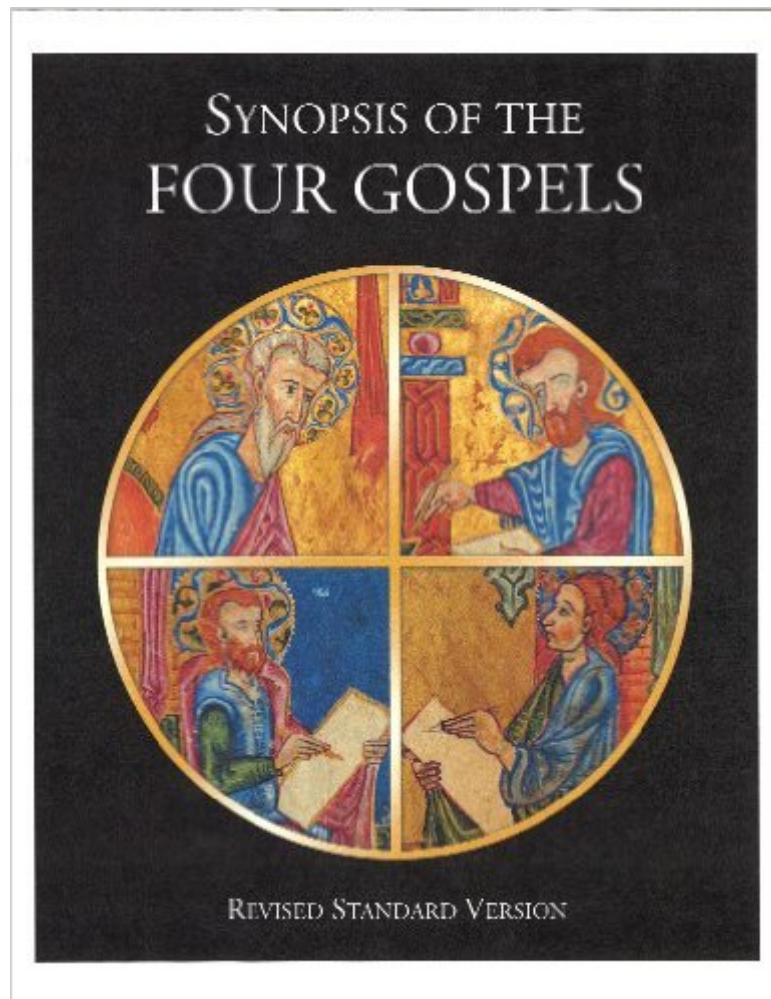


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Synopsis Of The Four Gospels, Revised Standard Version



Synopsis

This is the English portion of the Greek-English Synopsis- Quattuor Evangeliorum. Revised Standard Version. UBS, New York. Revised Printing 1985. It is an authoritative and best-selling resource among Biblical scholars, seminarians and translators worldwide.

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Customer Reviews

This is the English version of Kurt Aland's (editor) Synopsis of the Four Gospels. The text has been published as a Greek-English combined version (1976, revised in 1982 and reprinted in 2006) and the English only version. The volume discussed here, published in 2010, is the English only version. The text of this version matches exactly the English in the revised version from 1982, including the same critical apparatus. In case the reader is not aware of the purpose of a Gospel synopsis, the intent is to lay sections (pericopes) of Gospel text that are related next to each other in columns for comparison. Some pericopes are repeated in different sections because they relate to more than one parallel in another Gospel. And, there are different viewpoints taken, such as in the Gospel endings. Each Gospel ending is treated individually which results in 5 views of Gospel endings (the shorter and longer versions of Mark are discussed resulting in 5 views of the endings.) The major portion of the critical apparatus is easy to follow and logical. There are some aspects that I am still unsure about their meaning, but according to reviews of the older version, the apparatus is standard/common. Each pericope is laid out in chronological order, given a title and numbered. One item I found increasingly beneficial is Index of Gospel Parallels. The titles given to each pericope are listed numerically and the verses looked at from each Gospel are listed along with the page

number where the pericope can be found. This is followed by an index of Scripture versus which shows where each pericope is used throughout the text. This helps the reader find all instances of a pericope being used. The English text used is the Revised Standard Version (2nd ed, 1971), but the footnotes show variants in the Authorized Version (KJV), the English Revised Version, the American Standard Version, and the Catholic version of the Revised Standard Version. The underlying Greek texts used are the UBS 3 and NA 26. The 2010 version of this classic Gospel study tool is bound like a textbook. The binding and pages are sturdy, and the text is easily readable (including the footnotes.) Of the Gospel synopsis texts I have, this is the first in which I turn. I will likely get a copy of the Greek-English later, and would advise that for deeper study. But, for those without a Greek background, this is the first choice, in my opinion.

I have almost worn out my 1985 edition; I'm delighted that it's still in print and still affordable. If you preach or teach from the Gospels, you need this book, period. Knowing the difference between the versions of any given story is crucial to understanding the purpose and intention of the Gospel writer. If Matthew includes something that Mark and Luke leave out, then it must be important to Matthew: ask yourself why, and you're doing good exegesis -- and you're on the road to good teaching and preaching. The layout is clear, concise, and the differences between the versions of any given story are easily discerned. There's a lot of white space in many of the columns, which is good -- for instance, you can instantly see that Luke included dialog at the Last Supper that Matthew and Mark did not. The less-direct parallels and allusions in John's Gospel are carefully presented as well. Much to the publisher's credit, if they had omitted John, the book would be about two-thirds its current size. The indices are superb, as well -- any passage can be quickly found. The Greek and Greek/English editions are excellent if you're an able translator (I'm not), but they're prohibitively expensive. I'm hoping the ABS will someday reissue this with the NRSV text, but the RSV is just fine. This is one of the most useful, and most used, books in my library.

I am glad I got this book to read the four Gospels. It's really helpful to figure out the differences among those four books. This book provides a horizontal perspective for me to study and understand the Gospels better. I would definitely recommend this book.

My husband is studying toward becoming an elder, and this was one resource that was recommended over and over again to him. Each page has everything Christ taught in the 4 gospels laid out together. So you can study each parable, miracle etc... side by side to get a deeper

understanding of Christ Jesus' teaching. Many will tell you to read the entire Bible each year. That is always a worthwhile use of your time, but delving deeply into the 4 gospels will challenge you more than even that. It is text book size, so not one that travels all that well.

An excellent companion book for college course in Historical Bible Literature. Written to give a side-by-side review (comparison) of the Four Gospels and evaluating why the view points were written with different audiences in mind.

Another person had this book and I wanted one. It is interesting to be able to read each gospel in one book. I could or would not do it from the Bible. I think I would lose one reading in my mind as I worked on finding another. The references are great and informative.

Portrayed as a new edition...but exactly the same from the earlier book ..at least 10 years prior..trick me...don't you be fooled too.It is good to read the gospels side by side...I was looking for updated footnotes...which simply were not there in this "update" edition

I was concerned with ordering this Synopsis. I already have a Synopsis, but have misplaced it. I was afraid this one would not be as good. Delightedly, it is almost identical. This was important to me because I am getting up there in years, and learning new things does not come quite as easily.

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