

## REDUX: Matthew's year (triennially!) Advent 2025 [We'll have to wait for 'Wachet Auf']

Questions from last week's conversation addressed (kind of)

"Why is Matthew different?" [for example: The 'intensified law' concern. Matthew 5 etc.]

"Where is Matt the 'same as' Mk and Luke (and John?) and Mt. as editor?"

"What are the sources? Whose idea was Q? Matt & Luke have common ground, so...

We'll spend some time in conversation about a few stories/words/parables of Jesus in Matthew. That should ('hah!) help, don't you think/feel? [Thanks, Nancy Joyce!]

- I. Mt. 4: The temptation after Jesus' baptism (it's not in John (of course not) but in Mark the temptation is quickly (it's Mark!) referenced. We'll look at Matthew & Luke's common and uncommon ground. If they share the same source (Q?) it's odd that they upside down the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> temptations. Who's on first? [I'll bring e z Gospel parallel sheets w/ Mt. 4:1-11 & Luke 4:1-13 (and Mark 1:12-13!)]. [Big question: Who's in charge of this world? (see John 14:30). Let's talk 'omnipotence.']. [o.k. we can talk editor –redaction criticism]
- II. Matthew & Mark's common ground: Mt. 4:18ff. Calling of 1st disciples. See how Mark (1:16-20) fills 'things' ('hired servants will help when the boys absconded.').
- III. Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5/Luke 6 'Sermon on the Plain') Matthew has 'it' all—'Mt. only' additions—see the Beatitudes: Luke 6:20ff vs. Mt. 5:3-12. 'Matt only' is pretty intense, don't you think? How about harsh? [5:17-20/21-26/27-30/33-37]. 'No way out' eh? The cross is on the horizon.
- IV. The Centurion (and his very sick servant). Mt. 8:5-12/Luke 7:1-10. What's the same what's different (Luke fills out the history of the Centurion, Mt. doesn't need that). Mt. 8:11 has the clue to Jesus proclamation: Outsiders welcome!
- V. Skipping ahead to 11. Jesus new voice [Barclay]: John the B in prison asks the question: 'Are you the one or...?' Luke's & Matt's account agree in much of Mt's 11 (it's Luke's 7 but look at the differences -violence in Mt. children in the marketplace in Luke. [In both accounts, Jesus glories in being shamed as a glutton and a drunkard.] After the woes and Thanks to the father [& 'no one knows the Son except the Father and...'] is [only in Matt] 'Come to me all the ones who are weary and carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn (!) from me for I am humble and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." [Mt. 11:28-30] [Go to 28:20/9:13] [Who do you trust? The Baptist or Jesus?]
- VI. Matt's special stories:
  - 1) The unmerciful servant 18:23-35
  - 2) Temple tax—fish coins! 17:24-27. [R.F. Capon!]
  - 3) Laborers in the Vineyard 20:1-16. [ditto!]
  - 4) Parable of the 2 sons 21:28-32 [there's more-always]
  - 5) Marriage feast ending! 22:11-14/Sleepy time wedding 22:1-13