

## Through the Bible at 30,000 Feet

*Matthew | The Coming of Jesus & the Going of the Church*

North Center | June 5, 2022

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40 weeks ago, we began a journey **through the Bible at 30,000 feet**. Beginning with Genesis, each Sunday we have turned to a different book, and with each book, there are five questions we have been asking:

1. What is the **main message** of this book?
2. How does this book fit into the **storyline** of the entire Bible?
3. What does this book teach us about **God**?
4. What does this book teach us about **ourselves**?
5. How does this book point to **Jesus**?

And last week we finished the OT!

And what was **the storyline of the OT...?**

1. God created people for His glory: to know Him, to enjoy Him, to be in relationship with Him.
2. Right away, humanity revealed the nature of our hearts: by nature, we are drawn to sin. And sin separates us from God. Because all of us are sinners, we can't save ourselves. We need a Savior, or we will be separated from God forever.
3. Right away (in **Genesis 3:15**) we have the beginning of the Gospel: God promised to send a Savior, and we have been waiting for this promised Messiah ever since.

We've seen some extraordinary people throughout the OT:

- **Patriarchs:** Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph
- **Leaders:** Moses, Joshua
- **Judges:** Sampson
- **Kings:** David, Solomon
- **Prophets:** Elijah, Jonah

But none of them were the one for whom God's people had been waiting...

**Q.** So who was God going to send?

**A.** Himself. God would come down Himself to save His people from their sin!

God, the Son, would step into our world of sin, take on our humanity,  
experience our pain, suffer our sickness, cry our tears, endure our temptations,  
live a perfect life, die a sacrificial death (*in our place*),  
rise victoriously three days later (*destroying the power of sin and death and Satan*),  
reveal Himself to His followers, ascend into heaven, send His Holy Spirit,  
build His church, establish His Kingdom,  
and offer the free gift of Salvation to all who believe in Him.

His Name is **JESUS**, and we meet Him for the first time here in the book of Matthew.

As you prepare to read through this extraordinary book this week (*and I hope that many of you will*), I want to spend the next few minutes looking at the big picture of Matthew's Gospel:

MATTHEW'S AIM: to **PROVE** that Jesus is the Promised Messiah.

- Matthew was a Jew, and he was writing to a Jewish audience.
- His **purpose** in writing this Gospel was to show the Jews that the promises God made to them regarding the Messiah were all fulfilled in the person of Jesus.
- “*Brothers & sisters, Jesus is the One we have been waiting for!*” That’s Matthew’s message.

HOW does Matthew go about PROVING that Jesus is the PROMISED MESSIAH?

1. First, by showing that Jesus fulfilled all the OT **PROPHECIES** of the Messiah.
  - First, there’s Jesus’ **Genealogy** (family tree) | Matthew begins by showing that Jesus is from the family line that God said the Messiah would come from.

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,  
the Son of David, the Son of Abraham.<sup>1</sup>

~ *Matthew 1:1*

- From there, Matthew gives one example after another of how Jesus fulfilled **very specific OT prophecies** regarding the Messiah who would save God’s people from their sin. For example (*you all know the Christmas story*), an angel comes to Joseph and tells him not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife because the child in her womb is conceived of the Holy Spirit.<sup>2</sup> And then the angel says,

And she will bring forth a SON, and you shall call His name **JESUS**,  
for He will save His people from their sins.

So all this was done that it might be **fulfilled**<sup>3</sup>

which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,”<sup>4</sup>  
which is translated, “God with us.”

~ *Matthew 1:21–23*

- Look for that word “*fulfilled*” as you read Matthew this week. You’ll see it often because Jesus’ fulfilling all the PROPHECIES was one of the key ways that Matthew was trying to PROVE that Jesus was the PROMISED Messiah.
2. Secondly, by showing that Jesus has all **POWER** over all things.
    - For example, in **chapter 8**, Matthew tells the story of a time when Jesus and His disciples were in the middle of the Sea of Galilee when a wild storm swooped down from the mountains and covered their boat with waves that made the disciples think they were going to drown.

