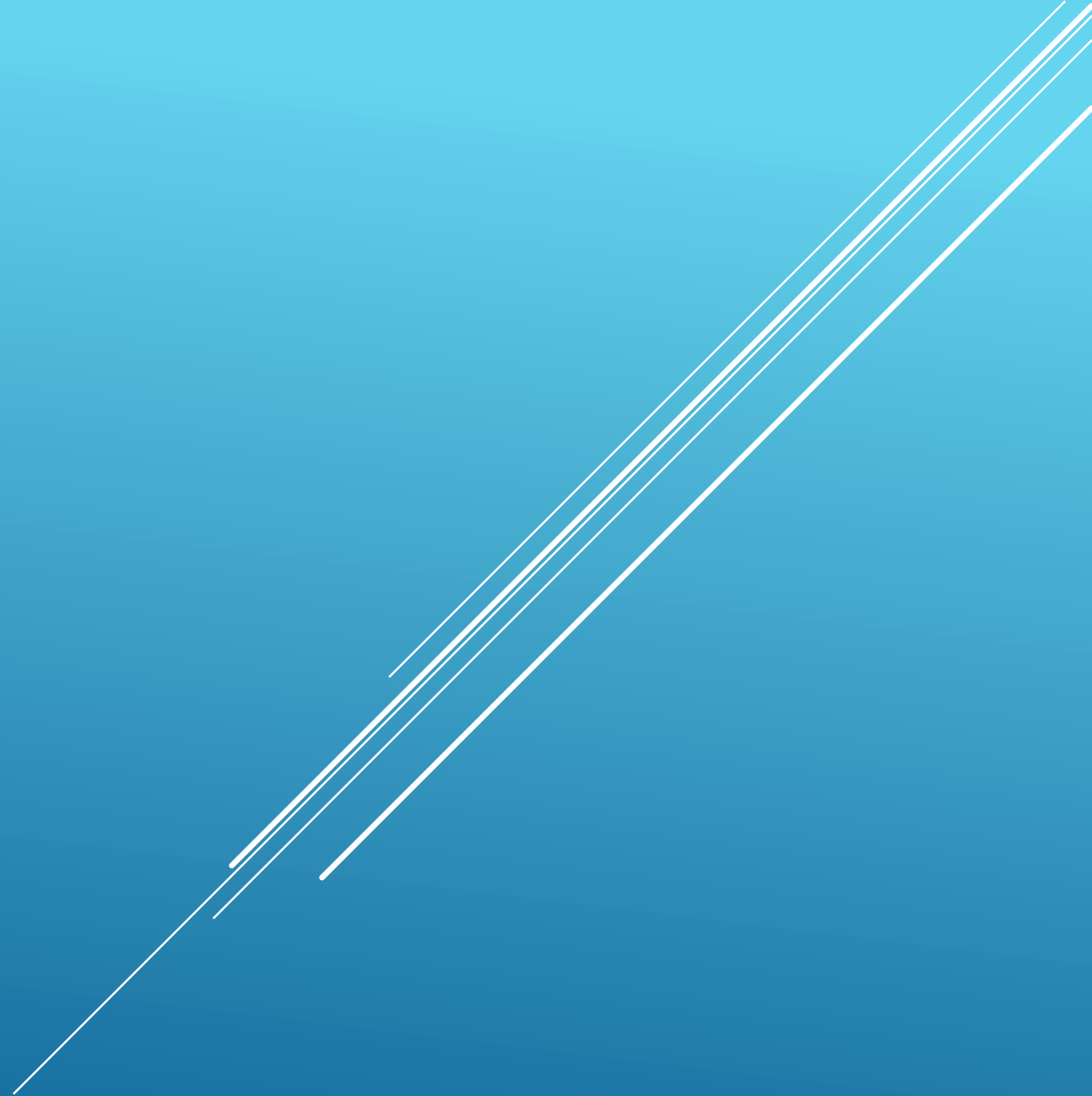


THE GOSPEL OF
MARK



- ▶ **The Gospel of Mark**
- ▶ **Mark 1:1-8:26, Concordia Commentary by James Voelz**
- ▶ **Concordia Theological Quarterly, Vol. 79 # 3-4, Jul/Oct 2015**
- ▶ **In Search of the Biblical Order, and**
- ▶ **Repetition in the Bible by Gioacchino Cascione**

