

BEHOLD YOUR KING

Studies in Matthew's Gospel

*“And she shall bring forth a Son;
and thou shalt call his name JESUS:
for he shall save his people from their sins.”*
Matthew 1:21

God's Son, assuming humanity without destroying
His divinity, established and founded this faith,
that there might be a way for man to man's God
through God's man.

– Augustine –

Trinity Bible Church
Sunday School
Winter/Spring 2012

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Introduction

The purpose of the Bible is to provide us a revelation of Jesus Christ. In the Old Testament, He is veiled in pictures (types) and ceremonies, but, from the early pages of Genesis, the focus of attention is upon the Coming One. In the New Testament, we see His redemptive work completed and are taught the blessings of our union with the Exalted One. Again, our attention is directed to His Coming, but now in the light of the finished revelation of Christ as Saviour and King.

The Gospels are central in this revelation of Jesus Christ in that they provide us with the account of His incarnation, death and resurrection. The Gospel writers are not trying to bring us a biography of Jesus, but each has a unique purpose. Matthew's Gospel provides a bridge between the Old and New Testaments and thus is properly the first of the four. He wrote to a Jewish audience to emphasize to them that this Jesus was in fact the Messiah proclaimed by the Old Testament Scriptures.

While it is clear that the Old Testament writers were anticipating the Seed of Abraham and Son of David to come, the redemptive purpose had been replaced in the minds of the people of God by a purely political hope. Messiah would come to deliver them from the oppression of their political enemies. The concept of a suffering Messiah was foreign to them. Matthew writes to correct this error.

Matthew begins by showing us that Jesus is indeed entitled by birth to the throne of David. He goes on in his Gospel to use over 40 quotations or references from the Old Testament to show that Jesus fulfilled all that the Old Testament writers proclaimed concerning Him. The power of His miracles and wisdom of His teaching are presented in this Gospel to show that Jesus is in fact

the Divine Messiah. Because the Jews of that era did not understand the spiritual nature of salvation, Matthew shows from five lengthy discourses, given by Jesus, the true nature of the Kingdom of Heaven. It is a Kingdom of Righteousness with entry through Jesus the Messiah.

The most important fact of the coming of Christ is His death and resurrection. In chapter 16, verse 21, Matthew turns the narrative toward the cross. He shows that the course to the cross is not one forced upon Jesus, but one which He willingly entered. While it was the intent of the spiritual leaders of the day that He should die, they, along with the Gentile authorities, were only instruments in the Hand of God in this matter. Jesus did not resist as He was taken to His death as a sinner, though He Himself had no sin of His own. The long awaited Messiah, Emanuel, paid the penalty for sin and was buried.

Matthew concludes his Gospel with a brief account of the resurrection. This event of unparalleled significance demonstrates the power of Jesus the Messiah over the ultimate enemy, sin and death. It testifies that the penalty for sin is paid in full for those for whom Christ died. He is truly the King and His Kingdom is greater than the mere political expectations of the Jews. Jesus can truly say that all power in heaven and earth is given to Him. He is not just a Jewish King over a political realm, but the King of the universe. The very powers of hell are subject to Him. We, and all nations of the earth, are commanded to submit to His rule by faith, but more than just vassals, we become joint heirs with Him by faith in Him as God's Redeemer. Matthew obeys the final words of Jesus in bringing this Good News to our generation in the Gospel we now will study.

