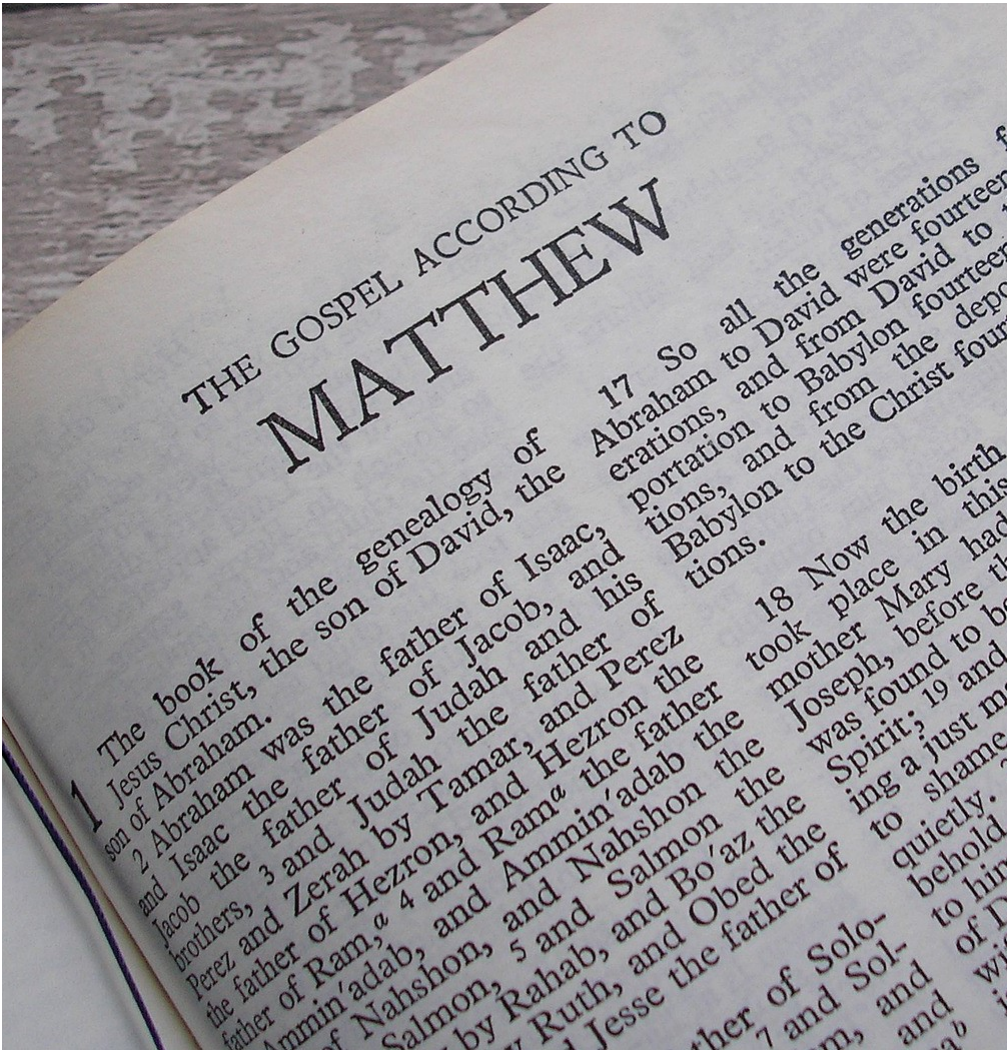
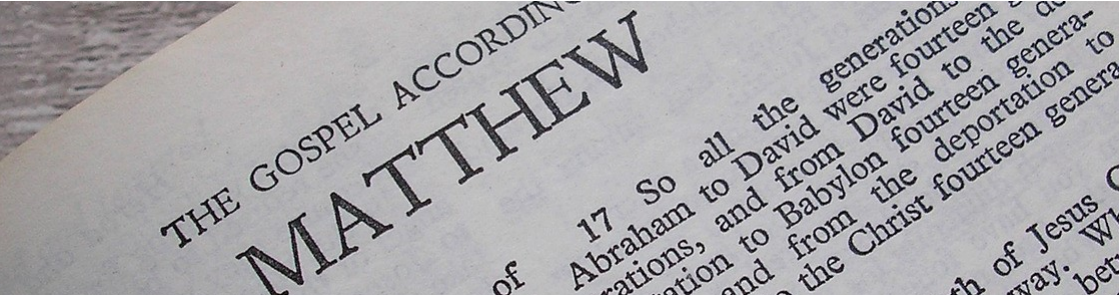


Let's Worship God

22nd-27th August 2022
Matthew





THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MATTHEW

Monday - Matthew 16:13-20 - Peter's Confession

What makes Peter's confession so amazing is that he makes it when few are on Christ's side and many are against Him. He makes it when the rulers of his own nation, the scribes and Pharisees, are all opposed to his Master, and it requires great faith.

