

Bible Question Class Books

**Bible Study Questions on
the Gospel of Matthew and
the Sermon on the Mount**
by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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Bible Study Questions on the Gospel of Matthew and the Sermon on the Mount

Introduction:

This workbook was designed for Bible class study, family study, or personal study. The questions contain minimal human commentary, but instead urge the student to study to understand Scripture. The material is copyrighted, but each student has permission to print copies of the material for his/her personal or family study. I suggest that each student print a copy of these questions and place them in a notebook. In addition, teachers are permitted to make copies for students they teach in a class or home Bible study setting. See copyright notes at the end of this material for further information.

Questions labeled "think" are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned.

I also **strongly** urge teachers to use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive in-class discussion. Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: "Joe, will you answer number 1?" "Sue, what about number 2?" Etc. Instead, let the questions be assigned as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered "correctly."

I also urge the class to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over "What did the author mean by question #5?" My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on. (Note: My abbreviation "**b/c/v**" means "book, chapter, and verse.")

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

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For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

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Assignments on Matthew 1

Please read Matthew 1 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Skim the book of Matthew and state its theme.

2. List some things we know about the man Matthew.

3. What advantages would Matthew have to qualify him to write this record?

4. What subject is discussed in 1:1-17? Explain why the genealogy of Jesus is important.

5. How is Joseph described in 1:16? How does this differ from other men who are listed? What is the significance?

6. **Special Assignment:** How does Matthew's genealogy differ from Luke chapter 3? Study various Bible helps and discuss possible explanations for the differences.

7. What subject is discussed in 1:18-25? What was the relationship between Joseph and Mary according to 1:18?

8. What was unusual about Jesus conception according to 1:18? How was this explained to Mary in Luke 1:26-38?

9. How did Joseph react to this news about Mary, and what did he seek to do – 1:19? Explain why he would react in this way.

10. How did Joseph learn the truth about Mary's conception? What explanation was given to him? (Think: How would this solve the concerns that Joseph had?)

11. **Special Assignment:** Compare what Joseph was told here about the conception of Mary to what she herself was told in Luke chapter 1. How do the accounts compare?

12. What did the angel predict about the child that had been conceived – 1:21? What name would He be given?

13. Explain the meaning of the name that would be given to the child. Why was this name appropriate?

14. List other **passages** confirming that Jesus is the One sent by God to save men from sin.

15. According to 1:22,23, what Old Testament prophecy would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus? Where in the Old Testament is this prophecy found?

16. **Special Assignment:** Explain why the birth of Jesus would be unusual according to this prophecy and according to the context of Matthew 1. What lessons should we learn about the character of Jesus?

17. What special name would Jesus be given? What is the meaning of this name? (Think: How would this name accurately describe Jesus according to the teaching of the context?)

18. How did Joseph react to the message he had received – 1:24? What was the child named – 1:25?

19. What relationship did Joseph and Mary have, and how long did that relationship last according to 1:25?

20. **Case Study:** Some people believe that Mary remained a virgin all of her life. Explain what the Bible teaches about this here and elsewhere.

21. **Special Assignment:** Summarize the evidence of Bible teaching that shows Jesus was truly born of a virgin.

Assignments on Matthew 2

Please read Matthew 2 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where and when was Jesus born – 2:1 (see *map*)? Who came to Jerusalem at this time? (Think: According to Luke's account, why was Jesus' family in Bethlehem at this time?)

2. What reason did the wise men give why they had come – 2:2?

3. How did Herod react when he heard the reason for the coming of the wise men – 2:3? Why would he be concerned in this way?

4. Whom did Herod call together and what question did he ask them – 2:4,5? What answer did they give him, and how did they know the correct answer?

5. What did the prophecy say about the birth of the Christ – 2:6? Where is this prophecy found? Why is it important that we understand the prophecy about Jesus' birth?

6. What question did Herod ask of the wise men – 2:7,8? What request did he make of them, and what reason did he give for the request?

7. How did the wise men identify the place where Jesus was – 2:9,10? How did they react as a result? (Think: What can we learn about the significance of the star?)

8. What did the wise men do when they found Jesus and Mary – 2:11? What gifts did they present? (Think: What does the story show about the character of the wise men?)

9. **Special Assignment:** How does the Bible account compare to common tradition? Does the Bible say how many wise men there were? Did the wise men find Jesus in a stable?

10. What further information did God give to these men – 2:12? What did they do as a result? (Think: Based on the subsequent story, why did God so instruct these men?)

11. What instruction did God then give to Joseph – 2:13? What reason was given for this instruction?

12. What did Joseph do as a result – 2:14,15? How long did they stay? How did this relate to Old Testament prophecy?

13. How did Herod react when the wise man did not return to him – 2:16? What did he do as a result?

14. **Special Assignment:** Consider the age of the boys Herod slew. Did the wise men visit immediately after Jesus' birth? What can we learn about Herod's character and motivation?

15. What prophecy was fulfilled by Herod's act – 2:17,18? Where was this prophecy found? (Think: What is the significance of the reference to Rachel and to Ramah?)

16. **Application:** How did the wise men and Herod illustrate the different reactions that people have to Jesus? Notice that these reactions began from the time of His birth.

17. What instruction was subsequently given to Joseph – 2:19,20? Why was it safe to do this?

18. What did Joseph do in response to the instruction – 2:21,22? What further information did he learn when they arrived in Israel? Why would this concern him?

19. What instruction was he given about where to go next? So where did he take his family, and how did this relate to Old Testament prophecy (see *map*)?

20. **Special Assignment:** Research Biblical helps and see what you can learn about the Herods mentioned in this chapter. Were these real men, and what kind of men were they?

Assignments on Matthew 3

Please read Matthew 3 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Whose work is described beginning in 3:1? Where did he preach? According to Luke chapter 1, who were his parents, and what was his relationship to Jesus?

2. What was his message – 3:2? **Define** repentance, and list other **passages** about it.

3. **Case Study:** Many people believe that the kingdom of Christ will not begin till Jesus comes again. What did John teach about the kingdom? What can we learn about the nature and existence of the kingdom from John 18:36, Colossians 1:13,14?

4. What prophecy did John's work fulfill – 3:3? Where was this prophecy found in the Old Testament? What does this tell us about John's purpose?

5. Describe John's clothing and food – 3:4?

6. Who came to John, and for what purpose – 3:5,6? What did they do along with baptism?

7. **Application:** Where did John baptize? What can we learn about the action involved in baptism (see also verse 16)? List other **passages** showing whether baptism is sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.

8. Who else came to John's baptism, and what was his message to them – 3:7? Who were these men, and why would John speak to them this way?

9. What instruction did John give in 3:8? Explain what it means, and give similar **passages**.

10. **Application:** How should we describe the kind of preaching John did? Did John believe the modern idea that we should not criticize other people's beliefs? Explain.

11. What did John say these people might think – 3:9? How did he answer this view? (Think: How did John’s response show the error of these people?)

12. What illustration did John use in 3:10? Explain the significance of the illustration.

13. How did John compare himself to Jesus – 3:11? How did he compare his baptism to that of Jesus? (Think: Study context and decide the meaning of baptism in fire – note verses 10, 12.)

14. **Case Study:** Some people claim to have Holy Spirit baptism today. List other **passages** and describe characteristics of Holy Spirit baptism compared to water baptism.

15. How did John illustrate the work of Jesus in 3:12? Explain the illustration.

16. Who came to be baptized by John according to 3:13,14? How did John respond to him? (Think: Why would John respond in this way?)

17. What response did Jesus give to John – 3:15? Explain the significance. (Think: Did Jesus have sins for which He needed to repent and be forgiven?)

18. How did the Father and the Holy Spirit express their approval of Jesus – 3:16,17?

19. **Case Study:** Some people believe that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are just one and the same individual. What can we learn from Jesus’ baptism that helps demonstrate whether this idea is or is not true?

20. **Special Assignment:** What can we learn from this account about the nature of Jesus?

21. **Case Study:** Some people today claim to still practice John’s baptism. Study Acts 19:1-6 and discuss the Bible teaching about this belief.

Assignments on Matthew 4

Please read Matthew 4 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did the Holy Spirit lead Jesus, and for what purpose – 4:1? What did He do when He was there? For how long – 4:2?

2. According to 4:3, in what way did Satan tempt Jesus? Explain why this would be a temptation to Him.

3. How did Jesus answer Satan – 4:4? Where is this Old Testament passage found?

4. **Application:** What can we learn from Jesus' answer about proper priorities? What can we learn about proper applications of God's word?

5. Where did Satan take Jesus, and what did he tempt Him to do – 4:5,6? What Old Testament Scriptures did he quote? Explain why this would have been difficult to resist.

6. How did Jesus answer this temptation – 4:7? Where is this passage found in the Old Testament?

7. **Application:** Explain why Jesus' answer was a good response to the temptation. What can we learn about the proper use of Scripture?

8. Describe the next temptation – 4:8,9. Why would this temptation have been difficult for Jesus?

9. How did Jesus respond to this temptation – 4:10? Where is this passage found in the Old Testament? What can we learn about proper worship?

10. **Application:** Why is the temptation of Jesus important to us? Note Hebrews 4:15. What lessons can we learn about resisting temptation?

11. Where did Jesus go to dwell – 4:12,13 (see **map**)? What event caused Him to go there?

12. What Old Testament prophecy did this fulfill – 4:14-16? Where is this passage found?

13. What message did Jesus preach – 4:17? How did this compare to the preaching of John the Baptist? (Think: Were Jesus and John mistaken, as some people believe, when they said the kingdom was at hand?)

14. Whom did Jesus find in 4:18? What were they doing, and where did this occur?

15. What instruction did He give them, and how did they respond – 4:19,20?

16. Explain the significance of the illustration about fishing for men. In what way was the work Jesus had for them to do like fishing?

17. What other men did Jesus call – 4:21,22? What were they doing? How did they respond?

18. **Application:** Was this the first time these men had ever learned anything about Jesus? What can we learn from their response to His call?

19. Where did Jesus go and what did he do – 4:23-24? What was the result?

20. **Application:** What kind of problems was Jesus able to heal? What can we learn from the miracles He accomplished? How do these compare to modern so-called faith healers?

Assignments on Matthew 5

Please read Matthew 5 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did Jesus preach this sermon? Who was present – 5:1,2?

2. **Define** “beatitude.” Why is this a good term for verses 1-12?

3. **Define** “poor in spirit” – 5:3. List other **passages** about it.

4. **Special Assignment:** List some characteristics of people who are poor in spirit. For each one, give at least one passage of Scripture and then explain the application to our lives.

5. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on the poor in spirit? Explain this blessing, and explain how being poor in spirit leads to it.

6. **Special Assignment:** Contrast Jesus’ teaching here to what people typically believe.

7. Jesus pronounced the second blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:4? **Define** “mourn.” (Think: Does Jesus refer to mourning for physical reasons or for spiritual reasons? Explain.)

8. **Application:** List and explain **passages** that connect mourning to repentance and/or sorrow for sin and its consequences. In what senses should we grieve about sin?

9. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on those who mourn? Explain how mourning may lead to being comforted.

10. **Special Assignment:** How does Jesus’ teaching here contrast to what people usually believe?

11. Jesus pronounced the third blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:5? **Define** “meek.”

12. List and explain several **verses** that help us understand what meekness means.

13. **Application:** List some ways meekness shows itself in people’s lives. For each one, give at least one passage of Scripture and then explain the application to our lives.

14. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on those who are meek? Study other passages that use the phrase “inherit the earth” (or similar phrases, especially in the Old Testament). Explain the meaning and how it relates to meekness.

15. **Special Assignment:** How does this teaching contrast to what people usually believe?

16. Jesus pronounced the **fourth** blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:6? Describe what it means to “hunger and thirst.”

17. **Define** “righteousness.” List and explain several **verses** that help us understand what righteousness means.

18. **Application:** List some ways hunger and thirst for righteousness shows itself in people’s lives. For each one, give at least one passage of Scripture and then explain the application to our lives.

19. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on those who hunger and thirst for righteousness? List several specific blessings that one who truly hungers and thirsts for righteousness will receive. Explain how hungering and thirsting for righteousness can lead to these blessings.

20. **Special Assignment:** How does this teaching contrast to what people usually believe?

21. Jesus pronounced the **fifth** blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:7? **Define** “mercy.”

22. List several **verses** that help us understand mercy. (Think: Does mercy mean we overlook people’s sins or give whatever people ask or do whatever they ask us to do?)

23. **Application:** Explain how mercy should affect our lives in each area below. For each one, try to find at least one passage of Scripture and then explain the application to our lives.

a) Helping people with physical needs -

b) Forgiving others as God forgives us -

c) Teaching the gospel to the lost -

24. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on the merciful? Explain how showing mercy to others can lead to this blessing.

