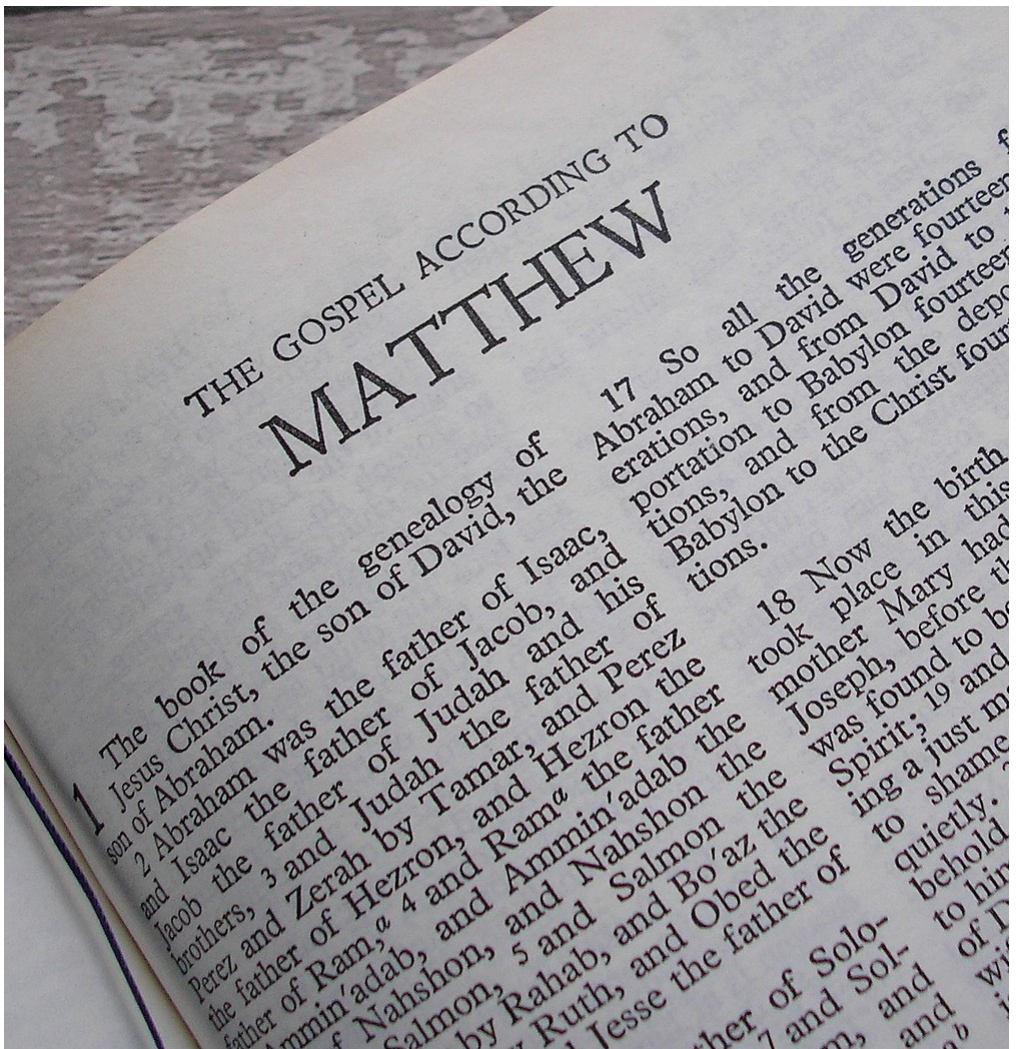


Let's Worship God

29th Aug. - 3rd Sept. 2022

Matthew



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING MATTHEW

of 17 So all the generation
of Abraham to David were fourteen
generations, and from David to the de
portation to Babylon fourteen genera
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the Christ fourteen genera
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Monday - Matthew 18:1-14 - The Great Shepherd

Without conversion there is no salvation. We all need an entire change of nature: we have neither faith, nor fear, nor love towards God. Of ourselves we are utterly unfit for dwelling in God's presence. All are born in sin and children of wrath, and all, without exception, need to be born again and made new creatures. If we want to know if we are converted, the surest mark of true conversion is humility. Like children we shall think humbly of our own strength and wisdom and be dependent on our Father in heaven.

It is a great sin to put stumbling blocks in the way of believers. How do we do this? Whenever we do anything to keep them back from Christ, or to turn them out of the way of salvation, or to disgust them with Christianity. We may do it directly by persecuting, ridiculing, opposing, or dissuading them from serving Christ; we may do it indirectly by living a life inconsistent with what we say we believe, and by making Christianity repulsive by our behaviour.

Jesus makes it clear that there is a future punishment after death. There is a place of unspeakable misery in the world to come, to which all who die without trusting in Christ will be sent.

Finally, we see that God values even the weakest believers. Our Lord Jesus is a Shepherd who cares tenderly for every soul committed to His charge. The youngest, the weakest, the sickliest of His flock is as dear to Him as the strongest; they shall never perish; none shall ever pluck them out of His hand. He will lead them gently through the wilderness of this world; He will not overdrive them a single day, lest any die. He will carry them through every difficulty; He will defend them against every enemy.