Jesus is not saying in this passage that He is building His Church on Peter, a sinful human being, but on the truth that Peter has just confessed. The Church is built on the truth that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God. What does it mean when Jesus tells Peter that He will give him the keys of the kingdom? Jesus is not saying that Peter has the right to admit souls to Heaven. This is the special prerogative of Christ Himself. He is not saying that Peter is superior to the other apostles. There is no evidence of this in the rest of the New Testament. The true meaning of the promise to Peter appears to be that he is to have the special privilege of first opening the door of salvation, both to the Jews and Gentiles. This is fulfilled when he preaches on the day of Pentecost to the Jews, and visits the Gentile Cornelius at his own house. On each occasion he uses the Gospel as the key that throws open the door to the kingdom of Heaven. Jesus also makes clear that Peter and the other apostles will have a special authority to teach in His name and lay down rules and regulations to guide the Church on disputed matters - in a sense this is Jesus giving His stamp of authority to the writings of the New Testament.

Christ promises that the power of Satan will never destroy His people. Though often persecuted, afflicted, distressed, and brought low, the Church shall never come to an end. Visible churches may come to nothing; but the true Church never dies.

Questions

1. What does Christ build His Church on?
2. What does Christ promise about His Church?

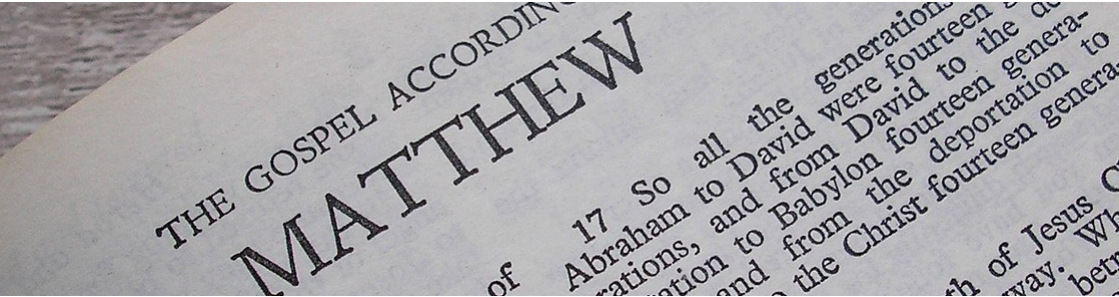
Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ is building His Church.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 10 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

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Tuesday - Matthew 16:21-23 - A Grave Mistake

There can be a lot of spiritual ignorance even in a true disciple of Christ. Peter tries to dissuade Jesus from suffering on the cross. He does not see the full purpose of Christ coming into the world. His eyes are blinded to the necessity of our Lord's death, and he actually does what he can to prevent that death taking place at all. Yet we know that Peter is a converted man; he really believes that Jesus is the Messiah. His heart is right in the sight of God. This should teach us that we must not assume that good men will be perfect or that those who have a weak faith are unsaved. Like Peter they may be in the dark, and like Peter may one day enjoy the full light of the Gospel.

There is no teaching of Scripture so deeply important as the teaching of Christ's atoning death. We cannot have clearer proof of this than the language used by our Lord in rebuking Peter. He addresses him as Satan, as if he is an enemy, and doing the devil's work, in trying to prevent His death. Stronger words than these never came from Christ. The error that drew from such a loving Saviour such a stern rebuke to such a true disciple, must have been a mighty error indeed.

The truth is that our Lord would have us regard the crucifixion as the central truth of Christianity. Right views of His death and the benefits that come from it are at the heart of what we believe. Never let us forget this. Christ's atoning death is the way of peace, the only way to God. If we are wrong here, we are ruined forever. If we give up or alter the death of Christ on our behalf, we have no hope at all.

