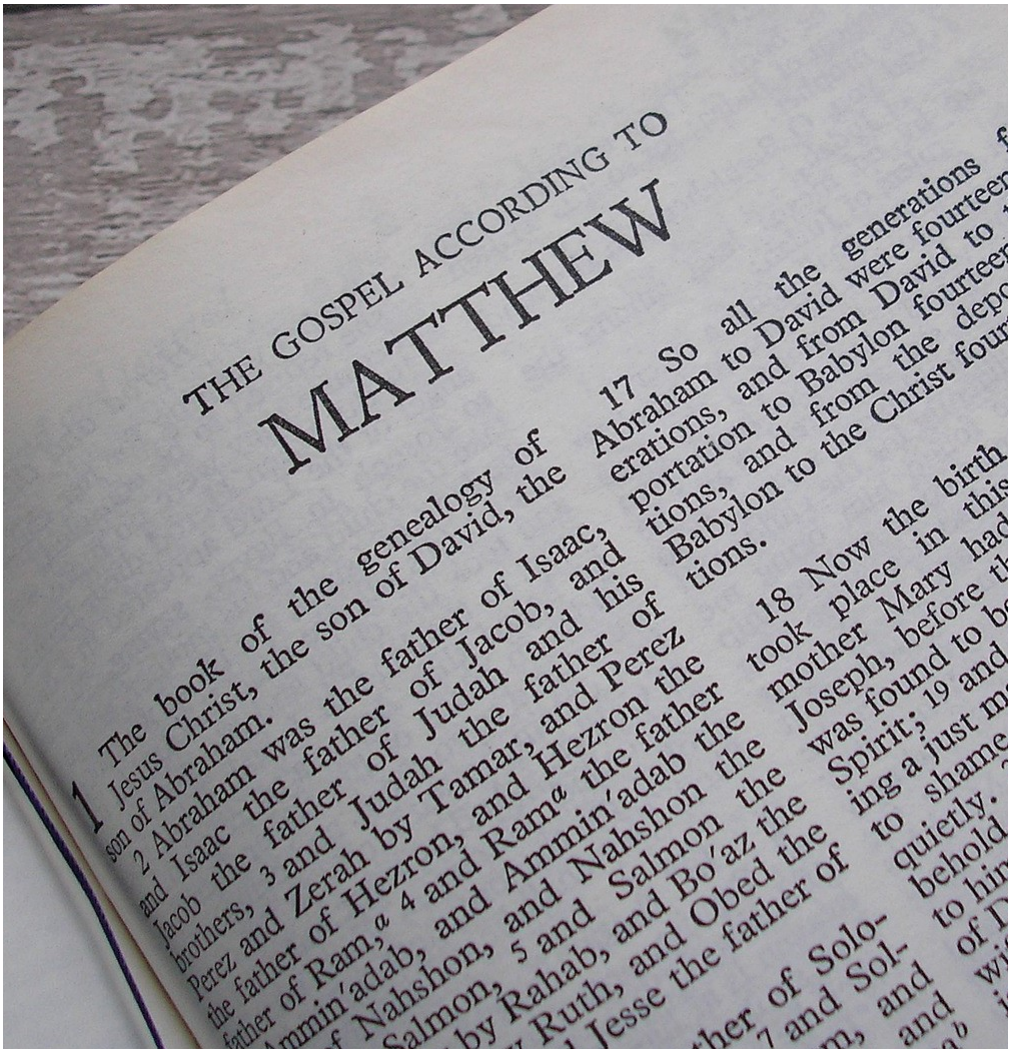
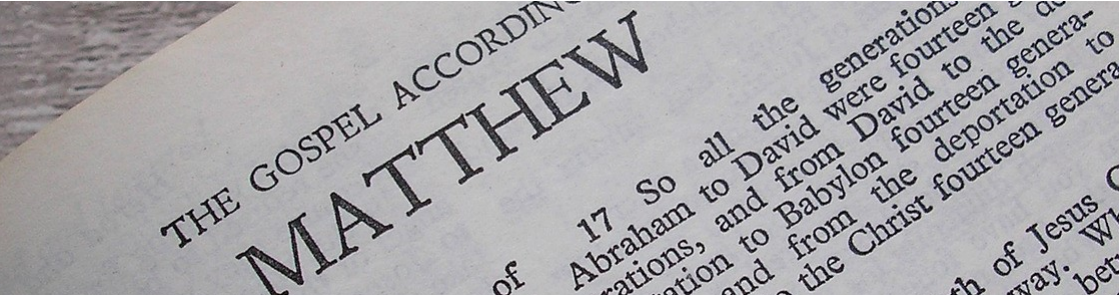


Let's Worship God

8th-13th August 2022

Matthew





THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Monday - Matthew 13:1-23 - Listening to the Word

Like the sower, the preacher must sow good seed. He must sow the pure Word of God. Without this, his work will be useless. Like the sower, the preacher must be diligent. Like the sower, the preacher cannot give life. He can scatter the seed, but he cannot command it to grow. He may offer the Word of God to people, but he cannot make them receive it and bear fruit.

