

Matthew Survey — Section One

Complete Overview — All Topics & Content

Matthew 1:1 – 7:29 · Lessons 1–48

Overview & Foundation · Lessons 1–10

Matthew 1:1 – 2:23

P1

Overview & Introduction — The Framework for Section One

Lessons 1–2 · Matt 1:1 – 7:29 (Survey Introduction)

- Matthew's gospel sits in 'times past' — God's program with Israel; the Dispensation of Grace (Romans–Philemon) is written TO and ABOUT believers today; Hebrews–Revelation pertains to the resumption of Israel's program

Four gospels — four prophetically prescribed presentations of the Messiah (Zech 3:8; 6:12; 9:9; 13:7)

- Matthew: Israel's rightful King (Zech 9:9) · Mark: God's perfect Servant (Zech 3:8)
- Luke: the perfect Man (Zech 6:12) · John: Jehovah in human flesh (Zech 13:7)
- The fifth course of punishment (Lev 26) has five installments; Matthew 1:1 opens in the fourth — the climactic stage when the Messiah is present in the land and Israel reaches full accountability

P2

Undeniable, Infallible Proofs — The Christ of the Scriptures

Lessons 3–10 · Matt 1:1 – 2:23

- The proofs in Matt 1–2 are the doctrinal arsenal of the remnant in the fifth installment, when many will come claiming to be the Christ (Matt 24:5); designed to equip any honest Israelite with a preponderance of irrefutable evidence

Three categories of proof

- The royal genealogy: the 3×14 'book of the generation' — a legal document cross-referencing Abrahamic, Davidic, and Danielic covenants; legally excludes all other claimants
- The supernatural generation: virgin birth — the only candidate without a human father
- Four initial royal reception prophecies: Micah 5:2 (birthplace), Numbers 24:17 (the star), Hosea 11:1 (out of Egypt), Jeremiah 31:15 (Rachel's weeping)
- Three types of prophetic fulfillment in Matt 2: direct (Mic 5:2), historical typology (Hos 11:1 — Israel's experience foreshadowed his), and collective theme ('he shall be called a Nazarene')

The Fourth Installment Commences · Lessons 11–28

Matthew 3:1 – 4:25

P1

The Reality of the Fourth Installment — Two Entities and Three Baptisms

Lessons 11–19 · Matt 3:1 – 4:11 (Background)

- From Matt 3 onward, two distinct entities exist within Israel: the prophesied remnant (accepting the counsel of God against themselves, Luke 7:29–30) and the apostate VRS (Pharisees and Sadducees claiming natural righteousness by Abrahamic descent)

Three baptisms — Israel's prescription for cleansing (Ezek 36:24–28)

- 1st — John's water baptism: separation from the apostate element; identification as part of the forming remnant
- 2nd — Messiah's Holy Ghost baptism (Acts 2): further sanctification; eligibility for physical protection in the day of wrath
- 3rd — Messiah's fire baptism (5th installment): final purging; all apostate element consumed; purified remnant ready for the kingdom

The salvation package deal — three components matching the Davidic covenant mandates

- Redemption: justification unto eternal life by faith (the cross)
- Deliverance: physical salvation in the day of wrath — 'he that endureth to the end shall be saved' (Matt 24:13)
- Avengement: physical vindication when the Lord avenges his cause against the nations and the man of sin

P2

The Manifestation of Christ to Israel — The Baptism

Lesson 20 · Matt 3:13–17

- Christ's baptism serves an entirely different purpose from Israel's water baptism — not cleansing from defilement but public manifestation of the Messiah to Israel (Isaiah 42:1)

The 'Behold' package of Isaiah 42:1 — two-part public evidence given simultaneously

- (1) The Spirit descending like a dove — visible sign: 'I have put my spirit upon him'
- (2) The voice from heaven — audible declaration: 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased'
- John's 'I knew him not' (John 1:31, 33) = no prior certain personal identification, not doctrinal ignorance; the two signs gave him legally certain grounds to make an unequivocal public testimony

P3

Christ Qualifies Himself — Kinsman Redeemer

Lessons 21–24 · Matt 4:1–11

Four qualifications of a Redeemer (Lev 27; book of Ruth) — three already met, one requiring public proof

- Kinsman of those to be redeemed — met (Son of David, Son of Abraham)
- Willing to redeem — met (the enfleshment was voluntary; Isa 50:5)
- Able to pay the specified price — met (Heb 10:5–7; 9:15)
- Not in the same predicament and cannot compromise himself — this is what Matt 4:1–11 proves before the adversary

