

New Testament Survey
TEACHER'S EDITION

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NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

CONTENT

This study guide emphasizes important historical characters and places within a chronological framework, tied to key dates. The course's major overarching theme is the Bible as God's revealed will and His loving provision for our salvation; thus, it stresses Jesus's death and resurrection as God's answer for Israel's sins, as well as for the sins of the world. A foundational assumption is that the New Testament fulfills the Old Testament. Thus, much of what Jesus prophesied was fulfilled in 70 AD with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, which brought an end to the Old Age, just as the New Age of Evangelism began. Underneath all this is a desire to help students see how Scripture applies to all aspects of their lives, and that Biblical characters were real people, living in real places, who made choices to be obedient or not to be obedient—just like us!

ASSESSMENTS

Weekly quizzes test accumulative knowledge up to the semester final, so quizzes should never be thrown away, and should always be corrected. Students do not need to know the verse references that are given in the answers. We give full answers so that you can help explain the answers better. Second semester represents a new start. All questions on quizzes are taken from the lessons, and all exams are taken from quizzes.

This means that the student only needs to review the week's material for the quiz and the student only needs to review the quizzes to study for the test.

FOR THE PARENT

Students should be able to do much of the work for this course on their own, including the Bible readings, studying for weekly quizzes (which may include memory work), and the quarterly project. The projects are as follows:

First and second quarter: OT citation notebook

Third and fourth quarters: Epistle summary notebook.

Parents would be wise to follow the same Bible reading schedule as the student. The best value of this course will be realized as the student and parent discuss the stories of the New Testament together. An Answer Key will assist in answering the questions, but issues of wise application are left for the parent to address as you see fit.

It is obviously beneficial to help your child develop a regular time for reading his/her Bible. It is also perfectly acceptable to do the assigned Bible readings together.

Schedule of Lessons (Quizzes and Tests usually on Friday)

SCHEDULE

This course is designed for students in the Logic (Dialectic) Stage, working five days a week, approximately 45 minutes each session. The reduced schedule can be done as an “elective” schedule, three days a week. Text covered by the student is the entire New Testament, with a few review passages from the Old to give students the big picture of the Biblical story of sin, and redemption.

If you have less time available each week, then adjust the schedule to fit. For example, there are twelve weeks spent on the Gospels, but if that is too quick for you, feel free to go at a slower pace and simply pick some of the most important epistles to finish out your year, rather than doing them all. We have an alternate schedule for you and a different set of quizzes that you can find at logospressonline.com/products/new-testament-survey-1/.

FIRST SEMESTER (FIVE DAYS A WEEK)

Week	Book and Chapters Covered
1	Review: Introduction – Genesis 1-3, 12, 15, 17, 22; Exodus 12, 19-20, 24
2	Review: Exodus 32-34, 40, Deuteronomy 28, 30, 34, 2 Samuel 7, 1 Kings 8
3	Review: 1 Kings 11-12, 2 Kings 17, 25, Daniel 1-2, 5-7, Ezra 1, 3, Nehemiah 9
4	Matthew 1-10 (add an OT citation to your notebook)
5	Matthew 11-19
6	Matthew 20-28
7	Mark 1-8 (add an OT citation)
8	Mark 9-16
9	Luke 1-5
10	Luke 6-11
11	Luke 12-18 (add an OT citation)
12	Luke 19-24
13	John 1-7
14	John 8-13
15	John 14-21 (add an OT citation)
16	SEMESTER I TEST

SECOND SEMESTER (FIVE DAYS A WEEK)

Week	Book and Chapters Covered
17	Acts 1-7
18	Acts 8-13
19	Acts 14-20
20	Acts 21-28
21	Romans 1-11
22	Romans 12-16; 1 Corinthians 1-8
23	1 Corinthians 9-16; 2 Corinthians 1-4 (write an epistle summary)
24	2 Corinthians 5-8; Galatians 1-3

25	Galatians 4-6, Ephesians
26	Colossians, 1 Thessalonians (write an epistle summary)
27	2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews 1-3
28	Hebrews 4-13, James
29	1 & 2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude
30	Revelation 1-22 (write an epistle summary)
31	FINAL TEST

However, if this schedule is too difficult for you or you have Bible as an elective three days per week, here is a reduced schedule.