25. **Special Assignment:** How does this teaching contrast to what people usually believe?

26. Jesus pronounced the **sixth** blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:8? **Define** “pure.” (Think: To what does the “heart” refer in such verses as this?)

27. List and explain **verses** that help us understand what it means to be pure in heart.

28. **Application:** List some lessons purity of heart will teach us. For each one, try to find at least one passage of Scripture and then explain the application to our lives.

29. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on the pure in heart? Explain how being pure in heart can lead to this blessing.

30. **Special Assignment:** How this teaching contrasts to what people usually believe?

31. Jesus pronounced the **seventh** blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:9? **Define** “peace.”

32. List and explain several **verses** that help us understand the meaning of peace.

33. **Application:** List relationships in which we should seek peace. For each one, find at least one passage and explain how we can be peacemakers in that relationship. (Think: What limits does the Bible place on peace? Should we seek peace at any price without limit?)

34. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on the peacemakers? Explain how being peacemakers can lead to this blessing.

35. **Special Assignment:** How does this teaching contrast to what people usually believe?

36. Jesus pronounced the **eighth** blessing (beatitude) on whom – 5:10-12? **Define** “persecute” and “revile.”

37. List and explain several **verses** that describe persecution. What is the difference between persecution that is blessed and punishment for evil?

38. **Application:** List some ways people try to pressure good people to do wrong. Describe some Bible teachings about how we should deal with persecution. Give passages.

39. What blessing did Jesus pronounce on those who are persecuted? (Think: Many people deny that heaven will be the eternal reward of Christians. What does this passage teach?)

40. **Special Assignment:** How does Jesus’ teaching here contrast to what people usually believe?

41. State in your own words the theme of 5:13-16. List three examples Jesus uses to illustrate His point. Explain how each example relates to the theme.

42. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from a city set on a hill cannot be hidden?

43. What did Jesus mean by salt losing its saltiness or a light being hid under a bushel?

44. **Special Assignment:** Explain what application Jesus' teaching would have in our relationships with various specific groups of people.

45. **Application:** Explain some ways disciples can fail to be an influence for good. Give examples. Discuss problems caused when people who profess to serve God don't live a good life.

46. What does 5:16 say leads people to glorify God? Explain how our influence, good or bad, reflects on the Father. Give Scriptures.

47. What subject did Jesus introduce in verses 17,18? What did He say about the law?

48. **Case Study:** Many people use this passage to argue that Jesus did not remove the law, so it must still be in effect. Give other **passages** about our relationship to the Old Law.

49. What is meant by a "jot" and a "tittle"? Give examples of what would still be in effect, if every jot and tittle still remains today.

50. What did Jesus actually say in 5:18 about when the law would "pass away"? What did He say He came to do (5:17)? If He did what He came to do, what would happen to the law? (Think: Compare 5:18 to Luke 16:17. Explain the expression "till heaven and earth pass away.")

51. List and explain **passages** that show whether or not Jesus did fulfill the law. If Jesus fulfilled the law, then what has happened to it? (Think: In what sense did He not “destroy” it?)

52. Explain why Jesus encouraged people to teach and do the commandments – 5:19. (Hint: Was the law still in effect when He spoke here? When was it removed?)

53. **Special Assignment:** How should our righteousness compare to that of scribes and Pharisees – 5:20? Explain some ways in which the righteousness of these people was lacking.

54. **Special Thought questions:** In subsequent verses, Jesus repeatedly contrasts His teaching to what people had heard in the past. As we study, consider the following general questions: (1) To what prior teachings does Jesus refer: The Old Testament law, human traditions about the law, both, or neither? (2) How literal and specific did Jesus intend these teachings to be?

55. What prior teaching does Jesus discuss beginning in 5:21? Try to find passages where such was taught.

56. What did Jesus teach about anger (5:22)? Why discuss anger in the context of murder?

57. **Application:** Does a person sin every time he is angry with his brother? Explain and give examples of anger that is sinful as compared to anger that may not be sinful.

58. List and explain other **passages** that show why anger is dangerous.

59. **Define** the terms “raca” and “fool.” What consequences would follow from using these expressions? (Think: Do people in other passages call people a “fool” without sinning?)

60. **Application:** Did Jesus intend here to remove specific code words from our vocabulary, or is there a deeper meaning to His teaching? Explain and prove your answer.

61. **Define** “reconcile” –5:24. What is our duty if we know a brother has something against us?

62. How did Jesus emphasize the importance of this duty?

63. What are the duties of one who believes a brother has sinned against him? List other **passages** that discuss the duty disciples have when we have something against one another.

64. **Case Study:** Alienated brethren often think, “It’s his fault. He should come to me.” Or “There is nothing that can be done about it.” Summarize the Bible teaching about reconciliation between disciples. Are we justified in allowing alienation to continue?

65. What did Jesus say we should do when an adversary may take us to the judge – 5:25,26? What consequences may follow if we don’t take this action? (Think: What does this teaching assume about our guilt? Should we admit guilt when we are innocent?)

66. **Application:** Rather than admit their errors and seek to correct them with those who have been harmed, what do many people try to do?

67. What prior teaching does Jesus discuss beginning in 5:26? Try to list **passages** where such was taught.

68. What teaching did Jesus give in contrast? **Define** “lust” and “adultery.”

69. List and explain other **passages** that teach ideas related to what Jesus taught here. Why are the thoughts in a person’s heart important? How might thoughts relate to adultery?

70. **Application:** Explain in your own words the principle Jesus taught and give applications that illustrate the point.

71. Summarize what Jesus taught in 5:29,30. How does this relate to adultery?

72. **Special Assignment:** Did Jesus mean for us to literally practice what He specifically states in verses 29,30? Prove your answer by Scripture.

73. **Application:** Explain the point of 5:29,30 and give examples of practical applications.

74. What previous teaching does Jesus discuss beginning in 5:31? Where was this taught, and what did the teaching say?

75. In contrast to the older teaching, what did Jesus teach –5:32? **Define** “divorce,” “fornication,” and “adultery.”

76. List and summarize other **passages** that relate to this topic. (Think: Is Jesus teaching differently from the Old Law, or is He correcting misunderstandings of the law? Proof?)

77. In what sense would a man, if he divorced his wife without Scriptural grounds, “cause her to commit adultery?” What is the condition of the man who marries the woman?

78. **Application:** Is Jesus saying divorce itself is wrong (if not for fornication), or only that the remarriage is wrong? I.e., may a man divorce, as long as he does not remarry? Proof?

79. What is the permissible reason for divorce? (Think: May a person remarry if he was put away because he committed fornication? Explain.)

80. **Application:** What must a person do if he/she is in an adulterous marriage because of a divorce for a cause other than fornication? Prove your answer.

81. What previous teaching does Jesus discuss beginning in 5:33? Was this concept directly taught in the Old Testament? List **passages** that are similar in meaning.

82. **Define** “swear” and “oath.”

83. **Special Assignment:** Is swearing the same as cursing or profanity? Explain.

84. Note Matthew 23:16-22. What human traditions had the Jews built up about swearing?

85. List and explain other **passages** about swearing or oaths.

86. In contrast to the older teaching, what did Jesus teach – 5:34-37?

87. **Application:** Can you find New Testament **passages** in which anyone swore or took an oath or the equivalent with God’s approval? Explain the lessons Jesus really meant here for us to learn. List and discuss some applications.

88. What previous teaching did Jesus discuss in 5:8? List Old Testament **passages** regarding it. What was the meaning of those passages?

89. What did Jesus teach in contrast to the former teaching – 5:39-41? List and explain other **passages** that help us understand Jesus’ teaching.

90. **Special Assignment:** How literally did Jesus intend this teaching to be taken? What did He do when He was slapped or attacked? What did other disciples do when attacked? Explain what applications we should make of 5:39

91. What further examples did Jesus give in 5:40,41? Again, how literally did Jesus intend this teaching to be applied? What applications should we make?

92. How is the principle stated in 5:42? Again, how literally should this be taken? What is the proper application? Are there limits on the teaching?

93. What previous teaching did Jesus discuss in 5:43? Were these teachings included in the Old Testament? List and explain relevant Old Testament **passages**.

94. How did Jesus say we should treat those who mistreat us – 5:44?

95. **Application:** List and explain other related New Testament **passages**. Explain the lessons we should learn for our own lives. How should we apply these principles?

96. How does the conduct of God illustrate the principle Jesus is teaching – 5:45?

97. How does Jesus' teaching compare to what other people practice – 5:46,47?

98. **Special Assignment:** Consider the significance of Jesus' question: "What do you more than others?" Explain how this statement challenges our lives as Christians.

99. What goal did Jesus set for us in 5:48? Can we be "perfect" in every sense that God is?

100. **Application:** Explain the lessons Jesus meant for us to learn from 5:48.

Assignments on Matthew 6

Please read Matthew 6 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What is the main problem Jesus deals with in 6:1-18? What specific conduct does He discuss in 6:1-4?

2. How did the people in this case demonstrate improper motives? What reward did they receive for their conduct? What reward did they not receive?

3. List and discuss other *passages* that show our need for proper motives in serving God.

4. **Define** "hypocrisy." How does the conduct described here demonstrate hypocrisy?

5. List and discuss other *passages* that show the danger of seeking the praise of men.

6. Explain the illustration of the left hand and right hand – 6:3,4.

7. **Application:** Are we always wrong if other people learn about a good deed we did to help others? Explain the proper application and give modern examples that illustrate it.

8. How did Jesus say hypocrites prayed – 6:5? What was wrong with this?

9. **Application:** Where did Jesus say we should go to pray – 6:6? What are the advantages of private prayer? What lessons should we learn?

10. **Special Assignment:** Are Jesus' instructions meant to forbid public prayer? Did Jesus or His disciples ever pray publicly where people knew they were praying? Proof? Do people sometimes refuse to pray in public because they are concerned about what people think?

11. What kind of prayer does Jesus forbid in 6:7? **Define** “vain repetition.”

12. List **passages** showing the importance of meaning and understanding our prayers.

13. **Application:** Give examples in which heathen idol worshipers illustrate vain repetition in prayer. What prayers today may illustrate vain repetition in prayer?

14. Do people sometimes use the prayer of verses 9-13 as a vain repetition? Explain.

15. Did Jesus or His disciples ever repeat the same ideas in prayers? Is it always wrong to pray the same things again? Give examples.

16. What does 6:8 tell about the nature of God? If He already knows our needs, why do we need to pray?

17. **Special Assignment:** In 6:9 Jesus said for us to pray “in this manner,” then verses 9-13 record a prayer. What does it mean to pray in this manner? Did Jesus mean for us to cite this prayer by rote repeatedly? Explain and prove your answer.

18. According to this passage, to whom should we address our prayers? To whom are prayers sometimes improperly addressed? Give other Scriptures.

19. **Define** “hallow.” What does it mean to hallow the name of God? In what ways do people sometimes fail to hallow God’s name?

20. At the time Jesus gave these teachings, in what sense was God’s kingdom yet to come? What has changed since that time? Proof? (Think: What can we learn from Jesus’ instruction to pray for the kingdom to come?)

21. In what sense is God's will done in heaven – 6:10?

22. **Application:** If we pray for God's will to be done on earth, what lessons should we learn? What changes would need to take place for this to come true?

23. In what sense is God the source of our daily bread – 6:11? Why should we pray to Him about it?

24. Does praying such a request eliminate our need to work for our necessities? What lessons should we learn?

25. What should we pray regarding forgiveness – 6:12?

26. List and discuss other **passages** showing Christians should pray for forgiveness. (Think: What should people who are not children of God do to receive forgiveness?)

27. What should we pray regarding temptation – 6:13? Does God tempt people? What is the significance of the prayer?

28. **Application:** If we pray for God to deliver us from evil, what responsibility does that give us regarding temptation? List other pertinent **passages**.

29. What is the significance of "Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory" – 6:13?

30. How does 6:14,15 relate to 6:12? What does it mean to “forgive” someone of sin?

31. List and explain other **passages** about forgiving other people.

32. **Case Study:** A commentator says Christians must “forgive all men without regard to their repentance.” List other pertinent **passages**. Should we consider people to be forgiven by God if they have not repented? If we teach such people to repent, have we really forgiven them?

33. What practice did Jesus discuss in 6:16-18? **Define** what this practice involves.

34. How did hypocrites fast? What was wrong with this?

35. What does the New Testament teach about Jesus’ disciples fasting?

36. Explain the difference between treasures on earth and treasures in heaven – 6:19,20. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

37. List and explain other **passages** about how we should view material possessions.

38. Is Jesus saying it is wrong to accumulate material possessions? Explain and give proof.

39. How does our treasure relate to our hearts – 6:21? Explain.

40. **Application:** Explain what Jesus is teaching about treasure. Give examples of ways we may allow possessions to wrongfully become too important.

