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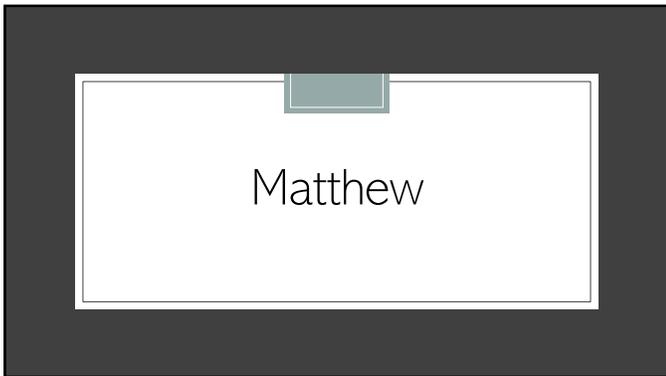
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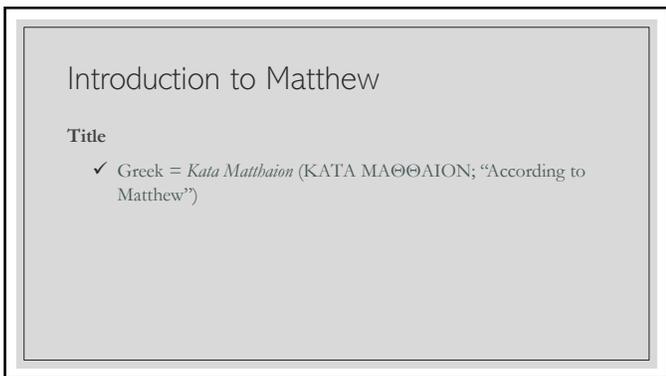
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Introduction to Matthew

**WHO—Authorship**

- ✓ The Apostle Matthew (also known as Levi), a tax collector who followed Jesus as one of the Twelve

**WHO—Audience**

- ✓ Jewish Christians, especially after the dispersion from Jerusalem

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Introduction to Matthew

**WHEN**

- ✓ Recommended date of AD 49–50
- ✓ Jerusalem Council (~ AD 49)
- ✓ First Gospel (beware of Markian Priority)
- ✓ Order of the Gospels makes historical sense

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Introduction to Matthew

**WHERE**

- ✓ Probably written from Jerusalem
- ✓ Context of the Exile of Christian Jews (Acts 8:1–3)
- ✓ Question on Jewish Christians' minds, "Is God disowning us now that Jesus is gone and we are persecuted?"
- ✓ Another question, "Will God keep His promise to restore the kingdom to Israel?" (Acts 1:6)
- ✓ Alongside James' epistle, Matthew provides the theological and historical backbone to exhort the Jewish believers

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### Introduction to Matthew

**WHY**

To encourage Jewish Christians scattered from Jerusalem that Jesus is the fulfillment of God dwelling with man, and that because His life, death, and resurrection perfectly modeled what Israel (and all God's people) should have been and should have done, He has been given all authority to rule as King over Israel and the world, and He will do so when He returns to the earth at His second coming.

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### Introduction to Matthew

**HOW—Terminology**

- ✓ Son of (the Living) God (4:3, 6; 8:29; 14:33; 16:16; 26:63; 27:40, 43, 54)
- ✓ Son of Man (8:20; 9:6; 10:23; 12:8, 32, 40; 16:13, 27, 28; 17:9, 12, 22; 19:28; 20:18, 28; 24:27, 30 (2x), 37, 39, 44; 25:31; 26:2, 24 (2x), 45, 64)
- ✓ The (or My, His) (Beloved) Son (2:15; 3:17; 11:27 (3x); 17:5; 21:37 (2x), 38; 22:2; 24:36)
- ✓ The Christ/Messiah (1:16; 2:4; 11:2; 16:16, 20; 22:42; 23:10; 24:5, 23; 26:63, 68; 27:17, 22)
- ✓ Son of David (1:1, 20; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30, 31; 21:9, 15; 22:42, 45)
- ✓ Son of Abraham (1:1)