FIRST SEMESTER (THREE DAYS A WEEK)

Week	Book and Chapters Covered
1	Matthew 1-7
2	Matthew 6-13
3	Matthew 14-19 (add an OT citation to your notebook)
4	Matthew 20-25
5	Matthew 26-Mark 3
6	Mark 4-8
7	Mark 9-14:52 (add an OT citation)
8	Mark 14:53-Luke 1
9	Luke 2-5
10	Luke 6-9
11	Luke 10-13 (add an OT citation)
12	Luke 14-18
13	Luke 19-22
14	Luke 23-John 2
15	John 3-7 (add an OT citation)
16	Semester I TEST

SECOND SEMESTER (THREE DAYS A WEEK)

Week	Book and Chapters Covered
17	John 8-11
18	John 12-16
19	John 17-21
20	Acts 1-4
21	Acts 5-9
22	Acts 10-13
23	Acts 14-18
24	Acts 19-23
25	Acts 24-28

26	Romans 1-8
27	Romans 9-16 (write a summary of Romans)
28	Ephesians 1-6 (write a summary of Ephesians)
29	1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, James, 1-3 John (pick an epistle and write a summary)
30	Revelation 1-17
31	Revelation 18-22
32	FINAL TEST

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

FIRST AND SECOND QUARTERS PROJECT: OLD TESTAMENT CITATION NOTEBOOK

Create a notebook of at least **three Old Testament Citations**.

Make sure you follow these guidelines:

1. Find an Old Testament passage quoted in the New Testament.

1. Read the entire context of the Old Testament passage and write down what it is about. If you need help, look up the larger Old Testament book in a commentary or reference book to tell you the context and what that chapter is about.

3. Write down how it fits in the story of the New Testament:

WHO is it applied to

WHAT that person is doing

WHERE it fits in the story of the Gospel

4. As a conclusion, write several sentences explaining how you might also apply the Old Testament passage to your own life.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS PROJECT: EPISTLE NOTEBOOK

You undoubtedly want to know what the Epistles are about. This book will be a handy little resource for you to come back to: you will create bite-sized summaries of each of the epistles.

So as you read the epistles, make sure you look at the big picture of the epistle and then try to find out what the main sections of it are about. Then do the following steps:

First, write down the major parts of the epistle. Often, this will be organized by chapter discussions, but feel free to look at the headings that you see in your Bible and try to group together the ones that seem like they are about the same topic.

Second, write down a sentence or two, explaining what the book as a whole is about.

So for instance, here is how I would do Romans:

OUTLINE:

- A. Romans 1-2: All mankind is under sin.
- B. Romans 3-4: We are justified by faith.
- C. Romans 5-6: We are no longer slaves to sin, but to righteousness.
- D. Romans 7-8: We are no longer under the law, but in the Spirit.
- E. Romans 9-11: God has been faithful to Israel.
- F. Romans 12-16: Instructions to the Church

I could even make this shorter:

- A. Romans 1-4: Man under sin but justified by faith.
- B. Romans 5-8: Man no longer under sin, but made alive by the Spirit.
- C. Romans 9-11: Israel's hope
- D. Romans 12-16: Instructions on the Christian Life

Summary:

Romans is Paul's description of how man is under sin, but Jesus died to bring us the forgiveness of sins. Everything that God promised to Abraham and Israel is finally given to us in Christ.

You can always make it longer, but remember that it's an opportunity to connect the parts of each letter with the big point that the NT writer is making. This will also help with the final exam for the year, where you will have to match the epistle with a one-sentence summary of it.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

WORKSHEETS: OVERVIEW

The New Testament contains 27 books, starting with Matthew and ending with Revelation. The Bible is actually a small library with all the 27 volumes of the New Testament conveniently bound together for us, including the 39 separate books of the Old Testament, making a total of 66 books.

The 27 books of New Testament in our modern Bibles may be grouped into Gospels, Narrative, and Epistles/Letters, and Apocalyptic Literature. Most of the books of the Bible are epistles and most of them are by Paul.

GOSPELS	NARRATIVE	EPISTLES/LETTERS	APOCALYPTIC
Matthew	Acts	Romans	Revelation
Mark		I Corinthians	
Luke		II Corinthians	
John		Galatians	
		Ephesians	
		Philippians	
		Colossians	
		I Thessalonians	
		II Thessalonians	
		I Timothy	
		II Timothy	
		Titus	
		Philemon	
		Hebrews	
		James	
		I Peter	
		II Peter	
		I John	
		II John	
		III John	
		Jude	

You will also be held accountable for the following very elemental timeline of major people and events:

Jesus's Birth	Jesus's Ministry, Death, & Resurrection	Ministry of Apostles	Fall of Jerusalem
c. 4 B.C.	30-33 A.D.	33 A.D.- c. 60 A.D.	70 A.D.

UNIT 1

The Gospels

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

ANSWER KEY

Before we begin going through the New Testament, we're going to review the main themes of the Old Testament. Jesus said that the disciples should have known that He would suffer and rise from the dead because they knew their Old Testament (Luke 24:25-27). So we will begin with a few weeks of going over the major turning points in the story of Israel, particularly whenever God makes a covenant with Israel.