41. In what sense is the eye the lamp of the body – 6:22? What is the difference between a good eye and a bad eye?

42. How does Jesus' teaching about eyes relate to the teaching in context about possessions and priorities?

43. How many spiritual masters may a person have? What is a master? Why can we have only one spiritual master?

44. **Application:** How does Jesus' teaching about masters relate to the discussion in context about possessions? Give examples of the application.

45. What subject did Jesus introduce beginning in 6:25? (Think: Some older translations say to "take no thought" about these matters. How is this translated in newer translations?)

46. List and explain other *passages* that teach about our attitude toward material things.

47. **Application:** List some other material, temporary aspects of life about which people often become obsessed.

48. In what sense is life more than food and the body more than clothing?

49. How did Jesus illustrate His point in 6:26? Explain His point. (Think: Does this mean it is wrong to reap and sow?)

50. What can worry not accomplish according to 6:27? Does this mean it is wrong to plan for the future? Explain the point.

51. How did Jesus illustrate His point again in 6:28-30? So is it wrong to toil and spin?

52. **Application:** How does the expression “O you of little faith” help us understand the point?

53. Again, what habit is Jesus warning us against – 6:31? What people would be expected to have the problem Jesus is discussing – 6:32? Why would such people have this problem?

54. If God knows what we need, what does this tell us about God? Why is this important in this context?

55. What did Jesus say should be our “first” concern? Explain the significance of God’s kingdom and righteousness.

56. List and explain other **passages** that describe what should be our priorities in life.

57. What promise does God give to those who pursue proper priorities?

58. **Application:** List some specific applications we should make based on Jesus’ teaching about priorities.

59. What else should we not worry about – 6:34? Why not?

60. **Application:** Explain the lessons taught by 6:34. Does this mean we should ignore the future? Discuss some specific lessons we should learn.

Assignments on Matthew 7

Please read Matthew 7 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. List other **passages** that discuss whether or not Jesus and His disciples told people they had done wrong. Even in the context of Matthew 7, did Jesus say people were wrong? Explain.

2. Are there different kinds of judging? Explain. Note John 7:24.

3. List some kinds of judging that Jesus rebukes in Matthew 7:1-5.

4. **Case Study:** Many people say “judge not” means we must not tell other people (especially religious people) that they have done wrong. How would you respond?

5. Explain the illustration of the plank and the speck (the beam and the mote – 7:3,4). How does this help explain the meaning of hypocrisy? (Think: In what sense is it true that we will be judged according to the judgment we give – 7:2?)

6. **Application:** Give examples in which people sometimes do what Jesus here describes.

7. How did Jesus say we should avoid the error of judging others for what we commit – 7:5? Did Jesus say to leave the speck or mote in the brother’s eye? What can we learn?

8. What should we not do according to 7:6? Why not? Why would these animals so act?

9. What lesson should we learn about teaching others? List other similar **passages**.

10. **Application:** How can we know when people are no longer worthy of our teaching efforts, so we should move on? Does this involve making judgments (compare verses 1-5)?

11. What promise does Jesus make in 7:7,8? What application does this have to prayer?

12. List other similar **passages** about God's promises to answer prayer.

13. How does Jesus illustrate God's answers to prayer in 7:9-11? What can we learn from these verses?

14. What principle does Jesus give in 7:12 to guide our treatment of others? List other **passages** elsewhere that relate to this teaching.

15. **Application:** How does Jesus' teaching in 7:12 differ from how people often act?

16. What two ways or paths does Jesus describe in 7:13,14, and where do they lead?

17. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the fact there are only two paths and only two destinations? List other **passages** about these two destinations.

18. What does Jesus say about the number of people on each of these paths? List other **passages** that illustrate the relative number of people who are or are not pleasing to God?

19. **Case Study:** People often justify a practice or determine whether or not it is acceptable by the number of people who accept it. How would you respond to such reasoning?

20. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the fact the one way is "narrow" (or "strait") compared to the other that is broad? List other **passages** that teach similarly.

21. What danger does Jesus warn about in 7:15? List other **passages** about this danger.

22. What does Jesus teach about the character of false teachers? List other **passages** that discuss the deceitful nature of false teachers and false teaching.

23. **Special Assignment:** How does the discussion of false teachers relate to the teaching about “judging” (verses 1-5) and about the narrow and broad ways (verses 13,14)?

24. What illustration does Jesus use to teach us how to determine whether or not a person is a false teacher – 7:16-20? List other similar **passages**.

25. **Application:** What is the fruit of a false teacher? Explain the application of Jesus’ teaching. Note the significance of verses 21-28.

26. **Case Study:** Some religions use these verses to claim they are pleasing to God because their “fruit” is they are large or growing fast. Is that the fruit Jesus referred to here? Proof?

27. What must we do to enter the kingdom of heaven – 7:21? What is **not** sufficient to enter the kingdom of heaven? (Think: How does this relate to 7:13,14?)

28. List other **passages** the show the importance of obedience to receive eternal life.

29. **Case Study:** Many people believe they will be saved without obedience because they believe in Jesus or “accept Jesus as Lord.” How would you respond in light of the context?

30. How will many people respond to Jesus regarding their service to Him – 7:21,23? How will Jesus respond to them? What was the real reason why they were rejected?

31. What did Jesus say about the number of people who will be rejected in 7:22,23? Is this a rare, unusual problem?

32. **Application:** Consider carefully and make a list of various kinds of people who believe they are acceptable before God but who may be mistaken or misled according to this passage.

33. In the illustration of the two builders (7:24-27), what was the **physical** difference between the two?

34. In Jesus' spiritual application, how were the two men alike? How were they different?

35. What were the spiritual consequences to the illustration? I.e., what will happen to people's house's spiritually?

36. **Application:** Give examples of how people today may be guilty of building spiritually on the sand.

37. How did the people view Jesus' teaching – 7:28,29? What specifically impressed them?

38. Identify some specific ways that Jesus' teaching differed from that of the scribes.

39. Give examples from the Sermon on the Mount that illustrate the authority of Jesus' teaching? What does this teach us about who Jesus is?

Assignments on Matthew 8

Please read Matthew 8 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Who came to Jesus, and what request did he make – 8:1,2? (Think: Learn what you can about the disease of leprosy.)

2. What did Jesus say to the man, and what did He do? What was the result – 8:3?

3. What instruction did Jesus give to the man – 8:4? What had Moses commanded about this? How would this constitute a testimony to them?

4. **Special Assignment:** What can we learn from this example about the nature of true Biblical miracles? What characteristics of miracles does this event demonstrate?

5. Who came to Jesus at Capernaum (see *map*), and what request did he make – 8:5,6? (Think: What was a centurion?)

6. What did Jesus say that He would do, and what did the centurion say to do instead – 8:7,8? Why did he say Jesus should not come to his house?

7. In 8:9, how did the centurion explain why Jesus could heal the servant simply by speaking? Explain his point.

8. **Special Assignment:** How does the centurion's statement express the concept of authority? How should we apply this with regard to the authority of God and the Scriptures?

9. What compliment did Jesus pay the centurion in 8:10? In what way did the centurion's statements demonstrate faith?

10. What lesson did Jesus teach about faith – 8:11,12? Explain the meaning of the statement and its application? (Think: How would this differ from what the Jews would have expected?)

11. What did Jesus say about the centurion and his servant, and what was the result – 8:13? (Think: What faith healer today can do what Jesus did in this case?)

12. Where did Jesus go in 8:14, and what problem did He find there?

13. What did He do for the woman, and what was the result – 8:15? How does this event demonstrate the nature of true miracles?

14. **Case Study:** What modern practice of the Catholic Church would be contradicted by this event? Explain the difficulty.

15. What happened when evening came – 8:16? What does this show about the power of Jesus, and how does it differ from modern faith healers?

16. What Old Testament prophecy does this fulfill, and where is it found – 8:17?

17. Where did Jesus go, and who spoke to Him there according to 8:18,19? What did the man say?

18. How did Jesus respond to the man – 8:20? What does this tell you about Jesus? (Think: Does this mean it is wrong for Christians to own houses? Proof?)

19. **Special Assignment:** Why would Jesus say this to the man? Was He trying to discourage him from following Him? What lessons should we learn today?

20. What did another man say to Jesus in 8:21? How did Jesus respond to him – 8:22? (Think: Does this mean it is wrong to bury our dead relatives?)

21. Explain the meaning of Jesus' statement. What lessons should we learn today?

22. Where was Jesus, and who was with Him in this event – 8:23,24? What problem occurred, and what was Jesus doing at the time?

23. What the disciples do, and what did they say to Jesus – 8:25?

24. What did Jesus say to the disciples – 8:26? Why would He say this, and what lessons should we learn?

25. What did He do about the storm? What was the result?

26. **Special Assignment:** How did the disciples respond – 8:27? What can we learn from this example about the nature of true miracles? How does this contrast to modern faith healers?

27. Where did Jesus go, and who met him there – 8:28? How are these men described?

28. What did these men say to Jesus – 8:29? What does this show about how aware they were of who Jesus is?

29. What request did the demons make of Jesus – 8:30-32? How did Jesus respond, and what happened as a result?

30. What did those who kept the pigs do, and what did the people of the city do as a result – 8:33,34?

31. **Special Assignment:** How does this event demonstrate the power of Jesus? Once again, what do we learn about the nature of true miracles?

Assignments on Matthew 9

Please read Matthew 9 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did Jesus go, and who was brought to Him there – 9:1,2? What did Jesus say to the man? (Think: According to other accounts, what was unusual about how the man came?)

2. What criticism did some scribes raise – 9:3? Explain why they might think this.

3. **Special Assignment:** Who has power to forgive sins committed against God? List other **passages** in which Jesus forgave sins. What does this prove about Jesus' nature?

4. What application can we make to men today who claim the power to forgive sins?

5. What question did Jesus ask the men – 9:4? What can we know from the fact that Jesus could read these men's thoughts (compare 1 Kings 8:39)?

6. How did Jesus prove that He had the power to forgive sins – 9:6,7? Explain how the miracle proves His power to forgive.

7. **Special Assignment:** What effect did the miracle have on the people – 9:8? How does this event demonstrate the purpose of miracles?

8. What characteristics of true miracles are demonstrated in this event?

9. Where did Jesus find a man next, and what was his name – 9:9? What instruction did He give him, and what happened? (Think: What other name does this man have elsewhere?)

10. What criticism was raised of Jesus in 9:10,11? What illustration did He use to respond – 9:12,13? Explain the point. (Think: Whose house was this?)

11. **Application:** What Old Testament passage did Jesus quote? Explain it. What lesson should we learn about teaching others?

12. Who asked a question of Jesus, and what did they ask – 9:14? What illustration did He use to answer them – 9:15?

13. List other *passages* about fasting. What was its purpose?

14. **Application:** Is fasting a required practice today? Does it have benefits to us today?

15. Describe the two illustrations that Jesus used in 9:16,17?

16. Explain the lessons we should learn from these illustrations. (Think: Does the illustration of the wineskins justify the practice of modern social drinking?)

17. Who came to Jesus, and what request did he make – 9:18? According to other accounts, what was the man's name, and how old was his daughter?

18. What problem did a woman in the multitude have, and how long had she had it – 9:19,20? What did she do, and why – 9:20,21? (Think: What information do other accounts add about the woman's problem?)

19. What did Jesus say to the woman – 9:22? What was the result? (Think: What can we learn about miracles from this example?)

20. When Jesus arrived at the ruler's house, what did He see and what did He say – 9:23,24? How did the people react? Explain the reaction.

21. What did Jesus do with the girl – 9:25? What was the result – 9:26?

22. **Case Study:** Many modern so-called faith healers claim to do miracles just like Jesus and His apostles did. Compare what such people do to what Jesus did in this case.

23. Who followed Jesus, and what request did they make – 9:27? What question did He ask, and what did they answer – 9:28?

24. What did Jesus do for the men – 9:30? Why would this miracle be especially amazing? (Think: Were people always required to have faith in order to receive the effects of a miracle?)

25. What warning did Jesus give the men, and what did they do instead – 9:30,31? (Think: Did Jesus never want people to know about this miracle? Why might He have warned the men as He did?)

26. What problem did the man have who was brought to Jesus in 9:32? What did Jesus do for the man – 9:33?

27. How did the people react to the miracle? But what did the Pharisee say about it – 9:34?

28. **Special Assignment:** Although they denied the source of Jesus' power, note that His enemies could not deny the miracles. List other **passages** in which unbelievers admit the occurrence of miracles. What lessons can we learn?

