



The Book of Matthew – Part 2 - June 20, 2021

Stefan Duerksen, Associate Pastor

Updates & Announcements:

1. DAY CAMP ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Day camp are being planned here at the church for:
- July 27-28 for Grades 3-4
- July 29-30 for Grades 5-6
- Aug 4 for Grades 7-8
- Check the [website](#) for more details and to signup. All students are put on a waiting list and will confirm them according to government restrictions and number of volunteers available.
- Family Ministries team is SO excited to have kids on site again!!!!

2. MEMBERSHIP:

- If you are wanting to become a member, contact the office and you can become a member in September! (oh that has a nice ring to it! 😊)

3. DRIVE-IN PRAYER SUMMIT – This Wednesday at 7pm in our parking lot and livestream!

The Book of Matthew part 2:

A. A journey through Matthew... Matthew 1:18 – Matthew 2

- Joseph & Mary are living in Nazareth. In 5 B.C Caesar Augustus declared a census that had all Jews go to their place of origin to be registered. This meant Joseph & Mary had to travel back to Bethlehem.
- This fulfilled PROPHECY by **Micah 5:2** *“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”*
- **FACT CHECK:** Wait! They went in 5 B.C? wasn't Jesus born in 0 A.D? No. There is no 0 A.D. There is 1 B.C & 1 A.D. But the Bible doesn't say Jesus was born in 1 A.D either nor does the Bible explicitly tell us when he was born. We are given historical events and the characters who were alive surrounding those events. A mathematically minded monk and member of the Roman Curia, Dionysius Exiguus, invented the concept of A.D in the 6th century. Most scholars agree that Jesus was born somewhere between 6-2 B.C. Most likely in 5 B.C. And began his public ministry “around” 30 years of age. (Luke 3:23). He could have been early 30's to 34-36... which would put his death & resurrection at 26-30 A.D.
 - **REMEMBER:** Scripture is infallible! None of this changes a single line of the text we have recorded in the Scriptures. It simply appears that Dionysius was mistaken.
- Joseph & Mary travelled south from Nazareth to Bethlehem a journey of 130-160 KM. (Approx. Depending on route taken)

Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit (*Fulfilled PROPHECY Isaiah 7:14*). And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (*Fulfilling PROPHECY Isaiah 35:3-4*) All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet (*Fulfilled PROPHECY Isaiah 7:14*): "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

- From here they travel north to Jerusalem (8.5-9.6 KM) where Jesus is circumcised on the 8th day and the on the 40th day is purified in the Temple where Simeon prophesies about Jesus' mission (Luke 2:22-35). The family now travels back to Bethlehem where they would have been living a home, not a stable, for the visit of the wise men (Magi)

Matthew 2:1-23 (ESV)

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: (*Fulfilled PROPHECY Micah 5:2*)" ⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. ¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah (*fulfilling PROPHECY Jeremiah 31:15*): ¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." ¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

- Another 170KM journey which completes their back-and-forth journey of around 360KM.

B. Promise Maker is a PROMISE KEEPER!

Jesus made it clear that the Old Testament predicted His coming. He said to the religious leaders of His day.

John 5:39 (ESV)

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,

The Old Testament prophecies that Jesus fulfilled include the following.

1. He was born in the right family line-David's.
2. He was born at the right place-Bethlehem.
3. He was born at the right time in history-before the city of Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed (Dan 9:26)

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Our Promise Maker IS A PROMISE KEEPER. His word NEVER COMES BACK VOID.

PRACTICE: Write down a struggle you have been facing? What is causing you fear and anxiety? Or feeling trapped in shame?

JESUS – what do YOU want to say to each one of us about the struggle we are in? write your answer below (or in your journal).

C. God with us!

Matthew 1:21-23 (ESV)

²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The book of Matthew is bookended with a promise that God will be with us! and the ONE WHO PROMISES US IS FAITHFUL!

PRACTICE: Maybe you have been feeling alone, isolated, frustrated lately... or you know someone who is feeling the weight of this past year and a half! Let’s take a moment and just be quiet before the Lord and reflect on His Presence being with us... his faithfulness...

Jesus, is there anything you want to say to us as we wait on you? Write down any thoughts that come to mind below (or in your journal)

If you are participating in the Weekly M.A.P. Challenge, please go to <https://mysouthland.com/> and click on Message Series Downloads. The M.A.P document will be updated weekly with the NEW Challenge.

We want to hear what God is doing in your life and through the MAP Challenge! Share your stories with us by emailing info@mysouthland.com and put “My God Story” in your subject line.

If you need prayer, for anything, please contact us! Prayer@mysouthland.com

If you have any other needs, please let us know! We want to help! Care@mysouthland.com