



NT Book:

MATTHEW



Who: The Disciple Matthew

- We do not have on record a time in the early church when this book was not accepted as his
- See Matthew 9:9-13

What: Matthew could be subtitled, *"The sayings, life and times of Jesus Christ—ho is King and Messiah."*

Where:

- Likely written in Israel
- Likely written to Jewish audience
- There are more Old Testament passages quoted in Matthew than in any other NT book.

When:

- The book may have used portions of Mark as a reference point
- This book was known of early—but perhaps a "Sayings of Jesus" contained in the book existed before as a collection
- Possible authorship: AD 60-80

Why:

- To prove that Jesus is the Messiah—that he fulfilled OT prophesy and hopes of the Messiah
- Perhaps to unify the church which was more and more divided between Jew and Gentile

People:

- **Individuals** — Jesus Christ / John the Baptist / Peter / Pilate / Judas / Caiaphas / Joseph
- **Groups** — The 12 Disciples / Pharisees / Sanhedrin / Chief Priests / Teachers of the Law / Gentiles / Essenes / Revolutionaries / Hellenized Jews / Samaritans / Magi

Places:

- Sea of Galilee / Galilee / Jerusalem / Egypt / Gethsemane / Mount of Transfiguration

Famous Passages:

- 5:1-7:29 — Sermon on the Mount (Largest concentration of JC Teaching in NT)
- 13:1-25 — Parable of the Sower
- 14:22-36 — Walking on Water
- 16:13-20 — Peter's Confession / Keys to the Kingdom

Memorization:

- 9:37-38 — Harvest is plentiful / workers are few
- 22:36-40 — The Greatest Commandment

Themes:

- Fulfillment of OT Prophecy in Jesus Christ
- Jesus as Messiah — a "New Moses" portrayal even (birth, early life elements, healings, teachings, arrest, death, resurrection)
- Jesus as "From Jews" but "For All"
- Founding of the Church — the Kingdom of Heaven (*ekklesia* in 16:18 & 18:17)
- Practical teachings about practical circumstances in a believers life

Sonar (Discussion Topics & Notes):

- 1) Why Parables? — The teaching and questions of JC
- 2) Is Jesus the Jewish Messiah? Is it important that He is?
- 3) The "Apocalypse of Jesus" (24) / The Kingdom of Heaven — 50 times
- 4) Those that think they are saved aren't — call to repentance for religious leaders
- 5) Did Jesus Abolish the Law? Compare & Contrast Matthew 5:17 with Ephesians 2:15

Size: 28 Chapters / 1,071 verses / Pages 717-743 in SLWC Pew Bible

Location: After Malichi Before Mark / 1st NT Book / $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way through

Features: Genealogy of JC / Parabolic teachings of JC / Sermon on the Mount / Triumphal Entry (Palm Sunday) / Answering questions with more questions / 60% of the book is JC's spoken words / The Apocalypse of Jesus

Structure:

- JC's Early life 1:1-4:25
- Sermon on the Mount 5:1-7:29
- Events and Teachings 8:1-12:50
- Parables of JC 13:1-52
- More Events and Teachings 13:53-19:30
- JC in Jerusalem 20:1-25:46
- JC Death, Burial & Resurrection 26:1-28:20