Questions

1. How do we put stumbling blocks in the way of others?
2. How is Christ like a shepherd?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Christ's love for His sheep.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 16 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

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Tuesday - Matthew 18:15-20 - Conflict Resolution

If we have been offended or hurt by a fellow believer the first step to be taken is to visit him alone and tell him what he has done. He may have hurt you unintentionally; he may have an explanation for his behaviour; at any rate, this friendly, faithful, straightforward way of dealing is the most likely way to mend a broken relationship. For all you know, he might immediately say he was wrong and repent. But if he doesn't, we are to take one or two companions and tell our brother of his sin in their presence. Maybe he will be ashamed and repent, but if not, we have witnesses that we did all we could to bring our brother to repent, and he deliberately refused. The final course is to refer the whole matter to the church, and if this does not persuade him to repent, he must be cast out of the church. This passage shows the great wisdom of Christ. Nothing does so much harm to the cause of the Gospel as the quarrels of Christians. Happy it would be for the Church if this teaching was more carefully studied and obeyed.

Christ intends that His Church have the power to discipline through excommunication those who are living a life of disobedience to Him. When church discipline is wisely exercised, it promotes a church's health and well-being. A perfect church can never be found in this world, but purity should be the mark at which we aim.

Jesus holds out great encouragement to those who meet together in His name. We may often be disheartened by the small numbers that gather to worship, but no matter how few are there, Christ is there too. There is a warning here for all who neglect worship. They are turning their back on the society of the Lord of lords; they are missing the opportunity of meeting Christ Himself.

Questions

1. What are the steps to follow if someone has sinned against us?
2. What does Jesus promise those who meet together?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for wisdom for the leaders in the church.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 17 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

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Wednesday - Matthew 18:21-35 - Forgiveness

Our Lord Jesus lays it down as a general rule that we ought to forgive others to the uttermost. He does not mean that people should be allowed to steal and assault us without punishment, but that we should have a general attitude of mercy towards others. We are to bear much and to put up with much, rather than quarrel; we are to overlook much and submit to much, rather than fight; we are to lay aside everything like hatred, strife, and revenge. These attitudes are unworthy of a disciple of Christ. How much unhappiness might be avoided if men were more willing to forgive. We should resolve to return good for evil, blessing for cursing, and so to change our enemies into our friends.

Our Lord gives us two powerful motives for exercising a forgiving spirit. First, we all need forgiveness at God's hand ourselves. Day after day we fall short in many things; day after day we require mercy and pardon. Our neighbour's offenses against us are mere trifles, compared with our offenses against God. Another motive for forgiving others ought to be the remembrance of the day of judgement and the standard by which we shall all be tried in that day. There will be no forgiveness in that day for unforgiving people.

Do we want to give proof that we are at peace with God, washed in Christ's blood, born of the Spirit, and made God's children by adoption and grace? Let us remember this passage: like our Father in heaven, let us be forgiving. Do you want to have an influence on others and make them see the beauty of true faith? Remember this passage and be forgiving. Do you want to grow in grace and become more holy? Remember this passage and be forgiving.

Questions

1. Why should we forgive others?
2. How often should we forgive others?

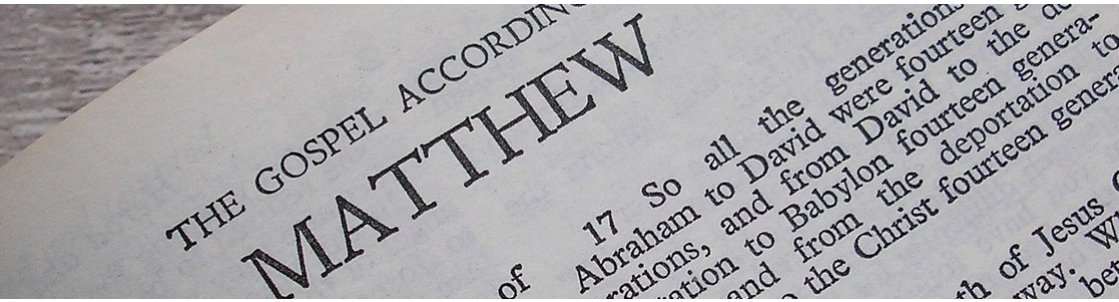
Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would have a forgiving attitude.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 18 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

of 17 So all the generations from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations before Jesus was born.

Thursday - Matthew 19:1-15 - The Family

Our Lord teaches that the union of husband and wife ought never to be broken off, except for the greatest of all causes, actual unfaithfulness. In the days when Christ was on the earth divorces were permitted among the Jews for the most trifling and frivolous causes. The practice, though tolerated by Moses, had gradually become an enormous abuse and no doubt led to much immorality. Jesus brings forward a widely different standard. He quotes the words used in the beginning of Genesis, where the creation of man and the union of Adam and Eve are described as proof that marriage is instituted by God. He says that the seventh commandment is broken by those who divorce for the wrong reasons and remarry. It is clear from this passage that marriage should be honoured and respected by Christians. It is a relationship instituted by God at Creation, it is used to symbolise the relationship between Christ and His Church, and it is a relationship which nothing but death should end.

