

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Josephus wrote three passages in his *Antiquities* that relate to the gospel history. Which three characters does he write about? Summarize the data concerning Jesus mentioned in the probable text of Josephus. (5)
2. What does the Babylonian Talmud say about Jesus? (2)
3. What does the Jerusalem (Palestinian) Talmud call Jesus? (1)
4. Summarize the evidence provided by Tacitus and Suetonius. (6)
5. What Roman governor corresponded with what emperor about the early church? Which province did he govern? (3)
6. The lost records of which two officials might have confirmed events in Jesus' life? (2)
7. Identify Thallus. Presumably, what event in Jesus' life does he refer to? What early Christian writer mentions Thallus? (3)
8. What are the two major textual additions to the gospels? (2)
9. Which church father gives additional information about the fate of Judas Iscariot? (1)
10. What document was found at Nag Hammadi? What theological group does this document seem to belong to? (2)
11. Name at least seven events in Jesus' life which are supplied in the Pauline epistles. (7)
12. Name at least four facts about Jesus' life which Peter refers to. (4)
13. Which NT epistle has many of the same teachings that Jesus had in the Gospels? (1)
14. Which NT epistle mentions Jesus' crying and tears? (1)
15. By approximately what time were the traditional titles attached to the four Gospels? (1)

16. Give the dates suggested in class for each of the four Gospels. (4)
17. Which church father said that Matthew wrote the “logia” of Jesus in the Hebrew dialect, with others translating it? (1)
18. Which church father said that Matthew composed his Gospel in the Hebrews’ language while Peter and Paul were preaching the gospel in Rome, and also named the other three Gospel writers? (1)
19. Identify and discuss the possible significance of p^{64} and p^{67} . (4)
20. Give at least two arguments used by critics who date Matthew after A.D. 70. (2)
21. Which apostle primarily stands behind the Gospel of Mark? How does the book of Acts confirm this tradition? Name one of the two early church fathers who said that Mark was the interpreter of this apostle. (3)
22. According to Clement of Alexandria, which two Gospels were written first? (2)
23. Identify and discuss briefly 7Q5. (2)
24. According to Irenaeus, Luke was the follower of which apostle? (1)
25. Explain how the internal evidence of Luke-Acts points to the author as Luke. (5)
26. Discuss the question of medical language in Luke. (3)
27. What is the critical position regarding the authorship of Luke, and what are the reasons advanced for this position? (3)
28. How do we arrive at a date for Luke’s Gospel? (2)
29. Who said that the fourth gospel was written by John, who leaned on Jesus’ breast? (1)
30. Reproduce B. F. Westcott’s outlined argument concerning the internal evidence for the authorship of John. Explain or illustrate each point. (10)
31. Give at least two reasons for favoring a date for John’s Gospel near the end of the first century, instead of earlier. (2)
32. What two manuscript discoveries have revised the critics’ even later date for John? (2)

33. J. B. Lightfoot demonstrated that an early church father quoted John's Gospel in A.D. 110. Which father was that? (1)
34. In what three ways were the Gospel writers qualified to write historical accounts of the life of Jesus? (3)
35. What are the main assumptions of Gospel harmonization used in this course? (5)
36. Match an outstanding feature or peculiarity of each harmony: (6)
- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Tatian's <i>Diatessaron</i> | mechanical harmony |
| b. Eusebian Canons | modern scholarly standard |
| c. Osiander | modern, uses NIV and NASB |
| d. Robertson | recently rediscovered |
| e. Aland | numbers in margin |
| f. Thomas and Gundry | Mark in first column |
37. Match the author with the outline of Jesus' life: (4)
- | | |
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| a. obscurity, public favor, opposition | Aland |
| b. seven crises | Stalker |
| c. every Gospel in its own order | Edersheim |
| d. ascent and descent | Morgan |
38. Explain the problem and the suggested solution for the census of Quirinius, mentioned in Luke 2:1-2 (cf. Acts 5:37). (4)
39. If the star of Bethlehem was a providential conjunction of stars, what heavenly bodies would have been involved? What meaning would this conjunction have for astrologers in the East? Who first suggested this explanation? (5)
40. List the two most important passages which can be used to date the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. (2)
41. List the feasts mentioned in John's gospel, with the references and the suggested dates. (6)
42. Show how Mark hints at a ministry of at least two years. (3)
43. List the suggested dates for Jesus' birth, baptism, ministry beginning, and death and resurrection. (4)
44. Explain the problem and the two suggested solutions concerning the genealogies of Jesus in Matthew 1 and Luke 3. (5)

45. What did the angels proclaim at Jesus' birth, according to the best Greek texts? (2)
46. Discuss the order of temptations in Matthew 4 and Luke 4. (2)
47. List Jesus' first followers. (5)
48. Did Jesus cleanse the temple once or twice? Discuss. (3)
49. What is the "messianic secret"? How have critics interpreted it? How do we understand it? (3)
50. List the original twelve apostles. (12)
51. What six contemporary "commands" did Jesus discuss in the Sermon on the Mount? What law did he add? (7)
52. Discuss the difficulty and the solution of harmonizing the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 with similar passages in Mark and Luke. (5)
53. List at least four kingdom parables given by Jesus. (4)
54. Discuss the supposed contradictions and proposed solutions for the accounts of the Gadarene demoniacs in Matthew 8, Mark 5, and Luke 8. (5)
55. List the seven "I am" sayings in John. (7)
56. List at least four of the six Sabbath controversies reported in the Gospels. (4)
57. How did each group—Pharisees and Herodians, and Sadducees—try to trap Jesus with a question during his final days in Jerusalem? (2)
58. How can we harmonize the coming events in Matthew's and Mark's accounts with those in Luke's account of the Olivet Discourse? (3)
59. Explain the supposed contradictions and suggested solution for the anointing of Jesus (Matt 26; Mark 14; Luke 7; John 12). (5)
60. Explain the problem and the two primary lines of solution regarding the date of the crucifixion (14 or 15 Nisan). Be specific, giving appropriate references where possible. (8)
61. List the six parts of Jesus' trial. Indicate which were Jewish and which were Roman. (8)

62. List the seven sayings of Jesus from the cross. Divide into those spoken the first three hours, and those spoken during the three hours of darkness. (9)
63. List six post-resurrection appearances of Jesus in Jerusalem, three middle appearances in Galilee, and two later appearances in Jerusalem. (11)