Schedule

- January 1: Lesson 1: Behold your King Cometh
Matthew 1-2
- January 8: Lesson 2: Preparation of the King
Matthew 3-4
- January 15: Lesson 3: The Message of the King: the Sermon on the Mount, part 1
Matthew 5
- January 22: Lesson 4: The Message of the King: the Sermon on the Mount, part 2
Matthew 6-7
- January 29: Lesson 5: The Power of the King
Matthew 8-9
- February 5: Lesson 6: The King Commissions His Disciples
Matthew 10
- February 12: Lesson 7: The King Answers John and Issues a Call
Matthew 11
- February 19: Lesson 8: Opposition Arises against the King
Matthew 12
- February 26: Lesson 9: The King Speaks in Parables
Matthew 13
- March 4: Lesson 10: The Execution of John and the Power of the King
Matthew 14
- March 11: Lesson 11: The King Rebukes and Shows Compassion
Matthew 15
- March 18: Lesson 12: The King's Identity and Mission Revealed
Matthew 16
- March 25: Lesson 13: The King's Glory Seen Briefly
Matthew 17
- April 1: Lesson 14: The King Instructs His Disciples about the Kingdom
Matthew 18
- April 8: Lesson 15: Hard Sayings from the King
Matthew 19-20
- April 15: Lesson 16: The Reception of the King into Jerusalem
Matthew 21
- April 22: Lesson 17: The King Confounds His Enemies
Matthew 22
- April 29: Lesson 18: The King Condemns the Scribes and Pharisees
Matthew 23
- May 6: Lesson 19: The King Prophecies
Matthew 24-25
- May 13: Lesson 20: The King Prepares for His Death
Matthew 26
- May 20: Lesson 21: The King is Crucified
Matthew 27
- May 27: Lesson 22: The King Lives!
Matthew 28

Scripture Memorization

The Beatitudes

Matthew 5:3-12

- 3** Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4** Blessed are they that mourn:
for they shall be comforted.
- 5** Blessed are the meek:
for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6** Blessed are they which do hunger
and thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.
- 7** Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.
- 8** Blessed are the pure in heart:
for they shall see God.
- 9** Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.
- 10** Blessed are they which are persecuted
for righteousness' sake:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11** Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you,
and persecute you,
and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely,
for my sake.
- 12** Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:
for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets
which were before you.

There is no Name so Sweet on Earth

Anon., c. 1858

William B. Bradbury, 1861

1. There is no name so sweet on earth, No name so sweet in heav - en,
2. And, when He hung up - on the tree, They wrote this Name a - bove Him;
3. So now, up - on His Fa - ther's throne, Al - might - y to re - lease us
4. To Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow, And ev - 'ry tongue con - fess Him,
5. O Je - sus, by that match-less Name, Thy grace shall fail us nev - er;

The Name be - fore His won-drous birth To Christ the Sav - iour giv - en.
That all might see the rea - son we For ev - er-more must love Him.
From sin and pains, He glad - ly reigns, The Prince and Sav - iour Je - sus.
And we u - nite with saints in light, Our on - ly Lord to bless Him.
To - day as yes - ter - day the same, Thou art the same for ev - er.

REFRAIN

We love to sing a - round our King, And hail Him bless - ed Je - sus;

For there's no word ear ev - er heard So dear, so sweet as "Je - sus". A - men.

Lesson 1: Behold your King Cometh Matthew 1-2

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3

HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"

PURPOSE: *To see that the genealogy, circumstances of birth, and early days of Jesus affirm that He is the long promised Messiah King.*

1. What is the significance of the genealogy in Matthew 1:1-17?
2. What did Joseph intend to do when he found out that Mary was going to have a baby?
3. What did the angel tell Joseph about the baby that Mary would soon have?
4. What did the wise men from the East tell Herod?
5. What did the chief priests and scribes tell Herod about the Messiah's birth?
6. What happened when the wise men found the Child with Mary?
7. Why did Joseph take Mary and the Child into Egypt?
8. What happened when Herod saw that the wise men were not going to return to him with word about the Child?
9. Why did Joseph return from Egypt and settle in Nazareth?

Lesson 2: The Preparation of the King Matthew 3-4

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-4 **Hymn: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"**

***PURPOSE:** To see that the preaching of John the Baptist, the baptism of Jesus, and Jesus' temptation by Satan in the wilderness were essential parts in the preparation for the ministry of Jesus which is now begun in power and authority.*

1. What message did John the Baptist bring?
2. How is John the Baptist described?
3. How did the people respond to the ministry of John?
4. What did John say about the Coming One?
5. What happened at the baptism of Jesus?
6. How did Jesus respond to the temptations by Satan?
7. Where did Jesus begin His ministry, and why?
8. What did Jesus say to Peter and Andrew, and how did they respond?
9. How is the early ministry of Jesus described?

