

How We Got The Bible

History of the
Canonization of the
Bible

Part XV

The Gospels

Four Pictures of Jesus

Matthew

Portrays Jesus in the light of
Moses for a Jewish-
Christian community with
emphasis on the founding
of the church

Mark

Is a fast paced, action packed
history of the *Son of Man*
whose life is only
understood in His suffering
and death

Luke

Portrays Jesus as the great liberator who interacts with the oppressed and focuses on the work of the Holy Spirit

John

Emphasizes Jesus as the
revelation of all that can be
known about God through
signs that require a decision

The Synoptics

- Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the Synoptic Gospels – *syn* = *Same* & *opto* = *to see*
- They follow the same order of events

Markan Priority

- ✓ The order of events favor Mark as an early source for Matthew and Luke
- ✓ Mt & Mk v. Lk or
Lk & Mk v. Mt but *never*
Mt & Lk. v. Mk

Markan Priority

- ✓ Mark is shorter, less detailed, more difficult, and lacks the speeches/sayings of Matthew and Luke
- ✓ A later writing would not have omitted the sayings of Jesus

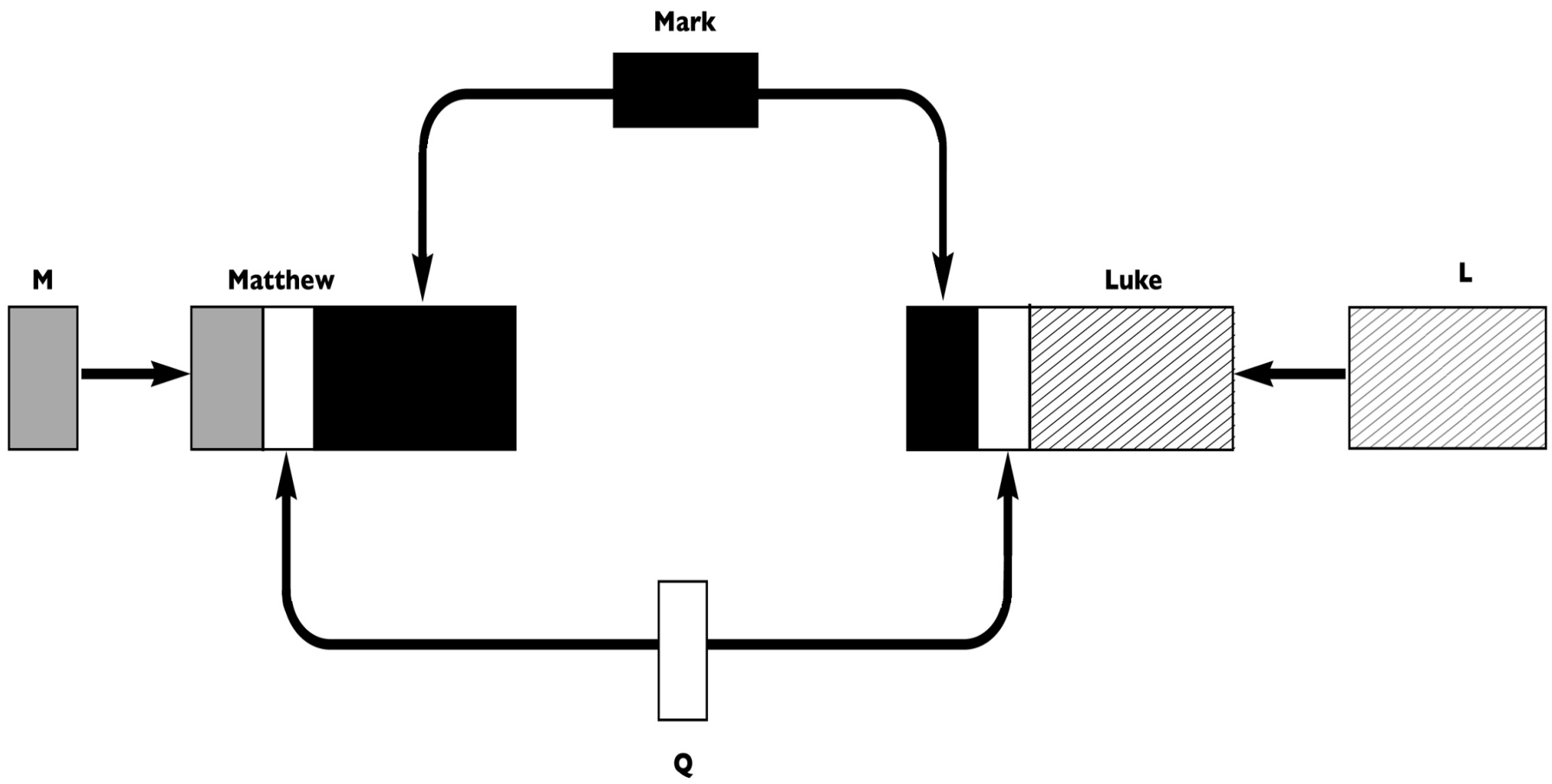
Q Source

“*Q*”, German for *Quelle* = Source, is an early non-preserved tradition (oral and/or written) of the sayings of Jesus used by both Matthew and Luke

