

Gospel of Matthew (Fall 2025)



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Course Description

An exegetical study of the Gospel of Matthew, emphasizing its historical, literary, and theological nature.

Course Objectives

- 1) To learn what the text of Matthew teaches about God, His Son, His plan for reconciling the world to Himself, and how to participate in that plan.
- 2) To observe how the text of Matthew communicates so that we can become better communicators of God's truth.
- 3) To appreciate the historical context and how it helps us understand God's revelation.
- 4) To model ourselves more closely on the Jesus to Whom the text of Matthew testifies.

Required Readings

- The Bible
- Credit students will need to make sure they have sufficient access to sources for their paper. Please feel free to ask me about options available through the GLBC library.

Course Schedule

Week 1	9/9	Syllabus/Class Expectations Introduction to Matthew Scripture Testifies to Jesus (1:1–2:23)	
Week 2	9/16	Others Testify to Jesus (3:1–4:11) Beginning of Public Ministry (4:12–25)	Quiz 1
Week 3	9/23	Sermon on the Mount (5:1–7:27)	
Week 4	9/30	Jesus Confronts Social Expectations, Part 1 (7:28–8:34)	
Week 5	10/7	Jesus Confronts Social Expectations, Part 2 (9:1–34)	
Week 6	10/14	Jesus Intensifies the Light (9:35–10:42)	Quiz 2
Week 7	10/21	Mixed Responses to Jesus (11:1–12:50)	
Week 8	10/28	Jesus Proclaims the Nature of the Kingdom (13:1–52)	
Week 9	11/4	Opposition Intensifies, Part 1 (13:53–15:31)	
Week 10	11/11	Opposition Intensifies, Part 2 (15:32–17:27)	
Week 11	11/18	Jesus Instructs about Community Life (18:1–35)	<i>Draft of Paper</i>
Week 12	11/25	Unexpected Values of the Kingdom (19:1–20:34)	Quiz 3
Week 13	12/2	Jesus Confronts Israel in Jerusalem (21:1–22:46)	<i>Paper Due</i>
Week 14	12/9	Jesus Predicts Judgment on Unbelieving Israel (23:1–25:46)	
Week 15	12/16	Jesus Rejected, Then Vindicated (26:1–28:20)	Quiz 4

Assignments Description

Discussion (15%)

I will post a discussion thread in Populi each week with a question relating to the week's material.

Please post a response to the question before class on Tuesday and a response to one other student's post by 11:59 PM on Saturday. The initial post should be about 150 words. Responses do not have to be any certain length, but the points awarded will be commensurate with the apparent level of effort.

Lesson (25%)

Written (20%): The written manuscript should be roughly 2,000 words long. Please type this assignment in Times New Roman 12-point font, double spaced, for the body (10-point font and single spaced, with a blank line in between, for the footnotes). Please cite at least 7 sources. Footnote formatting should follow the *SBL Handbook of Style*, 2nd edition. The bibliography at the end of the paper should contain everything cited in the footnotes. Papers should address each of the following questions clearly:

- (1) How does this passage relate to the rest of the book?
- (2) What are the relevant features of the historical/cultural background?
- (3) What is the main idea of the passage?
- (4) How does the passage support this main idea?
- (5) How does this main idea affect our lives today?

Oral (5%): The oral presentation should be about 10 minutes. This will probably involve abridging the paper. The format for this presentation will be discussed closer to the due date, as how much class time can be devoted to this depends on factors that are hard to predict in advance.

Quizzes (30%)

There will be four quizzes during the semester. Each quiz consists of two assignments in Populi. The first assignment, worth 75 points, will consist of multiple-choice, matching, and essay questions over the text and class discussions. The second assignment, worth 25 points, contains blanks for a set of memory verses. They are due at 11:59 PM on Saturday of the week designated in the table above.

Weekly Assignments (30%)

You are expected to read through the Gospel of Matthew during the semester (ideally, more than once, using a variety of translations). As you are reading, jot down observations/questions about the text that jump out at you. Beginning with Week 2, you should submit your observations/questions about the week's material to the appropriate dropbox in Populi by 5:00 PM on Monday, as they will form a partial basis for our class discussion on Tuesday.

Policies and other information

Attendance (From the GLBC Catalogue)

Students are required to attend classes regularly. One unexcused absence for every credit hour in a given course may be permitted, i.e. per one-hour class. Two percent (2%) of the course grade per academic hour for each hour of classroom instruction missed may be deducted for each unexcused absence beyond the above.

Late Work (From the GLBC Catalogue)

Assignments for the term are listed in the syllabus supplied for each course. Every assignment so listed must be completed to pass the course. Late submission of assignments need not be accepted by the instructor. Extenuating circumstances and emergencies will be taken into consideration. If a late assignment is accepted, a grade reduction of 5% per instructional day may be assessed.

Selected Bibliography

Dictionary and Encyclopedia Articles

Blomberg, Craig L. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 509–15 in *Dictionary of the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Edited by G.K. Beale, et al. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2023. Logos Bible Software edition.

Brown, Jeanine K. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 570–84 in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. 2nd ed. Edited by Joel B. Green et al. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic/Nottingham: IVP, 2013. Logos Bible Software edition. *

Chamblin, J. Knox. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 1417–22 in volume 2 of *Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible*. Edited by Walter A. Elwell et al. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988. Logos Bible Software edition.

Gundry, Robert H. "Matthew Gospel of." Pages 486–92 in *Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Edited by Kevin J. Vanhoozer, et al. London: SPCK/Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005. Logos Bible Software edition.

Meier, John P. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 622–41 in volume 4 of *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Edited by David Noel Freedman. New York: Doubleday, 1992. Logos Bible Software edition.

Saunders, Stanley. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 871–73 in the *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*. Edited by David Noel Freedman et al. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. Logos Bible Software edition.

Tasker, R. V. G. "Matthew, Gospel of." Pages 732–42 in *New Bible Dictionary*. 3rd ed. Edited by D. R. W. Wood et al. Leicester/Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1996. Logos Bible Software edition.

Books

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Brown, Jeannine K. *Matthew*. Teach the Text Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015. Logos Bible Software edition. *

Carson, D.A. "Matthew." Pages 1–599 in *Matthew–Mark–Luke*. Edited by Frank E. Gaebelein. Volume 8 of the *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984. Logos Bible Software edition. *

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- France, Richard T. *Matthew*. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007. Logos Bible Software edition. *
- Hagner, Donald A. *Matthew*. 2 vols. Word Biblical Commentary 33A–B. Dallas: Word, 1993–95. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Morris, Leon. *Matthew*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Metzger, Bruce M. *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament: A Companion Volume to the United Bible Societies' Greek New Testament*. 2nd ed.
- Newman, Barclay M., and Philip C. Stine. *A Handbook on the Gospel of Matthew*. UBS Handbooks Series. New York: United Bible Societies, 1988. Logos Bible Software edition.
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- Osborne, Grant R. *Matthew*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Quarles, Charles L. *A Theology of Matthew: Jesus Revealed as Deliverer, King, and Incarnate Creator*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2013. Logos Bible Software edition.
- . *Matthew*. Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2017. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Riches, John, and David C. Sim, eds. *The Gospel of Matthew in its Imperial Roman Context*. London: T. & T. Clark, 2005. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Saldarini, Anthony J. “Matthew.” Pages 1000–1063 in *Eerdmans Commentary on the Bible*. Edited by James D. G. Dunn and John W. Rogerson. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003. Logos Bible Software edition.
- Senior, Donald. *What Are They Saying about Matthew?* Rev. and exp. ed. New York: Paulist, 1996. Logos Bible Software edition.