**Lesson 3: The Message of the King:
the Sermon on the Mount, part 1
Matthew 5**

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-5 HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

PURPOSE: *To see that the kingdom of heaven which Jesus announced is a kingdom of righteousness with the perfection of God Himself as its standard.*

1. List the qualities of a blessed person.

2. What does Jesus promise the blessed ones?

3. What does it mean to be salt and light?

4. What does Jesus say about the Law and the Prophets?

5. What does Jesus teach about one's responsibility to his brother?

6. Why does Jesus say that one should cut out his right eye or cut off his right hand?

7. What does Jesus teach about oaths?

8. How should we respond to an evil person or one who is our enemy?

9. What is the final standard for those in the kingdom of heaven?

**Lesson 4: The Message of the King:
the Sermon on the Mount, part 2
Matthew 6-7**

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-6 HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

<i>PURPOSE: To hear further teaching from Jesus that the kingdom of heaven is a kingdom of righteousness and that its participants are to seek first that kingdom and God’s righteousness.</i>

1. How are alms (charitable deeds) to be done?

2. What are some of the principles of prayer that Jesus gives?

3. What does Jesus say about treasure?

4. How does Jesus encourage us to not worry?

5. What do the Gentiles seek, and what should we seek?

6. What does Jesus teach about judging?

7. What are the differences between the way of destruction and the way of life?

8. Why does Jesus speak about fruit?

9. How does Jesus describe the differences between those who hear His words?

Lesson 5: The Power of the King Matthew 8-9

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-7 HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

***PURPOSE:** To see how Jesus, who had no place to lay His head, showed His sovereign authority as the Son of Man in the miracles He performed, and to see also that the blessings of God come through faith.*

1. What instructions did Jesus give to the leper He had healed?
2. What made Jesus marvel at the centurion who requested healing for his servant?
3. What did Jesus tell the scribe and the disciple who wanted to follow Him?
4. How did Jesus respond when His disciples awakened Him from sleeping in the boat during the storm?
5. Why did Jesus leave the country of the Gergesenes?
6. What lesson did Jesus want to teach when He healed the paralytic man?
7. What questions did the Pharisees and John's disciples ask about food, and how did Jesus answer them?
8. How was Jesus interrupted on His way to restoring life to the ruler's daughter?
9. What kinds of responses are recorded to the final two miracles recorded in chapter 9?

Lesson 6: The King Commissions His Disciples Matthew 10

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-8 HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"

PURPOSE: *To hear the message Jesus, the Lord of the harvest, spoke to His disciples as He sent them out as "labourers into His harvest."*

1. List the twelve disciples.
2. What assignment did Jesus give to His disciples?
3. How were they to perform this ministry?
4. What warnings did Jesus give His disciples?
5. What word of encouragement did Jesus give His disciples?
6. What should they expect as disciples and servants of Christ?
7. What did Christ say was His purpose in coming?
8. How can we be worthy of Christ?
9. What did Jesus say was the significance of the manner in which His disciples were received?

Lesson 7: The King answers John and Issues a Call Matthew 11

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-9 HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"

***PURPOSE:** To see how Jesus lays claim to be the Coming One in His answer to John the Baptist and in His explanation of the importance of John's ministry, and to hear how Jesus explains the varied responses of men to Himself as He calls men to Himself for rest.*

1. What question did John ask of Jesus?
2. How did Jesus answer John's two disciples?
3. What did Jesus tell the multitudes about John?
4. In what contradictory manners did "this generation" receive John and Jesus?
5. Why does Jesus rebuke the cities of Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum?
6. Why did Jesus thank the Father?
7. Who knows the Son?
8. Who knows the Father?
9. Whom did Jesus call, to what did He call them, and what did He promise?

Lesson 8: Opposition Arises against the King Matthew 12

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-10 **HYMN: "There Is no Name so Sweet on Earth"**

PURPOSE: *To see the opposition that arises to Jesus from the Pharisees and how, though He does not quarrel or cry out, yet He condemns their wicked deeds.*

1. What lesson did Jesus teach when the Pharisees criticized His disciples for breaking the Sabbath?
2. What principle did Jesus proclaim as He healed the man with the withered hand?
3. What qualities did Isaiah prophesy concerning Christ?
4. Why was it unreasonable to say that Jesus was casting out demons by the power of Beelzebub?
5. How is a tree to be compared with the heart of man?
6. What is the sign of Jonah?
7. Why will the men of Ninevah and the queen of the South condemn "this generation"?
8. What happens when an unclean spirit, who has been cast out of a man, returns and finds the place empty?
9. Who are the mother and brothers of Jesus?

