



JOHN

THE
BELOVED
GOSPEL

THE FOUR GOSPELS

Traditionally, the four gospels have been related to the four aspects of the heavenly beings shown in Revelation 4:



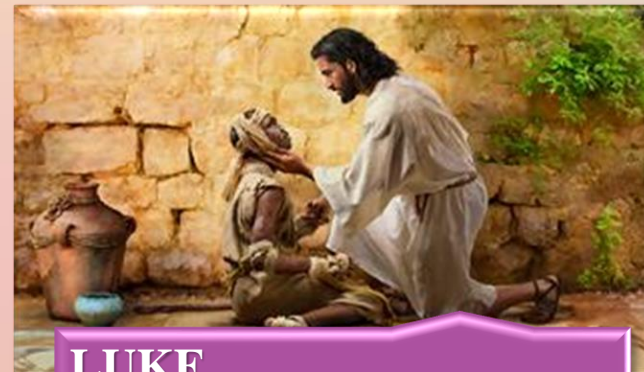
MATTHEW

- The Lion of Judah



MARK

- The Suffering Servant



LUKE

- The Son of Man



JOHN

- The Son of God

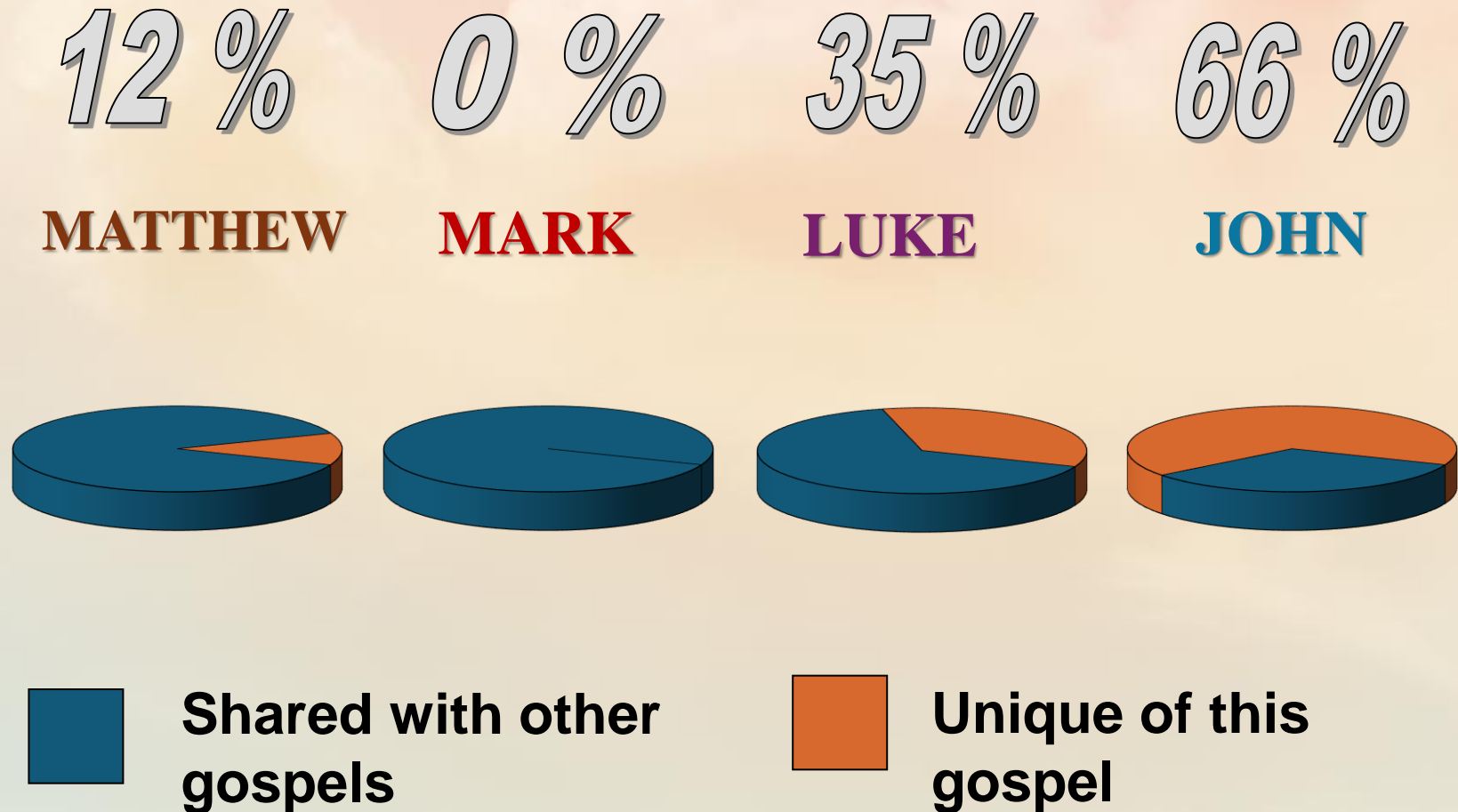


A UNIQUE GOSPEL

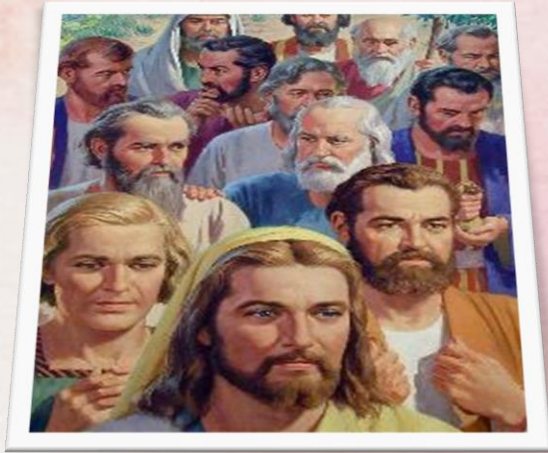


Except for a few notable cases, John deals exclusively, and often at length, with those events in Judea that involved the leaders of the Jewish nation. In this sense, his Gospel is a complement to the Synoptics, which deal extensively with the ministry in Galilee and pass over in relative silence most of the events in Judea.

There are extensive sections of his Gospel devoted to lengthy polemics in the temple of Jerusalem. In addition, several chapters are devoted to the instructions given to the disciples on the eve of the crucifixion. The miracles he records are presented specifically as proofs of divine power, and they contribute to the purpose of demonstrating that Jesus is the Son of God. His aim is to write theology, although he also employs much historical and biographical material. John boldly affirms Jesus' messiahship in the first chapter, and then presents the proof.

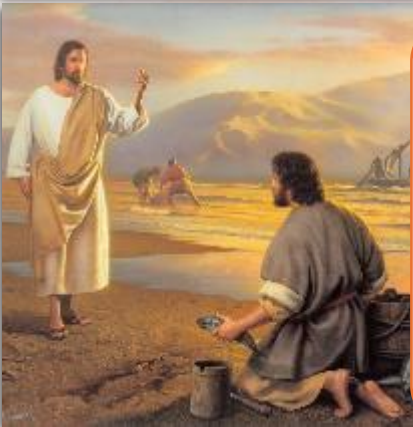


AUTHOR: “The Beloved Disciple”



Which of the three disciples in *Jesus' inner circle* could be the author?

PETER



Mentioned by name in the Gospel, he cannot be the author of the Gospel

JAMES



Beheaded by Herod in 40 AD, he cannot be the author of the Gospel either.

JOHN



The only possible author of the Gospel. He is the beloved disciple

