

# “MISSION MADE POSSIBLE/REALITY”

Gospel of Matthew 28:16-20 / Pastor Matt Jones / Del Rey Church

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## I. Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 1-28)

### A. The Revelation of the Triune Sovereign

### B. The Rejection of the Treasured Son

### C. The Resurrection of the Triumphant Sufferer

### D. The Return of the True Savior

## II. Mountains in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-20)

### A. Gathered in Galilee (28:16)

### B. Worship and Worry (28:17)

### C. Anxiety and Authority (28:18)

### D. Duty and Discipleship (28:19-20)

[cf. Mark 16:14-18, Luke 24:44-49, Acts 1:4-8, and John 20:19-23]

## III. Message of the Gospel

### A. Power and Presence of the Church

### B. Margins and Missions of the Commission

### C. Israel and Imminence of the Christ

### D. Hopelessness and Hope of the Consummation

## COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

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1. What were some of the big take-aways from our study last Sunday and this Sunday in the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter of the gospel of Matthew?

2. In terms of the big themes in Matthew, how does the narrative of Jesus in the gospel of Matthew show Jesus recapitulating the history of Israel? Also, how does Matthew portray Jesus as the second Adam (Rom.5) who fulfills all that Adam failed in, as our new leader bringing fallen humanity into reconciliation?

3. Thinking about Israel's history (see above question), let's discuss Israel's future and the distinct ministry of the church. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus spoke about building His church (as she was not in existence in the Old Covenant) and He spoke of the future restoration of Israel and the His kingdom (Matt.24-25). This means that Israel and the Church are distinct movements in the one people of God (for commentary on this see Romans 9-11 and book of Revelation). Discuss how Matthew's gospel speaks to both the Church and Israel, explaining the postponement of the Kingdom of God, the ministry of the church in this age and the future hope of Israel. Unfortunately, some Bible readers confuse the Church and Israel, seeing them as identical or seeing the Church as the replacement of Israel. Discuss how such misunderstanding makes God's unconditional promises into conditional promises at best, or worse, into broken promises of a non-sovereign deity (which is *no bueno*). Why is it important to have a dispensational reading of Matthew (and the Bible as a whole) that maintains God as a promise-keeper who saves sinners by grace and uses the church to extend His patient mercies, while fulfilling the covenants of Israel to establish a people to Himself for His glory and graciously—in this age—pulling outsiders into His promises? Bottom line, it's so important to grasp what God is doing in and through Israel and the Church as we read the New Testament).

4. The gospel of Matthew ends on a very practical note of the mission. Jesus tells the disciples to go and make disciples. This command is given to the Apostles of Jesus, the churches of Christ that they would plant and the disciples within these congregations. That said, how are you personally doing in inviting people into the church and serving with the church in making disciples? In a city like LA, busyness and many things fight against our involvement in the mission of our Lord (e.g. youth sports, traffic, work, Saturday night socials, etc.). How do you juggle the primacy of discipleship in the church, over-and-even-against other things in your life that vie for your attention? In the midst of busyness how do we prioritize being in church and making disciples above all things in faithfulness to the commission of our risen Lord Jesus, who is returning to claim His disciples?

5. In the above question, we considered the busyness of city culture, besides that, what else in our/your life do you find challenging commitment to the gospel and making disciples of Jesus with His church? What about the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20 intimidates/challenges you? Beyond discussion, let's close our study of Matthew by praying for the lost and giving thanks for God's grace in saving us to serve His purposes in these last days.