There are various ways of hearing the Word of God without benefit. We may listen to a sermon with a heart like the hard path: careless, thoughtless, and unconcerned. Christ crucified may be set before us, and we may hear of His sufferings with total indifference. Fast as the words fall on our ears, the devil may pluck them away, and we may go home as if we had not heard a sermon at all. We may listen to a sermon with pleasure, while the effect produced upon us is only temporary and short-lived. Our hearts, like the rocky ground, may yield a big crop of warm feelings and good resolutions, but all this time there may be no deeply rooted work in our souls, and the first cold blast of opposition or temptation may cause our “faith” to wither away. We may listen to a sermon, and approve of every word it contains, and yet get no good from it because of the absorbing influence of this world. Our hearts, like the thorny ground, may be choked with a crop of worries, pleasures, and worldly plans. We may really like the Gospel, and wish to obey it, and yet give it no chance of bearing fruit, by allowing other things to fill our hearts.

There is only one evidence of hearing the Word rightly. That evidence is to bear fruit. This is the fruit of the Spirit. Repentance towards God, faith towards the Lord Jesus Christ, holiness of life, prayerfulness, humility, love, spiritual mindedness - these are the only satisfactory proofs that the seed of God’s Word is doing its proper work in our souls.

Questions

1. How can we hear the Word of God without benefit?
2. How do we show that God’s Word is working in us?

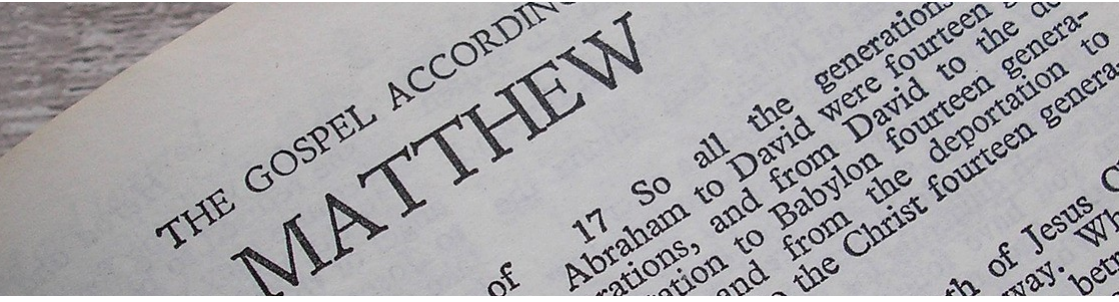
Prayer Points

1. Pray for our minister - that he will faithfully proclaim the Word of God.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 148- See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW
of 17 So all the generations
Abraham to David were fourteen
ations, and from David to the de-
ation to Babylon fourteen genera-
and from the deportation to
the Christ fourteen genera-

Tuesday - Matthew 13:24-43 - Wheat and Weeds

The parable of the grain and weeds shows us that good and evil will always be found together in the visible Church until the end of the world. We must expect to find believers and unbelievers all mingled together in every congregation. The purest preaching of the Gospel will not prevent this. The most strict and careful discipline will not prevent this. There will always be weeds among the wheat; hypocrites and deceivers will creep in. And if we are extreme in our efforts to obtain purity, we can do more harm than good: we run the risk of encouraging many a Judas Iscariot and in breaking a bruised Christian. In our zeal to gather up the weeds, we are in danger of rooting up the wheat with them. This zeal is not according to knowledge, and has often done much harm. Those who don't care what happens to the wheat, provided they can get the weeds out, show little of the mind of Christ, and they forget what Augustine said that, "Those who are tares today, may be wheat tomorrow." If we ever get frustrated by unbelievers who say that the church is full of hypocrites, we need to remember this parable and say, "That's right; there are hypocrites in the church, and Jesus told us that would be the case." If we're ever tempted to leave one church for another because of the actions or attitudes of some in it, we need to remember this parable. We will never find a perfect church before Heaven.

This parable also teaches that there will be a day of separation between the godly and ungodly of the visible Church. This mixed state of things will not continue forever. The faithful servants of Christ shall receive glory, honour, and eternal life; the worldly, the ungodly, the careless, and the unconverted, shall be thrown into the fiery furnace.

Questions

1. What does this parable teach us about the church?
2. What will happen one day to those who have not put their faith in Christ?