The author deliberately avoids any mention of his person by name. Being one of the first two disciples who followed Jesus, he does not identify himself by name (John 1:35-40, DA 112) and with obvious modesty refers to himself with the expressions: “that disciple” (Ch. 21:23), “the disciple whom Jesus loved” (v. 20), “the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things” (v. 24). From very early times, Christian tradition has pointed to John the Beloved as the writer of the Gospel that bears his name.

WHO WAS JOHN?



“Son of Thunder”



Burning, sincere and loving heart



The youngest of the 12 apostles



He made Jesus his hero



He was a native of Bethsaida, a fishing village



His mother also accompanied Jesus.



Jesus entrusted him with the care of Mary



He was the first apostle to reach the tomb



He wrote the Revelations in Patmos



Upon his return, he wrote the Gospel and three epistles.

HOW, WHEN AND WHERE IT WAS WRITTEN

HOW

- In Greek, by dictation

WHEN

- 1st century (± 90 AD)

WHERE

- In Ephesus, where he was the Elder of the church

(Fragment of the Gospel of John, copy from the 1st century)



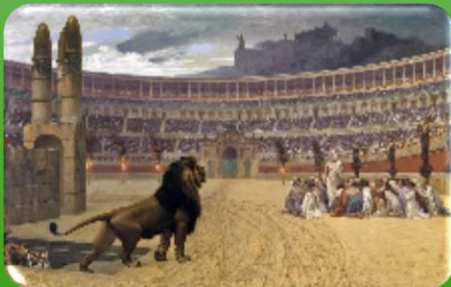
WHY WRITE ANOTHER GOSPEL?



So that they may believe that Jesus is God. “But these are written that you may believe[a] that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31).



To combat heresy, John counters Gnosticism's false concepts of sin and salvation through his account of the life of Jesus.



To encourage in the face of persecution. Ending his gospel by narrating the prediction of Peter's martyrdom, John prepares his listeners to face the persecution that was already breaking out against the church.

