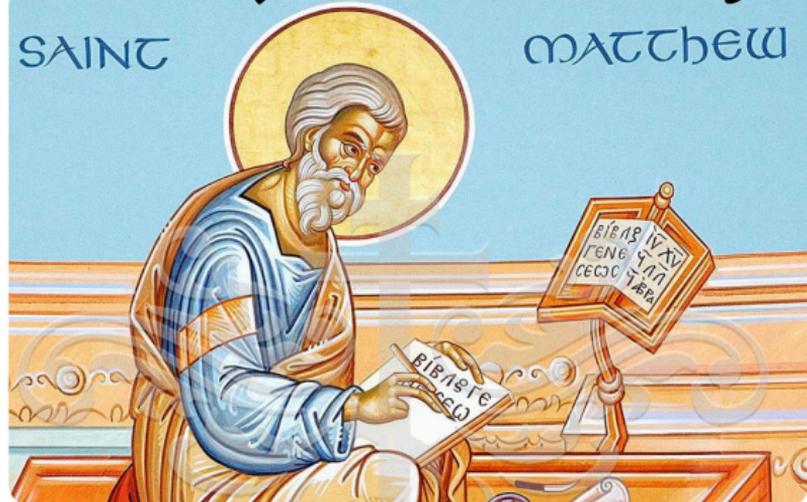


The Gospel According To



The first book of the New Testament is the **Gospel** of Matthew. The Gospels tell the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the "**Synoptic Gospels.**"

"Gospel" is a word that means "Good News."

"Synoptic" means to look together, Matthew, Mark, and Luke's Gospels follow a similar structure compared to John.

DATE AND AUTHORSHIP

- Matthew was likely written to Jewish Christians around 75 AD or later.
- Matthew is technically anonymous, but early Christians believed it to be written by the disciple, Matthew

KEY THEMES AND IDEAS

Jesus as fulfillment. Matthew uses the word "fulfill" 15 times. Fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies does not mean that the prophets were only talking about Jesus, but that old things are happening again, and in a fuller sense. Jesus is a fuller-filling of OT promises.

Jesus as a new and better leader. Jesus is portrayed as a new Abraham, Moses, and David. Abraham is the first of a new community. Moses was the authoritative teacher, and David was the ruler of the kingdom. Jesus does all these things in new and better ways.

Jesus as Messiah. Jesus is anointed by God, to be God's agent for covenant and community renewal. In Matthew, this is proven by Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and his teaching.

"Messiah" is Hebrew for "anointed one." The Greek word "Christ" is the same.

Structure of Matthew

KEY VERSES

- 3:15 - Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.”
- 5:17 - “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.”
- 28:19-20 - “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

1-10 - THE ORIGIN OF JESUS AS MESSIAH

- 1-4: Narrative 1 – Jesus, son of Abraham, is shown to be the one who fulfills Scripture’s promises by the manner of his birth and his actions
- 5-7: Speech 1 - Jesus reveals his authority to redefine Righteousness
- 8-9:35: Narrative 2 - Jesus reveals his authority in three cycles of three miracles
- 9:36-10:42: Speech 2 – Jesus communicates his authority to the disciples and sends them on their mission as an extension of his.

11-17 - RESPONSES TO JESUS

- 11-12: Narrative 3 – Jesus is shown to be the “One who is to Come” because he performs “the deeds of the Messiah”
- 13:1-52: Speech 3 – Jesus uses parables to show that the Kingdom of God is mysterious and contains both faithful and unfaithful
- 13:53-17:27: Narrative 4 – Various characters respond to Jesus

18-25 - THE RESPONSE OF JESUS

- 18: Speech 4 – Jesus explains compassion and forgiveness required for the Kingdom
- 19-22: Narrative 5 – Jesus debates his opponents and shows that one’s status in the kingdom depends on how well one obeys God
- 23-25: Speech 5 – Jesus pronounces judgment on the Pharisees and the scribes and on the whole world

26-28 - DEATH AND VINDICATION OF JESUS

- Narrative 6 – The obedient and righteous Jesus, betrayed by his disciple to the schemes of his opponents, dies as the Son of God and is raised from the dead to inherit the universal authority by which he commissions his disciples to make disciples.