

Developing Gospels Timeline

| | Mark | Matthew | Luke | John |
|-------------|---|---|---|---|
| Narratives: | c. 68–73, c. 65–70. | c. 70–100, c. 80–85. | c. 80–85 | 90–100 |
| Audience: | Probably Rome; possibly Decapolis, Syria or Alexandria? | Possibly Galilee; probably in or near Antioch in Syria | Probably Greece; possibly Syria/Antioch (Pauline missions) | Originally Galilee or Syria; traditionally Ephesus (Asia Minor) |
| | Mostly Gentiles, fairly new in their faith, and facing persecutions | Better educated Jews who believe in Jesus, but argue over the Law | Wealthier Gentile Christians in an urban setting, becoming complacent | Very mixed: mostly Jews, some Gentiles, Samaritans, etc. |

The Bible we know and read was canonized about 350.

Q Sayings non- Narrative
c. 50,60,70 List of sayings

Thomas non-Narrative
30 - 110 List of sayings

Estimates for the dates when the canonical gospel accounts were written vary significantly; and the evidence for any of the dates is scanty. The earliest surviving complete copies of the gospels date to the 4th century and only fragments and quotations exist before that.

Our Scriptures unfolded over time; changing according to the needs and the understanding of the audiences of the earliest churches.