THE STORIES THAT ONLY JOHN LEFT US



The first disciples



The Wedding at Cana

THE STORIES THAT ONLY JOHN LEFT US



Nicodemus



The Samaritan woman

THE STORIES THAT ONLY JOHN LEFT US



The paralytic of Bethesda



The Good Shepherd

THE STORIES THAT ONLY JOHN LEFT US



The resurrection of Lazarus



Foot washing

THE STORIES THAT ONLY JOHN LEFT US



**The public
vindication
of Peter**

THE JEWELS OF THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN

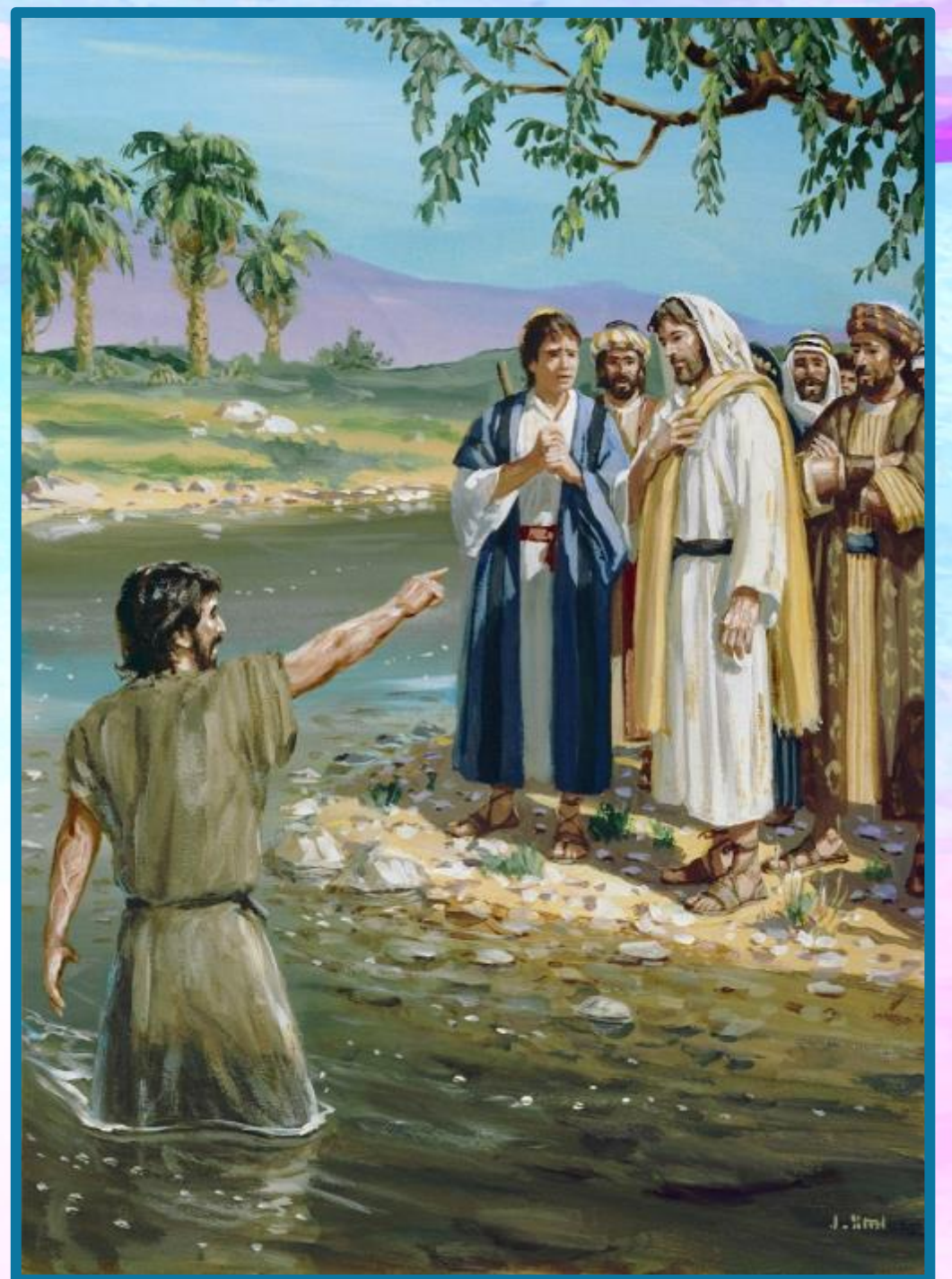
**“And the Word was
made flesh, and
dwelt among us,
(and we beheld his
glory, the glory as
of the only begotten
of the Father,) full
of grace and truth.”
(John 1:14)**