Questions

1. What does Peter try to do?
2. Why does Jesus rebuke him so strongly?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for Christ's death on your behalf.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 11 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING MATTHEW

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Wednesday - Matthew 16:24-28 - What Does It Profit?

Like Peter, the other disciples can not bear the idea of the crucifixion; they think that Jesus has come to set up an earthly kingdom; they do not see that He needs to suffer and die. They do not understand that true Christians must be prepared for trouble and self-denial if they follow Christ. The glorious kingdom they are expecting is not about to be set up immediately. They must make up their minds to persecution and affliction, if they intend to be His servants; they must be prepared to lose their lives if they would have their souls saved. It is good for us all to see this point clearly. We must not conceal from ourselves that true Christianity brings with it a daily cross in this life, while it offers us a crown of glory in the life to come. Our sinful selves must be daily crucified; the devil must be daily resisted; the world must be daily overcome. There is a warfare to be waged, and a battle to be fought.

These verses teach us that there is nothing so precious as a man's soul. There is nothing on earth, or under the earth, that can make up for losing our souls; there is nothing that money can buy or man can give in comparison with our souls. The world and all that it contains is temporary, fading, and passing away. The soul is eternal.

Finally, Jesus teaches that at His Second Coming, His people shall receive their rewards. Jesus knows the heart of a man; He knows how quickly we get discouraged. So He gives us a promise. He reminds us that He will come again, and that this is the time when His disciples shall receive their good things. There will be glory, honour, and reward in abundance one day for all who have served and loved Jesus, but the bitter must come before the sweet, the cross before the crown.

Questions

1. What is characteristic of life as a Christian?
2. What will happen when Christ comes again?

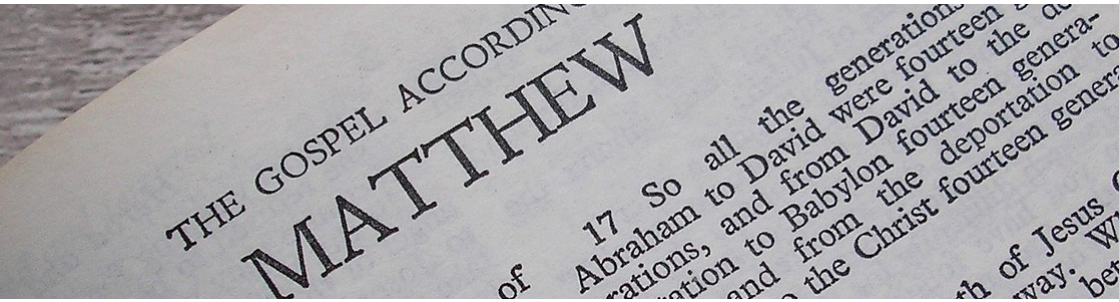
Prayer Points

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

Memory Verse

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.” Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 12 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Thursday - Matthew 17:1-13 - The Transfiguration

The end of the last chapter shows us the cross; here we are graciously allowed to see something of the coming reward. The hearts which have just been saddened by a plain statement of Christ's sufferings, are at once gladdened by a vision of Christ's glory.

These verses give us a pattern of the glory in which Christ and His people will appear when He comes the second time. The Transfiguration is meant to encourage the disciples by giving them a glimpse of good things yet to come. It gives the disciples some idea of the majesty in which Jesus will appear to the world, when He comes the second time, and all His saints with Him. They are taught that if He does not yet appear to the world as a King, it is only because the time for revealing Himself in that way has not yet come. We are too quick to forget the glory of Christ and His people because we live in a sinful world, surrounded by those who want nothing to do with Christ. But the glory is there, and one day it will be revealed.

These verses also give us a proof of the resurrection of the body and life after death. We are told that Moses and Elijah appear visibly in glory with Christ; they are seen in bodily form. They are heard talking with our Lord. The souls of those who have died live as surely as we live ourselves, and one day their bodies will be raised, and they will be brought before Christ, the Judge of all the earth.

Peter, in wanting to build three tents, seems to place Moses and Elijah on an equal footing with Christ. But a voice makes it clear to Peter that there is One there far greater than Moses or Elijah. Christ is the Saviour to whom the law and the prophets point. He is above all men and is the only one who can save.

