

Matthew: "The Perfect Man"

Pastor Kent Groethe

INTRODUCTION:

The book of Matthew does not have the name of the writer in it, but all the early church leaders who lived after the death of Jesus and the disciples all agree it was indeed Matthew. It was penned between 50 and 90 AD. His audience was fellow Jews whom he wanted to convince was the promised Messiah prophesied about in the Old Testament.

Matthew portrays Jesus as the second Moses but with greater demands and harsher laws:

1. Matthew clumps all of Jesus' words into five sections, mirroring the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament (also know as the Law and the Books of Moses).
2. The first clump is the sermon on the mount. Just like Moses got the law from Mt. Sinai, Jesus proclaims the law on a mountain. He mentions two of the ten commandments when he states, "You have heard it said, 'you shall not commit adultery.' and 'You have heard it was said to the people long ago, you shall not murder.'"
3. Only Matthew and Luke contain genealogies. Luke goes back to Adam because his gospel is concerned with all people, Jews, and non-Jews. Because Matthew's audience are Jews, he only needs to go back to Abraham.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." Matthew 5:17-18

The Sermon on the Mount is the new law that should convict all people. All are imperfect

It demands people to: Rejoice in persecution (5:11-12), Be the salt of the earth (5:13), Be the light of the world (5:14), Do not be angry at anyone (5:21-22), Do not lust (5:27-28), fulfill all oaths (5: 33-35), love your enemies (5:44), pray for those who hurt you (5:44), don't be proud or boastful of spiritual feats (6:1-3), forgive everyone (6:14-16), do not worry (6:25), do not judge others (7:1), be perfect (5:48).

Jesus is the hope for sinners or, "How will you escape being condemned to hell?" Matthew 23:33

"[Mary] will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name of Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20-21 (by being the perfect man)

How do we access God's salvation in Christ?

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come clear." (John 3:2; Jesus 4:17, disciples 10:7)

Now what is the task of the saved? The Great Commission: Matthew 28:18-20

THE GOSPELS

In the New Testament, there are four separate accounts of Jesus' life written by four different _____, with four different _____. Yet, all four convey the "good news" that Jesus, the Messiah and incarnation of God Himself, died on the cross for humanity's sin, then rose and was resurrected from the dead in order to reconcile the world to the Creator.

	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
Author	original disciple	John Mark	Paul's Companion	original disciple
Audience				
Sources	Jesus/Mark	Peter	Paul	Jesus
Date	60s or 70s A.D.	50s or 60s A.D.	60s or 70s A.D.	90s A.D.?
Emphasis	Jesus and the OT	Just the Facts	The Holy Spirit	Jesus is God
Key Metaphor	King	Son of Man	Savior	Son of God
% Unique	42 %	7 %	59 %	93 %
Misc.	Jesus' 5 discourses Sermon on Mount	The First Gospel Jesus' birth	the Holy Spirit the poor	Jesus = God metaphors
Start	Jesus' birth	Jesus' baptism	Jesus' birth	beginning