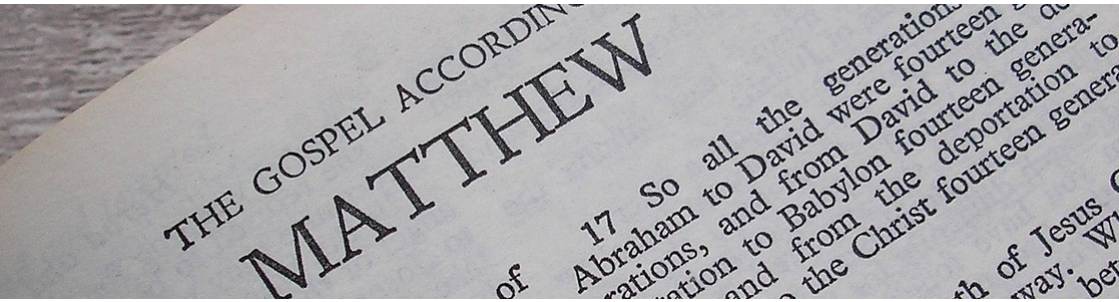
Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 149 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW
of 17 So all the generation
Abraham to David were fourteen
rations, and from David to the de-
portation to Babylon fourteen genera-
and from the deportation to
the Christ fourteen genera-
th of Jesus
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bet

Wednesday - Matthew 13:44-50 - Treasure

These parables show us that the man or woman who is really convinced of the importance of salvation will give up everything to gain Christ and eternal life. Both the man who finds the treasure in the field and the man looking for pearls are convinced that they have found a thing of great value. They are satisfied that it is worth a great sacrifice to make this thing their own. Others might wonder at them; others might think them foolish for paying such a sum of money for the field and pearl, but they know what they are about. They are sure that they are making a good bargain. A Christian does what he does because he is thoroughly persuaded that it is worthwhile. He comes out from the world; he puts off the old man; he forsakes his past life. Why? Because he is convinced that Christ will make up for all he has given up. Many people are not fully persuaded that it is worthwhile to be different. They flinch from taking up the cross; they will not commit themselves; they will not come forward boldly on the Lord's side. Why? Because they are not convinced that it is worth it.

The parable of the net let down into the sea is like the parable of the wheat and weeds. It shows us the true nature of the visible Church. The preaching of the Gospel is the letting down of a large net into the midst of the sea of this world; the visible Church which it gathers together is a mixed body. Within the net there are fish of every kind, both good and bad; within the Church there can be unbelievers as well as believers, false as well as true. We may be inside the net, and yet not be in Christ. Are you converted? Are you among the good fish? One day there will be a separation and our true character will be revealed.

Questions

1. What was the man who found the pearl of great price prepared to do?
2. What is a Christian persuaded of?
3. What happens to the good and bad fish at the end?

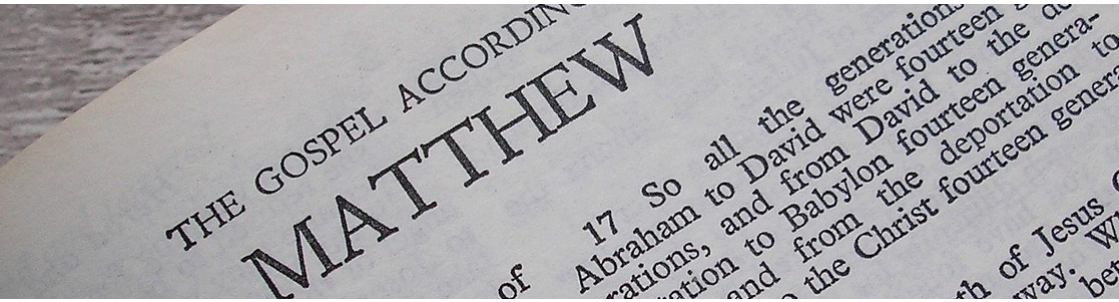
Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would see the value of Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 150 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Thursday - Matthew 13:51-58 - Unbelief

Jesus ends His parables by asking his audience if they have understood these things. Just hearing a sermon does us no good if we do not understand it and apply it to ourselves. We should often ask, “What have I got from this sermon? What have I learned? What truths have been impressed on my mind?” The Holy Spirit generally reaches the heart through the mind. Sleepy, lazy, inattentive hearers are never likely to profit by the preaching of the Word.

Jesus comes to Nazareth; His teaching is the same as it always is. But it has no effect on the people of Nazareth. We are all apt to despise mercies if we are accustomed to them, and have them cheap. The Bibles and Christian books, which are so plentiful in our country, the preaching of the Gospel, which we hear every week - are liable to be undervalued. If even Jesus Christ can be around neighbours and friends who don't take His faith seriously, we shouldn't be surprised if our neighbours and family struggle to take our faith seriously. We should be careful about thinking that if we had only lived at the time of Christ our faith would be stronger. The men of Nazareth had probably spent more time around Christ than anyone, and they had tremendous unbelief.