Three components of perfect servanthood — Israel fails (Exod 15–17), Christ passes (Deut 6, 8)

- (1) Complete satisfaction with the master's program — no murmuring: 'Man shall not live by bread alone'
- (2) Implicit trust in the master's word — no doubting: 'Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God'
- (3) Complete loyalty to the master's cause — no deviation: 'Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God only'
- The 40-day fast placed the Lord in conditions more strenuous than Israel's worst wilderness failure — the qualification is legally airtight; Matt 4 and Luke 4 record two separate sets of temptations in the same wilderness period

P4

Beginning of Christ's Ministry — Five Prophetic Issues

Lessons 25–28 · Matt 4:12–25

- The signs of the kingdom are specifically the 'powers of the world to come' (Heb 6:5) — advance foretastes of kingdom blessings validating the gospel of the kingdom; not general demonstrations of divine power

Two hallmark categories of kingdom signs

- (1) Healing all manner of sickness and disease — foretaste of Isaiah 35:5–6 kingdom blessings
- (2) Casting out unclean spirits — foretaste of Zechariah 13:2 kingdom reality
- The gospel of the kingdom ('the kingdom of heaven is at hand') is Israel's prophetic program — distinct from Paul's gospel (justification by faith for the Dispensation of Grace); the VRS had corrupted and cast away the law (Isa 5:24); the Lord comes to make it honorable again (Isa 42:21)

The Sermon on the Mount · Lessons 29–48

Matthew 5:1 – 7:29

P1

Background & Introduction — Purpose, Structure, and Doctrinal Foundation

Lessons 29–33 · Matt 5:1–2 (Introduction)

- The Sermon on the Mount is the Lord's corrective of the VRS — magnifying the law as Isaiah 42:21 promised, not abolishing it; the contrast is not law vs. grace but God's law vs. man's tradition (Ps 50:21)

The three-fold salvation package deal (Davidic covenant mandates)

- Redeemer — spiritual: justification by faith unto eternal life (the cross)
- Deliverer — physical deliverance: salvation from the day of wrath (Acts 2:38–40)
- Avenger — physical avengement: the Lord's vengeance on Israel's enemies at his return
- Conduct in the Sermon determines reward and kingdom access, not justification; foundation: Ps 15, Ps 24, and Isa 33:14–17 tie righteous conduct to reward — the unconditional 'heirs of God' (Rom 8:17a) is the foundation; the conditional 'joint-heirs' (Rom 8:17b) depends on faithful response

P2

The Beatitudes — Conditions and Conduct

Lessons 33–34 · Matt 5:1–12

Two categories of Beatitudes — a deliberate structural break at verse 7

- Vv. 3–6: conditions the remnant finds itself in — poverty of spirit, mourning, meekness, hunger for righteousness; not choices but circumstances of VRS oppression; each receives a promise of kingdom reversal
- Vv. 7–12: conduct the remnant is to maintain — mercifulness, purity, peacemaking, enduring persecution; choices in response to corrective doctrine; specific kingdom rewards attached to each
- 'Shall see God' (v. 8) = kingdom reward — an abundant entrance into the king's presence (Isa 33:17; Ps 15; Ps 24); eternal life and kingdom rewards are distinct and must not be collapsed

P3

Salt, Light, and the Law — Israel's Calling and the Law's Full Scope

Lessons 34–35 · Matt 5:13–20

- 'Salt of the earth' and 'light of the world' drawn from Israel's designed role among the nations (Deut 4:5–8; Isa 11:9; 25:7) — not addressed to the Body of Christ
- 'I am not come to destroy but to fulfill' covers the full scope of law and prophets — not exhausted at the cross; every jot and tittle is fulfilled when the Lord returns and rewards faithfulness at the kingdom's establishment

Three kingdom possibilities — Matt 5:19–20 (rewards, not justification)

- Great in the kingdom: high positions of ruling authority; the royal entourage dwelling near the king
- Least in the kingdom: entrance but minimal reward and governing authority
- Not entering: excluded from the kingdom's opening establishment; rewards withheld — not loss of eternal life