29. What work did Jesus do according to 9:35? What caused Him to have concern for the people, and what illustration is used – 9:36? Explain it.

30. What concern did Jesus express to His disciples – 9:37? Explain the point of the illustration.

31. What did He instruct the disciples to do as a result – 9:38? Explain how such a prayer could be fulfilled.

32. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from this story about our own prayers? If we pray such a prayer, what responsibility would this give us?

Assignments on Matthew 10

Please read Matthew 10 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Whom did Jesus call, and what powers did He give them – 10:1?
2. List the names of the twelve apostles, and for each one name (if you can) something else you know about him – 10:2-4.
3. To whom were the twelve sent, and to whom were they not sent – 10:5,6? (Think: How did this compare to the Great Commission – Matthew 28:18-20?)
4. What message should they preach – 10:7? Who else had preached a similar message?
5. What should they do for people as they did this work of preaching – 10:8? According to other Scriptures, what purpose did these acts accomplish?
6. What is meant by the expression, “Freely you have received, freely give”? Does this mean preachers should never accept financial support? Explain.
7. What provisions would they not need on their travels – 10:9,10? What reason is given why they would not need these things?
8. Where else do the Scriptures cite the concept that a worker is worthy of his food? What lesson is taught by this concept?

9. **Special Assignment:** List ways in which these instructions were temporary and limited. How do they differ from instructions given later to gospel preachers and teachers?

10. How should they arrange for a place to stay as they traveled – 10:11? What lessons can we learn about hospitality and support of preachers?

11. How should they treat the household where they might enter – 10:12,13? Explain.

12. What should they do when people would not receive them or their message? How does Jesus describe the consequences to those people – 10:14,15? Explain.

13. How did Jesus illustrate the circumstances the apostles would face and how they should deal with them – 10:16? Explain the illustration?

14. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from the illustrations that Jesus used?

15. What treatment should they expect to receive according to 10:17? What lessons should we learn?

16. What class of people would they face at times in their work – 10:18? Why might such things happen?

17. What assurance did Jesus give them about the message they should speak in those cases – 10:19,20?

18. List other **passages** describing the direct guidance received from the Holy Spirit by inspired men.

19. **Special Assignment:** What can we learn from this discussion about the nature of direct guidance of the Holy Spirit?

20. What dangers would they face in their work – 10:21,22? Where else does the Bible discuss the problem of spiritual conflict within families?

21. How did Jesus say they should react to persecution – 10:22,23?

22. List other **passages** about the importance of enduring persecution.

23. What goal should a disciple pursue according to 10:24,25? What else do the verses say disciples will share in common with their master?

24. List other **passages** that discuss the importance of imitating Jesus and seeking to be like Him.

25. What assurance did Jesus give in 10:26, and how did this relate to the discussion of persecution? What applications should we make?

26. What did the disciples do with the message Jesus gave them – 10:27? What lesson should we learn?

27. Whom should we fear, and whom should we not fear – 10:28? What reason is given?

28. What lesson should we learn about our eternal destinies, and the importance of spiritual things as compared to physical things?

29. How did Jesus illustrate God's care for His people – 10:29-31? How did this relate to the discussion of persecution?

30. **Application:** List other **passages** about God's care for his people. What lessons should we learn, and what assurance does this give us?

31. **Define** confess and deny. What are the consequences of confessing or denying Jesus?

32. **Special Assignment:** List other **passages** about confession of Jesus. Explain whether confession is just something we do at the time of conversion or something we should continue to do throughout our lifetime.

33. What did Jesus say that He came to bring – 10:34? In what sense is it true that He did not come to bring peace? Explain His point.

34. What conflict did Jesus describe as a result of His teaching in 10:35,36? Explain why such conflicts might exist.

35. **Application:** What choice does Jesus say we must make according to 10:37, and what is the consequence? Describe situations in which Christians sometimes face this choice.

36. Who is not worthy of Jesus according to 10:38? Where else are such points taught?

37. How does taking one's cross in verse 38 compare to losing his life for Christ in verse 39? What was the significance of the cross in the life of Jesus?

38. **Application:** Give applications of what it means to find one's life because he lost it for Christ as compared to losing one's life because he finds it.

39. Explain the principle that Jesus describes in 10:40 where he states that receiving His inspired teachers would be receiving Him, which in turn would be receiving the Father.

40. What does it mean to receive a prophet or a righteous man, and what rewards are offered – 10:41? What is represented in 10:42 by giving a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple?

Assignments on Matthew 11

Please read Matthew 11 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did Jesus go to preach, and who sent disciples to Him to ask a question? What question did they ask – 11:1-3?

2. What testimony had John given about Jesus in John 1:29-34? (Think: What might have motivated John to ask this question now in light of his own previous testimony?)

3. What answer did Jesus give to John through John's disciples – 11:4-6? Explain how this answers John's question.

4. **Special Assignment:** What lessons does Jesus' answer teach us about the purpose of His miracles?

5. Explain the significance of Jesus' statement about people being offended at Him. What does it mean to be offended, and why were many people offended at Him?

6. What question did Jesus ask about John in 11:7? Explain the significance of His question and its application to John. (Was John like a reed shaken in the wind?)

7. What question did He ask about John in 11:8? Again, explain the significance of the question and its application to John.

8. Then what question did Jesus ask about John 11:9,10. What was His answer and how did He prove it?

9. Explain the sense in which John was more than a prophet.

10. How did Jesus describe John in 11:11? Explain how it could be true that no one was greater than John, yet those who are least in the kingdom are greater than he.

11. What did Jesus say in 11:12 had followed since the days of John the Baptist? Explain the sense in which this was true. (Think: How might John's preaching have contributed to this consequence?)

12. How did John relate to the prophets and the law – 11:13? To what do the prophets and the law refer? So what is the significance of the fact that they prophesied until John?

13. Who did Jesus say John was in 11:14? List other similar *passages* and explain the sense in which this is true (note especially Luke 1:17).

14. Jesus often used expressions similar to 11:15. What point was He trying to make, and what should we learn?

15. What illustration did Jesus use in 11:16,17 to illustrate people's reactions toward Him and toward John? Explain the point of the illustration.

16. How did Jesus apply the illustration to people's reaction to Him and to John – 11:18,19? Explain His point. (Think: Why was John's diet different from that of Jesus?)

17. People sometimes use verse 19 to claim that Jesus believed in "social drinking." Consider the context and explain the significance. (Did John have a demon? Was Jesus a glutton? Was He a friend of tax collectors and sinners in the sense people opposed?)

18. Application: What lessons can we learn from this illustration about the way people react to our stand for the truth today?

19. What did Jesus begin to teach in 11:20? What was the reason for His teaching?

20. What cities did He rebuke first – 11:21,22 (see *map*)? What Old Testament cities did He compare them to? Explain the point of the comparison.

21. What city did Jesus rebuke in 11:23,24 (see **map**)? To what city did He compare them, and what was the point of the comparison?

22. **Application:** What lessons should people learn today from Jesus' rebuke of these cities?

23. For what did Jesus express thanks in 11:25,26? List other similar **passages**.

24. **Application:** Explain why it seemed good to God to reveal to babes what had been hidden from the wise and prudent. What lessons should we learn for our own lives and teaching?

25. What relationship did Jesus describe between Himself and the Father 11:27? List other **passages** that describe Jesus' revealing the Father.

26. **Application:** If Jesus is the only real way to know the Father, what does that mean for our service to God and our teaching?

27. What invitation did Jesus give in 11:28? Whom did He invite, and what promise did He give them? (Think: What kind of rest does Jesus offer to those who follow Him?)

28. How did Jesus describe Himself in 11:29? In what sense was He meek and lowly? (Think: Give examples from His life that demonstrate these qualities.)

29. What is a yoke – 11:29,30? How did Jesus describe His yoke and His burden?

30. **Special Assignment:** To what did Jesus refer when He spoke of His burden and His yoke? How did this compare to those who labor and are heavy laden in verse 28? What lessons should we learn?

Assignments on Matthew 12

Please read Matthew 12 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What were Jesus' disciples doing – 12:1,2? What day was it? What criticism did Pharisees raise? (Think: Why did the Pharisees not criticize the act as stealing? Note Deut. 23:24,25.)

2. **Special Assignment:** Did Jesus ever commit sin? Proof? Did Jesus justify sin here? (Think: Were Pharisees always concerned about keeping the law? Note verse 10; Matt. 15:1-14.)

3. What event did Jesus mention in 12:3,4? Give Old Testament **b/c/v**. Does Jesus call the act lawful or unlawful? (Think: Who justified a sinful act here? What was Jesus' point?)

4. **Special Assignment:** Study **passages** in which Jesus explained the Sabbath law. Did the law forbid all kinds of work? Explain. Note Matthew 12:5,9-14; John 7:21-24; 5:17-19.

5. What work did Jesus say should be done on the Sabbath – 12:5? What application did He make in 12:6?

6. What did Jesus say in 12:7 that the Pharisees should not have done? Explain what this means in the context as regards the disciples.

7. What passage did Jesus cite in 12:7, and what does it say? Study the Old Testament context and note Matthew 9:11-13. Did Jesus mean that nice people will sometimes overlook sin? Explain.

8. How does Jesus describe Himself in 12:8? What is the application to the discussion?

9. Where did Jesus go, and whom did He find there – 12:9,10? What question was asked? (Think: What motive did the Pharisees have?)

10. How did Jesus illustrate the application of the Sabbath law – 12:11,12? Explain the application to the question of healing on the Sabbath.

11. What did Jesus then do for the man with a withered hand – 12:13? How did the Pharisees react – 12:14? (Think: What should the miracle have taught them?)

12. What did Jesus do in response to the Pharisees' intentions, and what did He do for the people – 12:15? What warning did He give the people – 12:16?

13. What prophecy did this fulfill – 12:17-21? Where is the prophecy found?

14. In what sense was it true that Jesus did not quarrel nor was His voice heard in the streets? (Did He never dispute with those in error or teach publicly?)

15. What is the significance of not breaking a bruised reed or quenching a smoking flax? What can we learn about the nature of Jesus from this?

16. What applications would these statements have to the Gentiles (verses 18,21)?

17. Describe the miracle that Jesus did in 12:22? What does this show about His power?

18. How did Jesus' miracles affect the multitudes – 12:23? What does this show about the purpose of miracles?

19. How did the Pharisees explain Jesus' ability to cast out demons – 12:24? (Think: Did the Pharisees deny the miracle occurred? What should they have learned from such miracles?)

20. In response to the Pharisees' accusation, what illustrations did Jesus use in 12:25,26? Explain the application to the Pharisees.

<p>21. Application: Besides the application that Jesus made in the context, what lessons can we learn about unity versus division from His illustrations?</p>
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22. What question did Jesus ask the Pharisees in 12:27? Explain the point.

23. Having refuted the Pharisees' accusation, where did Jesus say He received His power – 12:28? What would this prove? (Think: How does this help confirm the purpose of miracles?)

24. What illustration did Jesus use in 12:29? Explain how this should help us understand Jesus' relationship to Beelzebub.

25. What alternatives does Jesus describe in 12:30? What was the application to the Pharisees, and what lessons should we learn?

26. Define **blasphemy** – 12:31,32. What blasphemy did Jesus say would not be forgiven in contrast to that which would be forgiven?

27. **Special Assignment:** List grievous sins for which people in the Bible were forgiven. Explain what constitutes blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. Why would it not be forgiven?

28. What is the point of the illustration of the tree and its fruit – 12:33? What application did this have to the Pharisees – 12:34?

29. What lesson should we learn about our hearts in relationship to our conduct – 12:35? List other similar **passages**.

30. How important are the words that we speak according to 12:36,37? Explain what is meant by idle words (note other translations).

31. **Application:** List other **passages** about the importance of speech. List some specific kinds of speech for which we will give an account, good or bad.

32. What request did some scribes and Pharisees make– 12:38? How did Jesus answer them – 12:39?

33. Had these people seen signs from Jesus (give evidence from the context)? How does this explain Jesus response? (Think: Did Jesus refuse all requests to do miracles?)

34. Explain the significance of the sign of the prophet Jonah – 12:40. How would this confirm Jesus' claims? (Think: Did Jesus give people adequate proof to confirm His claims?)

35. Whom did Jesus say would give evidence against the people of His generation – 12:41,42? Explain the point. (Think: How did Jesus view the story of Jonah?)

36. How did Jesus describe the relationship of an unclean spirit with a man in 12:43-45? What would be the application to the people of Jesus' generation?

37. **Application:** What can we learn from the illustration of the demon? How do people today sometimes make a similar mistake?

