

matthew

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Study Outline

Background: Historical & Authorship

Matthew (also known as Levi) was commissioned by Jesus (Matthew 9:9-13) and became one of His closest followers. As a man accustomed to detailed record keeping who also possessed mastery over the languages of his day, Matthew was more than qualified to record the life and ministry of Jesus from an eye witness perspective. His account began circulation as early as 45 A.D. and is viewed by many as being the first gospel written.

Main Point: As a Jew, Matthew's account serves as a perfect bridge between the Old and New Testaments. When you take into account that of the Gospel writers Matthew quotes more from the Old Testament, includes extensive genealogical records, and reference more prophecy than anyone else, you can see how his account was written specifically for the nation of Israel. In doing so Matthew presents Jesus, as not only the promised Messiah (*king*), but focuses specifically on the long awaited kingdom. (*"Kingdom" is mentioned 50 times with "Kingdom of Heaven" referenced on 32 occasions.*) In presenting Jesus as the King of the Jews who had come to establish the kingdom of heaven, Matthew's challenge is simple. The religious man desiring to please God needs Christ Jesus, not religious rite.

Key Verse: Matthew 4:17, "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'."

OUTLINE: GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

ANNOUNCING THE KING

CH 1-2	ROYAL PEDIGREE - HUMBLE BEGINNINGS
CH 3-4	PRONOUNCEMENT & PREPARATION
CH 5-7	SERMON ON THE MOUNT: CONSTITUTION OF THE KINGDOM
CH 8-9	POWER & PERSONALITY OF THE KING
CH 10	CALL, EQUIPPING, & MINISTRY OF HIS FOLLOWERS

DEFIANCE TOWARDS & RESOLVE OF THE KING

CH 11-12	CHALLENGED BY THE STATUS QUO
CH 13:1-52	COLLECTION OF PARABLE TEACHING: REJECTION OF THE KINGDOM
CH 13:53-14:12	MOUNTING HOSTILITY
CH 14:13-20:34	CONTINUED RESOLVE OF THE KING AND HIS MINISTRY
CH 21:1-11	TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF THE KING

REJECTION OF THE KING

CH 21:12-23:39	CONFLICT WITH & WARNING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT
CH 24-25	OLIVET DISCOURSE: PROPHECY CONCERNING THE KINGDOM
CH 26	PLOT AGAINST THE KING
CH 27	SUFFERING AND DEATH OF THE KING

VICTORY OF THE KING

CH 28:1-8	RESURRECTION OF THE KING
CH 28:9-15	WORSHIP OF THE KING
CH 28:16-20	COMMISSION OF THE KING



Day 1: Nativity Mistake....

Matthew 2:1-12 // THINKING POINTS: (1). How did the “wise men from the east” know that “King of the Jews” had been born? (2). If the wise men came to worship Jesus based upon the little bit of revelation they had received, how much greater should our worship be? (3). Compare and contrast the wise men and the scribes in Herod’s court.

Day 2: Wilderness Temptation....

Matthew 4:1-11 // THINKING POINTS: (1). In what areas of Jesus’ life was Satan appealing to through the three temptations mentioned in this passage? (2). How did Jesus combat these temptations? And why is this significant to me? (3). In what way is Jesus’ victory over these temptations encouraging to me as His follower?

Day 3: Be Attitudes....

Matthew 5:1-12 // THINKING POINTS: (1). What is the basic difference between “being” and “doing”? (2). Since Jesus isn’t listing a set of things I’m supposed to do, how do these characteristics become apart of my life? (3). What is the by-product when these traits start being displayed in and through my life? What is produced in me?

Day 4: Life in Summary....

Matthew 9:35-38 // THINKING POINTS: (1). In summarizing a period of Jesus earthly ministry, what was clearly a big emphasis of Christ? (2). We’re told that Jesus was “moved with compassion.” What does it mean to have compassion for the lost? (3). A key component to Jesus’ ministry was utilizing His followers. In what way do you need to grow in the area of practical ministry?

Day 5: Christ in the Storm....

Matthew 14:22-33 // THINKING POINTS: (1). This was the second storm the disciples had faced (Matthew 8 records the first). Why send these guys into a storm for the second time? (2). What kind of “life storms” have you faced or are currently facing? (3). What lessons can be learned concerning trials and the key to enduring?

Day 6: The Rich Young Failure....

Matthew 19:16-30 // THINKING POINT: (1). Though this young man appeared to be righteous before God, what was the main thing keeping Him from salvation? (2). Through Jesus’ interactions with this gentleman and the conversation that ensued, what truth was Jesus driving home? (3). How do we receive eternal life?

DEVOTIONS

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