Secondly we see here that the Lord Jesus cares tenderly for the souls of little children. Young as they are, they are not beneath His thoughts and attention. That mighty heart of His has room for the babe in its cradle, as well as for the king on his throne. These verses should encourage us in the training of children in the ways of the Lord. We should begin from their very earliest years to deal with them as having souls to be lost or saved, and we should strive to bring them to Christ. Let us make them acquainted with the Bible as soon as they can understand anything; let us pray with and for them and teach them to pray for themselves. We may be assured that Jesus looks with pleasure on such efforts and is ready to bless them - they are not in vain.

Questions

1. What does Jesus teach about marriage?
2. What does Jesus teach about children?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the children and their parents in the congregation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 19 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING MATTHEW

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Friday - Matthew 19:16-22 - The Rich Young Man

We see from this young man that a person may have desires after salvation and yet not be saved. Here is one who comes of his own accord to Christ. He comes about his own soul. But he goes away again, and we never read that he was converted. Good feelings are not the grace of God. We may know the truth; we may have our conscience pricked; we may be worried about our soul; we may shed many tears; but all this is not conversion. It is not the genuine saving work of the Holy Spirit. We should never rest until we know that we have really repented and laid hold of the Gospel.

Secondly we see that an unbeliever is often profoundly ignorant on spiritual subjects. This young man never doubts that he has perfectly kept all the commandments. He seems thoroughly unaware that the commandments apply to thoughts and words as well as deeds. How low must his ideas have been as to the holiness God requires! There are thousands sitting in churches who think the same as this young man. They cling stubbornly to the idea that their own good deeds can save them, and that they are not really all that sinful.

Finally we see from this passage that one idol cherished in the heart may ruin a soul forever. Our Lord, who sees our hearts, immediately puts his finger on this man's idol. It turns out that with all his wishes and desires after eternal life, there is one thing he loves better than his soul, and that is his money. He can't stand the test. Are we honest and sincere in our desire to be true Christians? Have we cast away all our idols? Is there no secret sin that we are silently clinging to and refusing to give up? Is there no thing or person that we are privately loving more than Christ and our souls? These are questions we must answer.

Questions

1. How does this man think he can be saved?
2. What is the idol in his life?

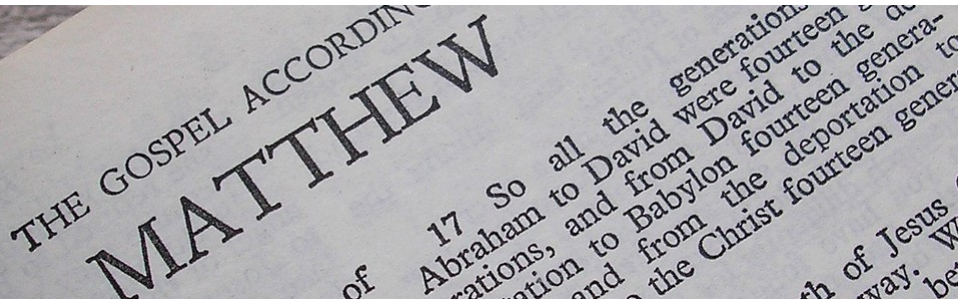
Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would get rid of the idols in your life.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 20 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Saturday - Matthew 19:23-30 - Riches and Grace

There is a danger which riches bring on the souls of those who possess them. They often lead men into many temptations; they consume men's thoughts and affections; they bind heavy burdens on the heart and make the way to heaven even more difficult than it naturally is. Let us beware of the love of money. It is possible to use it well and do good with it; but for one who makes a right use of money, there are thousands who make a wrong use of it and do harm both to themselves and others. He is not the best man in God's eyes who has most money, but he who has most grace. Let us pray daily for rich men's souls. Their prosperity in this world is often their destruction in the world to come.

The second thing we learn in this passage is the almighty power of God's grace. The Holy Spirit can give even the richest of men the desire to seek treasure in heaven. No man's place or circumstances shut him out from the kingdom of God; let us never despair of anyone's salvation.

Finally we see in these verses the immense encouragement the Gospel offers to those who give up everything for Christ's sake. The believer may seem to suffer loss for a time, but let him rest assured that he will never find himself a loser in the long run. Christ can raise up friends for us who shall more than compensate for those we lose; Christ can open hearts and homes to us far more warm and hospitable than those that are closed against us; above all, Christ can give us peace of conscience, inward joy, bright hopes, and happy feelings, which shall far outweigh every pleasant earthly thing that we have cast away for His sake. He has promised that it shall be so. Let us trust that promise and not be afraid.

Questions

1. What is the danger of riches?
2. What does Christ promise to those who give up things for Him?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

Memory Verse

"Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you." Matthew 5:12

Praise: Psalm 21 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

**Let's Worship God is produced
by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.**

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