38. Who came to see Jesus, and what did they want – 12:46,47? What was Jesus told?

39. **Case Study:** Explain the doctrine of the perpetual virginity of Mary. How is this doctrine refuted by the fact that Jesus had brothers?

40. How did Jesus respond to the request of His mother and brothers – 12:48-50? List other **passages** that use the family to illustrate relationships in the church.

41. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from Jesus' statements about His relationship to His disciples?

Assignments on Matthew 13

Please read Matthew 13 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where was Jesus when He taught the multitude, and where were the people – 13:1-3? What teaching method did Jesus use?

2. **Define** parable.

3. For each kind of soil in 13:3-8, describe where the seed fell and what happened to it.
Wayside –

Stony –

Thorny –

Good soil –

4. What question did the disciples ask in 13:10,11? What reason did He give in response?

5. **Application:** What principle did Jesus state in 13:12? How was He applying this in the context, and what other applications may be made of the principle?

6. Describe Jesus' reason for teaching in parables according to 13:13-15. What Old Testament passage did He cite?

7. How did He contrast His disciples' reception to His parables as compared to those who would not understand – 13:16,17?

8. **Special Assignment:** Give reasons why some people close their eyes to the truth. Explain how Jesus' response answered the question about the purpose of parables.

9. **Application:** Were parables always spoken primarily to help make truth clear? Did Jesus' teaching methods always make His message most easily understood? What lessons should we learn for our own teaching?

10. What explanation did Jesus give for the wayside soil in the parable of the sower – 13:18,19? Explain why some people never understand the truth.

11. What explanation did He give to explain the illustration of the stony soil – 13:20,21? What reasons may cause one who receives the word to stumble?

12. What did the thorny soil represent – 13:22? What are some things that cause one who is saved to become unfruitful?

13. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the various groups of people that Jesus described who failed to properly benefit from the teaching of the gospel?

14. What does the good soil represent – 13:23? What can we learn from the fact that good soil can produce different degrees of fruitfulness?

15. **Application:** According to Luke 8:15, what does it take to be good soil? Explain the characteristics involved.

16. In the parable of the tares, what problem did the man have in his field – 13:24-26?

17. What questions did the servants ask the owner, and what answers did he give – 13:27-30? What reason did he give for allowing the tares and wheat to remain till the harvest?

18. How did Jesus state the parable of the mustard seed – 13:31,32? What is characteristic of mustard seed, but what results when it grows?

19. Jesus never really explained this parable, but what applications would it have to the kingdom? In what way is the kingdom like a small seed that becomes so great?

20. What did Jesus describe as happening in the parable of the leaven – 13:33? In what way would this be an illustration of the kingdom? What characteristic does leaven have?

21. What prophecy was fulfilled by Jesus' use of parables? Where is it found?

22. What is represented by the following aspects of the parable of the tares – 13:36-39?

Owner –

Field –

Good seed –

Tares –

Enemy –

Harvest –

Reapers –

23. What lessons did Jesus use the parable to teach – 13:40-43? What will happen to the tares and to those who are righteous?

24. What lessons can we learn from the teachings of Jesus here about the eternal destiny of the wicked? List other **passages** about the destiny of the wicked.

25. **Case Study:** Some people say that this parable means sinners in the church should be allowed to remain till the judgment. Did Jesus say the field was the church? List other **passages** that teach what should be done about sinners in the church who refuse to repent?

26. What parable did Jesus state in 13:44? What lessons can we learn from it?

27. How did He state the parable of the pearl of great price – 13:45,46? What lessons can we learn from this parable?

28. Do you see any differences between these two parables? What might be learned from the differences?

29. In the parable of the dragnet, what did the net gather from the sea – 13:47,48? What was done with the contents?

30. What application did Jesus make to the parable in 13:49,50? What will happen to the wicked? (Think: How is this parable similar to and different from the parable of the tares?)

31. What question did Jesus then ask the disciples, and what did they answer – 13:51? To what did He compare one who is instructed concerning the kingdom – 13:52,53?

32. Explain what we can learn from the illustration of the householder. What applications should we make to our own teaching?

33. How did the people react when Jesus came into His own country – 13:54-56? What reasons did they give for their reaction?

34. **Case Study:** Some claim that Mary remained a virgin all her life. What application would passages such as we are studying have to that doctrine?

35. What illustration did Jesus use to respond to His rejection by the people of His hometown – 13:57? Explain the point of the illustration.

36. How did the people's attitude affect Jesus' willingness to do miracles – 13:58? Did He do any miracles at all there (note other accounts)?

37. **Special Assignment:** Did Jesus ever do miracles in the presence of people who did not believe? Give examples. So explain why He did not do them in this case.

38. Were miracles always done (as some people claim) mainly as a result of compassion to help people in need? Would people in Jesus' hometown have had needs? What can we learn from this example about the purpose of miracles?

Assignments on Matthew 14

Please read Matthew 14 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. When King Herod heard about Jesus, what did he say about Him – 14:1,2? (Think: What does such a statement demonstrate about Herod's view of Jesus? Yet was it adequate?)

2. What had Herod done to John, and for what reason – 14:3,4?

3. **Application:** What can we learn from the example of John about rebuking sin, including the sins of rulers? And what can we learn about unscriptural marriages?

4. Describe the circumstances that led to the death of John – 14:5-12.

5. **Application:** What does the story teach us about suffering for the cause of truth, and about seeking to please other people?

6. **Application:** What can we learn from this story about the danger of rash vows, and about the influence of evil women?

7. Where did Jesus go, who followed Him, and what did He do for them – 14:13,14?

8. Describe how the multitudes were fed – 14:15-19.

9. How many people ate, and how much food was left over – 14:20,21?

10. **Application:** Explain how the details of this event demonstrate the evidence that a miracle had occurred and help us understand the nature of miracles.

11. After the disciples and multitudes left, where did Jesus go and for what purpose – 14:22,23? What can we learn about prayer?

12. What problem did the disciples face on the sea, and how did Jesus go to them – 14:24,25

13. How did the disciples react, and what did Jesus say to reassure them – 14:26,27?

14. What did Peter ask to do, and how did Jesus respond – 14:28,29?

15. What happened to Peter, how was he saved, and what did Jesus say – 14:30,31?

16. What does this event demonstrate about Peter, and what should we learn about faith?

17. Describe the end of the story and the reaction of the disciples – 14:32,33.

<p>18. Application: What lessons can we learn from this event about the power of Jesus, and about the nature and purpose of miracles?</p>
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19. Where did Jesus go next, and what did the people there do – 14:34,35?

20. Describe how the miracles were accomplished according to 14:36. What was unusual about this, and what can we learn?

Assignments on Matthew 15

Please read Matthew 15 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What complaint did the scribes and Pharisees make against Jesus' disciples – 15:2?

2. **Define** "tradition."

3. List three other **passages** about tradition.

4. **Special Assignment:** Are all traditions wrong? Explain.

5. What Jewish tradition did Jesus rebuke in 15:3-6?

6. What Old Testament passage did Jesus quote in verses 8,9? What two kinds of errors does this rebuke?

7. **Define** "vain." (Think: Is it wrong to wash our hands before we eat? Why did Jesus object to the Jews' tradition about this?)

8. Explain verse 13 and its connection to verse 9.

9. **Application:** Name several applications of the principle taught in verse 14.

10. In 15:11,17-20, how does Jesus compare what comes out of the mouth to what goes in?

11. **Define** each of the sins listed in 15:19.

12. Where did Jesus go next – 15:21? Locate it on a **map**.

13. What woman came to Him and what request did she make – 15:22?

14. Why did He not help her at first and what convinced Him to change His mind and help her 15:24-28)? (Think: Do you see any lessons here regarding prayer?)

15. Explain what is meant by the illustration of the dogs, children, and crumbs – 15:26,27. (Think: Did Jesus not care about Gentiles? If so, why ignore this woman? What was the purpose of miracles? If they were simply acts of compassion on needy people, again, why ignore her?)

16. What kind of miracles did Jesus do in 15:30,31 and what effect did they have on the people? (Think: Can modern “faith healers” heal all these kinds of diseases or do they often fail? What does this prove?)

17. How much food did the disciples have with them in 15:34? How many people were fed with it? How much was left over?

18. On another similar occasion, how many people did Jesus feed (give book/chapter/verse to prove your answer)? (Think: What was the purpose of such miracles? Did Jesus intend to become a source of handouts to attract a following by appealing to people’s physical desires?)

19. What did Jesus do before feeding the people (15:34) and what lesson can we learn?

20. Where did Jesus go next (15:39 – locate on **map**)?

Assignments on Matthew 16

Please read Matthew 16 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What request did the Pharisees and Sadducees make – 16:1,2, and what was their motive (Mark 8:11)?

2. What signs could these Jews understand and what signs could they not understand – 16:3,4? Explain.

3. Did Jesus do the miracle they had asked for? What reason does He give for His decision?

4. Where else is a similar event recorded? What is the “sign of Jonah”? (Think: Why would Jesus refuse to do a sign for these people? Consider their motives and their previous opportunities to see signs. What was the purpose of miracles? Should modern “faith healers” cite this passage when we challenge them to do miracles to prove their claims — 1 John 4:1?)

5. What warning did Jesus give the disciples in 16:6?

6. What did the disciples think Jesus was reproving them for – 16:5,7?

7. How did Jesus prove to the disciples that He was not talking about physical food?

8. What was He really warning them about (cf. Luke 12:1)?

9. **Application:** From this discussion, what lessons can we learn about false teaching and about hypocrisy?

10. Note that the disciples erred because they were thinking physically when Jesus’ meaning was spiritual. Name other examples in which a similar error occurred today or in the Bible.

11. Where did these events occur – 16:13?

12. What question did Jesus ask the disciples, and what answer did they give – 16:14,15?

13. What question did Jesus ask next, and what answer did Peter give – 16:15,16?

14. From what source did Peter learn the proper answer?

15. List several other **passages** in which people confess a similar thing about Jesus, or passages showing the importance of people confessing Jesus.

16. **Application:** Most people would be highly honored if people said about them what they were saying about Jesus (verse 14). Name some examples in which people today say similar things about Jesus, and tell what is wrong with such views.

17. What did Jesus promise to build – 16:18?

18. To whom would the church belong, and what price would be paid for it (Acts 20:28)?

19. **Application:** Some folks say the church began during the reign of John the Baptist or even earlier. Where was John at this point in Jesus' ministry? How would you respond?

20. How many churches did Jesus build? List other **passages** showing how many true churches there are.

21. Read 1 Corinthians 3:11 and 1 Peter 2:3-7. What is the rock or foundation on which the church is built? Poof? (Think: What is the connection between verse 18 and verse 16?)

22. **Case Study:** How would you answer the Catholic claim that Jesus built the church on Peter, so the Pope must be the head of the church?

23. What did Jesus offer Peter – 16:19? (Compare Matthew 18:17; John 20:19-23; Mark 16:15,16. In what sense could Peter bind and loose? How did He use the keys of the kingdom?)

24. What prediction did Jesus make to the disciples – 16:20,21? (Think: What is amazing about this prediction? Would a fraud, who desired a great following, make such a prediction?)

25. List other **passages** where Jesus predicted His death and resurrection.

26. How did Peter respond to Jesus' prediction – 16:22? (Think: Why would Peter respond this way?)

27. How did Jesus respond to Peter in 16:23? Explain in your own words.

28. Explain the following phrases from 16:24,25:

* “deny himself” —

* “take up his cross” —

* “follow me” —

* “whoever would save his life shall lose it” —

* “whoever loses his life ... will save it” —

29. What is more important than any good or pleasure this world can offer 16:26,27?

30. List other **passages** showing the proper priority serving God should have in our lives.

31. **Application:** What applications should we make from verses 24-27?

32. What promise did Jesus make in 16:28 (cf. Mark 9:1)? (Think: What is the consequence for the premillennial idea that Jesus will establish His kingdom at His second coming?)

Assignments on Matthew 17

Please read Matthew 17 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did these events occur, and what disciples were with Jesus at the time – 17:1?
2. **Define** “transfigure,” and explain the sense in which Jesus was transfigured.
3. What Old Testament characters also appeared – 17:3? Explain briefly who these characters were.
4. According to other accounts, what was Jesus talking with these men about? (Think: What is the significance of these men appearing and talking with Jesus about this?)
5. What suggestion did Peter make – 17:4? (Think: Was Peter making a wise suggestion this time? What is the significance of his request?)
6. How did the Heavenly Father respond – 17:5? (Think: What connection is there between what Peter suggested and what God said immediately afterwards?)
7. How did the disciples respond to the Father’s statement, what did Jesus tell them, and who then was no longer present – 17:6-8?

8. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from the Father’s statement and from this whole event?

9. When would the disciples be allowed to tell other people about this event – 17:9?
10. Who was the “Elijah” that had already come, and in what sense was he like Elijah – 17:10-13 (check cross references for further discussion of this)?

11. What kind of problem did Jesus cure in 17:14-21? Describe the effect the problem had on the young man who had it (note that other accounts give fuller details here)?

12. Who had tried and failed to heal the boy? Why had they failed?

13. **Case Study:** When modern faith healers fail to heal people, they often say the people who want to be healed lack faith. How does this differ from 17:14-20? (Think: Did Jesus ever try to heal anyone and fail? Did the apostles fail *after* they had received Holy Spirit baptism?)

14. Explain 17:20. What is the significance of the mustard seed? (Think: What application, if any, does this verse have to us?)

15. What prediction did Jesus repeat in 17:22,23, and where else have we read such a prediction from Him?

16. What question was Peter asked in 17:24?

17. Study Old Testament cross references and explain what the purpose was for this half-shekel payment — i.e., what was done with the money?

18. What question did Jesus ask Peter about this, and what application did He make 17:25,26? (Think: What was the point or significance of Jesus' statement?)

19. How was the tax paid — 17:27? (Think: Why would Jesus use this means to get the money to pay the tax?)

20. What reason did Jesus give for paying the tax?

21. **Application:** Study other *passages* about stumblingblocks and explain what lessons we can learn from this story.

Assignments on Matthew 18

Please read Matthew 18 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What subject did the disciples bring up in 18:1?

2. Where else is this subject discussed, and what does this tell you about the attitude of the disciples?

3. Whom does Jesus say we should be like in order to be great in the kingdom, and what qualities should we learn to imitate from this – 18:2-5?

4. **Case Study:** Some people believe that little children are born totally depraved because they inherit Adam's sin. What lesson can we learn about this doctrine from 18:1-4? (Think: What other Scriptures help us understand God's teaching about this doctrine?)

5. What is our condition if we offend someone who believes in Jesus – 18:6,7? (Think: Study the expression for "offend" [KJV] in various translations to determine what it means.)

6. List several other **passages** showing we should not cause others to stumble or be offended. (Think: What applications can we make of this principle?)

7. What other kinds of stumblingblocks (offenses) should we avoid, and why – 18:8,9? (Think: Is this literal? If not, what does it mean?)

8. **Application:** List other **passages** showing we should avoid situations that tempt us to sin. Can we avoid every tempting situation? If not, what applications should we make?

9. Find another passage that describes a shepherd looking for lost sheep.

10. What lessons should we learn from the illustration of the lost sheep – 18:10-14?

11. What problem did Jesus discuss in 18:15-17?
12. Describe in order the steps Jesus said should be taken to deal with a brother who sins.
13. What is meant in these verses by “hear you,” “gained your brother,” and “heathen and publican”?
14. List other *passages* showing how we should deal with sin in the church.
15. What purposes are accomplished by discipline/chastisement in a congregation?
16. List other *passages* regarding the importance of witnesses in establishing guilt when someone is accused of sin.
17. Where else have we studied about binding and loosing – compare 18:18-20?
18. What question did Peter ask Jesus and how did Jesus answer in 18:21,22? Explain the significance.
19. **Define** “forgive.”
20. List other *passages* regarding Christians being willing to forgive.
21. **Application:** Briefly tell the story Jesus told about forgiveness and explain the lessons we should learn.

Assignments on Matthew 19

Please read Matthew 19 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What question was Jesus asked in 19:1-3?
2. List other *passages* regarding divorce, remarriage, the permanence of marriage, etc.
3. What Old Testament passages did Jesus quote to answer the question, and what conclusion did He reach – 19:4-6? (Think: Explain how the passages prove Jesus' point.)
4. What did Moses' law teach about divorce (list Old Testament passage) – 19:7?
5. What reason did Jesus give why Moses had taught as he did – 19:8? (Think: Did Moses teach the same as God's original law?)
6. Under what circumstance may a person divorce and remarry without sinning – 19:9?
7. What is the condition of a person who divorces, not for fornication, and then remarries? Who else has the same problem? (Think: Suppose a person commits adultery and his spouse divorces him for it. Is he free to remarry?)
8. **Define** "adultery" and explain the sense in which an unscriptural remarriage fits the definition of adultery. (Think: Does this apply only to Jesus' disciples or to all people?)
9. Suppose a man steals \$1000. If he repents, can he keep the money (make a list of *passages* that show what repentance involves or requires)?
10. **Application:** Suppose a man unscripturally divorces and remarries or marries a woman who is unscripturally divorced. What must he do in order to repent? Does it matter whether the people were or were not Christians at the time of the divorce and remarriage?
11. How did the disciples respond to Jesus' teaching, and how did He answer – 19:10-12?

12. What were people doing in 19:13, and what did the disciples do about it?

13. How did Jesus respond to the disciples and why – 19:14,15? (Think: Did the little children have to be baptized to come to Jesus?)

14. **Application:** What are the consequences of this passage for the doctrines of inherited depravity and infant baptism?

15. What question was Jesus asked in 19:16, and what was His answer in 19:17-19?

16. What did Jesus tell the young man he still needed to do – 19:20-22? What was the young man's reaction? (Think: Do other passages indicate that Christians must give up all property? Why did Jesus make this demand of this young man, and what should we learn?)

17. How hard did Jesus say it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven – 19:23-26?

18. **Application:** List and explain other *passages* regarding the attitude a Christian should have toward wealth and possessions. If it is so hard for rich men to enter the kingdom, then will all rich men be lost? Explain your answer.

19. What did Peter say the disciples had done and what did Jesus say their reward would be – 19:27,28? (Think: Explain how this reward comes true or is fulfilled.)

20. What sacrifice did Jesus praise in 19:29,30? (Think: Compare other similar passages. In what way do we make such sacrifices?)

21. What is the reward of people who make such sacrifices?

Assignments on Matthew 20

Please read Matthew 20 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Explain the significance of each of the following aspects of the parable in 20:1-7:
vineyard —

householder (landowner) —

laborers —

payment to the laborers —

2. At what hours of the day were laborers hired? For what amount of payment did people agree to work?

3. What complaint did some people have when payment was given — 20:8-12?

4. Explain the householder's response to these complaints — 20:13-15.

5. Explain verse 16 in your own words.

6. **Application:** What lessons can we learn and what applications can we make from this parable? (Think: Is there any application of this parable to the attitude of Jews toward Gentiles under the gospel?)

7. What prediction did Jesus make in 20:17-19, and where else have we studied similar predictions?

8. What manner of death did Jesus predict, and who would do it to Him?

9. What request did the mother of James and John make, and what was the significance of the request – 20:20,21? (Think: What does this request tell you about the concept the disciples had about the kingdom?)

10. Where else have we studied similar discussions?

11. Explain the discussion regarding the “cup” – 20:22,23.

12. How did the other apostles react to the request of James and John’s mother – 20:24? (Think: What does this tell you about the other apostles?)

13. **Application:** Explain the difference between whom God considers to be great as compared to whom the world considers to be great – 20:25-28. Give examples or applications to illustrate the point.

14. **Define** “ransom,” and explain how Jesus’ life exhibits the qualities He is teaching the disciples to have.

15. **Case Study:** Some people use this passage to teach that it is wrong for Christians to exercise authority. Is this a correct use the passage? Proof? (How does the example of Jesus fit – 20:28?)

16. Where was Jesus in 20:29-33? What request did two men make?

17. What did Jesus do for the men – 20:34? What does this prove about the power of Jesus?

Assignments on Matthew 21

Please read Matthew 21 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Locate on a **map**: Jerusalem, Bethphage, Bethany, Mount of Olives – 21:1.
2. Describe the errand Jesus sent two disciples on before He entered Jerusalem – 21:2,3.
3. What Old Testament prophecy did this fulfill – 21:4,5? Where is it found in the Old Testament? (Think: What would be unusual about this means of entering Jerusalem?)
4. Tell what the people did as Jesus entered the city – 21:6-9? (Think: What is the significance of this?)
5. **Define** “Hosanna.”
6. What is the significance of the fact the people called Jesus “son of David”?
7. What did Jesus do in the temple – 21:10-14?
8. What Scriptural authority did He claim for His action? Where is the Old Testament passage found?
9. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from this event, and what practices should we oppose in the church today for the same reasons that Jesus cleansed the temple
10. What activity did the chief priests and scribes oppose, and How did Jesus respond to their question – 21:15,16?

11. Why did Jesus pronounce a curse on the fig tree – 21:17-19? (Think: What fruits should a Christian bear? What can we learn about ourselves if we fail to bear the fruits He desires?)

12. When the disciples questioned Him about the tree, what lesson did Jesus teach about faith and prayer – 21:20-22?

13. List and explain other **passages** showing that God answers prayer. (Think: Explain how this passage should be applied in our age in which miracles no longer occur.)

14. What question did the chief priests and elders ask Jesus in the temple – 21:23-25? What question did Jesus ask them in return?

15. What is authority, and what two possible sources of authority did Jesus list in 21:25?

16. What answer did the elders and priests give and why – 21:25-27? (Think: What does this tell about the motives of the Jewish leaders?)

17. How did Jesus answer them? Explain why this was a good answer.

18. Application: What lessons should we learn from this story about authority in religion and about effective teaching methods?
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19. Summarize the parable Jesus told in 21:28-31.

20. What lessons does the parable teach us about obedience and repentance?

21. What application did Jesus make to the Jewish leaders – 21:31,32? (Think: What lessons can we learn about religious leaders of our day?)

22. In the parable of the vineyard, explain what each of the following represent – 21:33-41 (note: in giving your answer, take into account the explanation given in 21:42-46).

The householder –

The vineyard –

The husbandmen –

The fruit –

The servants sent by the householder –

The son of the householder –

23. How did the husbandmen treat the servants sent by the householder, and what does this represent?

24. Why did the householder send his son, how did the husbandmen treat him, and what does this represent?

25. What did the Jewish leaders say the householder would do to the husbandmen?

26. Who was this parable spoken against and what is the main application Jesus made of it – 21:42-46?

27. What Old Testament passage is quoted in 21:42, and where else in the New Testament is it quoted?

28. Explain the meaning of 21:42 in your own words.

29. Explain the use Jesus made of this passage in 21:44.

30. What was the reaction of the chief priests and Pharisees to the parable?

31. Why did they not do anything to Jesus about it? (Think: Where else have we been shown what the real motives of these leaders were? Do you see anything ironic in this?)

Assignments on Matthew 22

Please read Matthew 22 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. To what is the kingdom compared in the parable in 22:1-14?
2. What did people who were invited to the marriage do when the time arrived (22:3-6)?
3. What lesson is taught by these who refused to come to the feast? (Think: Did Jesus expect that all people would at first accept His invitation to enter the kingdom? How do you know?)
4. What did the king do to people who refused to come, and what lesson should we learn?
5. How were guests for the feast finally obtained?
6. What is represented by the method finally used to obtain guests?
7. What problem did one of the guests have (22:11)?
8. What was done to this guest?
9. What lesson should we learn from this man and his punishment?
10. **Application:** Are there people today who refuse to come to God's "wedding feast"? Why? What should we do about it?

11. What question did the Pharisees' disciples and the Herodians ask Jesus, and how did they lay the groundwork for the question 22:15-17? (Think: What do you learn from this event about the character and attitude of Jesus' opponents?)

12. Explain what dilemma this question was supposed to create for Jesus — i.e., why would it be a difficult question to answer?

13. How did Jesus answer, and how did He illustrate the answer — 22:18-22?

14. **Application:** Explain in your own words the meaning of Jesus' answer and what lessons we can learn for today.

15. Who questioned Jesus next, and what did they believe — 22:23 (check cross-references)?

16. Explain the question they asked and what dilemma it presented — 22:24-28.

17. How did Jesus solve the dilemma— 22:29,30? (Think: What consequences does Jesus' answer have for Mormons and others who claim marriage is for eternity?)

18. Explain the argument Jesus used to disprove the fundamental beliefs of the Sadducees about the resurrection — 22:31-33.

19. **Special Assignment:** Discuss the skill of Jesus as a teacher in these events. What methods and principles did He use (consider visual aids, questions, appeal to authority, etc.)?

20. What was Jesus' practice regarding confrontation and public debate? Was He too kind and loving to tell people when they were wrong?

21. Who questioned Jesus in 22:34-40, and what question was asked? (Think: Why was this a difficult question?)

22. What command did Jesus say was the greatest, and where is it found in the Old Testament?

23. As a bonus, what did Jesus say was the second greatest command, and where is it found in the Old Testament?

24. List other *passages* that explain love or show its importance.

25. **Define** love (as used here).

