

Through the Bible Course

**Matthew**

**January 11, 1948**

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Key Word: Kingdom

Key Verse: 2:2

The Gospels were not written as a biography of Christ, but rather as a revelation of His person. They do not tell us all about Him, but give us enough to reveal Him unto us.

To whom the Gospels were first written and why:

Matthew – written to Jews to prove Jesus the Messiah

Mark – written to Romans to show Jesus as the servant of God

Luke – written to Greeks to show Jesus as perfect man

John – written to Christians to prove Jesus was divine Son of God

Purpose: To present Jesus from the Jewish point of view, showing that He was the promised Messiah of the seed of Abraham through the kingly line of David. Notice how many quotations from Old Testament and the oft recurring phrase, “This was done that it might be fulfilled.”

Arrangement: This Gospel is not chronologically arranged but is arranged by miracles, parables, and discourses to prove He was the Messiah who was foretold in Old Testament prophecies.

I. Chapters 1 through 12 – The King and the Offer of the Kingdom

1. Chapter 1 – the King, His genealogy and His birth
  - a. verses 1-17 – His genealogy
  - b. verses 18-25 – His birth
2. Chapter 2 – the reception of the King
  - a. verses 1-12 – visit of wise men
  - b. verses 13-18 – flight to Egypt, slaughter of children
  - c. verses 19-23 – the return from Egypt to Nazareth
3. Chapters 3:1-4:11 – preparation for ministry
  - a. chapter 3:1-12 – the forerunner
  - b. chapter 3:13-17 – the baptism – Father vouched for
  - c. chapter 4:1-11 – the testing of the King
4. Chapter 4:12-25 – Christ begins His ministry
  - a. verses 18-25 – Christ called Peter, Andrew, James and John
5. Chapters 5-7 – the Sermon on the Mount (the constitution of the kingdom)
6. Chapters 8-9 – the King manifested by divine power
  - a. manifested His power over leper (sin), disease, nature, evil spirits
  - b. these interspersed with discourses
7. Chapter 10 – the twelve instructed and sent forth

- a. notice limitations placed upon field and message
- 8. Chapter 11 – the question of John the Baptist and Christ’s answer
  - a. verses 20-27 – Jews upbraided for unbelief
  - b. verses 28-30 – His glorious invitation
- 9. Chapter 12 – direct opposition and open antagonism
  - a. verses 1-21 – questions about the Sabbath and Christ’s answer
  - b. verses 22-32 – the blasphemy of Pharisees and the unpardonable sin
  - c. verses 33-37 – tree is either good or bad
  - d. verses 38-45 – foretells His resurrection by sign of Jonah
  - e. verses 46-50 – uses incident with mother and brethren to foretell a new relationship

## II. Chapters 13 through 27 – The Rejected Kingdom and the Rejection of the King

- 1. Chapter 13 – the mysteries of the kingdom told by using seven parables
  - a. verses 53-58 – again rejected at Nazareth
- 2. Chapter 14 – John beheaded, Jesus feeds 5,000 and walks on water
- 3. Chapter 15 – rebukes scribes and Pharisees, heals a Syrophenician (a Gentile); also heals a multitude and feeds 4,000
- 4. Chapter 16 – Peter’s confession, announces establishment of His Church and foretells His death and resurrection
- 5. Chapter 17 – the Mount of Transfiguration where His death is discussed. The powerless disciples and mighty Christ.
- 6. Chapter 18 – emphasizes importance of child-like attitude and of children. Parable of lost sheep and law of forgiveness
- 7. Chapter 19 – leaves Galilee and goes to Judea. Discourse on divorce and meeting with rich young ruler. Declares there will be rewards.
- 8. Chapter 20 – parable of laborers in vineyard. Again foretells His death and resurrection. Answers mother of James and John. Heals two blind men.
- 9. Chapter 21 – the King publicly offers Himself in Jerusalem; purifies the temple. Curses fig tree, showing final rejection of Jews. Tells parable of two sons and the householder demanding fruit.
- 10. Chapter 22 – parable of marriage feast followed by answering Herodians, Sadducees and Pharisees.
- 11. Chapter 23 – denounces Pharisees and pronounces woes upon them, followed by lamentation over Jerusalem because they had rejected Him.
- 12. Chapters 24-25 – The Olivet Discourse. This discourse announces the coming of the King in glory; His testing His servants and judging the nations.
- 13. Chapters 26-27 – the crucifixion of the King – Christ being sold, denied, scourged, tried and crucified.

## III. Chapter 28 – The Triumph of the King

Here we have an account of His resurrection, appearances, and the Great Commission.