RESOURCES

- ▶ **1. Mark in Context**
 - ▶ A. As one of 4 Gospels (What's a Gospel?)
 - ▶ B. Traditional vs. "Higher Critical" views
 - ▶ C. In relation to the other Gospels
- ▶ **2. General themes, background, & structure of Mark**
- ▶ **3. Working through the text**

OVERVIEW

- ▶ **What is a Gospel?**
 - ▶ **Narrative?**
 - ▶ **Yes!**
 - ▶ **Historical?**
 - ▶ **Yes!**
- ▶ **But not just a Historical Narrative!**

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

▶ “... each Gospel is not only a historical narrative but is each evangelist’s unique theological creation.”

▶ -- Prof. David Scaer.

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- ▶ **The Gospels record the real events of Jesus life; but, they do so toward a theological end.**
- ▶ **Gospels are Eastern, not Western.**
- ▶ **They don't follow the same pattern as the great works of Western literature.**

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

▶ “One of the challenges of chronological order in the Bible is that accurate chronology as the Western mind understands it is not a priority in the Bible... chronological order does not take precedence in ancient Eastern cultures.”

▶ Rev. G. Cascione

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- ▶ “Neither the place nor the time is important, only the theme is significant.”
 - ▶ Umberto Cassuto, Rabbinic Scholar
 - ▶ Vatican Archivist of Semitic Scrolls

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- ▶ This leads us to the Synoptics and the “Synoptic Problem”
- ▶ Synoptic = “Seeing together”
- ▶ Matthew, Mark & Luke vs. John
- ▶ “Problem” = Why so similar and yet so different?

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- ▶ **Mark 4:35-5:43 & Mt. 9 (See also Mt. 8:23ff & Lk.8:22ff)**
- ▶ **(??) -> Stilling Storm -> Demoniac -> (??) -> Jairus' Daughter**
- ▶ **What's the right order?**
- ▶ **Chronological? Or, right?**
- ▶ **Cleansing of the Temple**
(Lk:19:45 vs. John 2:13)

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- ▶ **The “Synoptic Problem”, Part II**
- ▶ **Who wrote first and who copied whom?**
- ▶ **Early Church Fathers vs. German Rationalism**