26. In what sense did the whole law and prophets hang on these two commands?

27. What question did Jesus in turn ask the Pharisees, and what answer did they give – 22:41,42? (Think: What did the Pharisees mean by their answer?)

28. What question did Jesus ask next – 22:43-46? (Think: Why could the Pharisees not answer the question? What is the correct answer to Jesus' question?)

29. How did the Pharisees react following this series of questions – 22:46?

30. **Application:** What lessons can we learn from this whole discussion (chap. 21 and 22) about teaching, public debating, and opposition to error?

Assignments on Matthew 23

Please read Matthew 23 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. About whom did Jesus speak throughout most of chapter 23, and to whom was He speaking – 23:1,2? (Think: Is it always a sin to talk to one person or group of people about the faults and errors of other people? Explain.)

2. In what way did Jesus say the people should respect the teaching efforts of the scribes and Pharisees, and why – 23:2,3? (Think: What does it mean to “sit on Moses’ seat”?)

3. **Define** “hypocrite,” and tell in what way Jesus said the people should **not** respect the scribes and Pharisees as teachers –23:3,4. (Think: Is it possible to respect the office or position a person holds while not respecting the character of the person in that office?)

4. Tell what motive the scribes and Pharisees had, and name several specific practices that demonstrated this motive – 23:5-7.

5. **Case Study:** Name several examples showing that modern religious leaders sometimes resemble these scribes and Pharisees.

6. What practice is forbidden in 23:8-11? (Think: What is the meaning of “rabbi,” “father,” and “master” in this context.)

7. What reason did Jesus give for this command?

8. In what ways is this passage sometimes violated today?

9. **Define** “humble,” and explain 23:12 in your own words.

10. **Application:** Some people believe it is wrong to mention specific religious groups by name and expose their error (such as Catholics, Jews, etc.). What can we learn from this chapter about this practice?

11. **Define** “woe.” How did the Pharisees shut up the kingdom of heaven – 23:13. (Think: What should these men have done regarding entering the kingdom? How did their conduct fulfill Jesus’ parables about them?)

12. How did these men treat people who were facing misfortune, and how did they try to cover up their cruelty – 23:14 (KJV; cf. parallel passages)? (Think: Name some ways that religious people today take unfair advantage of needy people.)

13. **Define** “proselyte,” and tell how Jesus described the efforts of the scribes and Pharisees to make a proselyte – 23:15. (Think: What is a “son of hell”? Is such language un-Christlike?)

14. What is a “blind guide,” and where else did Jesus use similar language – 22:16?

15. **Define** “swear,” and describe the distinctions these people made regarding oaths – 22:16-22. (Think: What do these distinctions show about these men?)

16. How did Jesus respond to the false distinctions being made about oaths?

17. What “minor” points did Pharisees insist on practicing (23:23), and to what did Jesus compare this – 23:24? (Think: Did Jesus say it was wrong to practice these “minor” points? **Read the verse carefully!** What does it **say**? Do you like eating gnats?)

18. What “weightier matters” did Jesus say these people neglected, and to what did Jesus compare this? (Think: Are some laws of greater consequence than others? Does this justify disobeying other laws? Explain.)

19. **Define** each of the “weightier matters” that Jesus named.

20. Application: Explain exactly what it is that Jesus here rebukes, and give examples showing how we today may be guilty of similar wrongs.

21. Explain the illustrations Jesus used in 23:25-28 that describe hypocrites.

22. List several **passages** showing the importance of proper motives, attitudes, and condition of the heart in serving God.

23. **Application:** Name some examples of ways people today may be guilty of the kinds of hypocrisy that 23:25-28 describes.

24. How had past generations of Jews treated God's prophets – 23:29-32?

25. How did the scribes and Pharisees act and speak toward those past prophets? (Think: What does this tell us about the conduct of hypocrites?)

26. What did Jesus say these people would do to His prophets and teachers – 23:33-36?

27. Explain how the prophecy Jesus made here was eventually fulfilled (name some specific examples). (Think: What parables in chapters 21 and 22 would this fulfill?)

28. Explain 23:33 in your own words. (Think: What does this tell us about the need for plain, forceful rebuke of sin?)

29. What illustration demonstrates Jesus' attitude toward the Jewish people – 23:37? (Think: What does this tell us about Jesus' motives in giving such severe rebukes?)

30. What response did Jesus expect from the people, and what would happen as a result?

Assignments on Matthew 24

To help us avoid misconceptions in Matthew 24, consider this background information.

1. Please read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6. What do we know about the time of Jesus' second coming, and what "signs" there will be to warn us?

2. Read 2 Peter 3:10-12. What does this passage teach about signs to warn us for Jesus' coming, and what will happen to the earth when He comes?

3. Some premillennialists say the resurrection of the righteous and the resurrection of the wicked will be separated by 1000 years. What does John 5:28,29 teach about this?

4. What can you learn from the following passages about the beginning of Jesus' kingdom?
Mark 9:1 —

Acts 1:3-8 —

Acts 2:1-5,29-36 —

5. What can you learn from the following verses about the existence of the kingdom?
Colossians 1:13 —

Hebrews 12:28 —

Revelation 1:9 —

6. Read Psalm 110:1-4 and Zechariah 6:12,13. What two offices would the Messiah hold at the same time? (Think: Is Jesus now priest at God's right hand? So, is He king and now?)

7. Read John 18:36. According to this verse, is Jesus' kingdom earthly or spiritual?

8. In Matthew 16:18,19 and Hebrews 12:23,28, what is another name for the kingdom?

9. According to 1 Corinthians 15:22-28, will Jesus begin His kingdom at His return?

10. Read Matthew chapter 24. Where does the chapter mention a period of 1000 years or a reign of Jesus on earth?

11. Where was Jesus at the beginning of this chapter and what did His disciples do that introduced the discussion – 24:1?

12. What prediction did Jesus make about the temple – 24:2?

13. Where did the discussion continue, and what did the disciples ask Jesus – 24:3?

14. **Special Assignment:** There are three basic views of this chapter: (1) It all predicts Jesus' second coming; (2) It all predicts the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70; (3) The first part of the chapter predicts the destruction of Jerusalem, and the last part predicts Jesus' second coming. Read 24:1-34 and Luke 21:5-36 (cf. Mark 13). List points that show what event this **first section** is predicting

15. For each of the following verses, state what is prophesied, then try to find some New Testament passage (or secular reference) that shows whether or not such an event took place before the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70:

verse 5 –

verse 6 –

verse 7 –

verses 9,10 –

verse 11 –

verse 14 –

16. What was the “abomination of desolation” – 24:15? (Note: Read *parallel passages* and cross-references. Note Matt. 23:38.)

17. What should people do when this event occurred – 24:16-18? (Think: How would this fit the destruction of Jerusalem? Would it fit the final coming of Jesus?)

18. Who would have special problems at that time – 24:19? (Think: Why would such a time be especially difficult for these people? Would this be a concern at Jesus’ final coming?)

19. When should they *not* want their flight to occur – 24:20? (Think: Why would these times be a problem? Again, would this fit Jesus’ final return?)

20. How bad would the suffering be – 24:21,22? (Think: Do the context and parallel passages imply the “great tribulation” is a time associated with Jesus’ final return?)

21. What would God do to help His elect in those days – 24:22?

22. What danger did Jesus again warn about – 24:23,24, and where had He already given this warning in this chapter?

23. Why did Jesus give these warnings – 24:25,26?

24. How is Jesus’ coming illustrated in 24:27? (Think: What is the point of the illustration? In what sense did Jesus “come” in fulfillment of this verse? Compare verse 30; Isaiah 19:1.)

25. What illustration is used in 24:28? (Think: What is the point of this illustration?)

26. List the events described in 24:19. (Think: Such terms are common in prophetic language. List some Old Testament examples, then see if you can determine the meaning.)

27. What would happen next – 24:30? (Note: Restudy verse 27 regarding the coming of the Son of Man.)

28. What would the “angels” do – 24:31? (Think: When would these events occur – note 24:29,34? Then what does this verse refer to?)

29. What does a fig tree tell people, and what lesson did Jesus use this to teach –24:32,33? (Think: Will there be signs whereby we can know Jesus’ final return is near?)

30. What does 24:34 tell us about the fulfillment of these prophecies? Using cross-references and concordance, list other **verses** where the expression “this generation” is used. (Think: To what does the expression refer?)

31. **Special Assignment:** What conclusion does verse 34 teach about the event to which verses 1-34 refers? Does the destruction of Jerusalem fit what the verse says? Does the second coming of Jesus fit? Explain your conclusion.

32. What event did Jesus refer to in 24:35, and what lesson did He teach from it?

33. Who knows the time of “that day and hour,” and what does this teach us? (Think: What event is here being referred to?)

34. What did Jesus say happened in the day of Noah – 24:37-39?

35. What lesson should we learn from the illustration of Noah?

36. What two examples did Jesus use in 24:40,41, and what is the point of the illustrations?

37. What main lesson did Jesus teach in 24:42-44?

38. What illustration did He use to teach this lesson in 24:43,44?

39. What responsibilities were given to the servant in 24:45? (Think: Jehovah's Witnesses say this servant refers to the Watchtower Society. What evidence do you see for this claim?)

40. When would the servant be rewarded and what needed to happen for him to be rewarded – 24:46,47?

41. Instead of being faithful, what might the servant do – 24:48-51?

42. When would the master come if the servant was unfaithful?

43. What reward would the unfaithful servant receive?

44. **Application:** What lessons should people in Jesus' day learn from this parable, and what applications should we learn?

Assignments on Matthew 25

Please read Matthew 25 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What group of people does the story of this parable describe, and what purpose did they intend to accomplish – 25:1?
2. In this parable, who does the bridegroom represent? (Think: What do the virgins represent and what is illustrated by the virgins' meeting the bridegroom?)
3. What mistake did the five foolish virgins make and what did the five wise virgins do to avoid the problem – 25:2-4?
4. How did the foolish virgins first attempt to solve the problem, and why did it not work – 25:5-9?
5. What lessons should we learn from the fact that the foolish virgins could not borrow oil from the wise?
6. What did the foolish virgins do to get the oil they needed, and what happened as a result – 25:9-12?
7. What lessons should we learn from the fact that the five foolish virgins were not admitted to the wedding feast after they went to get oil and came back – 25:13?

8. **Application:** What is the main lesson of the parable as emphasized in – 25:10,13?

9. What applications can be made to people who know they are not obeying God, but they postpone obedience?
10. List other *passages* that show the importance of being ready for Jesus' return?

11. In the parable of the talents, what is represented by the Lord, by the servants, and by the talents – 25:15-30? (Note: In deciding what the talents represent, consider 24:15 – “according to ability.”)

12. What can we learn from the fact that different servants received different numbers of talents? (Think: In the literal story, what is a “talent,” and how much was it worth?)

13. What did each of the three servants do with their talents?

14. What is represented by the lord coming to settle accounts with the servants – 25:19?

15. What rewards were given to the 5-talent and 2-talent servants – 25:20-23? (Think: Since these servants achieved different results, why were both rewarded?)

16. What excuses did the one-talent servant make for his actions – 25:24,25?

17. By considering the conduct of the first two servants, how can we know the one-talent servant did not give a valid excuse?

18. How did the master describe the one-talent servant and what did he say he should have done – 25:26,27?

19. What happened to the one-talent servant in the end – 25:28-30?

<p>20. Application: What lessons should we learn from this parable? (Think: What is meant by verse 29?)</p>
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21. In the description of the judgment (25:31-46), who is the Judge, where does He sit, and who comes before Him to be judged?

22. List other *passages* showing who the Judge will be at the final judgment.

23. List other *passages* showing that *all* people will be judged for their lives.

24. What illustration is used in 25:32,33 to describe the separation?

25. **Special Assignment:** List the acts for which Jesus said the righteous people would be rewarded (25:34-40), and for each one list another passage about it. (Think: Is Jesus teaching that benevolent acts are all we need to receive eternal life? Explain and prove your answer.)

