

The Gospel Of Matthew



A Study Guide With Introductory Comments, Summaries, And Review Questions

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To God Be The Glory!

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The Gospel Of Matthew

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This study guide was designed for adult Bible classes, though it might be suitable for junior and senior high classes as well. Some have used it for personal devotions, and others in small study groups.

- **Points to ponder** for each chapter are things I emphasize during the class.
- **Review questions** are intended to reinforce key thoughts in each chapter. That you might know what answers were intended by the questions, I have included them in this guide. There is a “student edition” available with answers deleted.

The Gospel Of Matthew

Introduction

The book of Matthew has always occupied a position of high esteem in the faith and life of the church:

"When we turn to Matthew, we turn to the book which may well be called the most important single document of the Christian faith, for in it we have the fullest and the most systematic account of the life and the teachings of Jesus." (William Barclay)

The writings of the early church fathers reveal that it was the most frequently quoted and perhaps the most widely read gospel during the first two centuries of the church's history.

Author

The apostolic origin and canonical rank of the gospel of Matthew were accepted without a doubt by the early church (ISBE). **Matthew**, surnamed Levi, had been a tax-collector, one of Jesus' earliest disciples (**Mt 9:9; Mk 2:14**). He was chosen to be one of the twelve apostles (**Mt 10:2-3**). A close associate of Jesus during His ministry, Matthew's gospel is a first hand account, unlike Luke who depended upon other eyewitnesses (**Lk 1:1-4**).

Date

Irenaeus says it was written when Peter and Paul were preaching in Rome (Against Heresies 3.1.1). Eusebius states that this was done when Matthew left Palestine and went to preach to others (Historia Ecclesiastica, III, 24). Clement of Alexandria said that the presbyters who succeeded each other from the beginning declared that "the gospels containing the genealogies (Matthew and Luke) were written first" (Eusebius, Historia Ecclesiastica, VI, 14). It is traditionally dated in **the late 50s or early 60s A.D.**

Theme

The gospel appears written to Jews, designed to prove that Jesus is the Messianic king of Old Testament (OT) prophecy. This is evidenced by Matthew's frequent appeal to OT Messianic prophecies. He quotes from almost every book in the OT, and twelve times he identifies OT prophecies as fulfilled in the life of Jesus (**Mt 1:22; 2:15,23; 4:14; 5:17; 8:17; 12:17; 13:14,35; 21:4; 27:9**). One could therefore say that the theme is:

"Jesus, the King of the Jews"

Special Characteristics

It is a Jewish gospel. We've noted its frequent appeal to OT prophecies. It's organization is mostly topical, as opposed to strictly chronological (a common style in Jewish literature). Thus it appears to have been written with a Jewish audience in mind.

It is an ecclesiastical gospel. It is the only gospel which mentions the word "church". It foretells its beginning (**Mt 16:18**), and describes some of the life in the church (**Mt 18:15-17**). It contains lengthy discourses especially beneficial to those in the church, such as the sermon on the mount (**Mt 5-7**), the many parables (**Mt 13**), and the Olivet discourse (**Mt**

24-25). It contains admonitions important to disciples of Christ, such as the importance of doing the Father's will (**Mt 7:21-23**) and observing all that Jesus commanded (**Mt 28:20**). In other words, this was a gospel designed for use by those in the early church.

It is an evangelistic gospel. It is a preaching gospel, especially when compared with the apostles' preaching found in Acts. It expands upon the basic elements and points made in their sermons. Consider these themes in apostolic preaching:

- God's promises in the OT have been fulfilled - **Ac 3:18,24**
- The long-awaited Messiah, born of David's line, has come - **Ac 13:23**
- He is Jesus of Nazareth - **Ac 13:23**
- He went about preaching and doing good through mighty works - **Ac 10:38**
- He was crucified according to the promise and will of God - **Ac 2:22,23**
- He was raised from the dead, and exalted at God's right hand - **Ac 2:24,32-33**
- He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead - **Ac 3:20-21; 17:30-31**
- Therefore, all should heed His message, repent, and be baptized - **Ac 2:36-38**

All of these points are expanded upon in the gospel of Matthew.

Outline

(adapted from The Wycliffe Bible Commentary)

- 1. The birth and childhood of Jesus - Mt 1:1-2:23**
 - a. Genealogy of Christ - Mt 1:1-17
 - b. Birth of Christ - Mt 1:18-25
 - c. Visit of the Magi - Mt 2:1-12
 - d. Flight into Egypt and massacre of the infants - Mt 2:13-18
 - e. Residence at Nazareth - Mt 2:19-23

- 2. The preparation for the ministry of Jesus - Mt 3:1-4:11**
 - a. The forerunner of Christ - Mt 3:1-12
 - b. Baptism of Christ - Mt 3:13-17
 - c. Temptation of Christ - Mt 4:1-11

- 3. The ministry of Jesus in Galilee - Mt 4:12-18:35**
 - a. Residence at Capernaum - Mt 4:12-17
 - b. Call of four disciples - Mt 4:18-22
 - c. General survey of the Galilean ministry - Mt 4:23-25
 - d. Sermon on the mount - Mt 5:1-7:29
 - e. Ten miracles and related events - Mt 8:1-9:38
 - f. Mission of the twelve - Mt 10:1-42
 - g. Christ's answer to John, and related discourse - Mt 11:1-30
 - h. Opposition from the Pharisees - Mt 12:1-50
 - i. A series of parables on the kingdom - Mt 13:1-58
 - j. Withdrawal of Jesus following John's beheading - Mt 14:1-36
 - k. Conflict with the Pharisees over tradition - Mt 15:1-20
 - l. Withdrawal to Phoenecia and healing of a Canaanitish woman's daughter - Mt 15:21-28
 - m. Return to the Sea of Galilee and performing of miracles - Mt 15:29-38
 - n. Renewed conflict with the Pharisees and Sadducees - Mt 15:39-16:4
 - o. Withdrawal to the region of Caesarea Philippi - Mt 16:5-17:23

p. Instruction of the twelve at Capernaum - Mt 17:24-18:35

4. The ministry of Jesus in Perea - Mt 19:1-20:16

- a. Teaching on divorce - Mt 19:1-12
- b. Blessing of the children - Mt 19:13-15
- c. Interview with the rich young man - Mt 19:16-30
- d. Parable of the laborers in the vineyard - Mt 20:1-16

5. The ministry of Jesus in Judea - Mt 20:17-34

- a. Another prediction of Christ's death and resurrection - Mt 20:17-19
- b. Ambitious request of Zebedee's sons - Mt 20:20-28
- c. Healing of two blind men - Mt 20:29-34

6. The ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem - Mt 21:1-25:46

- a. Triumphal entry - Mt 21:1-11
- b. Cleansing the Temple - Mt 21:12-17
- c. Cursing of the barren fig tree - Mt 21:18-22
- d. Questioning of Jesus' authority and his parabolic answer - Mt 21:23-22:14
- e. Questioning of Jesus by various groups - Mt 22:15-46
- f. Jesus' public denunciation of the Pharisees - Mt 23:1-39
- g. Olivet Discourse - Mt 24:1-25:46

7. The suffering of Jesus - Mt 26:1-27:66

- a. Plot against Jesus - Mt 26:1-16
- b. The final meal - Mt 26:17-30
- c. Prediction of Peter's denial - Mt 26:31-35
- d. Events in Gethsemane - Mt 26:36-56
- e. Events at the Jewish trials - Mt 26:57-27:2
- f. Remorse of Judas - Mt 27:3-10
- g. Events at the Roman trials - Mt 27:11-31
- h. The Crucifixion - Mt 27:32-56
- i. Burial - Mt 27:57-66

8. The resurrection of Jesus - Mt 28:1-20

- a. Discovery of the empty tomb - Mt 28:1-8
- b. Appearance of Jesus Christ - Mt 28:9,10
- c. Report of the soldiers - Mt 28:11-15
- d. The great commission - Mt 28:16-20

Review Questions

1) Who authored the book of Matthew?