GENESIS 1-3: CREATION AND FALL

The following questions may be answered directly from the Biblical text.

1. What does God tell Adam and Eve to do to the world and the animals in it?

1:28 “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth” (ESV).

2. What does God say they can and cannot eat from?

2:16 They can eat from any tree in the Garden, but they cannot eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

3. What does the serpent say will happen to them if they eat from the tree?

3:4-5 They will not die, because in the day that they eat from the tree they will become like God, knowing good and evil.

4. Do Adam and Eve become like God after they eat from the tree?

3:22 Yes!

5. How does God curse Adam and Eve?

3:16-19

a. He gives Eve pain in childbirth.

b. Adam has to bring forth bread from the earth with the sweat of his brow.

c. Adam and Eve will both die and return to the dust.

Notice how each of these curses relates to the task God gave Adam and Eve to do when he created them.

6. What does God say will happen to the seed of the serpent and the seed of the woman?

3:15. The seed of the woman will crush the head of the seed of the serpent.

Sometimes people call this the proto-evangelion or pre-Gospel, since it's the first promise that God gives that He will conquer Satan, the serpent.

GENESIS 12, 15, 17, 22 THE PROMISES TO ABRAHAM

Adam sinned and was removed from the Garden of Eden, but God decides to renew his promises to mankind in Abraham and his descendants.

1. What things does God promise to Abraham when he first calls him in chapter 12?

12:1 He will make him a great nation.

12:2 He will make Abraham to be a blessing, and all the nations will be blessed by him.

12:7 He will give the land of Canaan to Abraham's descendants.

This promise should remind you of the promises made to Adam and Eve. God promised Adam and Eve land, children, and the world.

2. What makes Abraham righteous in chapter 15?

15:6 He believed in God's promise to give him many descendants.

3. What does God do when Abraham sacrifices some animals after the sun sets?

15:17 A smoking pot and a flaming torch pass through the pieces.

Genesis 15 is a covenant ceremony. In the ancient world, a king and his vassal might make a covenant by killing some animals and then walking through the pieces. The king promised to protect the vassal if attacked, and the vassal promised to serve or fight for the king. The cut up animals symbolized what would happen to either one of them if they broke the covenant. Here God, represented by fire, walks through the pieces!

4. What is the sign of the covenant that God makes with Abraham?

17:10 God tells Abraham to circumcise himself and all his male descendants.

5. What does Abraham sacrifice instead of Isaac?

22:13 He sacrifices a ram that is caught in a thicket.

6. What is this a picture of?

Jesus! He is a sacrifice that takes our place on the cross.

EXODUS 12, 19, 20, AND 24 THE COVENANT WITH ISRAEL

Years after the time of Abraham, God rescues his descendants from the land of Egypt and then makes a covenant with them.

1. What feast does God tell Moses and the Israelites to celebrate every year?

He tells them to celebrate the Passover.

2. What do the Israelites have to do to escape the angel of death?

They kill a lamb, sprinkle its blood on their doorpost and then the angel of death passes over it.

3. What is this a picture of?

Jesus, whose blood protects us from God's judgment.

4. Who is allowed to eat from the Passover?

12:43-49 Only Israelites: sojourners have to be circumcised to eat from it.

5. What does God promise to make Israel at Mount Sinai?

He promises to make them His nation, a kingdom of priests.

6. Is Israel able to draw near to God?

No, they are afraid of God when he appears in fire and lightning.

7. What does Moses do to the people to make a covenant with them?

24:8 He sprinkles the blood on the people.

8. What do the people promise to do when they enter the covenant?

24:7 They promise to obey God and His laws.

Again, God makes a covenant with his people and seals it with blood and then eats and drinks with them. This foreshadows the New Covenant that Jesus made. He too declares it is the blood of a New Covenant and says then eats with His people.

As you prepare for the test, make sure you review the divisions of the Gospel, the New Testament genres, and the dates we introduced in the Overview. (This reading is not part of the reduced schedule.)

EXODUS 32-34, 40 ISRAEL SINS AND GOD FORGIVES THEM

1. What has God been telling Moses to build in the chapters right before the making of the Golden Calf?

He has been telling them to make a Tabernacle.

2. How is the Gold Calf the exact opposite of this?

God has been telling Israel how he will be worshiped in the Tabernacle, but now Israel does the exact opposite of everything they were told to do.

3. How is Israel's sin like Adam's?

God wanted to dwell with Israel in the tabernacle, but instead, Israel sins and God refuses to go with them to the land of Canaan. Just like Adam, Israel sins and leaves God's presence.

4. Why does God not destroy Israel?

32:12-13 Moses tells God the Egyptians would mock the Exodus and God had made promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

5. What does Moses do with the tablets that God has given him?

32:19 Moses throws the tablets and breaks them.