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<sup>1</sup> Matt 1:1–17. Jesus is from the family of Abraham (Gen 12:3). He is from the family of David (2 Sam. 7:12–16; Isa 11:1; Jer 23:5–6).

<sup>2</sup> Matt 1:18–20.

<sup>3</sup> ἵνα πληρωθῇ τὸ ῥηθὲν ὑπὸ τοῦ κυρίου διὰ τοῦ προφήτου

<sup>4</sup> This is in fulfillment of **Isaiah 7:14**.

And suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea, so that the boat was covered with waves.

But He [Jesus] was asleep.

Then the disciples came to Him and awoke Him, saying,

“Lord, save us! We are perishing!”

But He said to them,

“Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?”

Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea,

And there was a great calm.

So the men marveled, saying,

“Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?”

~ *Matthew 8:23–27*

Matthew tells all kinds of stories like this to prove that Jesus is the Messiah who has come with **all power** and **all authority** in heaven & on earth.

- He’s healing every sickness & every kind of disease.
- He’s opening the eyes of the blind & causing the lame to walk.
- He’s giving hope to the hopeless (like the leper, the crippled, the tax collector).
- He’s raising the dead back to life.

So the multitude marveled when they saw the mute speaking,  
the maimed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing;

And they glorified the God of Israel.

~ *Matthew 15:31*

3. By showing the astonishing authority & undeniable truth in Jesus’ **PREACHING**.

- In **Matthew 5–7**, you will read the greatest sermon that has ever been preached. It’s called *the Sermon on the Mount*. Here’s what Matthew says about that sermon...

And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings,  
that the people were astonished at His teaching,  
for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

~ *Matthew 7:28–29*

Never had these people heard a Word more powerful, more compelling, more authoritative...than the words of Jesus.<sup>5</sup>

Matthew is saying, “Look at how He fulfilled **prophesies**. Look at His **power**. Listen to His **preaching**. This is the Promised One. The one we have been waiting for.”

4. Finally, Matthew proves that Jesus is the Messiah by showing the **PINNACLE** of Jesus’ earthly life (*the Pinnacle of human history*) in the final three chapters (**26–28**).

- **Chapter 26** | We see Jesus instituting the **Lord’s Supper** with His disciples. We see Him **praying in the Garden** that the Father’s will would be done. We see Him being **betrayed & arrested** & all

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<sup>5</sup> John 7:46, “...No man ever spoke like this Man!”

His disciples running for their lives. We hear Him affirm to the counsel of His **accusers** that He is the Christ, the Son of God. *The chapter closes* with **Peter denying** that He even knows Jesus.

- **Chapter 27** | We see Jesus handed over to **Pontius Pilate**, and we hear Him affirm that He is the King of the Jews. We hear the **crowd** cry for Jesus to be crucified. We see Him **stripped, beaten, whipped, abused, and mocked**. And then we watch as He is **crucified** between two robbers. We watch as He willingly dies. And then we see the **veil** of the temple get ripped from top to bottom. *The chapter closes* with Jesus being **buried** in a tomb, the entrance is **sealed** by a large stone, and a **guard** stationed in front of the tomb to make sure the disciples didn't come and steal His body.
- **Chapter 28** | It's the first day of the week (Sunday). There's an **earthquake**. An angel from heaven comes down and rolls away the stone, revealing an **empty tomb**. Jesus isn't there. He is **risen**. Jesus **reveals** Himself to some of His followers, and they fall down at His feet and **worship** Him. Then *the chapter closes* with Jesus meeting His disciples on a **mountain** and giving them the **calling** of a lifetime.

The Savior who has “**COME**” turns to His followers and calls them to “**GO**” (28:18–20).

\*\*\* Samuel Olukiran \*\*\*

~ Preaching 28:16–20 ~