

# The Gospel of Matthew

The gospel of the Messiah, His Kingdom and His People

## LESSON 1

### **MATTHEW 1 – 2**

#### I. Chapter 3

Matthew introduces John's ministry by recounting his confrontation with the scribes and Pharisees. He then continues with Jesus' baptism by John.

- **vv. 1 - 12**

**Question 1:** In introducing John's ministry, Matthew cites to Isaiah's prophecy. v.3. What does Isaiah's prophecy in Isa. 40:1-2 indicate God would give Israel?

**Question 2:** To what prophet does Matthew's description of John parallel in v. 4?

**Question 3:** What does John's ministry show is the spirit of kingdom citizens? vv. 2, 6.

**Question 4:** What does John's statement to the scribes and Pharisees indicate about the nature of the kingdom he is preparing people to enter? vv. 8-10.

**Question 5:** Based on John's statement in v.11-12, what was to be Jesus' position in comparison to the scribes and Pharisees? See Isa. 4:4; Micah 3:2-3. In relation to Abraham, Moses and David who Matthew paralleled Jesus to in Ch. 1-2?

- **vv. 13-17**

**Question 6:** What does the reason Jesus gives in v. 15 for receiving John's baptism establish will be a characteristic of his kingdom and his rule in that kingdom?

**Question 7:** Who is Jesus proclaimed to be in the event of his baptism and the Father's declaration? Ps. 4:7; Isaiah 42.

#### II. Chapter 4

Matthew presents the beginning of Jesus' own ministry. He begins by presenting the Lord's temptation by Satan in the wilderness.

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- **vv. 1-11**

**Question 8:** Who else fasted forty days and nights? Deut. 9:9; 1 Ki. 19:8? What may have been Matthew's purposes in relating this event? Matt. 17:1-13?

**Question 9:** What do you think each of Jesus' answers to the Devil explain about His nature as Messiah and the nature of His kingdom?

v. 4 "But he answered, "It is written, ""Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.""

- Deut. 8:3

v. 7 "Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

- Isa. 7:12

v. 10 "Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, ""You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.""

- Deut. 6:3-15

**Question 10:** What promise is given to the citizens of the kingdom who follow Jesus' command? 1 Sam. 7:3.

- **vv. 12-17**

**Question 11:** What will be the scope of Jesus' kingdom? 4:15-17. What is his first requirement for its citizens?

- **vv. 17-22**

**Question 12:** How does the calling of the first disciples reflect what is required of kingdom citizens? vv. 20, 22.

- **vv. 23-25**

**Question 13:** What was the message of Jesus' preaching? What do his miracles establish about Jesus and His kingdom? Ps. 145: 10-11; Dan. 2: 44-45; 1 Cor. 4:20.