

MATTHEW -- LESSON 1

The Gospel According to Matthew

Who is the author of Matthew?

Why did Matthew write this Gospel?

Historical Background: Herod the Great, was ruler over Judea and Samaria. Herod's son wasn't a good ruler, so Rome ruled through governors. Pontius Pilate was the ruler over Judea during Jesus' adult life.

Matthew 1: 1-17 -- Matthew tells us that Jesus is the Christ, the promised King and Deliverer.

~ What is a genealogy? Whose genealogy is it?

~ Is it important to know your family history? Why?

Chapters 1 and 2 introduce the entire book of Matthew.

Let's look at Matthew Chapter 1.

Genealogy of the King – 1:1-17

Birth of the King – 1:18 – 2:23

Announcement of His birth – 1:18-24

Adoration by the Wise Men – 2:1-12

“Out of Egypt I Called My Son” – 2:13-23

Some vocabulary:

- genealogy
- generations
- Babylon
- captivity
- exile
- pledged
- divorce her quietly

Questions for Discussion – Chapter 1: 1 – 17

1. What do you notice about the genealogy?
2. How many generations are there?
3. What relationship did Mary and Joseph have?
4. Who talked with Jesus? And what did the angel tell Joseph?
5. What do you notice about Christ's birth?
6. What does this story have to do with us?
7. Other places in the Bible that tell about Jesus' birth.

Read a chapter of Matthew every day this week!

Come with your questions next week!