Lesson 9: The King Speaks in Parables Matthew 13

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-11 **HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”**

PURPOSE: *To see that the King spoke of the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven in parables for those with ears to hear, and then to seek to understand those parables.*

1. What kinds of soil did the sower sow upon?
2. Why did Jesus speak in parables?
3. What responses to the Word of the Kingdom did the various soils demonstrate?
4. What did the owner of the field tell his servants about the tares in his field?
5. What did Jesus say that the tares represented?
6. What will the Son of Man do at the end of the age?
7. Besides the field sown with tares, what else did Jesus say was like the Kingdom of Heaven?
8. What did Jesus say about scribes instructed concerning the Kingdom of Heaven?
9. How was Jesus treated when He returned to His own country (Nazareth)?

Lesson 10: The Execution of John and the Power of the King Matthew 14

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”**

PURPOSE: *To see that it was in the wake of the execution of John the Baptist that Jesus displayed His power in the feeding of the 5,000, in walking on the water, stilling the storm, and in many healings.*

1. What did Herod think when he heard the report about Jesus?
2. Why did Herod put John the Baptist in prison and execute him?
3. How did Jesus respond to the multitude that came to Him in the deserted place?
4. How did Jesus feed the multitude of 5,000 men plus women and children?
5. After the feeding of the 5,000, what did Jesus do?
6. How did the disciples respond when Jesus came to them in the storm walking on the water?
7. What did Jesus say to His disciples as He came to them?
8. What happened to Peter as he walked on the water toward Jesus?
9. What happened when Jesus came into the boat?

Lesson 11: The King Rebukes and Shows Compassion Matthew 15

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN:** “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

PURPOSE: *To see the sharpness with which Jesus rebukes the scribes and Pharisees, and then His compassion toward those who come to Him for mercy.*

1. What criticism did the scribes and Pharisees make to Jesus of His disciples?
2. What criticism did Jesus make concerning the scribes and Pharisees?
3. What did Isaiah prophesy about the scribes and Pharisees?
4. How is a person defiled?
5. What did Jesus tell His disciples about the Pharisees?
6. Why did Jesus first refuse to help the demon-possessed girl?
7. How did the mother of the demon-possessed girl show faith?
8. How did the multitudes react to the healings performed by Jesus?
9. Why and how did Jesus feed the 4,000 men with women and children?

Lesson 12: The King's Identity and Mission Revealed Matthew 16

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"**

***PURPOSE:** To see Peter's simple confession of Jesus as the Christ, in contrast to the unbelief of the Pharisees and Sadducees, and this despite his failure to understand the necessity of the cross for Christ, as well as for himself.*

1. Why did Jesus rebuke the Pharisees and Sadducees when they requested a sign?
2. What did the disciples think when Jesus warned them about the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?
3. What was Jesus speaking of when He spoke of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees?
4. Whom did men say that Jesus was?
5. How did Peter know that Jesus was "the Christ, the Son of the living God"?
6. What did Jesus promise after Peter's confession?
7. Why did Peter rebuke Jesus?
8. What is required of those who would follow Jesus?
9. What did Jesus say about the coming of the Son of Man?

Lesson 13: The King's Glory Seen Briefly Matthew 17

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"**

***PURPOSE:** To see a brief display of the glory of the Son of man, in contrast with both the impotence of His disciples and His own submission in paying the temple tax to the men who will kill Him.*

1. What did Peter, James and John see on the high mountain?
2. What advice did Peter give?
3. What caused the disciples to fear?
4. What did Jesus say about Elijah?
5. When Jesus came down from the mountain, what did the man who met Him say?
6. Why were the disciples not able to cure the epileptic boy?
7. What caused sorrow to the disciples when they were in Galilee?
8. Why did Jesus pay taxes?
9. How did Jesus pay the temple tax?

Lesson 14: The King Instructs His Disciples about the Kingdom Matthew 18

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”**

***PURPOSE:** To see the importance of humility and forgiveness in the kingdom of heaven and that these characteristics are to be understood by the Father’s concern for a child, His concern for a single lost sheep, and His forgiveness of the sins of the brethren.*

1. Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
2. What does Jesus teach about offending a believer?
3. What does Jesus teach about sin within ourselves?
4. What lesson is Jesus teaching in the parable of the lost sheep?
5. What should one do when a brother sins against him?
6. What results from the agreement of two or more believers?
7. How many times are we to forgive our brother?
8. What happened to the servant who owed his master 10,000 talents?
9. Why did the master determine to punish his servant?

