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Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

"These are unedited quick-notes posted daily. We apologize for any grammatical or spelling errors"

***--You'll find the formatting change as the commentary moves beyond 1/2014--***

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Matthew

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C1-3

C1 Vss 1-24 It has been four hundred years since any word from The Lord has been proclaimed by a prophet. Matthew the tax collector opens with the faith lineage of Jesus. He begins with Abraham. Matthew was one of the twelve. As a public official and a hates tax collector, it is ironic that he writes the gospel to convince the Jews that Jesus is the one they seek.

Some names in the lineage Jacob and Judah. Tamar who conceived by her father in law (Judah) and had twins. Boaz whose mother was Rahab the prostitute. Ruth the Moabite and great grandmother of David. Another woman who is an adulterer in this lineage is mentioned. David had hundreds of wives, but this woman has the son who continues the royal promise.

Notice we see Zerrubabel who has a central role in the return to Jerusalem and rebuilding.

It is so important to note that while it is appropriate to call the period between the testaments the silent period. It is not a period when God's plan of salvation is delayed. The gospel leads finally to Joseph, Mary's husband.

The writer alludes to three fourteen generation periods.

The child is born. Given the pregnancy without a man, we can imagine Joseph's pain. As betrothed and by law all he had to do was to report her to the priests. But he did not desire to do it. An angel intercedes and he believes the angel's account (20-21). Joseph is told do not fear to take her as a wife. So this clearly identifies the relationship as a betrothal.

Matthew

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C2 Vss 1-18. It is clear where Jesus is born. Wise men seek him. Herod hears about it. He asks the religious leaders and the religious leaders knew. We see in the life of Jesus evidence that the religious leaders had the knowledge of who he was. Here it begins (3-4). Herod also meets with the wise men, and commands that they return with the whereabouts of the child. They do not.

The parents and child escape to Egypt. How ironic that they find refuge in Egypt. Angels are a major theme early on in Jesus' life. Satan being fooled calls for the massacre of the male-boys.

Matthew demonstrating that Jesus is the Messiah uses words from Jeremiah as evidence (18). It's so unfortunate that they held the prophets in such low regard. After Herod's death the family returns to Nazareth.

C3 Vss 1-17 Now, the first public voice, John! Clearly John is preaching repentance and sin cleansing (2). John early-on identifies the issues with the religious leaders. John can be seen has a no-nonsense, confrontational truth-bearer. There's no question about the condition of the religious leaders.

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