Bible Study:

The Gospel According to NATTHEW

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- Evidence indicates that Matthew originally wrote his Gospel in Hebrew just eight years after Jesus' death; he may personally have translated it into Greek.
- It has been estimated that Matthew's Gospel contains about a hundred references to the Hebrew Scriptures. Some 40 of these are actual quotations.

- Matthew's account of Jesus' life was likely written primarily with the Jewish audience in mind.
- Matthew had been a tax collector, which may explain why he was explicit in his mention of money, figures, and values. (17:27; 26:15; 27:3)

- Matthew alone mentions Jesus' repeated insistence that mercy is required in addition to sacrifice. (9:9-13; 12:7; 18:21-35)
- Matthew uses the term "Kingdom" more than 50 times.
- In the first 18 chapters, Matthew highlights the Kingdom theme, leading him to depart from a chronological arrangement. However, the last ten chapters (19 to 28) generally follow a chronological sequence.

- Over 40 percent of Matthew's Gospel account is not found in any other Gospel.
- This includes at least ten Parables: the Tares Among Wheat (13:24-30), the Hidden Treasure (13:44), the Pearl of Great Price (13:45, 46), the Dragnet (13:47-50), the Unmerciful Slave (18:23-35), the Laborers in the Vineyard (20:1-16), the Two Sons (21:28-32), the Marriage Feast (22:1-14), the Ten Virgins (25:1-13), and the Talents (25:14-30).

Outline of Content

Matthew 4

Devil's Temptation of Jesus and Beginning of Jesus' Preaching Activity in Galilee (4:1-25)

Jesus rejects Devil's temptations (4:1-11)

Jesus starts preaching about the Kingdom of the heavens (4:12-17)

First four disciples called to be "fishers of men" (4:18-22)

Jesus preaches, teaches, and heals (4:23-25)

Matthew 4

- **Chapter 4: Questions**
- What was the core teaching of Jesus' message?
- What does this tell us about what a disciple of Jesus really does?
- What can we learn from the disciples?
- What applications can we make in order to be a better disciple of Jesus?
- What do we learn about Jesus' ministry in verses 23-24?

Outline of Content

Chapter 5

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Jesus begins teaching on the mountain (1, 2)
Nine happinesses (3-12)
Salt and light (13-16)
Jesus to fulfill the Law (17-20)
Counsel on anger (21-26), adultery (27-30), divorce (31, 32), oaths (33-37), retaliation (38-42),
love for enemies (43-48)
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Matthew 5

- Chapter 5: Questions
- How do the Be-Attitudes mirror the Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5)?
- How do the Be-Attitudes relate to Salt and Light?
- How do the Be-Attitudes affect our heart / mind and actions?



Outline of Content

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SERMON ON THE MOUNT (1-34)
 Shun show of righteousness (1-4)
 How to pray (5-15)
   Model prayer (9-13)
 Fasting (16-18)
 Treasures on earth and in heaven (19-24)
 Stop being anxious (25-34)
   Keep seeking Kingdom first (33)
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Matthew 6

- **Chapter 6: Questions**
- Why would people intentionally do good deeds in front of others?
- Why would such a person receive no reward from God?
- Are there any parallels of "outward, attention seeking deeds" being done around us? By us?