- Matthew, also called Levi
- An early disciple, and an apostle of Jesus Christ

2) Approximately when was the book written?

- The late 50s or early 60s A.D.

3) What has been suggested as the theme of Matthew's gospel?

- Jesus, the King of the Jews

4) What three characteristics of the gospel were noted in the introduction?

- It is a Jewish gospel
- It is an ecclesiastical gospel
- It is an evangelistic gospel

5) List the eight sections of the gospel as indicated in the outline

- The birth and childhood of Jesus
- The preparation for the ministry of Jesus
- The ministry of Jesus in Galilee
- The ministry of Jesus in Perea
- The ministry of Jesus in Judea
- The ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem
- The suffering of Jesus
- The resurrection of Jesus

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter One

Matthew begins his gospel with the genealogy of Jesus from Abraham to Joseph. Thus he shows the royal lineage of Jesus from David, one of the first things required to convince a Jewish audience that Jesus qualified to be the Messiah (**1-17; cf. Mt 22:41-42**). The birth of Jesus is then described, with the announcement of the angel to Joseph, and the protection of her virginity until His birth (**18-25**).

Points To Ponder

- The genealogy, comparing it with the one in Luke's gospel
- The prophecies of Isaiah and the angel regarding the virgin birth
- The significance of the names given to the child born of Mary

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The genealogy of Jesus Christ - **Mt 1:1-17**
 - The birth of Jesus Christ - **Mt 1:18-25**
- 2) Whose genealogy is given by Matthew? (1)**
 - Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham
- 3) What four women are included in this genealogy? (3,5,6)**
 - Tamar
 - Rahab
 - Ruth
 - The wife (Bathsheba) of Uriah
- 4) What was the initial relationship between Joseph and Mary? (18)**
 - Betrothed (engaged)
- 5) When and how did Mary become pregnant? (18)**
 - Before she and Joseph came together
 - From the Holy Spirit (cf. **Lk 1:26-35**)
- 6) What two names would be given the child, and what do they mean? (21-23)**
 - Jesus (savior); Immanuel (God with us)
- 7) What scripture in the OT was fulfilled by the virgin birth of Christ? (22-23)**
 - That written by Isaiah in **Isa 7:14**
- 8) How long did Joseph wait until he knew Mary as his wife? (25)**
 - Until she had given birth to her son (Jesus)

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Two

Unlike Luke, Matthew does not record events related to the day of Jesus' birth. But he does describe the visit of the wise men who followed the star to find the infant child and to worship Him (1-12). Warned by an angel in a dream, Joseph takes Mary and Jesus to Egypt, escaping the massacre of infants by an enraged Herod (13-18). After the death of Herod, Joseph and his family return to settle in the village of Nazareth (19-23).

Points To Ponder

- The details of the visit of the wise men from the East
- Fact versus fiction related to the birth of Jesus
- Old Testament prophecies fulfilled by the events in this chapter

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The visit of the wise men - **Mt 2:1-12**
 - The flight to Egypt and massacre of infants - **Mt 2:13-18**
 - The return from Egypt and residence at Nazareth - **Mt 2:19-23**
- 2) Why had the wise men from the East come to Jerusalem? (1-2)**
 - They had seen the star of the King of the Jews and had come to worship Him
- 3) How did the priests and scribes determine the location of Christ's birth? (4-6)**
 - From **Mic 5:2**
- 4) How did the wise men find the young Child? Where did they find Him? (9-11)**
 - Heading to Bethlehem, they followed the star; in a house with Mary His mother
- 5) Why did Joseph and his family flee? What prophecy would be fulfilled? (13-15)**
 - Warned by an angel to go to Egypt, in order to escape Herod's effort to destroy Jesus
 - "Out of Egypt I called My Son" (**Hos 11:1**)
- 6) What prophecy did the slaughter of the innocents fulfill? (16-18)**
 - That spoken by Jeremiah the prophet (**Jer 31:15**)
- 7) What prompted Joseph and his family to return? Why to Galilee? (19-22)**
 - An angel told Joseph of Herod's death, and told him to return to Israel
 - Hearing that Herod's son ruled over Judea, they turned aside to Galilee
- 8) Where did the family settle? What prophecy did that fulfill? (23)**
 - In a city called Nazareth
 - "He shall be called a Nazarene" (no one prophecy in particular)

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Three

Matthew skips ahead about thirty years to describe events that prepared Jesus for His public ministry. John the Baptist served as a forerunner with his own ministry of preaching in the wilderness of Judea and baptizing in the Jordan river (1-12). From Galilee Jesus came to be baptized by John “to fulfill all righteousness”. As Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens opened, the Spirit descended on Him like a dove, and a voice from heaven declared, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased” (13-17).

Points To Ponder

- The message and ministry of John the Baptist
- The purpose and meaning of Jesus’ baptism

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The ministry of John the Baptist - **Mt 3:1-12**
 - The baptism of Jesus Christ - **Mt 3:13-17**
- 2) What was the theme of John’s preaching? (1-2)**
 - “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
- 3) What was John’s mission as foretold by Isaiah? (3)**
 - To prepare the way of the Lord (**Isa 40:3**)
- 4) What unique clothing and diet did John have? (4)**
 - Clothed in camel’s hair and leather belt, food was locust and wild honey
- 5) What was John doing in the Jordan river? (5-6)**
 - Baptizing people as they were confessing their sins
- 6) What did John say to the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to be baptized? (8)**
 - “Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance”
- 7) What did John say One who followed him would do? (11-12)**
 - Baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire
- 8) Who came from Galilee to be baptized by John? Why? (13-15)**
 - Jesus; to fulfill all righteousness
- 9) As Jesus came up from the water, what three things happened? (16-17)**
 - The heavens were opened to Him
 - The Spirit descended like a dove upon Him
 - A voice from heaven said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

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Chapter Four

Following His baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where He fasted for forty days and overcame temptation by the devil (1-11). Returning to Galilee and moving from Nazareth to Capernaum, Jesus began His Galilean ministry preaching the same message of the kingdom of heaven as that of John the Baptist. After selecting four disciples, Jesus went about Galilee teaching in the synagogues and healing all kinds of sickness and disease. Soon great multitudes from surrounding regions began to follow Him (12-25).