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

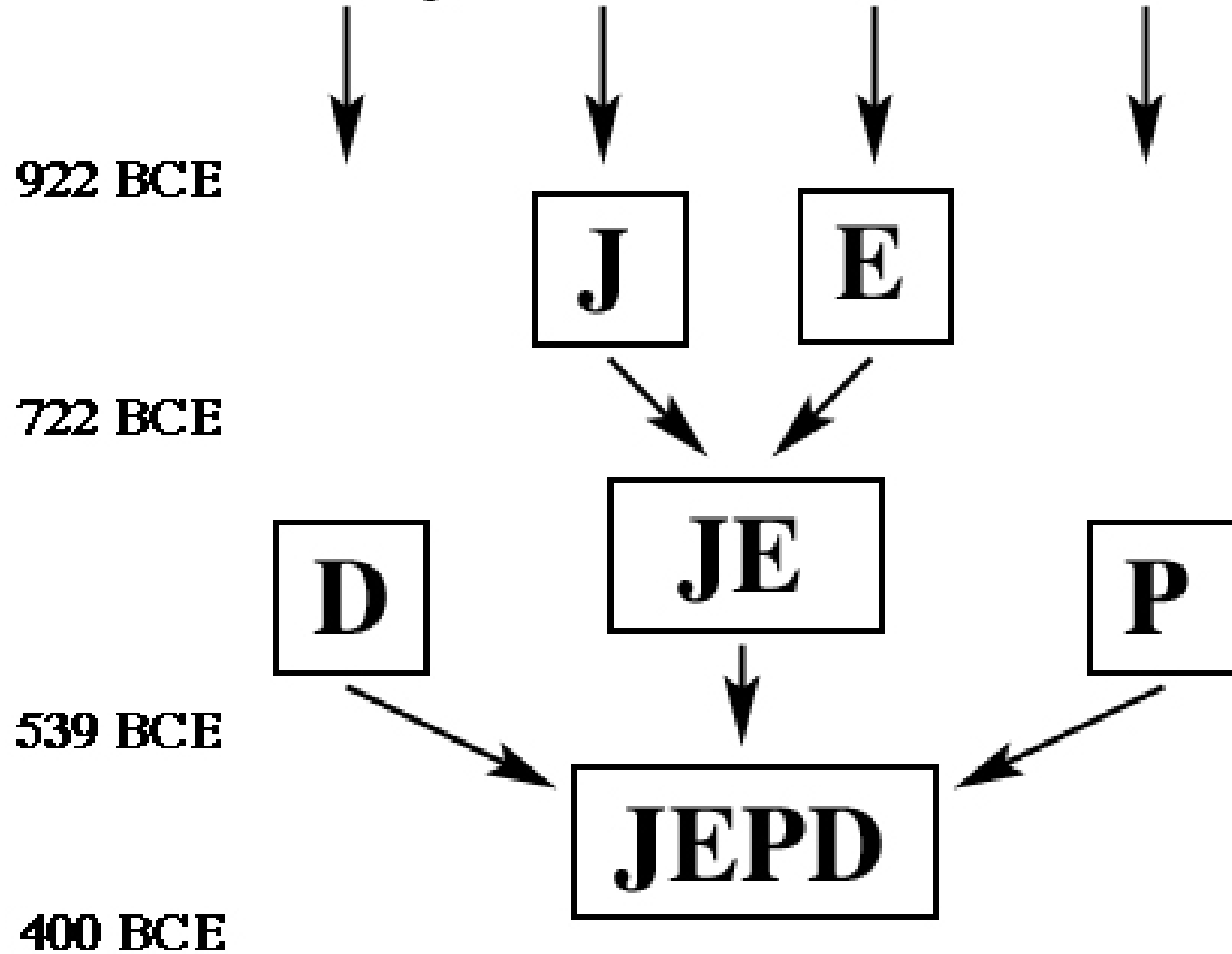
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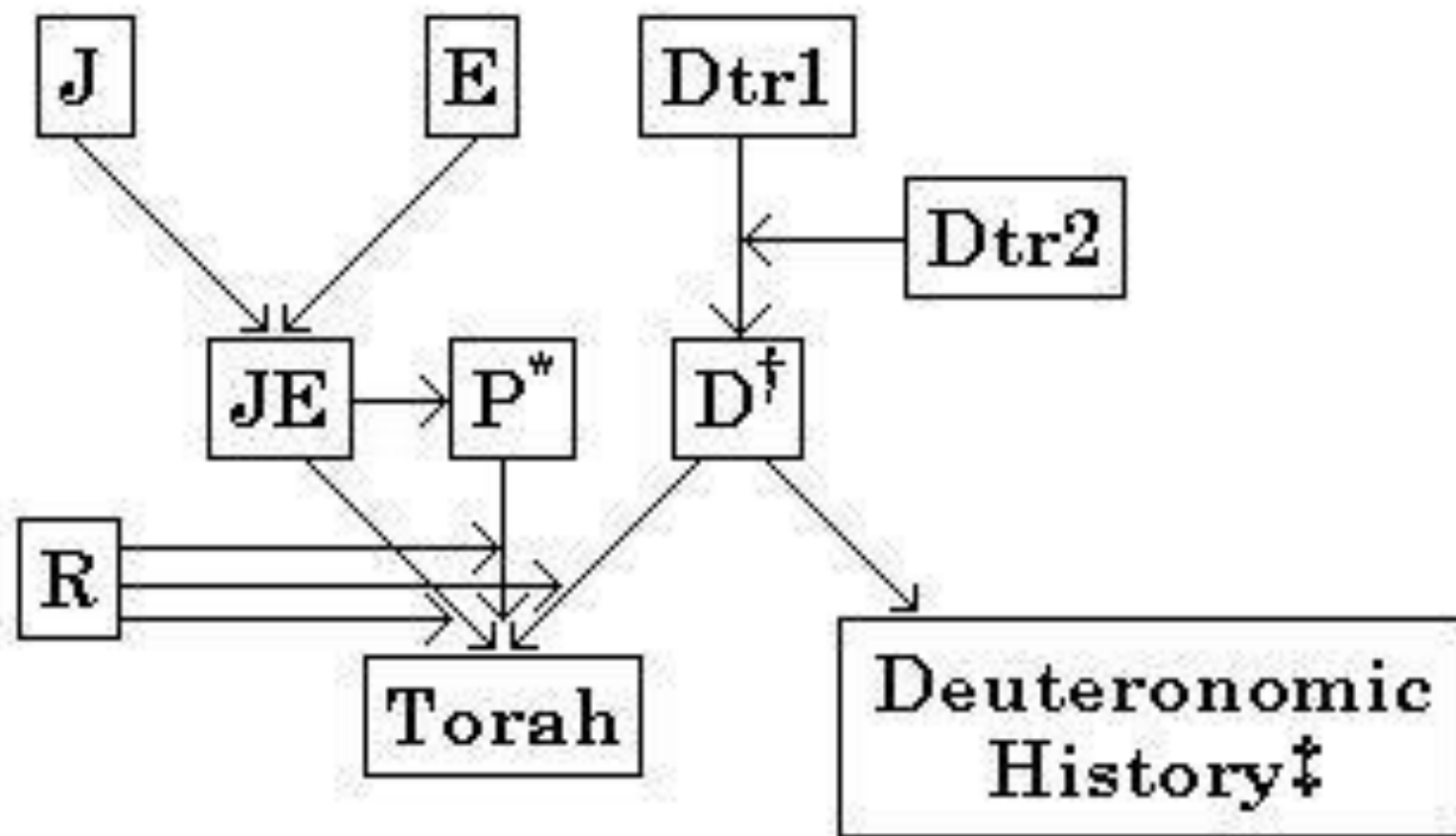
- ▶ To resolve these “inconsistencies” ...
- ▶ Julius Wellhausen: Documentary Hypothesis (1883)
- ▶ Rooted in rationalism & evolutionary assumptions