Questions

1. What does the Transfiguration tell us about Christ?
2. What will happen at the Last Day?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ has all glory and power.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 13 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

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Friday - Matthew 17:14-21 - Faith and Diligence

It is painful enough to see the bodies of those we love racked by disease, how much more painful must it be, for this father, to see body and mind completely under the influence of the devil. But there are many instances of Satan's spiritual dominion over young people today, which are quite as painful, in their way, as the case described in these verses. There are thousands of young people who seem to have given themselves up to Satan's temptations. They have no fear of God or His commandments; they serve pleasure and run riot; they refuse to listen to the advice of parents, teachers, or ministers; they fling aside their health and their character. They do all that lies in their power to ruin themselves, body and soul. But we must never despair. We must remember the power of our Lord Jesus Christ. Parents, teachers, ministers should go on praying for young people, even at their worst. They may yet repent and be converted.

Faith is the key to success in the Christian warfare; unbelief is the sure road to defeat. Let our faith decay and courage, patience, long-suffering, and hope will wither and dwindle away.

Satan's kingdom is not to be pulled down without diligence and hard work. No victories are easily won over the prince of this world; without fervent prayer and diligent focus on Christ, we will often meet with failure and defeat. We often learn by bitter experience that spiritual battles are not to be won without hard fighting. God's work must never be carelessly done. Whatever we do, we should do it with all our might. It is a fatal mistake to underrate our foes. Greater is He that is for us than he that is against us; but, for all that, he that is against us is not to be despised. We need to take up the whole armour of God and use it.

Questions

1. What is the key to success in Christian warfare?
2. Why couldn't the disciples cast out the demon?

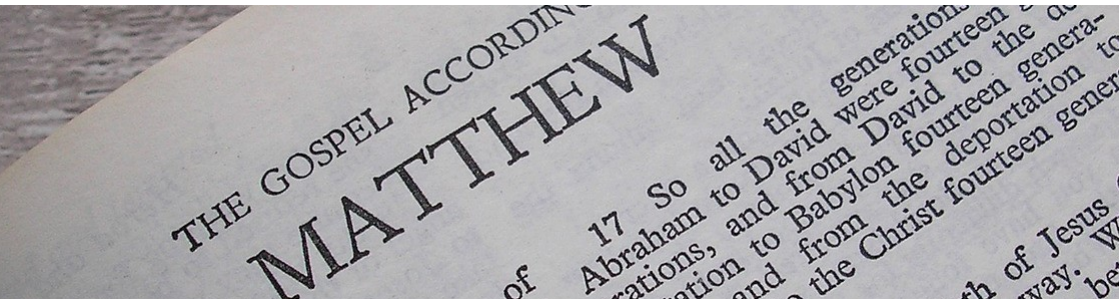
Prayer Points

1. Pray for the young people in the congregation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 14 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
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Saturday - Matthew 17:22-27 - Perfect Knowledge

Jesus Christ has perfect knowledge of everything that is said and done in this world. He knows exactly what has been said to Peter as if he had been standing right there. Christ sees all we do. He hears all we say. Concealment is impossible; hypocrisy is useless. We may deceive others, but the Lord sees right through us. We cannot deceive Christ. We can make practical use of this truth. We can strive to live knowing that the Lord is watching. It should be our daily aim to say nothing we would not like Christ to hear, and to do nothing we would not like Christ to see. Let us ask ourselves, "How would I behave if Jesus was standing beside me?"

We also see in these verses that Jesus has power over all creation. He makes a fish provide the money. The believer who goes out to do Christ's work serves One who has all power, even over the beasts of the earth.

We also see in these verses that Jesus is willing to make concessions rather than give offense. He might justly have claimed exemption from the payment of this tribute money. He, who is Son of God, might fairly have been excused from paying for the maintenance of His Father's house, but our Lord does not do so. He claims no exemption. He desires Peter to pay the money demanded. But it is done that none be offended. There are matters in which Christ's people ought to sink their own opinions, and submit to requirements, rather than give offense and hinder the Gospel. God's rights undoubtedly we ought never to give up, but we may sometimes safely give up our own. There are occasions when it shows more grace in a Christian to submit than to resist.

Questions

1. Where does Christ get the money to pay the tax?
2. Why does Christ pay the tax?

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 you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account." Matthew 5:11

Praise: Psalm 15 - 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
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If you have any queries please contact - rpchurchscotland@gmail.com