

Matthew: *The King and His Kingdom*

Introduction

Contains some of the best known passages in the NT: Golden Rule, Lord’s Prayer, Sermon on the Mount, and the Great Commission.

I. The Author—While the book is anonymous, church tradition attributes the book to the apostle Matthew. The earliest manuscripts of the book bear the superscription *kata Matththaios* (“According to Matthew”). Matthew (“gift of God”) was a Jewish tax collector named Levi before his call to follow Jesus (Matt 9:9).

II. The Audience—Matthew was written to a Jewish audience as an apologetic. The book contains 129 references (53 citations and 76 allusions) from the OT from 25 books. Matthew contains 11 OT fulfillment formulas (“that it might be fulfilled”). Matthew was probably the first gospel written. A suggested date of AD 50-55 is best.

III. The Aim—*Matthew was written to a Jewish audience to prove Jesus is the messianic King promised in the OT, to explain the plan of God during the present age in light of Jewish rejection of Jesus, and to assure them that Jesus is alive and will return in triumph as King to establish His kingdom.*

IV. The Arrangement—

The Gospel of Matthew																
Focus	Preparation						Proclamation									
Divisions	Arrival of Messiah	Teaching of Messiah	Healing of Messiah	Reaction to Messiah	Sermons of Messiah	Parables of Messiah	Prophecies of Messiah	Finished Work of Messiah								
	1	4	5	7	8	11	12	15	16	19	20	23	24	25	26	28
Topics	Teaching All men						Teaching 12 Men									
	Increasing Acceptance						Increasing Antagonism									
Place	Bethlehem / Nazareth			Galilee			Jerusalem									
Time	4 B.C. - A.D. 33															
Author	The Apostle Matthew															

Discourse / Narrative Pattern (5 main discourses followed by a narrative section)

Sermon on the Mount (5-7)

Sending out of the 12 Apostles (10:5-11:1)

Parables of the Kingdom (13)

Community Discourse (18:1-19:1)

Eschatological Discourse (24-25)

Each ends with “*when Jesus had finished these words*”

V. The Analysis

**Jesus recapitulates the history of Israel (and Moses)

Matthew 1—4

Matthew 5—28 (Alternating Discourse / Narrative Pattern)

VI. The Application

1. Jesus is the promised Messiah.
2. People are slow to believe—hard-hearted.
3. God knows the future—literal fulfillment of prophecy.
4. Jesus is building His church today. This is His program for this age.
5. We are to fulfill the Great Commission as we await His return to establish His kingdom on earth.