

Matthew Outline

Introduction: Often called the “Jewish Gospel” the Gospel of Matthew does emphasize the Hebrew tradition and language more so than any other Gospel. Matthew borrows from the Gospel of Mark and shares some material in common with the Gospel of Luke. Far from being merely a derivative work, however, the Gospel of Matthew takes these sources and shapes them into a unique and masterful depiction of Jesus following a five-fold structure modeled after the Pentateuch and imaging Jesus as a new and more powerful Moses.

Prelude: The Infancy narrative

Chapter 1: Genealogy (Starts with David and Abraham); birth

Chapter 2: Visit of the magi; escape to Egypt; massacre of infants; return to Nazareth

Section One: Beginnings and sermon on the mount

Chapter 3: John the Baptist and baptism of Jesus

Chapter 4: Temptation of Jesus; start of ministry in Galilee; call of disciples

Chapter 5: Beatitudes; call to be salt and light; Jesus’ call to exceed law

Chapter 6: Practicing piety in secret; Lord’s prayer; “lilies of the field” teaching

Chapter 7: Do not judge; ask and receive; narrow gate; house on rock not sand

Section Two: Healings and sermon on mission

Chapter 8: Jesus cleanses leper; heals Centurion’s servant; heals many at Peter’s home;
Jesus stills storm; heals Gadarene demoniac

Chapter 9: Jesus heals paralytic; the call of Matthew; dinner with tax collectors and sinners;
Question about fasting; girl raised and woman healed; more healings

Chapter 10: Jesus describes mission, the sending, of the twelve: persecutions; no fear;
Jesus describes the cost of discipleship; words about hospitality

Section Three: Opposition and sermon of parables

Chapter 11: Jesus and John the Baptist; woe to cities; Jesus and Wisdom

Chapter 12: Plucking grain on Sabbath; healing of man on Sabbath; healing of crowds on
Sabbath; Pharisees accuse Jesus; tree and fruit; sign of Jonah; true family

*Chapter 13: Parable of sower; purpose of parables; parable of wheat and tares; mustard
seed; parable of yeast; explanation of weeds; three parables; rejection of
Jesus*

Section Four: Miracles and sermon on community

Chapter 14: Death of John the Baptist; feeding of five thousand; walks on water

Chapter 15: Jesus attacks Pharisees; Canaanite woman; feeding of four thousand

Chapter 16: Demand for sign; Peter names Jesus as Messiah; Jesus’ messianic declaration

Chapter 17: Transfiguration; heals boy with demon; temple tax

Chapter 18: True greatness; temptation; lost sheep; discipline and members; forgiveness;
Parable of unforgiving servant

Section Five: Judean ministry and sermon on kingdom of God

Chapter 19: Teaching on divorce; blessing children; rich young man

Chapter 20: Parable of laborers; request of mothers

Chapter 21: Entry into Jerusalem; cleansing of temple; cursing of fig tree; parable of two
Sons; parable of wicked tenants

Chapter 22: Parable of wedding banquet; paying taxes; resurrection; greatest commandment

Chapter 23: Jesus attacks scribes and Pharisees; lament over Jerusalem

Chapter 24: Destruction of temple prediction; little apocalypse

Chapter 25: Ten bridesmaids; talents; judgment of the nations

Postlude: Crucifixion, death, and resurrection

Chapter 26: Passover; Last supper; Gethsemene; arrest of Jesus; Peter's denial

Chapter 27: Jesus and Pilate; suicide of Judas; Barabbas or Jesus; Crucifixion; Death; burial

Chapter 28: Resurrection; commissioning of disciples

Stories to know: Know the infancy story of Matthew (Chapters 1-2); know the sermon on the mount paying special attention to the beatitudes (Chapter 5); know the three great parables of Chapter 25