Points To Ponder

- How Jesus overcame His temptation by the devil
- The beginning of His ministry in Galilee, His message and methods
- The call of Peter, Andrew, James, and John to discipleship

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The temptation of Jesus - **Mt 4:1-11**
 - The beginning of Jesus' Galilean ministry - **Mt 4:12-25**
- 2) **With what three temptations did Satan challenge Jesus? (3,6,9)**
 - "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."
 - "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down (from the pinnacle of the temple)."
 - "All these things (kingdoms of the world) I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."
- 3) **How did Jesus respond to each of the three temptations? (4,7,10)**
 - With the Word of God ("It is written...")
- 4) **Where did Jesus begin His public ministry? Fulfilling what prophecy? (12-16)**
 - The region of Galilee; as prophesied by Isaiah (**Isa 9:1-2**)
- 5) **What was the theme of Jesus' preaching? (17)**
 - "The kingdom of heaven is at hand."
- 6) **Who were the four fishermen called to follow Jesus? (18-22)**
 - Peter and Andrew, James and John
- 7) **How did Jesus conduct His ministry in Galilee? (23-24)**
 - Teaching in the synagogues
 - Healing all kinds of disease and sickness, including demon possession
- 8) **Where did people come from to follow Jesus? (25)**
 - Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan

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Chapter Five

Beginning in this chapter, Matthew records the “Sermon On The Mount”. The theme of the sermon is “The kingdom of heaven” (cf. **Mt 4:17; 5:3,10,19-20; 6:10,33; 7:21**). Jesus began with “The Beatitudes,” describing the character and blessedness of those who would be citizens of the kingdom (**1-12**) and illustrating their relation to world as salt and light (**13-16**). Clarifying His own relationship with the Law, Jesus stressed how our righteousness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees (**17-20**) following with a series of contrasts between the oral interpretations of the Law and conduct expected of His disciples (**21-48**).

Points To Ponder

- The meaning of the phrase: “the kingdom of heaven”
- The blessedness of those in the kingdom, and their relationship to the world
- How our righteousness must surpass that of the scribes and Pharisees

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The beatitudes - **Mt 5:1-12**
 - Salt and light - **Mt 5:13-16**
 - Jesus and the Law - **Mt 5:17-20**
 - Interpretations of the Law versus kingdom righteousness - **Mt 5:21-48**
- 2) What do the beatitudes describe? (3-12)**
 - The character and blessedness of the citizens of the kingdom
- 3) How are citizens of the kingdom to relate to the world? (13-16)**
 - As the salt of the earth and the light of the world
- 4) What was Jesus’ relation to the Law of Moses? (17-18)**
 - He came not to destroy the Law, but to fulfill it
- 5) What does Jesus expect of those who would be citizens of the kingdom? (20)**
 - Righteousness that surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees
- 6) List the five subjects whose interpretations are contrasted in this chapter (21-48)**
 - Murder, adultery, oaths, retaliation, love
- 7) What phrases illustrate the contrast? (21-22,27-28,31-32,33-34,38-39,43-44)**
 - “You have heard that it was said...” (not “It is written...”)
 - “But I say to you...”
- 8) Then what contrast is being made with these five subjects?**
 - The oral interpretation and application of the Law versus the teaching of Jesus

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Chapter Six

The “Sermon On The Mount” continues as Jesus teaches the righteousness of the kingdom expected in those who would be citizens of the kingdom. He discusses righteousness with respect to **man’s relation to God**, regarding charitable deeds (1-4), prayer (5-15), fasting (16-18), materialism (19-24), and anxiety (25-33).

Points To Ponder

- Performing acts of righteousness in ways that please God
- The danger of materialism and overcoming anxiety about such things
- Making the kingdom of God and His righteousness our number one priority

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Righteousness with respect to man’s relation to God - **Mt 6:1-18**
 - Overcoming materialism and anxiety - **Mt 6:16-33**
- 2) **As we perform acts of righteousness, what should we avoid? (1-2,5,16)**
 - Doing it for the purpose of being seen by men
 - Acting like the hypocrites in the synagogues and in the streets
- 3) **How can we ensure that God will reward us for our righteous acts? (4,6,18)**
 - By doing them in secret where only the Father sees
- 4) **How else does Jesus teach us to give, pray, and fast? (3,7,17)**
 - Do not let our left hand know what our right hand is doing as we give
 - Do not use vain repetition as we pray
 - Do not disfigure our faces as we fast
- 5) **What is the likely purpose of “The Lord’s Prayer”?** (9-13)
 - To serve as a model of prayer (“In this manner...”)
- 6) **Of things in “The Lord’s Prayer,” on what does Jesus elaborate? (14-15)**
 - The need for us to forgive others their trespasses against us
- 7) **Where are we to lay up treasure? Why? How? (20,24; cf. Mt 19:21; 1Ti 6:17-19)**
 - In heaven; to serve God rather than mammon; by giving to the poor
- 8) **What is the key to overcoming anxiety? (25-32)**
 - Trusting in the providential care of God
- 9) **How can we ensure that God will provide what we need? (33)**
 - By seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness

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Chapter Seven

The “Sermon On The Mount” continues with Jesus discussing the righteousness of the kingdom with respect to **man’s relation to man**, with a warning regarding judging (1-6), the importance of persistence (7-11), and keeping “the golden rule” (12). It concludes with exhortations to enter the kingdom: choose the narrow and difficult path (13-14), watch out for false prophets (15-20), do the Father’s will (21-23), being doers of the Word (24-29).

Points To Ponder

- The nature of judging condemned by Jesus
- How Jesus’ “golden rule” differs from that found in other religions
- The importance of doing the Father’s will to being saved

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Righteousness with respect to man’s relation to man - **Mt 7:1-12**
 - Exhortations to enter the kingdom - **Mt 7:15-29**
- 2) **What sort of judging is Jesus warning against? (1-6)**
 - Not all judging, but hypocritical, censorious condemnation (cf. **Jn 7:24**)
- 3) **How does Jesus illustrate the need for persistence? (7-11)**
 - By literally saying “keep on” asking, seeking, knocking
- 4) **How does Jesus’ “golden rule” differ from that found in other religions? (12)**
 - Most state it negatively (“Don’t do to others what you don’t want done to you”)
- 5) **Contrast the two “ways” described by Jesus (13-14)**
 - The way to life: narrow gate and difficult way, found by few
 - The way to destruction: wide gate and broad way, traveled by many
- 6) **How do false prophets operate? How can we identify them? (15-20)**
 - As wolves in sheep’s clothing; by their fruits
- 7) **Who will not enter the kingdom of heaven? Who will? (21-23)**
 - Many who believed in the Lord, did many great things for Him, but practiced lawlessness (i.e., did things without His authority)
 - Those who do the will of His Father in heaven
- 8) **What is the key difference between the wise and foolish listeners? (24-27)**
 - The wise do what Jesus said, the foolish do not
- 9) **Why were the people astonished at Jesus’ teaching? (28-29)**
 - Because He taught as one having authority

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Chapter Eight

As Jesus' ministry in Galilee continues, Matthew describes several miracles and related events. Coming down from the mount, Jesus cleansed a leper (1-4). Entering Capernaum, He healed a centurion's servant (5-13). Arriving at Peter's house, He healed his mother-in-law and many demon-possessed and all who were sick (14-17). Before crossing the Sea of Galilee to escape large crowds, Jesus challenged two would-be disciples (18-22). After calming the winds and waves of a great tempest (23-27), He arrived on the other side of the sea where He healed two demon-possessed men (28-34).

Points To Ponder

- The nature and purpose of the miracles performed by Jesus
- The cost of discipleship

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Five miracles in the regions of Galilee and the Gergesenes - **Mt 8:1-17,23-34**
 - The cost of discipleship - **Mt 8:18-22**
- 2) List the five miracles recorded in this chapter (1-4,5-13,14-17,23-27,28-34)**
 - Jesus cleanses a leper
 - Jesus heals a centurion's servant
 - Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law (and many others)
 - Jesus calms the wind and the waves
 - Jesus heals two demon-possessed men
- 3) Before healing the centurion's servant, what impressed Jesus? (10)**
 - The great faith of the centurion who was a Gentile
- 4) Before healing the servant, what did Jesus foretell? (11-12)**
 - Gentiles would enter the kingdom, while many Israelites would not
- 5) In Peter's house, who did Jesus heal? What prophecy was fulfilled? (14-17)**
 - His mother-in-law, and all the sick that were brought to Him
 - "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses" - **Isa 53:4**
- 6) What two lessons did Jesus teach about discipleship? (19-22)**
 - It can mean a life of poverty; it requires precedence over familial duties
- 7) What can we learn about fear and faith, before Jesus calmed the sea? (25-26)**
 - Fear comes from having little faith
- 8) Who did the demons acknowledge Jesus to be as He confronted them? (29)**
 - The Son of God

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Chapter Nine

Back in Capernaum, Jesus' ministry in Galilee continued with both forgiving and healing a paralytic (1-8). Matthew the tax collector was called to be a disciple, who invited Jesus to his home where He was questioned by the Pharisees and disciples of John (9-17). Asked by a ruler to go and raise his dead daughter, Jesus did so, healing a woman with a flow along the way (18-26). Afterward Jesus healed two blind men and a man who was both mute and demon-possessed (27-34). He then went about the region, teaching and healing, moved with compassion for the multitudes that came to Him (35-38).