**THE JEWELS OF THE
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN**

**“The next day John
saw Jesus coming
toward him and said,
‘Behold, the Lamb of
God, that taketh away
the sin of the world!’ ”**

(John 1:29)



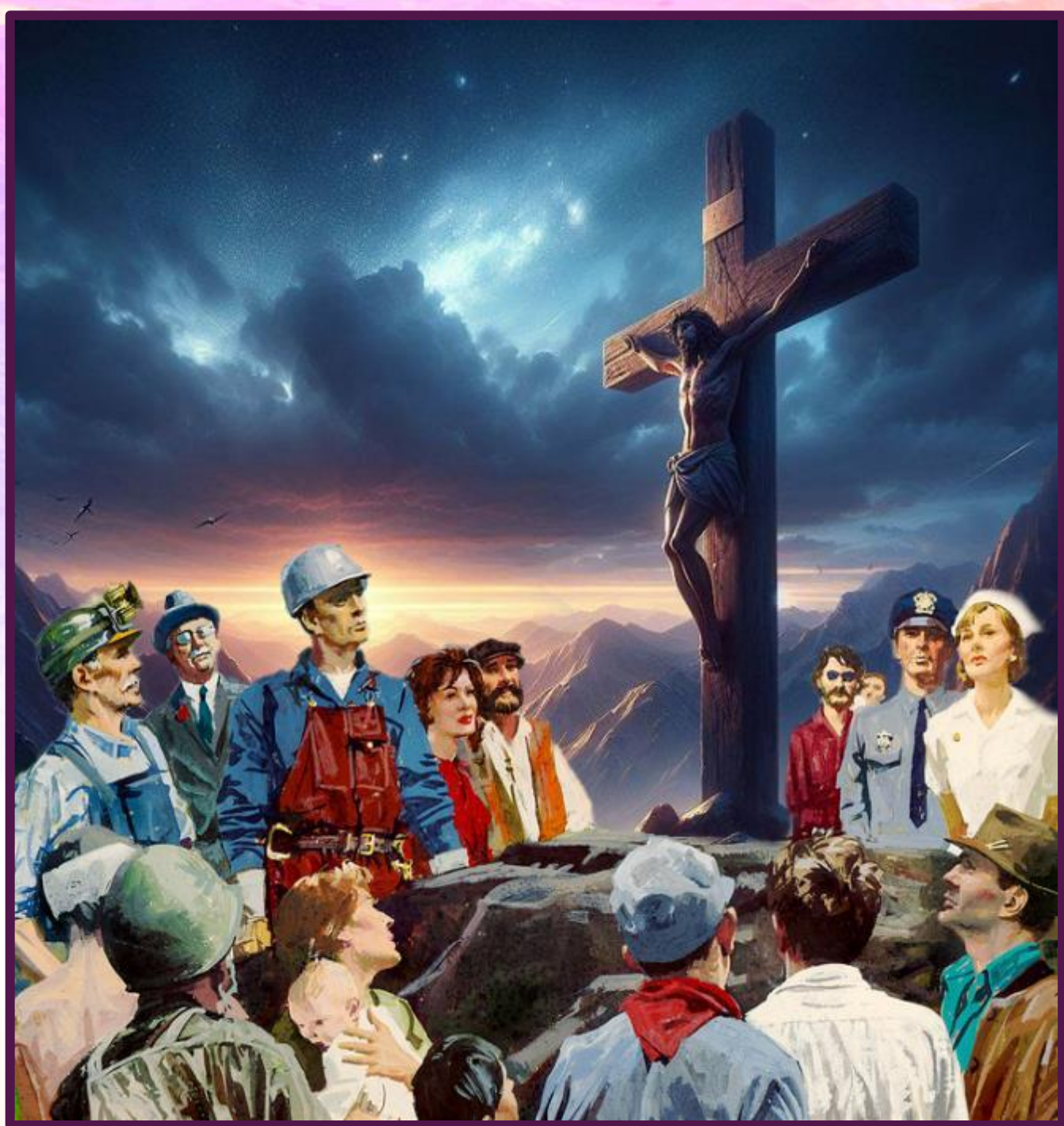
**THE JEWELS OF THE
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN**

**“Jesus said unto
her, I am the
resurrection, and
the life: he that
believeth in me,
though he were
dead, yet shall he
live.” (John 11:25)**



**THE JEWELS OF THE
GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
JOHN**

**“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
(John 3:16)**





JOHN

“John's favorite theme was the infinite love of Christ. He believed in God as a child believes in a kind and tender father. He understood the character and work of Jesus; and when he saw his Jewish brethren groping their way without a ray of the Sun of Righteousness to illuminate their path, he longed to present to them Christ, the Light of the world.”

Ellen G. White (The The Sanctified Life, pg. 62)