

Passion Narratives, Class 1. Introduction

Preliminary note on Synoptics vs. John.

What the passion narratives are.

Where they are found: Mt 21ff. Mk 11ff. Lk 19.28ff. Jn 11ff.

Note: they begin after this last teaching of Jesus:

Mt 20.27-28: And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Mk 20.45: For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Why important? Part of what defines a “Gospel”.

St Paul, 1 Cor 15.1-7: Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. 8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

John 20.30-31: 30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Three passion predictions, all following Peter’s confession of faith. (Mt 16.13-20, Mk 8.27-30, Lk 18-21)

Prediction 1: Mt 16.21-23. Mk 8.31-33.* Lk 9.22.

Prediction 2: Mt 17.22-23. Mk 9.30-32.* Lk 9.43-45.

Prediction 3: Mt 20.17-19. Mk 10.32-34.* Lk 18.31-34.

The final journey to Jerusalem begins with passion predictions.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke
Prediction 1	<p><i>21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.</i></p>	<p>31 And <i>He began to teach them</i> that the Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 <i>He spoke this word openly.</i></p>	<p>21 And <i>He strictly warned and commanded them to tell this to no one,</i> 22 saying, “The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.”</p>
Prediction 2	<p><i>22 Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, “The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, 23 and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up.”</i> And they were exceedingly sorrowful.</p>	<p>30 Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. 31 <i>For He taught His disciples</i> and said to them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.” 32 But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.</p>	<p>But while everyone marveled at all the things which Jesus did, <i>He said to His disciples,</i> 44 “Let these words sink down into your ears, for the Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men.” 45 But they did not understand this saying, and it was hidden from them so that they did not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this saying.</p>
Prediction 3	<p><i>17 Now Jesus, going up to Jerusalem, took the twelve disciples aside</i> on the road and said to them, 18 “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, 19 and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again.”</p>	<p>32 Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then <i>He took the twelve aside</i> again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: 33 “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; 34 and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.”</p>	<p>31 Then <i>He took the twelve aside and said to them,</i> “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. 32 For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. 33 They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.” 34 But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.</p>