Points To Ponder

- Jesus' power to forgive sins
- His willingness to eat with sinners
- His compassion for the lost

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Five miracles in Capernaum of Galilee - **Mt 9:1-8,18-34**
 - The call of Matthew and the questions at his house - **Mt 9:9-17**
 - The itinerant teaching and healing in cities and villages - **Mt 9:35-38**
- 2) List the five miracles recorded in this chapter (1-8,18-34)**
 - Jesus forgives and heals a paralytic
 - Jesus heals a woman with a flow of blood
 - Jesus restores a ruler's daughter to life
 - Jesus heals two blind men
 - Jesus heals a man mute and demon-possessed
- 3) How did Jesus demonstrate His power to forgive sins? (6)**
 - By healing a paralytic
- 4) Who was called to be a disciple and then gave a feast at his house? (9-10)**
 - Matthew, also known as Levi, author of this gospel (cf. **Lk 5:27-29**)
- 5) What two groups confronted Jesus regarding what two issues? (11-17)**
 - The Pharisees, concerning eating with sinners
 - The disciples of John, concerning fasting
- 6) What explanation did Pharisees give for Jesus' ability to exorcise demons? (34)**
 - "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons."
- 7) What moved Jesus to call for prayer for more laborers? (36-38)**
 - Compassion for the multitudes who were like sheep without a shepherd

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Chapter Ten

Following His own call for prayer for more laborers (**Mt 9:37-38**), Jesus selected twelve disciples to be His apostles and gave them power to cast out demons and heal all kinds of disease (**1-4**). He then sent them to preach and heal throughout the cities of Israel with specific instructions in what has come to be called "The Limited Commission" (**5-42**).

Points To Ponder

- The twelve men selected to be Jesus' apostles
- Evangelistic principles utilized by Jesus

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The appointment of the twelve apostles - **Mt 10:1-4**
 - Instructions for the twelve for the limited commission - **Mt 10:5-42**
- 2) List the names of the twelve apostles (2-4)**
 - Peter and Andrew, James and John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Labbaeus surnamed Thaddaeus, Simon the Cananite, Judas Iscariot
- 3) What was to be the range of their preaching? Their message? (5-7)**
 - Only to the house of Israel; "The kingdom of heaven is at hand"
- 4) What miracles were they to perform as they preached? At what charge? (8)**
 - Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons
 - No charge for their services ("Freely you have received, freely give")
- 5) How were they to be supported? (9-11)**
 - By people willing to receive them into their homes
- 6) What were they to do if they were not received by a house or city? (14-15)**
 - Depart, shaking the dust from their feet
- 7) What did Jesus prepare them to expect? (16-26)**
 - Persecution
- 8) What were they to fear more than persecution? (28,33)**
 - Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell; being denied by the Lord
- 9) What did Jesus acknowledge His teachings might do? (34-36)**
 - Separate members of the same family
- 10) What blessings would befall those who assisted the apostles? (41-42)**
 - The same reward for their service

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Eleven

While the apostles were fulfilling the limited commission, Jesus was approached by emissaries from John the Baptist who received confirmation that He was “The Coming One” (1-6). Jesus revealed that John was “The Messenger” foretold by Malachai and that many were inconsistent in their opposition to both Jesus and John (7-19). Jesus then rebuked cities which did not repent at His teaching (20-24), and at the same time extended a tender invitation to those who would accept His teaching (25-30).

Points To Ponder

- The relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist
- Why the day of judgment will be more tolerable for Tyre, Sidon, and Sodom than it will be for Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum
- The Savior’s tender invitation to those with troubled souls

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - John’s disciples come to Jesus - **Mt 11:1-6**
 - Jesus’ discourse regarding John the Baptist - **Mt 11:7-19**
 - Woe to impenitent cities - **Mt 11:20-24**
 - The Savior’s prayer and tender invitation - **Mt 11:25-30**
- 2) Why did John send two disciples to Jesus? (2-3)**
 - To confirm that Jesus was “The Coming One”
- 3) What evidence did Jesus offer to John’s disciples? (4-5)**
 - His miracles, and the fact that the poor have the gospel preached to them
- 4) What two O.T. prophecies did Jesus say that John fulfilled? (10,14)**
 - **Mal 3:1** and **Mal 4:5**
- 5) Who did Jesus say would be greater than John the Baptist? (11)**
 - He who is least in the kingdom of heaven
- 6) How did some people describe John and Jesus? (18-19)**
 - John: having a demon
 - Jesus: a glutton, winebibber, and friend of sinners and tax collectors
- 7) Why did Jesus rebuke the cities of Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum? (20)**
 - Because they saw His might works and yet did not repent
- 8) To whom did Jesus extend His invitation? What did He expect in return? (28-30)**
 - To all who labor and are heavy laden (by the guilt of sin)
 - To take His yoke upon them and learn from Him (become His disciple)

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twelve

Opposition to Jesus and His ministry increased, spear-headed by Pharisees who objected to Jesus' conduct on the Sabbath (1-14). Jesus humbly sought privacy, which fulfilled Isaiah's prophecy concerning God's Chosen Servant (15-21), but Pharisees followed Him making blasphemous accusations against the Spirit and demanded a sign (22-45). When Jesus' physical family wanted to see Him, Jesus identified His disciples as His true family (46-50).

Points To Ponder

- Jesus and the Sabbath day
- The blasphemy of the Holy Spirit
- The true family of God

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Controversies over the Sabbath - Mt 12:1-14
 - The humility of the Chosen Servant - Mt 12:15-21
 - Blasphemous opposition by the Pharisees - Mt 12:22-45
 - Jesus' true family - Mt 12:46-50
- 2) What were Jesus' disciples doing that angered the Pharisees? (1-2)**
 - Plucking heads of grain to eat on the Sabbath day
- 3) What was Jesus doing that angered the Pharisees? (9-14)**
 - Healing on the Sabbath day
- 4) What prophecy did Jesus fulfill warning people not to make Him known? (17-21)**
 - That He would not quarrel or cry out (Isa 42:1-4)
- 5) How did the Pharisees explain Jesus' ability to cast out demons? (24)**
 - He did it by the power of Beelzebub, ruler of the demons
- 6) What was the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit? (31-32)**
 - Attributing Jesus' ability to cast out demons to having an unclean spirit (cf. Mk 3:30)
- 7) For what will one give an account in the day of judgment? (36-37)**
 - Every idle word
- 8) What sign did Jesus say He would give to the Pharisees? (38-40)**
 - The Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth
- 9) Who did Jesus identify as His true family? (49-50)**
 - His disciples, i.e., whoever does the will of His Father in heaven

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Thirteen

Jesus began teaching in parables regarding the kingdom, seven recorded in this chapter (**Mt 13:1-9,18-33,36-52**). His goal appeared to separate the truth seekers from the curiosity seekers, as He explained the parables privately to His disciples (**Mt 13:10-17,34-35**). At Nazareth, He taught in the synagogue where He found an unreceptive audience (**53-58**).

