

(5) This gives rise to the special use of the term as the New Testament writers use it to refer to the particular aspects of truth the Lord has allowed them to carry as their own. This is especially Pauline against the background of his saving and instructing experience. Note the following references:

Galatians 1:11, 2:2
 Romans 2:16
 1 Thessalonians 1:5
 2 Thessalonians 2:14
 1 Corinthians 15:1
 2 Timothy 2:8
 1 Peter 4:17

and see as a further illustration of the same point: Rev. 14:6

(6) Note also the particular use of the term to indicate a special section of the books of the New Testament:

In Biblical framework: Mark 1:1
 In the fathers: Martyr: First

Apology, Ch. 55.

b. The Scope of the Gospels:

(1) While biographical they are not biographies...if the whole life were covered in detail it would be hard to emphasize the great events.

(2) In some ways they are passion narratives with extended prologues: Note the following:

Book	Total Length	Last week	Trial, etc
Matthew	28	8	2 1/2
Mark	16	6	2 1/2
Luke	24	5 1/2	2 1/3
John	21	10	4

The emphasis of the Gospel writers is obviously to show the centrality of the Lord's public ministry to His whole life and the facts of His death and resurrection to His ministry.

c. The Methodology of the presentation

- (1) Brief by modern and ancient standards
- (2) Acts, words of Jesus dominate
- (3) Life events subordinate to purpose.

Related data.