

## **Matthew: An Approach to Learning the Gospel of the Kingdom**

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Matthew arranges his Gospel into five speeches, the basic ending phrase being at the end of each discourse (7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1). Between each of these speeches, as well as before and after the first and last speech, are passages of narration (total of six).

To learn Matthew's gospel, learn the Five Discourses first – their themes and chapters – and then fill in the narration sections. The number of chapters per discourse follows this pattern: 3, 1, 1, 1, 3, while the number of chapters for the narrative passages follow: 4, 2, 2, 4, 4, 3. Thus (in theory), if someone mentioned "Matthew 20" we should be able to calculate that this is in the 5<sup>th</sup> Narration (4 + 3 + 2 + 1 + 2 + 1 + 4 + 1 + 4). Or, vice versa, if someone is looking for a passage that deals with going to a brother, we should be able to find it in the 4<sup>th</sup> Discourse – Matthew 18.

### **Narration # 1 – Preparation – Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4**

Royal Lineage of Jesus  
Royal Birth Announcement  
Royal Conflict with Herod  
Royal Herald  
Divine Testimony  
Divine Testing  
Royal Mission

### **Discourse #1 – Sermon on the Mount – Chapters 5, 6, 7**

Characteristics of those in the Kingdom

### **Narration # 2 – Early Stages – Chapters 8, 9**

Kingdom for Outcasts  
Kingdom of Commitment  
Kingdom of Power  
Kingdom of Compassion

### **Discourse # 2 – Sending of the Twelve – Chapter 10**

Announcing the Kingdom

### **Narration # 3 – Opposition to the Kingdom – Chapters 11-12**

Do we look for another? (John must have faith)  
Rejected in Bethsaida, Chorazin & Capernaum  
Lord of the Sabbath  
The Servant Messiah  
A Kingdom Divided  
Seeking Signs

### **Discourse # 3 – Parables of the Kingdom – Chapter 13**

Nature of the Kingdom

#### **Narration # 4 – Promoting the Kingdom – Chapters 14 – 17**

Teaching in the Kingdom (Cycle 1):

- a. 14:13 Isolated place
- b. 14:14 compassionate healing
- c. 14:15 Disciples to Feed
- d. 14:22 Crossing the Sea
- e. 14:34 Faith & Healing
- f. 15:1-2 Opposition of Pharisees
- g. 15:26-27 Crumbs from the table (bread theme)

Teaching in the Kingdom (Cycle 2):

- a. 15:29 Isolated place
- b. 15:30 compassionate healing
- c. 15:32 Disciples to Feed
- d. 15:39 Crossing the Sea
- e. 16:1 (Faithless Pharisees)
- f. 16:1 Opposition of Pharisees
- g. 16:6 Beware of Leaven (bread theme)

Recognition of the King – Peter’s Confession

Revelation of the King - Transfiguration

#### **Discourse # 4 – Service in the Kingdom – Chapter 18**

Brotherly Service in the Kingdom

#### **Narration # 5 – Crisis in the Kingdom – Chapters 19 – 22**

“Radical” Values of the Kingdom

Arrival of the King

Challenge to the King’s Authority

King’s Challenge Unanswered

#### **Discourse # 5 – Victory in the Kingdom – Chapters 23, 24, 25**

Judgment Against Leaders, Jerusalem & World

#### **Narration # 6 – Kingly Victory – Chapters 26, 27 , 28**

King Anointed

King Betrayed

King Arrested

King Crucified

King Buried

King Raised

King Reigns