Points To Ponder

- The purpose of parables
- What the parables reveal about the kingdom of heaven

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Seven parables concerning the kingdom of heaven - **Mt 13:1-9,18-33,36-52**
 - The purpose of parables - **Mt 13:10-17,34-35**
 - Jesus rejected at Nazareth - **Mt 13:53-58**
- 2) List the seven parables of Jesus found in this chapter (3,24,31,33,44,45,47)**
 - The parable of the sower
 - The parable of the wheat and tares
 - The parable of the mustard seed
 - The parable of the leaven
 - The parable of the hidden treasure
 - The parable of the pearl of great price
 - The parable of the dragnet
- 3) What was Jesus two-fold purpose in teaching in parables? (10-17,34-35,51-52)**
 - To keep truths of the kingdom hidden from those not seeking the truth
 - To illustrate truths of the kingdom to those with ears and hearts willing to listen
- 4) What does the parable of the sower illustrate? (3-9,18-23)**
 - Different types of listeners and their response to the word of the kingdom
- 5) What does the parable of the wheat and tares illustrate? (24-30,36-43)**
 - The efforts of the devil to undermine the work of the Son of Man
- 6) What do the parables of the mustard seed and the leaven illustrate? (31-34)**
 - The growth and spread of the kingdom heaven
- 7) What about the parables of the hidden treasure and pearl of great price? (44-46)**
 - The great worth of the kingdom, found accidentally or after diligent search
- 8) What does the parable of the dragnet illustrate? (47-52)**
 - The final makeup of the kingdom will be determined at the end of the age
- 9) Why was Jesus rejected by many at Nazareth? (53-58)**
 - They were apparently blinded by their familiarity with Him and His family

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Fourteen

Word of Jesus' ministry came to Herod the tetrarch, and Matthew tells how Herod killed John the Baptist (1-12). Hearing of John's death, Jesus sought privacy but was followed by the multitudes and fed over 5000 with five loaves and two fish (13-21). Sending His disciples away by boat, Jesus dispersed the crowd and went to the mountain to pray. He later joined His disciples by walking on the sea (22-33). In the land of Gennesaret, Jesus healed all who came to Him by simply letting them touch the hem of His garment (34-36).

Points To Ponder

- The unlawful marriage of Herod that led to John's death
- Two miracles that demonstrate Jesus' power over nature
- The inverse relationship between fear and faith

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The death of John the Baptist - **Mt 14:1-12**
 - Jesus feeds the five thousand - **Mt 14:13-21**
 - Jesus walks on the sea - **Mt 14:22-33**
 - Jesus heals many in Gennesaret - **Mt 14:34-36**
- 2) Who did Herod think Jesus was when he heard about Him? (1-2)**
 - John the Baptist, risen from the dead
- 3) What led to Herod's arrest of John the Baptist? (3-4)**
 - John's rebuke of Herod's unlawful marriage to Herodias (cf. **Mk 6:17-18**)
- 4) How was Herod tricked to have John beheaded? (6-10)**
 - By Salome's dance, Herod's foolish oath, and Herodias' prompting
- 5) When Jesus heard of John's death, what did He try to do? What happened? (13)**
 - Go to a deserted place; the multitudes followed Him
- 6) What prompted Jesus to heal the sick and feed the hungry? (14-15)**
 - His compassion for them
- 7) How many were fed, and with what? (16-21)**
 - 5000 men, besides women and children; five loaves and two fish
- 8) As Jesus walked on the sea, what led to Peter sinking? (25-31)**
 - Fear, which Jesus attributed to little faith
- 9) How were the sick in the land of Gennesaret healed? (34-36)**
 - As many as touched the hem of Jesus' garment

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Fifteen

Religious leaders from Jerusalem took issue with Jesus' disciples' failure to observe certain traditions, which led Jesus to warn against the danger of traditions and that which causes true moral defilement (1-20). After a quick trip to the region of Tyre and Sidon where He healed a Canaanite woman's daughter (21-28), Jesus made His way to a mountain near the Sea of Galilee where He healed many and fed 4000 with seven loaves and a few fish. He then sailed to the region of Magdala, located on the west coast of the Sea Of Galilee (29-39).

Points To Ponder

- The danger of traditions and vain worship
- That which causes true moral defilement

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Debate over tradition and moral defilement - **Mt 15:1-20**
 - Jesus heals the Canaanite woman's daughter - **Mt 15:21-28**
 - Jesus heals many and feeds the 4000 - **Mt 15:29-39**
- 2) What tradition of the elders had the disciples of Jesus transgressed? (1-2)**
 - To wash hands before eating bread
- 3) According to Jesus, when do traditions of men become wrong? (3-9)**
 - When one keeps a tradition of man instead of a commandment of God
 - When one teaches as doctrine (that which is binding) a commandment of man
- 4) When does worship become vain? (9)**
 - When such worship is based on the teachings of men rather than of God
- 5) What constitutes true moral defilement? (11,16-20)**
 - That which comes out of the mouth, i.e., evil thoughts and deeds from man's heart
- 6) What will happen to plants (religions, doctrines) not started by God? (13)**
 - They will be uprooted
- 7) How did Jesus describe the scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem? (14)**
 - As blind leaders of the blind
- 8) What moved Jesus to grant the Canaanite woman's request? (28)**
 - Her great faith
- 9) With what did Jesus feed more than 4000 people? (34-38)**
 - Seven loaves and a few little fish

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Sixteen

Pharisees and Sadducees asked Jesus for a sign. Exposing their hypocrisy, Jesus once again offered the sign of Jonah (cf. **Mt 12:38-40**). He then warned His disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees (**1-12**). At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked His disciples who people were saying that He was. When asked who they thought He was, Peter confessed Him to be the Christ. Jesus commended Peter and spoke of his role in His church, but then told the disciples to tell no one He was the Christ (**13-20**). Jesus then spoke of His death and resurrection, the cost of discipleship, and coming in His kingdom (**21-28**).

Points To Ponder

- The confession of Peter and Jesus' response
- The cost of discipleship

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The hypocrisy and leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees - **Mt 16:1-12**
 - Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ - **Mt 16:13-20**
 - Jesus predicts His death and resurrection, and the cost of discipleship - **Mt 16:21-28**
- 2) When asked for a sign, what sign did Jesus say would be given? (1-4)**
 - The sign of the prophet Jonah (i.e., His death and resurrection)
- 3) When Jesus warned of leaven, what did He mean? (5-12)**
 - The doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees
- 4) Who did Peter confess Jesus to be? (16)**
 - "The Christ, the Son of the living God"
- 5) What did Jesus say He would build? Upon what would it be built? (18)**
 - "I will build My church"
 - "this rock" (possibly Peter as an apostle, cf. **Ep 2:20**, or the truth of Peter's confession)
- 6) What did Jesus promise Peter? Was it limited to him? (19; cf. Mt 18:18)**
 - The keys of the kingdom, to bind and loose; it was also granted to the other apostles
- 7) What did Jesus begin to predict at that time? (21)**
 - His suffering in Jerusalem, death, and resurrection on the third day
- 8) What did Jesus demand of His disciples? How valuable is one's soul? (24,26)**
 - To deny self, take up one's cross and follow Him; more than the whole world
- 9) What promise did Jesus make regarding His kingdom? (28)**
 - Some would not die before seeing the Son of Man coming in His kingdom

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Seventeen

The events recorded in this chapter begin with Jesus transfigured on the mountain (1-13), referenced to later by Peter in his epistle (2Pe 1:16-18). Afterward Jesus healed a demon-possessed boy when His disciples were unable due to a lack of faith and prayer (14-21). Back in Galilee, Jesus once again predicted His death and resurrection (22-23). Upon arriving in Capernaum, Jesus expounded on the payment of the temple tax (24-27).

