

Logos Class – Gospel of Matthew

On-Campus and Zoom class for July 24, 2022

Chapters 3 & 4A

Our next 2 months...

- ✓ *July 10, 2022 – Begin the Gospel of Matthew*
- ✓ *July 17, 2022 – Matt Ch 2*
- ✓ *July 24, 2022 – Matt Ch 3 & 4A*
- *July 31, 2022 – Matt Ch 4B & 5A*
- *Aug 7, 2022 – **Barry Hoover** teaching (Hilton Head)*
- *Aug 14, 2022 – **Barry Hoover** teaching (Hilton Head)*
- *Aug 21, 2022 – Matt Ch 5B & 6A*
- *Aug 28, 2022 – Matt Ch 6B&7A*
- *Sept 4, 2022 – Matt Ch 7B & 8A*
- *Sept 11, 2022 – **Linda Stewart** teaching (Bus Trip)*
- *Sept 18, 2022 - **Bill Minor** teaching (Sanibel)*
- *Sept 25, 2022 - **Bill Minor** teaching (Sanibel)*
- *Oct 2, 2022 – **Rick Head** teaching (we will be back)*

Recap of Chapter 2

- *We have seen God guide, angels speak, and Joseph and the family were obedient.*
- *Herod acted out his role and fulfilled the prophetic actions of pure evil that were predicted, but the Messiah was protected.*
- *We have seen God provide both guidance, and resources for the times and journeys required.*
- *We have seen Satan's plan to destroy the Messiah stopped and God's eternal plan continue.*
- *We have seen prophecy fulfilled just as the Lord said it would that proclaims Jesus is the expected Messiah.*

Any questions or other comments?

I have a Q for you?

The Story of the “Slaughter of the Innocents”

Why did Matthew put it in his gospel?

- *Not in the others and not told much in either Christmas or general discussion.*
- ***Possible explanations mentioned in commentaries are two-fold***
 - ❖ *One – Present Jesus as the new Moses so he would be revered by the Jews as like Moses...See Ex 2:8-22*
 - ❖ *Two – Demonstrate the evil and wickedness of the people Jesus came to save to make vivid the new covenant*

A bit about the Baptism Story in the Gospels

This is covered in all the Gospels to some degree or another

- Matthew in Ch 3 – we will study this one
- Luke in Ch 3 – Essentially the same story, but a few facts for the non-Jew to better understand
- Mark in Ch 1 – Short and to the point
- John in Ch 1 in past tense, but John was an eye-witness so he just added to the other stories things that pointed to Jesus as the Christ

Matt Ch 3:1-3 ... *John the Baptist appears*

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea

2 and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

3 This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: (Isa 40:3)

*“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”*

Matt Ch 3:4-6. *John was a curiosity*

*⁴ John's clothes were made of **camel's hair**, and he had **a leather belt** around his waist. His food was **locusts and wild honey**.*

⁵ People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan.

*⁶ **Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.***

Matt Ch 3:7-10 Jews come to check it out

⁷ *But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “**You brood of vipers!** Who warned you to flee from the **coming wrath?**”*

⁸ *Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.*

⁹ *And do not think you can say to yourselves, ‘**We have Abraham as our father.**’ I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.*

¹⁰ *The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.*

Matt Ch 3:11-12 *Judgment Coming*

11 “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

12 His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and **burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.**”

Baptism by Fire...

In the idea of Baptism by fire, there are multiple thoughts:

- ***Illumination*** – *the idea is that fire lights the way, and in Jesus, this Baptism by the Holy Spirit and Fire, illuminates the way to salvation and security.*
- ***Warmth*** – *the fire brings warmth to those who gather by it. In Christianity, the warmth of Christ warms the heart of the believer and leads to an overflow of kindness.*
- ***Purification*** – *in the refiner's fire, the metal (gold or silver) is purified. The impurities float to the top and are skimmed off, and what remains is pure. It is this way with the fire of the Lord...it drives out the impurities in our lives.*

Matt Ch 3:13-16 *The Baptism of Jesus*

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.

14 But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

15 Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

16 As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

17 And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matt Ch 4:1-4 ... *The Testing of Jesus*

4 Then Jesus was *led by the Spirit* into the wilderness to be **tempted** by the devil.

2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was *hungry*.

3 The tempter came to him and said, **“If you are** the Son of God, **tell these stones to become bread.”**

4 Jesus answered, **“It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”** (Deut. 8:3)

Matt Ch 4:5-7

⁵ *Then the devil took him to the **holy city** and had him stand on the **highest point of the temple.*** ⁶ ***“If you are the Son of God,”** he said, **“throw yourself down.** For it is written:*

“He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.” (Ps 91:11-12)

⁷ *Jesus answered him, **“It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’**”* (Deut. 6:16)

Matt Ch 4:8-11. *The third temptation*

⁸ *Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor.*

⁹ *“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”*

¹⁰ *Jesus said to him, “**Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.’**” (Deut. 6:13)*

¹¹ *Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

What have we learned?

We will stop here for today and pick up next week with the remainder of Chapter 4

- *It seems to be a law of life that just **when our strength is at its peak, we are most subject to being tempted by Satan. Be especially careful when everything is going great!***
- *These temptations or testings are **not just physical but also spiritual and, in our minds. (no mountain peak to see the whole world)***
- *Our tempter is crafty, skillful, and uses his best timing to test Jesus and he does the same to us.*
- *Jesus had power from God and knew it. He also had strength from God to avoid these temptations... **What does this mean for us?***
 - *Satan may tempt us most easily through our Gifts. If we have gifts of the spirit, we should be watchful for our desire for power, fame, notoriety, etc. to let us fall into common temptations*

Finally...

***Please read the rest of Chapter 4 of Matthew and Chapter 5
Pray for...***

- *Our country and its leaders*
- *Our State, County and their leaders*
- *Our Pastor and Staff **and our security teams***
- ***Our Pro-life ministries like Whispering Hope***
- *All the members of this class and the prayer requests*
- *Pray for yourself, that you will come closer to the Lord and follow His plan for your life*

See you next week...