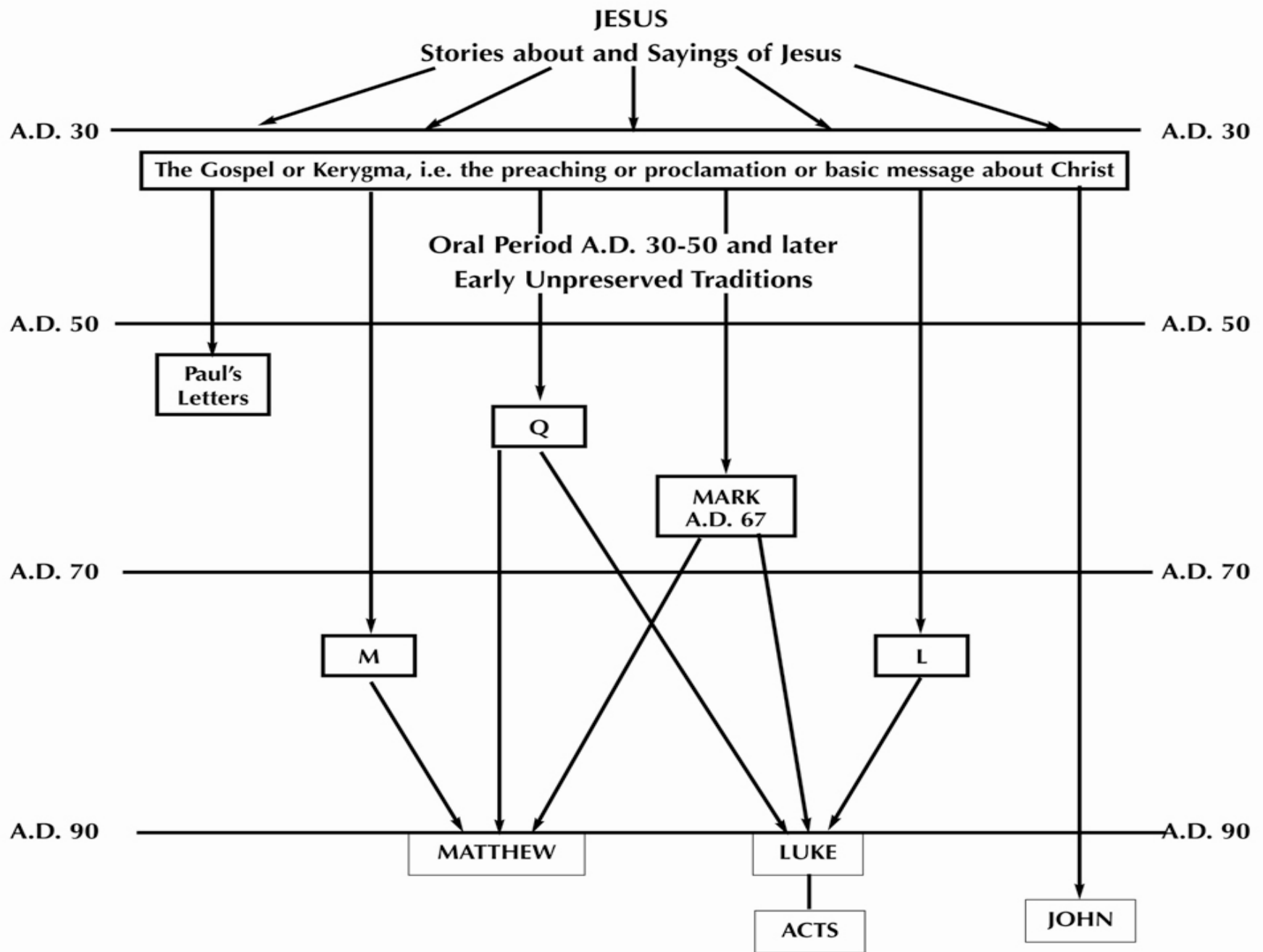
Q Source

These sayings are used and ordered differently by Matthew and Luke which suggests that they/it were used independently along with their other sources

The Synoptics



Proposed Timeline of Gospel Formation



The Gospel According to Mark:

What's Missing?

- Christmas Story
- Sermon on the Mount
- Beatitudes/Lord's Prayer
- Easter Story (Mark 16:9-20 is considered a later addition)

The Basics: Who?

- ✓ Peter's son in the ministry (I Peter 5:13)
- ✓ Naked young man (14:51-52)
- ✓ John Mark, Paul's companion (Acts 12,15)

Paul's Companion

- ✓ Philemon 24
- ✓ Colossian 4:10 – cousin of Barnabas
- ✓ II Tim. 4:11

The Basics: When?

Most scholars agree that Mark was written around 67AD because of the Jewish war with Rome (66-70) and the Temple's destruction in 70AD with Mark 13:14

Characteristics of Mark

Sense of Urgency

- Begins with Jesus fully grown declaring “it’s time” (1:14)
- His entire ministry transpires in a few weeks v. 3 years

Sense of Urgency

- “Immediately” is used 42 times, 11 in chapter 1 v. once in Luke
- Imminent return of Christ (13:30, 32-37)

Characteristics of Mark

Mark highlights and emphasizes Jesus' deeds over His words. He is portrayed primarily as a miracle worker

Longer Passion Narrative

- Gospel slows down in the last three chapters to a day-by-day, hour-by-hour account
- Jesus makes numerous early allusions to His death

Longer Passion Narrative

- His enemies begin plotting to kill Him earlier (ch. 3)
- His death is the fulfillment of His purpose and the single emphasis for Mark

Rhetorical Devices

- Anticipations (3:9, 19)
- Doublets (1:1, 15, 32 – 8:22-26)
- Intercalations (6:7-32)

Written for a Gentile Community

Mark spends extra time
explaining Jewish
practices, e.g. Feasts,
washing, that infers a non-
Jewish reader

Secrecy

- 4:11
- Parables = coded language
v. key
- “Tell no one” (8:30,
3:11,12)

The 12 Stooges

- Unperceptive (4:35-41, 6:45-52)
- Slow (8:14-21 9:36/10:13)
- Ineffective (9:17-19)
- Rebellious (8:31-33)

The 12 Stooges

- Weak (14:32-41)
- Selfish (9:33-35)
- Betrayed, deserted, and denied Him