Points To Ponder

- The significance of the transfiguration
- The reason for the failure of a miracle

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The transfiguration of Jesus Christ - **Mt 17:1-13**
 - Jesus heals a demon-possessed boy - **Mt 17:14-21**
 - Jesus again predicts His death and resurrection - **Mt 17:22-23**
 - The payment of taxes - **Mt 17:24-27**
- 2) When was Jesus transfigured on the mount? (1)**
 - After six days of saying some would not die before seeing Him coming in His kingdom (cf. **Mt 16:28; Mk 9:1-2; Lk 9:27-28**)
- 3) Who appeared when Jesus was transfigured? What might they represent? (3)**
 - Moses and Elijah; the Law and the Prophets
- 4) What did the voice from the cloud say about Jesus? What might it indicate? (5)**
 - "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"
 - That Jesus would have priority over the Law and the Prophets
- 5) When were the disciples to tell others what they had seen? (9)**
 - Not until Jesus had risen from the dead
- 6) Who did Jesus say had come? Who had fulfilled that prophecy? (10-13)**
 - Elijah (cf. **Mal 4:5**); John the Baptist
- 7) Why were the disciples unable to heal the demon-possessed boy? (19-21)**
 - Because of their lack of faith and prayer
- 8) What did Jesus predict for the second time to His disciples? (22-23)**
 - His betrayal, death, and resurrection from the dead
- 9) Did Jesus teach His disciples to pay taxes? How did He pay the tax? (24-27)**
 - Yes (cf. **Mt 22:15-22**); by having Peter catch a fish with a coin in its mouth

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Eighteen

Answering a question by His disciples, Jesus taught the need for child-like humility and the danger of offenses to others and to self (**1-11**), followed with the parable of the lost sheep (**12-14**). Further instructions included how to deal with a sinning brother (**15-20**) and the need for a forgiving heart illustrated by the parable of the unforgiving servant (**21-35**).

Points To Ponder

- The need for humility, and concern for others in the kingdom
- Dealing with a sinning brother, and the importance of forgiveness

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Kingdom greatness and the danger of offenses - **Mt 18:1-11**
 - The parable of the lost sheep - **Mt 18:12-14**
 - Discipline and prayer - **Mt 18:15-20**
 - The parable of the unforgiving servant - **Mt 18:21-35**
- 2) Who will be greatest in the kingdom of heaven? (1-5)**
 - Those who are converted and humble themselves like a little child
- 3) How old was the little child that Jesus used as an example? (6)**
 - Old enough to believe, old enough to sin
- 4) What types of offenses does Jesus warn against? (6-9)**
 - Being an offense to believing children, and letting personal weakness cause you to sin
- 5) What parable illustrates the Father's concern for the lost? (12-14)**
 - The parable of the lost sheep
- 6) In dealing with a sinning brother, what steps should be taken? (15-18)**
 - Go and tell the brother his fault between you and him alone
 - If that doesn't work, take one or two more with you to serve as witnesses
 - If that doesn't work, tell it to the church
 - If that doesn't work, then no longer associate with him
- 7) What increases the likelihood that God will answer prayer? (19-20)**
 - When two or three pray together
- 8) How many times should we be willing to forgive a brother? (21-22)**
 - Up to seventy times seven (490); cf. seven times in one day, **Lk 17:3-4**
- 9) What grave warning is in the parable of the unforgiving servant? (33)**
 - "So My heavenly Father also will do to you..."

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Nineteen

In response to another test by the Pharisees, Jesus spoke on the issues of marriage, divorce and celibacy (1-12). Little children were brought to Him, whom He blessed (13-15). When a rich young ruler questioned Him concerning eternal life (16-22), Jesus used the occasion to teach His disciples about possessions in relation to the kingdom of God (23-30).

Points To Ponder

- Jesus' teachings related to marriage, divorce, and celibacy
- Possessions and rewards in reference to the kingdom of God

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Marriage, divorce and celibacy - **Mt 19:1-12**
 - Jesus blesses the little children - **Mt 19:13-15**
 - The rich young ruler - **Mt 19:16-22**
 - Possessions and the kingdom - **Mt 19:23-30**
- 2) Who is it that joins a man and woman in marriage? (6)**
 - God, not the state (government)
- 3) What exception does Jesus allow for divorce? Otherwise, what occurs? (9)**
 - Sexual immorality; adultery, cf. **Mt 5:32**
- 4) What price might be necessary for some to enter the kingdom of heaven? (12)**
 - To make themselves eunuchs (i.e., to remain in an unmarried state)
- 5) What did Jesus say about little children? (14)**
 - "Let the little children come to Me . . .for of such is the kingdom of heaven."
- 6) What did Jesus counsel the rich young ruler? (17,21)**
 - For eternal life, to keep the commandments (of Moses, still in force at that time)
 - To be perfect, sell all and give to the poor, and follow Him
- 7) What did Jesus say about being rich and the kingdom of heaven? (23-24)**
 - It is hard for the rich to enter the kingdom
 - It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle
- 8) What did Jesus promise to His apostles who left all to follow Him? (27-28)**
 - To sit on thrones and judge the twelve tribes of Israel in the regeneration
- 9) What did Jesus promise to all willing to leave much to follow Him (29-30)**
 - A hundredfold blessings in this life; in the life to come eternal life, cf. **Mk 10:29-30**

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty

Continuing His reply to Peter's question ("...what shall we have?"), Jesus told the parable of the laborers (1-16), then predicted His death and resurrection a third time as they headed toward Jerusalem (17-19). When the mother of James and John requested a special place for her sons in the kingdom, Jesus said it was not His to give. He used the occasion to teach all His apostles the principle of greatness through service (20-28). Leaving Jericho, Jesus gave sight to two blind men who would not let the crowds deter them (29-34).

Points To Ponder

- Should one delay in their obedience to the gospel?
- The danger of a mercenary spirit
- The importance of humble service

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The parable of the laborers - **Mt 20:1-16**
 - Jesus predicts His death and resurrection a third time - **Mt 20:17-19**
 - Greatness and serving in the kingdom - **Mt 20:20-28**
 - Jesus heals two blind men - **Mt 20:29-34**
- 2) Whose question had prompted the telling of the parable of the laborers? (1)**
 - Peter's, cf. **Mt 19:27**
- 3) What should not be deduced from this parable? Why? (1-10)**
 - That it is alright to put off obeying the invitation to obeying the gospel
 - Those who started later responded as soon as they were given opportunity, **Mt 20:6-7**
- 4) What is the main point of the parable of the laborers? (11-16)**
 - One should not begrudge others for receiving the same reward for less service
- 6) List the three passages in which Jesus foretold His death and resurrection**
 - **Mt 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:19-20**
- 7) Who asked Jesus for a privileged position in His kingdom? (20-21)**
 - The mother of Zebedee's sons (James and John) in their behalf
- 8) What quality is considered great in the kingdom? (25-28)**
 - Serving others, even as Jesus came to this earth to serve
- 9) What commendable spirit did the two blind men manifest? (30-31)**
 - Persistence in their request for mercy

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-One

Jesus began His Last Week before His crucifixion with a triumphant entry into Jerusalem (**1-11**), followed with dramatic acts like driving the moneychangers from the temple (**12-17**) and cursing the barren fig tree (**18-22**). His authority was soon challenged (**23-27**), and in response Jesus told the parables of the two sons (**28-32**) and the wicked vinedressers (**33-46**), understood by the religious leaders to be directed toward them.

