the religion of nameless idols is the beginning and cause and end of every evil. **read ›**

53 **Wisdom of Sirach 39:25** Good things were created from the beginning for the good; so evil things for sinners. **read ›**

54 **Wisdom of Sirach 39:32** Therefore from the beginning I was resolved, and I thought it through, and I have left it in writing. **read ›**

55 **Baruch 1:14** And you shall read this book that we have sent to you, to make confession in the house of the Lord on the day of a feast and on the days of the appointed season. **read ›**

56 **Baruch 4:1** This is the book of the statutes of God and the law that endures forever. All who hold fast to her will come to life, but those who forsake her will die. **read ›**

57 **Baruch 4:36** Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the gladness that is coming to you from God. **read ›**

58 **1 Maccabees 2:1** In those days Mattathias son of John, son of Simeon, a priest of the sons of Joarib, arose from Jerusalem and settled in Modein. **read ›**

59 **1 Maccabees 5:14** While the letters were still being read, behold, other messengers came from Galilee with their garments torn, reporting in these words, **read ›**

60 **1 Maccabees 5:55** Now in the days when Judas and Jonathan were in Gilead, and Simon his brother was in Galilee opposite Ptolemais, **read ›**

61 **1 Maccabees 13:42** And the people of Israel began to write in their documents and contracts, “In the first year of Simon, the great high priest and general and leader of the Jews.” **read ›**

62 **1 Maccabees 14:19** And these were read before the assembly in Jerusalem. **read ›**

63 **2 Maccabees 2:23** all this, set forth by Jason of Cyrene in five books, we will attempt to condense into a single work. **read ›**

64 **2 Maccabees 3:34** And you, having been flogged by him, report the mighty power of God to all.” And when they had said this, they vanished. **read ›**

65 **2 Maccabees 11:7** Maccabeus himself was the first to take up arms, and he urged the others to risk their lives together with him to help their brothers. Then they rushed out together eagerly. **read ›**

66 **4 Maccabees 1:12** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

67 **1 Enoch 14:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

68 **1 Enoch 38:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

69 **1 Enoch 39:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

70 **1 Enoch 41:6** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

71 **1 Enoch 51:4** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

72 **1 Enoch 58:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

73 **1 Enoch 58:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

74 **1 Enoch 62:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

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75 **1 Enoch 69:26** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
76 **1 Enoch 72:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
77 **1 Enoch 77:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
78 **1 Enoch 81:7** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
79 **1 Enoch 82:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
80 **1 Enoch 89:77** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
81 **1 Enoch 92:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
82 **1 Enoch 93:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
83 **1 Enoch 93:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
84 **1 Enoch 103:3** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
85 **1 Enoch 104:12** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
86 **1 Enoch 104:13** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
87 **1 Enoch 105:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
88 **1 Enoch 108:1** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**
89 **Matthew 1:1** The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. **read ›**
90 **Matthew 3:1** In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **read ›**
91 **Matthew 4:12** Now when Jesus heard that John had been handed over, he withdrew into Galilee. **read ›**
92 **Matthew 4:17** From that time, Jesus began to preach, and to say, “Repent! For the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” **read ›**
93 **Matthew 5:1** Seeing the multitudes, he went up onto the mountain. When he had sat down, his disciples came to him. **read ›**
94 **Matthew 9:9** As Jesus passed by from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax collection office. He said to him, “Follow me.” He got up and followed him. **read ›**
95 **Matthew 10:7** As you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand!’ **read ›**
96 **Matthew 17:11** Jesus answered them, “Elijah indeed comes first, and will restore all things; **read ›**
97 **Matthew 19:30** But many will be last who are first, and first who are last. **read ›**
98 **Matthew 20:16** So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few are chosen.” **read ›**
99 **Matthew 22:38** This is the first and great commandment. **read ›**
100 **Matthew 24:14** This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end shall come. **read ›**
101 **Matthew 28:1** Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. **read ›**
102 **Mark 1:1** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **read ›**
103 **Mark 1:14** Now after John was taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, **read ›**
104 **Mark 1:15** and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand! Repent, and believe in the gospel.” **read ›**
105 **Mark 13:10** The gospel must first be preached to all the nations. **read ›**
106 **Luke 1:1** Since many have undertaken to set in order a narrative concerning those matters which have been fulfilled among us, **read ›**
107 **Luke 1:2** even as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word delivered them to us, **read ›**
108 **Luke 4:17** The book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. He opened the book, and found the place where it was written, **read ›**
109 **Luke 8:1** Soon afterward he went through cities and villages, proclaiming and preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, **read ›**
110 **Luke 9:9** Herod said, “I beheaded John, but who is this about whom I hear such things?” He sought to see him. **read ›**
111 **John 1:1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **read ›**

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112 **John 20:30** Therefore Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book; **read ›**

113 **Acts 1:1** The first account I wrote, Theophilus, concerned all that Jesus began both to do and to teach, **read ›**

114 **Acts 7:14** Joseph sent and summoned Jacob his father and all his relatives, seventy-five souls. **read ›**

115 **Acts 8:1** Saul consented to his killing. That day a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria. **read ›**

116 **Acts 8:23** For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the bond of unrighteousness." **read ›**

117 **Acts 9:1** But Saul, still breathing threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest **read ›**

118 **Acts 10:37** you know: what happened throughout all Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism which John preached, **read ›**

119 **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, because it is the power of God for salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first, and also for the Greek. **read ›**

120 **Romans 7:2** For the woman that has a husband is bound by law to the husband while he lives, but if the husband dies, she is discharged from the law of the husband. **read ›**

121 **1 Corinthians 1:14** I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, **read ›**

122 **1 Corinthians 4:1** Let a man regard us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. **read ›**

123 **1 Corinthians 15:1** Now I declare to you, brothers, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which you also stand, **read ›**

124 **1 John 1:1** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and our hands touched, concerning the Word of life— **read ›**

125 **Revelation 1:1** The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his slaves the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his slave John, **read ›**

126 **Revelation 14:6** I saw an angel flying in midheaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language, and people. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *66 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Psalms 24:7

Proverbs 1:11

Ecclesiastes 5:2

Song of Solomon 3:6

Isaiah 65:5

Jeremiah 23:20 · 23:30

Daniel 1:1 · 3:26 · 7:1 · 10:16 · 10:18 · 12:3

Matthew 1:18 · 3:13 · 3:15 · 3:16 · 5:10 · 5:13 · 5:18 · 5:42 · 6:1 · 10:23 · 10:29 · 13:8 · 16:23 · 17:1 · 22:10

Mark 2:17 · 9:2 · 14:62

Luke 1:35 · 17:19 · 19:12

John 1:14 · 2:1 · 2:4 · 3:6 · 4:16 · 4:24 · 5:46 · 14:2 · 18:28 · 19:13 · 19:31 · 21:22

Romans 1:3 · 16:25 · 16:26

1 Corinthians 2:9 · 5:7 · 11:3 · 15:20

2 Corinthians 8:9

Galatians 2:2 · 3:8

Philippians 3:10 · 4:3

Colossians 1:18

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2 Thessalonians 2:1
2 Timothy 2:8
Hebrews 9:27
1 John 5:7
Revelation 1:9 · 11:3 · 22:7

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Which Gospel book was written first?” on May 19, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

Library only. This study was written only from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed above, with a link to read it.

How it was made. Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith’s library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY