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The Daily Bible Reader 2015

JULY 2015
MATTHEW

Matthew

Memory Verse: *"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." - Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)*

We will be reading through Matthew this month. Our schedule is divided into weekly readings. By reading at least one chapter each day you should be able to finish the readings each week. May God bless you as you feast on his Word each day!

Schedule

July 1-4
Matthew 1-3

July 5-11
Matthew 4-10

July 12-18
Matthew 11-17

July 19-25
Matthew 18-24

July 26-31
Matthew 25-28

The four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, tell us about the life of Jesus. Matthew, Mark and Luke are called the "synoptic" gospels because they view this story from a common perspective. After introducing us to the life of Jesus in different ways, they record the ministry of John, the baptist, the baptism and temptation of Jesus, His ministries in Galilee and Judea, His death and resurrection.

The gospel of Matthew is located at the beginning of the New Testament. This is not because it was the first New Testament book written, but rather because, more than any of the other Gospels, it emphasizes Jesus' relation to the Old Testament. Matthew, an unpopular tax collector for the Romans, is most likely the author of this book.

According to *Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts*, Matthew may be outlined as follows: 1) the Presentation of the King (Ch1:1-4:11), 2) the Proclamation of the King (Ch. 4:12-7:29), 3) the Power of the King (Ch. 8:1-11:1), 3) the Progressive Rejection of the King (Ch. 11:2-16:12), 4) the Preparation of the King's Disciples (Ch. 16:13- 20:28), 5) the Rejection of the King (Ch.20:29-27:66), and 6) the proof of the King (Ch. 28:1-20). Matthew is the only gospel to explicitly mention the church (Mt. 16:18).

In His baptism, Jesus identified with the people he came to save. He was also declared by God to be his Son. During his earthly life Jesus ministered in Galilee and beyond. During this time he offered proof of His identity through wonders and signs, and he instructed the disciples in the meaning of true discipleship. After his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus was tried and unjustly executed for treason and blasphemy. His miraculous resurrection would finish God's redemptive work and guarantee a heavenly home for those who believe in him.

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