Lesson 15: Hard Sayings from the King Matthew 19-20

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

PURPOSE: *To see that those who would be first in the kingdom of heaven must follow Christ's Word and example, setting aside their own priorities and desires and assuming the role of servants to God.*

1. What did Jesus teach about divorce?
2. What did Jesus tell His disciples when they tried to prevent little children from being brought to Him?
3. How did Jesus answer the man inquiring about eternal life?
4. Why did the disciples ask about who could enter the kingdom of God, and how did Jesus answer?
5. Whom did Jesus say would inherit everlasting life?
6. How did the landowner answer the servants who complained about their payment?
7. What did Jesus tell His disciples on the road to Jerusalem?
8. What did Jesus teach His disciples about greatness after the mother of James and John made her request for them?
9. What did the two blind men do when they heard that Jesus was passing by and then after they received their sight?

Lesson 16: The Reception of the King into Jerusalem Matthew 21

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: “There is no Name so sweet on Earth”**

PURPOSE: *To see the manner in which Jesus was received into Jerusalem by the people, and then to see and hear His response to their spiritual leaders.*

1. Why did Jesus make the preparations that He did for entry into Jerusalem?
2. How did the multitudes receive Jesus?
3. What did Jesus do in the temple of God?
4. What happened to the fig tree, and why?
5. Why did Jesus not answer the question of the chief priests and elders about His authority?
6. Why will the tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before the chief priests and elders?
7. Why did the vinedressers kill the son of the landowner?
8. How did the chief priests and elders answer Jesus about how the landowner would deal with the vinedressers?
9. What Scripture did Jesus refer to, and what application of it did He make?

Lesson 17: The King Confounds His Enemies Matthew 22

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"**

PURPOSE: *To see how Jesus exposed the sinfulness of the religious leaders as they came to entangle Him in His words.*

1. How did those invited to the wedding respond to the invitation?
2. What did the king do to those who were initially invited to the feast?
3. Who came to the wedding feast?
4. What happened to the man who was at the wedding, but not in wedding clothes?
5. How did Jesus answer the question about the lawfulness of paying taxes to Caesar?
6. How did Jesus answer the Sadducees' question about the resurrection?
7. What is the greatest commandment in the Law?
8. What is the second greatest commandment in the Law?
9. What point was Jesus making in His questions about David and the Christ?

Lesson 18: The King Condemns the Scribes and Pharisees Matthew 23

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”**

PURPOSE: *To see the severity with which Jesus denounces the scribes and Pharisees in contrast with His obvious compassion for His people.*

1. What position did Jesus say that the scribes and Pharisees held, and how were the people to respond?
2. What term did Jesus use for the scribes and Pharisees?
3. How did the scribes and Pharisees treat other people?
4. Why did Jesus say the scribes and Pharisees were “fools and blind”?
5. How did Jesus describe the scribes’ and Pharisees’ personal conduct before God?
6. Why were the scribes and Pharisees guilty of the blood of all the righteous?
7. What did Jesus say would happen to the scribes and Pharisees?
8. Why did Jesus lament over Jerusalem?
9. What message of hope does Jesus give?

Lesson 19: The King Prophecies Matthew 24-25

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”

PURPOSE: *To learn from Jesus what will be the signs of His coming and of the end of the age.*

1. What will be the character of the age, although not the signs of the end?

2. What sign will signify the onset of the time of great tribulation?

3. What did Jesus say about this time of great tribulation?

4. What will happen immediately after the time of great tribulation?

5. How will the days preceding the coming of the Son of Man be like the days of Noah?

6. According to the three parables (faithful and evil servants, wise and foolish virgins, and talents), how should we await the coming of the Son of Man?

