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W. H. WITHROW, D.D., EDITOR.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1900.

A Chalk Talk About the Four Gospels.

Each gospel was written for a special class of people. Matthew wrote for the Jews; Mark, under the direction of Peter, for the Romans; Luke for the Greeks; John for the Churches of Asia. Write, Jews, Romans, Greeks, Churches of Asia in their proper spaces.

Though all the gospels were written with the same great purpose of proclaiming Jesus as the Saviour of mankind, each presents him from a different point of view. Matthew, to convince the Jews, reveals Jesus as the "King of the Jews," the promised Messiah of the Old Testament, quoting prophecies, and showing their fulfilment in him. There are more than sixty direct quotations from the Old Testament. Such phrases as "that it might be fulfilled" and "as it is written" are of frequent occurrence. Mark,

to win the Romans, with their love of power, presents him as the servant of God, mighty in works, prompt in obedience, perfect in sacrifice. Luke, appealing to the Greeks who exalted manhood, dwells especially upon the humanity of our Lord, revealing him as the Man Christ Jesus, the sympathetic Friend and Teacher. John, writing to correct certain heresies, emphasizes the divinity of Jesus, declaring him to be "the Christ, the Son of God." Write, King of the Jews; Servant of God; Son of man; Son of God.

Each gospel has its key word and key verse in harmony with the general purpose for which it was written. The key word of Matthew, who presents Jesus as a King, is "Kingdom." It occurs fifty-six times. Key verse, Matt. 27. 37, "And set up over his head his accusation written, THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS." Write, "Kingdom," and Matt. 27. 37. The key word of Mark, who presents Jesus as a prompt and obedient servant is "straightway." In the Revised Version it occurs about forty times. In King James' version the word is rendered in various ways—"straightway," "immediately," "forthwith," etc. Key verse, Mark 10. 45, "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Write, "Straightway" and Mark 10. 45. The key word of Luke, who dwells on the humanity of Christ, is "Son of man," occurring twenty-two times. Key verse, Luke 19. 10, "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Write, "Son of man" and Luke 19. 10. The key word of John, who proves the divinity of Christ, is "life." None but a divine Christ could have and give eternal life. Key verse, John 20. 31, "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life in his name." Write, "Life" and John 20. 31.

Each gospel has a characteristic starting-point. Matthew, presenting Jesus as King of the Jews, begins with his genealogy, tracing it back to Abraham, the father of the Hebrew race. Mark, presenting him as a servant, begins with his baptism for service. Luke, presenting him as the "Son of man," begins with his genealogy, tracing it back to Adam. John, presenting him as the "Son of God," begins with his eternal pre-existence with the Father.

Write, Genealogy traced to Abraham; Baptism for service; Genealogy traced to

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