

THE ARGUMENT.

for the historie, which the foure Euangeliſts write, containing Chriſts coming in the fleſhe, his death, and reſurrection, which is the perfect ſumme of our ſalvation. Matthew, Marke, & Luke are more copious in deſcribing his liſt and death: but Iohn more labourerth to ſet forth his doctrine, wherein both Chriſts office, & alſo the vertue of his death and reſurrection more fully appeareth: for without this, to knowe that Chriſt was borne, dead, and riſen againe, ſhould nothing profit vs. The which thing not withſtanding that the three ſtill touch partly, as he alſo ſometyme intermedleth the hiſtorical narration: yet Iohn chiefly is occupied herein. And therefore, as a moſte learned interpreter writeth, they deſcribe as it were the body, and Iohn ſetteth before our eyes the ſoule. Wherefore the ſame aptly termeth the Goſpel writ by Iohn the key which openeth the dore to the vnderſtanding of the others. for whoſoever doth knowe the office, vertue and power of Chriſt, ſhal reade that which is written of the Sonne of God come to be the redemer of the worlde, with moſte profit. Now as concerning the writers of this hiſtorie, it is euident that Matthew was a Publicane or cuſtome gatherer, and was thence choſen of Chriſt to be an Apoſtle. Mark is thought to haue bene Peters diſciple, and to haue planted the firſt Churche at Alexandria, wher he dyed the eight yere of the raigne of Nero. Luke was a phiſitian of Antioche, and became Pauls diſciple, and ſollowe in all his travells, he lived foure ſcore and foure yeres and was buried at Conſtantinople. Iohn was that Apoſtle whome the Lord loued, the ſonne of Zebedee, and brother of Iames: he dyed thre ſcore yeres after Chriſt, and was buried nere to the Citie of Ephesus.



THE HOLY

'GOSPEL OF IESVS
CHRISTE, VVRI

by S. Matthew.

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THE FIRST CHAPTER.

The genealogie of Chriſte, who was conceived, by the holy Goſt, borne of the Virgine Marie, when ſhe was betrothed vnto Ioseph. The Angel ſatiſfieth Iosephs minde. Iesus called Emmanuel, and wherefore.

This worde ſignifieth good tidings, and is taken here for the storie which containeth the ioyful message of the coming of the ſonne of God.

That Iesus is that Meſſias which was prometed to the fathers to be the Sauour.



HE ^aBO- This is the rehearſal of the progenie, wherof Ieſus Chriſt is ſpronge according to the fleſhe.

b So called, for that he came of the ſtocke of David.
c Theſe two are firſt rehearſed, becauſe Chriſt was ſpecially promeſed to come of their ſeade: and therefore Chriſt commonly was called the ſonne of Dauid.

Luc 3.g. A
Gen. 21.a.
Gen. 25.d.
Gen. 29.d.
Gen. 38.g.
1. Chro. 2.a.
Gene. 46.b.
Ruth. 4.d.

And* Iſaac, begate Iacob. And* Iacob, begate Iudas and his brethern.
3 And* Iudas, begate Phares and Zaram

2.i.