7. What will happen when the Son of Man comes in His glory?

8. What is the standard that the Son of Man will use to separate all nations into the sheep and the goats?

9. What are the destinies of the sheep and the goats?

Lesson 20: The King Prepares for His Death Matthew 26

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"

***PURPOSE:** To see the final preparations that Jesus makes for His death, and then to see Him proceed alone to His death as He is betrayed by Judas, arrested and condemned by the high priests and elders, deserted by His disciples, and denied by Peter.*

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples, and what plans did His enemies make at the palace of Caiaphas?
2. What happened to Jesus in the house of Simon the leper?
3. At the Passover meal, what did Jesus say about His betrayal?
4. What did Jesus tell His disciples about the bread and the cup at the Passover meal?
5. What did Jesus tell Peter, and how did he respond?
6. What did Jesus want Peter, James and John to do in the garden of Gethsemane, and what did He do?
7. What happened in the garden when Jesus was arrested?
8. What initial attempts were made to condemn Jesus, and what accusation did they finally make?
9. How did Peter answer those who thought he was with Jesus, and what did he do after the cock crowed?

Lesson 21: The King is Crucified

Matthew 27

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 **HYMN: “There is no Name so Sweet on Earth”**

PURPOSE: *To see the death of Jesus.*

1. What happened to Judas?
2. What offer did Pilate make to the people, and what choice did they make?
3. Why did Pilate deliver Jesus to be crucified?
4. How did Pilate's soldiers treat Jesus?
5. Describe the scene at Golgotha.
6. Who taunted Jesus when He was on the cross, and what did they say?
7. What happened at the time of the death of Jesus?
8. What happened to the body of Jesus?
9. Why did Pilate seal the tomb and set a guard around it?

Lesson 22: The King Lives! Matthew 28

MEMORY: Matthew 5:3-12 HYMN: "There is no Name so Sweet on Earth"

PURPOSE: *To see that Jesus was raised from the dead and to hear His final charge to His disciples.*

1. What did Mary Magdalene and the other Mary find when they came to the tomb early on the first day of the week?
2. What did the angel tell the women about Jesus?
3. What did the angel tell the women to do?
4. What happened when the two women were met by Jesus?
5. What did the chief priests do when they received the report from the guards?
6. What did the eleven disciples do when they saw Jesus in Galilee?
7. What did Jesus tell His disciples about Himself?
8. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do?
9. What promise did Jesus make?

Outline of the Gospel of Matthew

by Dr. John MacArthur

There have been many outlines suggested for the Gospel of Matthew. The outline presented here was developed by Dr. John MacArthur. It is important to remember that any outline is an interpretation of the content and organization of the book. We have no knowledge that Matthew used this or any outline to organize his writing, and it is certain that he did not leave us with an explicit outline. Nevertheless, an outline is helpful in a study of Matthew's Gospel. This particular outline is based upon the observation that there are five extended discourses or sermons by Christ in Matthew. The remaining portions of Matthew's Gospel are presented in a narrative format. The book begins with an introductory section in which Christ is presented for His public ministry. It concludes with the Great Commission in which His disciples and all subsequent believers are commanded to carry the good news of Jesus Christ to all nations. In between, there are five couplets consisting of a discourse followed by a narrative section. Here Jesus is presented as the long promised Messiah – the Redeemer-King. Only the broad categories are included here to help us visualize the organization of Matthew's account of the life of Christ. A more detailed outline of Matthew can be found in the MacArthur Study Bible.

- I. The King's Advent (1:1-4:25)
 - A. His Birth (1:1-2:23)
 - B. His Entry into Public Ministry (3:1-4:25)

- II. The King's Authority (5:1-9:38)
 - A. Discourse 1: The Sermon on the Mount (5:1-7:29)
 - B. Narrative 1: The Authenticating Miracles (8:1-9:38)

- III. The King's Agenda (10:1-12:50)
 - A. Discourse 2: The Commissioning of the Twelve (10:1-42)
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- IV. The King's Adversaries (13:1-17:27)
 - A. Discourse 3: The Kingdom Parables (13:1-52)
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- V. The King's Administration (18:1-23:39)
 - A. Discourse 4: The Childlikeness of the Believer (18:1-35)
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- VI. The King's Atonement (24:1-28:15)
 - A. Discourse 5: The Olivet Discourse (24:1-25:46)
 - B. Narrative 5: The Crucifixion and Resurrection (26:1-28:15)

- VII. The King's Assignment (28:16-20)