

THE FOUR EVANGELISTS

“INSPIRATION AND TRUTH OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

God inspired the human authors of the sacred books. ‘To compose the sacred books, God chose certain men who, all the while he employed them in this task, made full use of their own faculties and powers so that, though he acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever he wanted written, and no more.’⁷¹ *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 106*

“The inspired books teach the truth. ‘Since therefore all that the inspired authors or sacred writers affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit, we must acknowledge that the books of Scripture firmly, faithfully, and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the Sacred Scriptures.’⁷² CCC 107

⁷¹ DV 11.

⁷² DV 11.

“The Gospels were written by men who were among the first to have the faith¹⁷⁴ and wanted to share it with others. Having known in faith who Jesus is, they could see and make others see the traces of his mystery in all his earthly life. From the swaddling clothes of his birth to the vinegar of his Passion and the shroud of his Resurrection, everything in Jesus’ life was a sign of his mystery.¹⁷⁵ His deeds, miracles, and words all revealed that ‘in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily.’¹⁷⁶ His humanity appeared as ‘sacrament,’ that is, the sign and instrument, of his divinity and of the salvation he brings: what was visible in his earthly life leads to the invisible mystery of his divine sonship and redemptive mission.” CCC 515

¹⁷⁴ Cf. *Mk* 1:1; *Jn* 21:24.

¹⁷⁵ Cf. *Lk* 2:7; *Mt* 27:48; *Jn* 20:7.

¹⁷⁶ *Col* 2:9.