Points To Ponder

- The significance of the triumphal entry, cleansing the temple, cursing the fig tree
- The conflict between Jesus and the religious leaders

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The triumphal entry - **Mt 21:1-11**
 - Jesus cleanses the temple - **Mt 21:12-17**
 - Jesus curses the fig tree - **Mt 21:18-22**
 - Jesus' authority questioned - **Mt 21:23-27**
 - The parable of the two sons - **Mt 21:28-32**
 - The parable of the wicked vinedressers - **Mt 21:33-46**
- 2) What prophecy was fulfilled by Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem? (4-5)**
 - The prophecy by Zechariah, **Zec 9:9**
- 3) Why was Jesus angry at the merchandising going on in the temple? (13)**
 - God's house of prayer had been turned into a den of thieves
- 4) Why were the religious leaders angry with Jesus? (15)**
 - For what they saw Jesus doing, and what they heard people saying
- 5) What might the cursing of the barren fig tree signify? (19)**
 - The Lord's displeasure and coming judgment upon Israel's leaders
- 6) Where does authority in religion come from? (25)**
 - Either from heaven (the Word of God) or from men (teachings of men)
- 7) Who did the two sons in the parable represent? (28-32)**
 - The first son: tax collectors and harlots who repented at the preaching of John
 - The second son: religious leaders who did not believe John
- 8) What prophecy foretold that religious leaders would reject Jesus? (42)**
 - The one found in **Ps 118:22-23**

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Two

Jesus told a third parable directed toward the religious leaders: the parable of the wedding feast (1-14). The leaders responded as various factions tried to trip Jesus with questions. Pharisees and Herodians asked Jesus about paying taxes to Caesar (15-22), Sadducees presented an argument against the resurrection of the dead (23-33), and a lawyer asked what was the greatest commandment of the Law (34-40). Jesus answered easily, and then silenced them with a question of His own regarding the Christ as David's son (41-46).

Points To Ponder

- Many are called, but few are chosen
- Paying taxes, the resurrection, and the greatest commandment
- How Christ is both David's son and David's Lord

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The parable of the wedding feast - **Mt 22:1-14**
 - Pharisees with Herodians: Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar? - **Mt 22:15-22**
 - Sadducees: What about the resurrection of the dead? - **Mt 22:23-33**
 - Lawyer: What is the great commandment in the Law? - **Mt 22:34-40**
 - Jesus: How can Christ be both David's son and David's Lord? - **Mt 22:41-46**
- 2) What two groups are depicted in the parable of the wedding feast? (3,11)**
 - Those who refuse the invitation; those who accept, but improperly adorned
- 3) How did Pharisees and Herodians try to entangle Jesus in His talk? (15-17)**
 - By asking whether it was lawful to pay taxes to Caesar
- 4) What did Jesus reply that prompted them to marvel? (21-22)**
 - "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
- 5) How did Sadducees try to trip Jesus? (23-28)**
 - With a hypothetical situation intended to show the resurrection is an impossibility
- 6) What two-fold answer did Jesus give the Sadducees? (29-32)**
 - Marital relations don't exist after death; **Exo 3:6** proves the dead still exist
- 7) What were the two greatest commandments in the Law? (37-38)**
 - Love God with all your heart, soul, mind; love your neighbor as yourself
- 8) How can Christ be both David's son and David's Lord? (45)**
 - His son by virtue of physical ancestry, his Lord by virtue of His deity

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Three

With the religious leaders silenced by their inability to entangle Jesus with their questions, Jesus proceeded to decry the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees in a series of scorching rebukes (1-36). Despite His strong condemnation, His love for them was manifested by His lament for the people of Jerusalem (37-39).

Points To Ponder

- The hypocrisy of the scribes and the Pharisees
- Jesus' grief over the apostasy and fall of Jerusalem

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus denounces the religious leaders - **Mt 23:1-36**
 - Jesus laments over Jerusalem - **Mt 23:37-39**
- 2) What does Jesus tell people to do in regards to the scribes and Pharisees? (3)**
 - Do what they say, even though they do not practice what they preach
- 3) List some things for which Jesus rebuked the scribes and Pharisees (3-7)**
 - They say, and do not
 - They bind burdens on others they themselves would not bear
 - Their works they do to be seen of men
 - They make their phylacteries broad, enlarge the borders of their garments
 - They love the best places at feasts, best seats in the synagogues
 - They love greetings in the marketplaces, to be called "Rabbi"
- 4) What did Jesus tell His disciples not to do? Why? (8-11)**
 - Not to use religious titles like "Rabbi", "Father", "Teacher"
 - Rather than be esteemed by such titles, they were to be humble servants
- 5) List the reasons for the eight woes expressed by Jesus (13,14,15,16,23,25,27,29)**
 - Preventing others from entering the kingdom of heaven
 - Devouring widows' houses and making long, pretentious prayers
 - Making proselytes twice the sons of hell as themselves
 - Making inconsistent distinctions between the swearing of oaths
 - Paying tithes of minute things while neglecting justice, mercy, faith
 - Cleaning the outside while neglecting the inside
 - Outwardly appearing righteous while inwardly full of hypocrisy and lawlessness
 - Building the tombs of the prophets while persecuting prophets
- 6) What did Jesus say was the condition of Jerusalem? (38)**
 - "See! Your house is left to you desolate"

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Four

This chapter records the beginning of the Olivet discourse, prompted by questions following Jesus' prediction of the destruction of the temple (1-3). It involves the destruction of Jerusalem which occurred in 70 A.D., though many also see intertwining references to the Second Coming of Christ (4-51).

Points To Ponder

- The fulfillment of events foretold by Jesus in this chapter
- The importance of being prepared and productive

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The destruction of the temple foretold - **Mt 24:1-3**
 - The sign when things would soon occur - **Mt 24:4-28**
 - Events after the tribulation in those days - **Mt 24:29-35**
 - The need to be prepared and productive - **Mt 24:36-51**
- 2) What questions were prompted by Jesus' prediction? (3)**
 - "When will these things be? What will be the sign...?"
- 3) What did Jesus say would not be the sign? (4-13)**
 - False christs, wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, persecution, lawlessness
- 4) What would happen before the "end" would come? (14)**
 - The gospel preached in all the world (cf. **Mk 16:15; Ro 10:16-18; Co 1:23**)
- 5) What would be the sign for those in Judea to flee? (15-16; cf. Lk 21:20-21)**
 - The abomination of desolation (Jerusalem surrounded by armies)
- 6) What would happen immediately after the tribulation of those days? (29-31)**
 - Cataclysmic events involving celestial bodies (sun, moon, stars)
 - The sign of the Son of Man, His coming on clouds of heaven, gathering the elect
- 7) Where else is language like this used to describe judgment upon a nation?**
 - Against Babylon, Egypt, Edom, Assyria cf. **Isa 13:6-13; 19:1-2; 34:4-6; Nah 1:1-5**
- 8) What would not pass away before these things would be fulfilled? (34)**
 - The generation of people when Jesus lived on the earth
- 9) Why did Jesus stress the importance of preparation and productivity? (36-51)**
 - No one knows the day or hour
 - The Son of Man will come unexpectedly
 - His servants will be judged by their faithful service

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Five

Jesus continued His discourse on the Mount of Olives with two parables illustrating the need to be prepared and productive: 1) the wise and foolish virgins (1-13), and 2) the talents (14-30). He concluded the discourse by predicting His judgment of the nations on how they treated His brethren (31-46).

