

[The Global Christ-based Headquarters:](#)

Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

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

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Matthew

C4 Vss 1-25 Jesus is driven into the wilderness. Now, it is ministry baptism. He's tempted. Noteworthy, the first is food as with the first sin. Each consequent temptation is more powerful. Whereas Jesus defeats the first temptation by relying on the written word of God (4). Satan presents the Word of God as the authority to follow him-Satan (7). Finally, offering all the temptations of the world if He'll worship him-Satan. This is what the whole story of sin is about. Sin represents obedience to Satan with his primary objective of being God.

When John is arrested Jesus heads to Nazareth first. Then from there the region of death. What a launch for a His ministry. He didn't seek the lights and glitter, but headed to where spiritual decay was at it greatest. His message, repent from sin (12-17).

He encounters His first disciples. We focus here on the qualifications. The only qualification was to follow Him (19). This is so important and must not be overlooked. We don't believe that it says that people need no qualifications to be leaders, because it's clear they need extensive training. They were taught and observed Jesus for an estimated 15000 hours over a three year period.

The point here is they were to follow Him with their problems and issues. And these issues and problems would be addressed and overcome as they followed Him.

Note as He taught, He healed (23). As a result the news about Him spread.

C5 Vss 1-48. Jesus would set the foundation for a refreshing mental and spiritual renewal with the beatitudes. Actually, all He was doing was restoring every mental and behavioral concept that had been degraded by the religious leaders with the passage of time.

It is a litany of blessings that can be reached by anyone. No status or position was required. Hope and opportunity was available to everyone (3-10).

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Speaking of overcoming the victim's spirit. We're blessed when people lie and persecute us. Jesus gives clarity to the words over centuries from kings and prophets not to esteem evil doers who seem to prosper (11-12).

It's clear that God's people are light and salt bearers. And His followers are to let or broadcast their faith (16). Let everyone see.

Jesus is not a Law abolisher. He is the Law in-persona. Jesus juxtaposes following the Law with the version the religious leaders taught. What's the difference? The religious leaders taught Law to observe as acts of self-righteousness, but the purpose of the Law was for a people who belong to God. They observe it out of their family relationship with God. They are demonstrating that they love God (17-20).

Jesus identified anger as a serious personality and relational enemy. He 's able to prioritize religious activities with relational accountability. Resolve matters first with each other before bring an offering (23-24).

Another significant historical problem was adultery. According to Matthew's account Jesus addressed the problem early in His ministry

Jesus addresses the slippery slope of adultery. Looking upon a woman. What Jesus means is the mental preparation for the physical participation. It's adulterous when the activity is preparatory to physical consummation. Saying, "we didn't touch each other" is not the standard of denying an adulterous relationship. Jesus follows this standard of adultery with the inability to control imagery and conceptualization.

The religious leaders did not know the sin of divorce. There is no sin in divorcing. The sin is to divorce for anything but a breach of the covenant relationship and then to remarry (see Christ based Counseling Handbook, Marriage). It is adultery a corporal sin calling for the death penalty.

He expects His followers to keep their vows, manage the eliminate wrathfully conduct, and be a difference maker with persons who would misuse us (38-47)

C6 Vss 1- He was concerned about the poor, but also knew the prideful motives in dark humanity. Concerning the poor we are not to do it to be seen. The same can be said about fasting. These are issues about motives. Managing our hearts and objectives (1-17)

Jesus' knew humanity's obsession with wealth and notoriety. When money or wealth is the driver of life's purpose it is ruinous with no eternal value.

Jesus provides the appropriate focus for every believer. Seek the will of God and His principles above all else (33).

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C7 Vss 1-28 Jesus words concerning judging others are the most manipulated. Admittedly, if you only read one verse without all Jesus says on the topic you'll be left thinking it is not right to judge at all, which would leave the church completely vulnerable. Jesus is concerned about the system that we use to judge people (2). And gives clarity when He says, "first get the log out of your own eye," then you will see well enough to help (3-5). Again, if every believer is self-examining, they have the ability to correct others. Jesus' words were directed against the Pharisees who would attempt to correct the people when their sins were the same or greater than those they attempted to correct.

The optimal word on asking is to keep doing so. God will respond (9-11)

Jesus provides a litany of concepts. How we treat others should be the same standard as what we expect (12). The juxtaposition of heaven and he'll cannot be more clear. There are plenty of avenues to hell, but the path to heaven is narrow (13-14). So much for those who are proponents of many religions leading the way.

Jesus is so pragmatic. Watch the results prophets. Watch their acts. You identify people by what they do (20).

He continues by providing a warning and standard to measure everyone. Only those who do the will of my father will enter. Notice, many will say what they "did", but not how they lived! Obedience is greater than sacrifice.

He concludes His disciple standards emphatically with a marvelous illustration. It's about hearing God 'a word and living it. These persons withstand the floods of life.

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