26. In your own words explain 25:40&45.

27. How did Jesus describe the ultimate destiny of the wicked – 25:41,46?

28. List other *passages* that describe the final destiny of the wicked.

29. How did Jesus describe the ultimate destiny of the righteous – 25:31,46?

30. List other passages that describe the final destiny of the righteous.

Assignments on Matthew 26

Please read Matthew 26 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What Jewish feast was about to occur, what were the Jewish leaders planning to do, and why did they not want to do it during the feast – 26:1-5? (Think: What does this tell you about the character of the Jewish leaders?)
2. Where was Jesus when the events of 26:6-13 occurred?
3. What honor did a woman bestow on Him – 26:7? (Think: What is alabaster?)
4. What was the name of the woman who did this and what other people were present (see parallel accounts)?
5. What did the disciples think about the woman's deed, and which disciple particularly objected and why – 25:8,9 (see parallel accounts)?
6. How did Jesus respond – 26:10-13? (Think: What can we learn from Jesus' reply?)
7. What honor did Jesus predict the woman would receive, and how do you know His prediction came true?
8. What deal did Judas make with the chief priests, and what Old Testament passage does this fulfill – 26:14-16?
9. What did some disciples offer to do for Jesus – 26:17? (Think: What was the Passover feast and what connection was there between Passover and the feast of unleavened bread?)
10. According to parallel accounts, exactly how were the disciples to find the place to arrange for the Passover?

11. Who was sitting with Jesus at the Passover feast, and what did He predict one of them would do – 26:20,21?

12. How was the guilty party identified – 26:22-25 (see also parallel accounts)?

13. What woe did Jesus pronounce on the one who would betray Him (i.e., how did he describe the man's condition)?

14. In instituting the Lord's supper, what element or substance did Jesus take first, and what did He say was the significance or spiritual meaning of it – 26:26?

15. What element or substance did He take next and what is the meaning of it – 26:27-29? (Think: When did Jesus say He would drink this next?)

16. What did Jesus do both before the bread and before the cup? (Think: Why would Jesus have done this, and what should we learn from it?)

17. For what purpose did Jesus say His blood would be shed, and what other *passages* elsewhere teach this same truth? (Think: What "covenant" did Jesus here refer to?)

18. What is meant by "the cup" – is it the container or the contents, and how do you know (study the context and parallel passages)? (Think: What consequence does this have for those who argue we must use only one container for the fruit of the vine?)

19. **Case Study:** Some claim that the bread becomes Jesus' literal, physical body and the cup becomes His literal, physical blood. Study context and parallel verses, then respond.

20. What did Jesus mean when He said, "Drink ye all of it" – 26:27 (KJV), and how do you know (compare verse 28; 1 Corinthians 10:16,17; and other passages)?

21. What did Jesus predict in 26:31,32, and what Old Testament passage did He say would be fulfilled by it?

22. What did Peter affirm in response to Jesus' prediction – 26:33?

23. What terrible wrong did Jesus say Peter would commit – 26:34,35?

24. Where did Jesus take His disciples, and what did He ask them to do – 26:36?

25. What three disciples went further with Jesus, and what did He ask them to do and why – 26:36-38?

26. Describe the prayer Jesus prayed in Gethsemane – 26:39-44.

27. Explain what He meant by His prayer. (Think: What can we learn from this about Jesus' attitude toward His death and toward His Father's will?)

28. What were the disciples doing when Jesus returned – 26:40,43?

29. What did Jesus say when He saw the disciples doing this – 26:40,41? (Think: What lessons can we learn from this about temptation, prayer, and vigilance?)

30. **Application:** How many times did Jesus pray this prayer, and how well did the disciples respond to His request to watch and pray with Him? What lessons can we learn from this about repetition in prayer and about sleeping when we should be worshipping?

31. Who came as Jesus had finished praying in the garden, and what weapons did they have with them – 26:47?

32. What was the intent of these people, and what agreement did Judas have with them – 26:48?

33. How did Judas betray Jesus – 26:49? (Think: Why was this act needed, and what does it show about Judas' character?)

34. What attempt was made by a disciple to defend Jesus, who was it that did this, and who received the blow – 26:51 (see parallel accounts)? (Think: Why would a disciple do a thing like this, and what connection does it have to preceding discussions?)

35. What did Jesus say that stopped the fighting – 26:52? (Think: What lessons should we learn from this statement?)

36. What did Jesus do for the one who had been attacked, and what lessons should His enemies have learned from this (see parallel accounts)?

37. What could Jesus have received for His defense, and why did He not call for them – 26:53,54? (Think: What does this tell you about Jesus' attitude toward His death, and how does this compare to His prayer in the garden?)

38. What did Jesus ask His assailants, and what is the point of the question – 26:55?

39. To what place was Jesus taken, what did His disciples do, and who followed Him – 26:56-58? (Think: The disciples had earlier professed they would all be true to Him, so why would they now act in this way?)

40. **Special Assignment:** What predictions of Jesus and/or of the Old Testament were fulfilled in the events studied here?

41. What was the purpose of the council (26:59), and what does this tell you about them as fair judges?

42. What kind of witnesses testified against Jesus, and how successful were they in proving Him guilty?

43. Name a specific charge that two witnesses made, and explain what Jesus had really said and meant about it (26:60,61 – see cross references).

44. What was Jesus finally convicted of, and what did He say that became the grounds of this conviction – 26:62-66? (Think: What was wrong with this conviction, and why was it wrong for the rulers to use it as grounds to condemn Jesus?)

45. How was Jesus treated after the council reached its verdict – 26:67,68?

46. **Special Assignment:** Name as many things as you can about this “trial” that were unfair or unjust.

47. What prediction made by Jesus is fulfilled in – 26:69-75?

48. Describe the three times that Peter denied Jesus. For each denial tell what was said that provoked Peter to deny, and for each one tell what it was that Peter said.

49. How did Peter respond when he realized what he had done?

Assignments on Matthew 27

Please read Matthew 27 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. What did the Jewish leaders do in the morning and to whom did they take Jesus – 27:1,2? (Think: Why did the Jews do this after they themselves had already condemned Him? Consider other passages before you answer.)

2. How did Judas react when he realized Jesus was condemned – 27:3,4? (Think: What does Judas' reaction tell you about Jesus' guilt?)

3. What did the Jewish rulers say to Judas about the money? (Think: What does this show about the attitude of the rulers?)

4. How did Judas end up handling the situation – 27:5? (Think: What lessons can we learn from this about suicide?)

5. Judas repented of his sin and confessed it (27:3,4). Was he saved (study parallel passages)? What lessons can we learn?

6. Why did the Jewish leaders not put the betrayal money in the temple treasury – 27:6? (Think: What does this show about the character of these men?)

7. What was finally done with the money, and what prophecy did this fulfill – 27:7-10?

8. What question did Pilate ask Jesus in 27:11? How did Jesus answer? (Think: Why would this question interest Pilate?)

9. What response did Jesus give to the Jewish rulers who accused Him – 27:12-14?

10. How did Pilate respond to the way Jesus handled the Jews' accusations – 27:14?

11. What custom did the governor have at the feast, and what choice did he offer the people – 27:15-17?

12. Describe Barabbas (check parallel accounts). (Think: What can we learn about the Jewish leaders from the decision they made regarding this choice?)

13. What did Pilate conclude was the motive of the Jewish leaders regarding Jesus – 27:18? (Think: If he knew this, yet still condemned Jesus to die, what does this tell us about him?)

14. What message did Pilate's wife send him and why – 27:19? (Think: Make a list of all the times during these trials that Jesus is declared to be innocent, righteous, not guilty, etc.)

15. What choice did the people make (27:20-22), and what did they say to do with Jesus?

16. What conclusion did Pilate reach regarding Jesus' guilt or innocence – 27:20-23 (cf. parallel accounts)?

17. What symbolic act did Pilate perform to rid himself of responsibility – 27:24? (Think: Did this act truly free him from guilt? Explain your answer.)

18. What responsibility did the people accept in the verdict – 27:25? (Think: Consider the people's statement and how it relates to later history in the preaching of the apostles, the destiny of the nation, etc.)

19. **Special Assignment:** Consider the role of the multitude in Jesus trial, then explain how this compares to their previous attitude toward Jesus. (Think: How do you explain this change?)

20. What verdict did Pilate finally reach – 27:26?

21. Describe how the soldiers treated Jesus – 27:27-31. (Think: Why do wicked people do things like this to good people?)

22. What was the significance of the acts done by the soldiers (why did they put a scarlet robe and crown of thorns on him, etc.)? (Think: Describe how Jesus must have felt as people treated Him this way.)

23. What role did Simon of Cyrene play in the crucifixion – 27:32? (Think: Why was someone needed to do this job?)

24. What was the name of the place where Jesus was crucified – 27:33?

25. What was Jesus given to drink, and how did he respond to it – 27:34?

26. List at least 3 other **passages** that refer to crucifixion or the cross.

27. Special Assignment: Describe what it was like to be crucified.

28. What happened to Jesus' clothes and what prophecy did this fulfill – 27:35,36?

29. What was written over Jesus' head – 27:37? (Think: Why would the Romans write this?)

30. Let us not lose sight of the ultimate reason why all this happened. List at least three **passages** that show what Jesus' death means to **us**.

31. List several examples of things spoken to Jesus on the cross to mock Him –27:38-44. For each one explain why it would have been difficult for Jesus to tolerate.

32. 27:44 says the thieves also mocked Jesus, but Luke's account adds that one of them defended Him. What did the thief say and what promise did Jesus give in return?

33. **Case Study:** Some people try to use the thief on the cross as proof people today can be saved without baptism? How would you answer? (Hint: What law was in effect at the time?)

34. 27:45 lists the first of several miracles associated with Jesus' crucifixion. What was it?

35. What did Jesus say about the ninth hour – 27:46? (Think: In what sense did God forsake Jesus?)

36. What did the people think Jesus was saying and what did they do as a result – 27:47-49?

37. How does 27:50 describe Jesus' death?

38. Based on parallel passages, what did Jesus say when He "cried with a loud voice"? (Think: What is the significance of this statement?)

39. List three miraculous events or displays of God's power that accompanied Jesus' death, and explain what purpose these events served – 27:51-53. (Think: What is the significance of the tearing of the temple veil?)

40. What did the people who came from the tombs do, and when did they do it – 27:52,53?

41. What effect did all this have on the centurion – 27:54?

42. What women were present to observe these things – 27:55,56?

43. Who asked for the body of Jesus, and what kind of man was he – 27:57,58 (see other accounts)?

44. Describe what he did to Jesus' body, and tell who helped him – 27:58-61 (see other accounts)? (Think: What significance is there in the preparation given the body?)

45. **Special Assignment:** Tell as much as you can about the tomb in which Jesus was buried. What significance is there in the nature of the tomb?

46. What concern did the Jewish leaders have – 27:63,64? (Think: What do you learn from their understanding about this point?)

47. What did they ask Pilate to do about it – 27:64?

48. What did Pilate tell them to do, and what arrangements did they make – 27:65,66?

Assignments on Matthew 28

Please read Matthew 28 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. When did the women come to the tomb, and who came – 28:1 (check other accounts too)? (Think: What observation do you have regarding the fact that, after His resurrection, Jesus first appeared to women?)

2. List other **passages** that refer to the first day of the week. (Think: What special importance does this day have for Christians?)

3. Describe the miraculous event of verse 2 in your own words.

4. What did the angel look like, and what effect did he have on the guards – 28:3,4? (Think: Why would these events affect the guards as described here?)

5. What did the angel say to the women when they arrived – 28:5-7?

6. List at least three **passages** in which Jesus had predicted He would rise from the dead.

7. Whom did the women see later, and what message was given them to deliver – 28:8,9?

8. What did the women do when they saw Him – 28:9? (Think: What does this tell us about Jesus – compare Matthew 4:10?)

9. **Special Assignment:** Make a list of people who saw Jesus after He arose. Compare parallel accounts and 1 Corinthians 15:1-8, and make your list as complete as you can

10. Based on the accounts of Jesus' appearances, what do you conclude is the reason why these accounts are recorded in the Bible?

11. List at least 3 **passages** outside the book of Matthew that show how important the resurrection is to our faith.

12. State and explain reasons why it is important for Christians to believe in the resurrection.

13. What explanation did the Jewish rulers offer for the fact that Jesus' body was gone from the tomb – 28:11-15?

14. **Case Study:** What response would you give that shows this explanation does not fit the eyewitness testimony of what happened?

15. Another explanation sometimes offered for the events following Jesus' crucifixion is that He never really died but just fainted or swooned and then revived in the tomb. In what ways does this explanation fail to fit the evidence?

16. Where did the disciples see Jesus (28:16,17), and what did they do when they saw Him?

17. What claim did Jesus make in 28:18, and what other passages can you find that confirm the authority of Jesus? (Think: If Jesus has this much authority, what can we learn regarding the idea of a human head of the church?)

18. What commission did Jesus give the disciples to fulfill – 28:19? (Think: What does it mean to be baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?)

19. Study the other accounts of this commission and summarize what Jesus taught that people must do to be saved and become His disciples.

20. What should baptized people be taught to do, and what does this teach regarding the importance of obedience to God? (Think: What do we learn here about the idea that, before people are baptized, they need to understand everything God will require them to do?)

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