Points To Ponder

- The importance of being prepared and productive
- The basis upon which nations are to be judged

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Parable of the wise and foolish virgins - **Mt 25:1-13**
 - Parable of the talents - **Mt 25:14-30**
 - The judgment of the nations - **Mt 25:31-46**
- 2) What parable illustrates the importance of being prepared? (1-13)**
 - The parable of the wise and foolish virgins
- 3) Why is it imperative that one always be prepared? (13)**
 - "...for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."
- 4) Which "coming" is Jesus talking about? (13)**
 - Either His coming in judgment on Jerusalem or His Second Coming, possibly both
- 5) What parable illustrates the importance of being productive? (14-30)**
 - The parable of the talents
- 6) Based on this parable, what does Jesus expect of His disciples? (15,21,26-27)**
 - To use what "talents" we have to the best of our ability and opportunity
- 7) In the judgment depicted, who is being judged? On what basis? (32,40,45)**
 - All the nations; their treatment of Jesus' brethren (His disciples)
- 8) Where is there a similar judgment portrayed in the Old Testament?**
 - **Joel 3:1-2,12-14**, in which nations are judged based on their treatment of Israel
- 9) Even if such "judgments" are limited to the nations, what do they foreshadow?**
 - The coming of the Lord to judge all men at the end of time, cf. **Ac 17:31; 2Co 5:10**
- 10) How are punishment and reward described in this chapter? (34,41,46)**
 - The righteous: inherit the kingdom, go away into eternal life
 - The wicked: into the everlasting fire, go away into everlasting punishment

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Six

This lengthy chapter describes the flurry of events leading to Jesus' arrest and trial, with the plot to kill Jesus (**1-5,14-16**), Jesus' anointment by Mary (**6-13**), the last Passover supper and institution of the Lord's Supper (**17-35**), Jesus' prayers in the garden (**36-46**), the betrayal by Judas and accompanying arrest (**47-56**), the appearance before Caiaphas and the council (**57-68**), and Peter's denial as foretold by Jesus (**69-75**).

Points To Ponder

- The events leading to the arrest of Jesus
- The institution of the Lord's Supper
- Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The plot to kill Jesus - **Mt 26:1-5,14-16** - The garden of Gethsemane - **Mt 26:36-46**
 - Jesus anointed at Bethany - **Mt 26:6-13** - Betrayal and arrest - **Mt 26:47-56**
 - The last supper - **Mt 26:17-35** - Before Caiaphas and council - **Mt 26:57-68**
 - Peter denies Jesus - **Mt 26:69-75**
- 2) Who plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him? (3-4)**
 - The chief priests, scribes, elders, along with Caiaphas the high priest
- 3) What did Jesus say would be done for Mary who anointed Him? (13)**
 - Her kind deed would be proclaimed throughout the world as a memorial to her
- 4) For how much did Judas agree with the chief priests to betray Jesus? (14-15)**
 - Thirty pieces of silver
- 5) What did Jesus institute while eating the Passover? (26-28; cf. 1Co 11:17-34)**
 - The Lord's Supper
- 6) What did Jesus predict would happen that night? (31-35)**
 - All His disciples would stumble, Peter would deny Him three times
- 7) What did Jesus pray for three times in the garden of Gethsemane (39,42,44)**
 - "...let this cup pass from Me, nevertheless not as I will, but as You will"
- 8) What claim was Jesus willing to accept at His trial? (63-64)**
 - That He was the Christ, the Son of God
- 9) After Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, what did he do? (75)**
 - He went out and wept bitterly

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Seven

Prevented by law from carrying out execution, the religious leaders sent Jesus to Pilate who condemned Him to be crucified (1-2,10-31). Meanwhile, Judas returned the betrayal money and hanged himself (3-9). Crucified along with two thieves, Jesus expired after six hours (32-56). His body was buried in Joseph's tomb, secured by Roman guards (57-66).

Points To Ponder

- The events leading to the crucifixion
- The abuse Jesus suffered prior to His actual death

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus before Pilate and his soldiers - **Mt 27:1-2,10-31**
 - Judas hangs himself - **Mt 27:3-9**
 - Jesus' crucifixion and death - **Mt 27:32-56**
 - Jesus buried and tomb secured - **Mt 27:57-66**
- 2) What did Judas do when he realized Jesus was condemned? (3-5)**
 - Returned the betrayal money and then hanged himself
- 3) What did Jesus confess to Pilate? (11)**
 - He was the King of the Jews
- 4) Who was released instead of Jesus? (15-26)**
 - Barabbas, a notorious prisoner
- 5) What abuse did the Roman soldiers inflict on Jesus? (26,28-31)**
 - Scourged, stripped, crowned with thorns, mocked, spat upon, struck with a reed
- 6) Who helped bear Jesus' cross? Where was Jesus crucified? (32-33)**
 - Simon of Cyrene; Golgotha (Place of a Skull)
- 7) Who blasphemed and mocked Jesus as He hung on the cross? (39)**
 - Those who passed by, including the chief priests, elders, and scribes
- 8) What did the guards confess after seeing the events following Jesus' death? (54)**
 - "Truly this was the Son of God!"
- 9) Where was Jesus buried? Who saw where He was buried? (57-61)**
 - In Joseph's tomb; Mary Magdalene and the "other" Mary (cf. **Mt 27:56**)
- 10) Why was a Roman guard placed at the tomb of Jesus? (62-66)**
 - To prevent the disciples from stealing the body and saying He rose from the dead

The Gospel Of Matthew

Chapter Twenty-Eight

On the first day of the week following His crucifixion, Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week and appeared first to the two Marys, giving them instructions for the disciples to meet Him in Galilee (1-10). Meanwhile the chief priests and elders bribed the soldiers to say that the disciples stole the body (11-15). When the disciples met Jesus in Galilee, He charged them to go and make disciples of all the nations (16-20).

Points To Ponder

- The circumstances of Jesus' resurrection
- The details of the Great Commission

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The resurrection of Jesus - **Mt 28:1-10**
 - The soldiers are bribed - **Mt 28:11-15**
 - The Great Commission - **Mt 28:16-20**
- 2) Who came to the tomb at dawn on the first day of the week? (1)**
 - Mary Magdalene and the "other" Mary (cf. **Mt 27:56,61**)
- 3) What had happened by the time they got there? (2)**
 - An earthquake, and the stone from the door removed by an angel of the Lord
- 4) What were the two women instructed by the angel to do? (7)**
 - Tell Jesus' disciples that He is risen from the dead and for them to go to Galilee
- 5) Who appeared to the two women on their way to the disciples? (9-10)**
 - Jesus Himself, who gave them the same instructions as did the angel
- 6) What makes the soldiers' lie about the body of Jesus fatally flawed? (13)**
 - If the soldiers were asleep, how did they know it was the disciples?
- 7) When the disciples saw Jesus in Galilee, what was their reaction? (16-17)**
 - They worshiped Him (cf. **Mt 28:9**), though some doubted
- 8) What did Jesus claim had been given to Him? (18)**
 - All authority in heaven and on earth
- 9) What did Jesus charge His disciples to do? What did that involve? (19-20)**
 - To go and make disciples of all nations; baptizing and teaching
- 10) What did Jesus promise His disciples? (20)**
 - "I am with you always, even to the end of the age."