P4

The Righteous Commandments — The Law Reaches to the Heart

Lessons 36–40 · Matt 5:21–48

- 'But I say unto you' corrects the VRS's mishandling of the law, not the law itself; the VRS reduced comprehensive commandments to their most overt expression, ignoring the heart conditions from which those acts proceed (Matt 15:18–20)
- The Ten Commandments are wellhead commandments — each comprehends the full range of heart-level issues from which the overt act flows; 'Thou shalt not kill' comprehends anger, hatred, and slander; 'Thou shalt not commit adultery' comprehends all inordinate desire
- Four-step correction formula applied consistently across all five comprehensive commandments: state the commandment → expose the VRS corruption → give corrective doctrine → provide application; this is restoration, not addition

P5

Godliness and Piety — Almsgiving, Prayer, and Fasting

Lessons 40–43 · Matt 6:1–18

- The VRS performed all three acts of piety (almsgiving, prayer, fasting) as performances for human approval — driven by selfish love; corrective doctrine restores the godly foundation: thinking like God does, doing things God's way, laboring with God in what he is doing

The model prayer — 'After this manner therefore pray ye' (not a scripted repetition)

- Each component corresponds to a programmatic reality: hallowing God's name (Ezek 36), kingdom come (Mic 4), miraculous daily bread (Isa 33; 48–49), reciprocal forgiveness (Matt 18), deliverance from VRS seduction (Isa 30)
- The reciprocal judgment principle ('forgive us as we forgive') governs kingdom participation — not the Body of Christ doctrine, whose forgiveness is grounded in grace toward us in Christ (Eph 4:32)

P6

True Treasure — Mammon Exposed, Kingdom Treasure Defined

Lessons 44–45 · Matt 6:19–34

- The VRS taught earthly riches = sign of God's blessing — a corruption of Deut 28's national, programmatic promises; the Lord exposes mammon as an abomination in God's sight ('mammon of unrighteousness,' Luke 16:9)
- True treasure = wisdom, the fear of the Lord, and heavenly reward (Isa 33:5–6; Prov 3:13–15) — righteousness laid up in heaven where no thief breaks through and no moth corrupts
- 'Take no thought' (vv. 25–34) is program-specific doctrine for the fifth installment when the remnant is cut off from normal economic participation and miraculous provision is God's chosen method — not general anti-anxiety advice (contrast: 2 Thess 3:10 for the Dispensation of Grace)

P7

Righteous Judgment — The Standard, the Limits, and the Golden Rule

Lessons 45–46 · Matt 7:1–12

- 'Judge not' (v. 1) condemns the subjective, hypocritical judgment system of the VRS — not all judgment; righteous judgment on the objective standard of God's word is required (John 7:24; 8:15)
- 'Dogs' (Gentiles) and 'swine' (Samaritans) in v. 6 = programmatic timing — their season to receive the gospel of the kingdom had not yet arrived, not racial contempt; the dispensation of grace removes this boundary entirely
- 'Ask, seek, knock' (vv. 7–11) = program-specific privilege for the believing remnant; three stages track increasing need in the fifth installment — daily provision, guidance, places of refuge; the golden rule (v. 12) summarizes the entire law and the prophets

P8

Warnings — The Strait Gate, False Prophets, and the Doctrine of the Remnant

Lessons 47–48 · Matt 7:13–23

- The doctrine of the remnant — few, not many (Isa 1:9; 10:22; Zech 13:8): the remnant must not be shaken by the VRS's majority status or interpret small numbers as evidence against the truth; the strait way is the narrow one
- 'Know them by their fruits' = doctrine, not works — the adversary can duplicate signs and miracles (Deut 13:1–3); only the doctrinal package cannot be duplicated; 1–3 John provide the specific doctrinal touchstone
- 'I never knew you' — these false prophets were always tares, never genuinely saved; the eternal security of justified members of the remnant stands uncompromised; what can be lost are rewards and kingdom entrance timing, not eternal life

P9

Heeding the Doctrine — The Wise and Foolish Builder

Lesson 48 · Matt 7:24–29

- The wise and foolish builders is entirely a rewards issue — the foolish man still possesses eternal life; what falls is his rewards and kingdom entrance timing (consistent with Matt 5:19–20 throughout the Sermon)
- The storm (rain, floods, winds) represents the specific conditions of the fifth installment: doctrinal storm (false prophets with signs and wonders), political storm (man of sin and extermination policy), economic storm (buying and selling ban), spiritual storm (satanic policy of evil at fullest operation)
- 'He taught as one having authority' — the law and prophets liberated from VRS corruption began to effectually work in those who heard and believed (James 1:21); the corrective doctrine of the Sermon is not a new law but the old law working as it was always designed to work