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### Introduction to Matthew

**HOW—Terminology**

- ✓ Kingdom (or King, Queen Dominion, Rule, Reign; 1:6; 2:1, 2, 3, 9, 22; 3:24; 4:8, 17, 23; 5:3, 10, 19 (2x), 20, 35; 6:10, 33; 7:21; 8:11, 12; 9:35; 10:7, 18; 11:8, 11, 12; 12:25, 26, 28, 42; 13:11, 19, 24, 31, 33, 38, 41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 52; 14:9; 16:19, 28; 17:25; 18:1, 3, 4, 23 (2x); 19:12, 23, 24; 20:1, 21; 21:5, 31, 43; 22:2 (2x), 7, 11, 13; 23:13; 24:7 (2x), 14; 25:1, 34 (2x), 40; 26:29; 27:11, 29, 37, 42)
- ✓ Authority (or Dominion; 7:29; 8:9; 9:6, 8; 10:1; 20:25; 21:23 (2x), 24, 27; 28:18)
- ✓ Fulfillment (or Fulfill; 1:22; 2:15, 17, 23; 3:15; 5:17; 8:17; 13:14, 35; 26:54, 56; 27:9)

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Introduction to Matthew

**HOW—Themes**

- ✓ Kingdom
  - ❖ Of Heaven (32x)
  - ❖ Of God (4x)
  - ❖ The Kingdom (15x)
  - ❖ King (8x)
- ✓ Fulfillment formula (“What was spoken by \_\_\_ was fulfilled ...”; e.g., 1:22; 2:15, 23; 3:3; etc.)
- ✓ “When Jesus finished these words ...” (e.g., 7:28; 11:1; etc.)
- ✓ The disciples/crowds seeking to magnify Jesus (8:27, 29; 9:26, 31; etc.)
- ✓ Jesus turning away from the crowds (8:18; 9:30; etc.)

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Introduction to Matthew

**HOW—Themes**

- ✓ Jesus Walking in Israel’s Footsteps
- ✓ Discipleship (73x)
- ✓ Righteousness
- ✓ Jewish Leaders and People
- ✓ Gentiles (favorable light)
- ✓ The Church (Matt 16, 18)
- ✓ End times—“wrath to come”—“judgment to come”—“age to come”

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Introduction to Matthew

**HOW—Themes**

- ✓ Miracles of Jesus—why?
  - ❖ Confirmation of the Messiah
  - ❖ Credibility to Jesus’ words
  - ❖ Preview of the Kingdom

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**Introduction to Matthew**

**HOW—Literary Structure\***

- ✓ The Kingdom Standards Stipulated (concluding with Discourse 1; 1:1 – 7:29)
- ✓ The Kingdom Power Displayed (concluding with Discourse 2; 8:1 – 11:1)
- ✓ The Kingdom Advent Delayed (concluding with Discourse 3; 11:2 – 13:53)
- ✓ The Kingdom Character Redefined (concluding with Discourse 4; 13:54 – 19:1)
- ✓ The Kingdom Future Revealed (concluding with Discourse 5; 19:2 – 26:1)
- ✓ The Kingdom Authority Bestowed (concluding with Discourse 6; 26:2 – 28:20)

The structure of the gospel is neatly arranged according to discrete segments of Jesus' work and then extended discourse

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**Introduction to Matthew**

**HOW—Interpretative Issues**

- ✓ Opening sentence (1:1)
- ✓ Nature of the Kingdom (3:1–2)
  - ❖ Primarily personal and individual?
  - ❖ Future Eschatological?
  - ❖ Realized Eschatological?
  - ❖ Two forms/aspects of the kingdom?
  - ❖ OT Prophesied Kingdom which has not yet come

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**Introduction to Matthew**

**HOW—Interpretative Issues**

- ✓ Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5–7)
  - ❖ Soteriological Approach? How to be saved
  - ❖ Penitential Approach? Drive you to the Savior like the Law of God
  - ❖ Ecclesiastical Approach? Church behavior
  - ❖ Kingdom Ethics? What people in the kingdom will be like later
  - ❖ Kingdom Manifesto/Constitution?
  - ❖ Historical Approach? How kingdom citizens behave now
  - ❖ Kingdom Standard? How to enter the kingdom; but you can't

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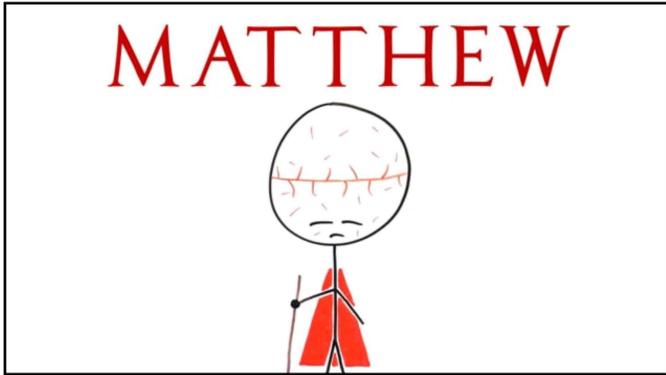
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