MARK IN CONTEXT
ONE OF 4 GOSPELS

- the **Yahwist** source (**J**) : written c. 950 BCE in the southern **Kingdom of Judah**.
- the **Elohist** source (**E**) : written c. 850 BCE in the northern **Kingdom of Israel**.
- the **Deuteronomist** (**D**) : written c. 600 BCE in **Jerusalem** during a period of religious reform.
- the **Priestly source** (**P**) : written c. 500 BCE by **Kohanim** (Jewish priests) in **exile** in **Babylon**.

Early Oral & Written Sources





* Includes most of Leviticus

† Includes most of Deuteronomy

‡ Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings

	J	P	Editor
Flood announced/ark built		6:9-22	
Command to enter ark	7:1-5		7:3a
Noah's age		7:6	
Entry into ark	7:7	7:13-16a	7:8-9
Flood comes	7:10, 12	7:11	
Noah shut in	7:16b		
Flood continues	7:17b	7:17a	
Flood destroys	7:22, 23a, c	7:18-21, 24	7:23b
Flood abates	8:2b, 3a	8:1-2a, 3b-5	
Ark rests on mountain		8:4	
Window opened	8:6		
Birds depart	8:7-12		
Earth dry	8:13b	8:13a, 14	
Exit from ark		8:15-19	
Sacrifice	8:20-22		
Covenant with all life		9:1-17	