These verses close by showing us the destructive nature of unbelief. Many perish forever because they will not believe. There is nothing else that prevents their salvation; their sins, however many, might all be forgiven; the blood of Christ might cleanse them; the Holy Spirit might renew them. But they will not believe.

Questions

1. What does Jesus ask those listening to Him?
2. What happened in Nazareth?
3. What was the result of the unbelief in Nazareth?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would not take your blessings in Christ for granted.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 1 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Friday - Matthew 14:1-12 - John the Baptist

When King Herod hears about Jesus he remembers his own wicked actions towards John the Baptist, and his heart fails him. He knows he has despised John's godly counsel and committed murder. His heart tells him that though he has killed John, there will be a day of reckoning. There is a conscience in all men. Fallen, lost, desperately wicked as we all are born into the world, God has put the knowledge of Himself and His law in our hearts. It is a poor, blind guide, without the Holy Spirit; it can save no one; it leads no one to Christ; it may be suppressed and trampled underfoot. But there is such a thing as conscience in every man. It can make even kings miserable, when they have wilfully rejected its advice. They find it easier to imprison and behead the preacher, then to bind his sermon, and silence his reproof in their own hearts. God's witnesses may be put out of the way, but their testimony often lives and works on long after they are dead.

God's children must not look for their reward in this world. If ever there is a case of godliness unrewarded in this life, it is that of John the Baptist. Jesus calls John "greater than any born of a woman." Yet John is thrown in prison before he turns 34 and murdered for doing what is right just to please an adulterous woman and a tyrant. But the world will one day know that there is a God who judges the earth. All true Christians need to remember that their best things are yet to come. We are still at school. We are learning patience, longsuffering, gentleness, and meekness. But there is an eternal holiday yet to begin; it will make amends for all.

Questions

1. Why did Herod kill John?
2. Why did Herod feel guilty?
3. Where will we find our reward?

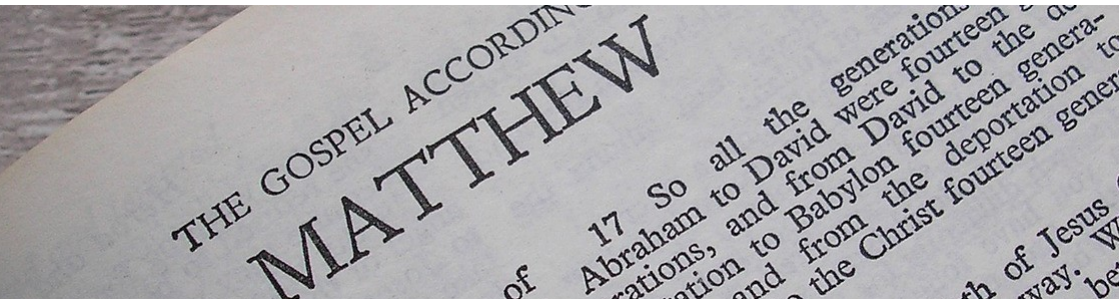
Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that we have our best things ahead of us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 2 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Saturday - Matthew 14:13-21 - Feeding the 5,000

When we look at the feeding of the 5,000 we see that first of all it is an unanswerable proof of our Lord's divine power. Jesus calls into being that which did not before exist; He provides material food for more than five thousand people, out of a supply which would not have satisfied fifty. This is something that only could be done by the power of God.

In the second place, this miracle shows us our Lord's compassion toward men. Jesus sees a great multitude in a desert place, ready to faint for hunger. He knows that many in that multitude have no true faith and love towards Himself. But our Lord has compassion on all; all are helped; all partake of the food miraculously provided. None go away hungry. This shows us the heart of our Lord Jesus Christ towards sinners. He is the same now as He was then. He does not deal with men and women as they deserve. He loads even His enemies with benefits. He delights in mercy.

Finally, we see in this miracle that the Gospel is sufficient to meet the soul needs of all mankind. There are millions of sinners starving in the midst of a wilderness world - helpless, hopeless, and on the road to a lost eternity. We have all gone astray like sheep; we are by nature far away from God. But Christ was crucified for sinners, as our Substitute, making atonement by His death for our sin. He is the bread of life. The Gospel has amply met the spiritual wants of mankind wherever it has been preached. Millions have eaten of it and been filled.

Questions

1. What does this miracle tell us about Jesus?
2. How does Jesus treat the multitudes?
3. What is this miracle a picture of?

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

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.” Matthew 5:9

Praise: Psalm 3 - 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.

If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com