6. What does God say when he passes by Moses and shows his glory?

34:6-7 "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

7. What happens to the tablets?

34:28 God writes the ten commandments and the book of the covenant on them.

Abraham intercedes for the people, even though they have sinned. In the same way, Jesus intercedes for us and our sins.

8. What happens at the end of the book of Exodus?

40:34-38 God's cloud comes upon the tabernacle and goes with the people of Israel on their journeys.

DEUTERONOMY 28, 30, 34 BLESSINGS AND CURSES OF THE COVENANT

This is the final speech that Moses gives right before he dies and sends the Israelites into the land. He tells them to be faithful to the covenant or they will be thrown out of the land.

1. What will happen to the Israelites if they obey God?

God will bless them with wealth, children, health, and victory over their enemies.

The covenant reminds us of Adam

2. Where will the Israelites go if they disobey God?

They will be taken out of the land into exile, and they will go right back to Egypt (28:68).

3. What will God do if the Israelites repent after He punishes them?

He will bring them back to the land and make them prosperous again.

4. What will God do to their hearts?

30:6 He will circumcise their hearts so that they love God. This is what Jesus does!

5. What happens to Moses?

He dies on Mount Nebo.

2 SAMUEL 7, 1 KINGS 8 THE PROMISES TO DAVID.

For four hundred years, Israel dwells in the land. Often they sin and fall into the hands of their enemies, but they then repent and God rescues them. Eventually, however, God gives them a king after his own heart, king David and he makes a covenant with him and his son, Solomon.

1. What had God given David?

2 Sam. 7:1 He gave him peace from all his enemies.

2. What are some things God promises David that he will do for him and his household?

2 Sam. 7:9 He will make David's name great.

2 Sam. 7:12 He will establish David's son on the throne.

2 Sam. 7:14 He will be a father to David's son and will discipline him, but never abandon him.

God does not just promise to bless David, but he promises to establish his throne and his household forever. To this day, Jews still recognize that one of David's descendants will rule over the world.

3. What do the people do with the Ark of the Covenant?

1 Kings 8:1-9 They bring it into the temple.

4. What fills the Temple? What event in Exodus does this remind us of?

1 Kings 8:10-11 A cloud of God's glory fills the Temple. This should remind you of the end of Exodus.

5. What does Solomon praise God for fulfilling?

1 Kings 8:20-21 His promises to David: Solomon sits on his throne and has built the Temple.

6. What does Solomon say people will do at the Temple?

The people will come to pray to God, and He will hear them.

7. What does Solomon ask God to do if the people sin and are carried away captive?

He prays that God will hear, forgive them, and bring them back.

1 KINGS 11-12, 2 KINGS 17, 25 ISRAEL SINS AND GOES INTO EXILE

1. How does Solomon sin?

He marries many foreign women, and they turn his heart from God and make him worship other gods.

2. What does God tell Solomon he will do because of his sins?

He will take away the kingdom from Solomon's son, but even then he will not tear away all the tribes.

3. What happens to the kingdom after Solomon dies?

It splits in two.

4. What does the Northern kingdom start doing?

1 Kings 12:28 They worship two Golden Calves.

5. What happens to the ten tribes (the Northern kingdom)?

They are taken captive by the kingdom of Assyria.

6. What are the people who replace the Ten Tribes like?

They worship both God and false gods!

The people who dwell in the land of the Ten Tribes become known as the Samaritans. In Jesus' time there are three provinces: Galilee in the far north, Samaria in the middle, and Judea in the south. The Samaritans believe in the Torah, but they continued to be despised by Jews and they did not worship at the Temple in Jerusalem.

7. What happens to the tribe of Judah (the Southern Kingdom)?

They are taken captive by the kingdom of Babylon.

8. What do the Babylonians do to the Temple?

They destroy it and take away its treasures as spoil.

9. Who is the king of Babylon?

25:1 Nebuchadnezzar.

DANIEL 1-2, 5-7 GOD SHOWS THE FUTURE

1. Who are Daniel and his friends?

1:3-7 They were youths taken from Judah who were trained to be serve in the king's palace.

2. What happens in Nebuchadnezzar's dream?

He dreams of a statue made of gold, silver, bronze, and iron and clay. It is smashed by a rock that grows into a hill.

3. How does Daniel interpret it?

He says that Nebuchadnezzar is the head of gold and three other kingdoms are empires that will follow his. Usually people identify them with Persia, Greece, and Rome. These kingdoms are crushed by God's kingdom.

4. What happens to the kingdom of Babylon after Nebuchadnezzar dies?

Babylon is conquered by the king of Persia.

5. Who is Darius and what does he do with Daniel?

He is the ruler put in charge of Babylon and he puts Daniel over the kingdom.

6. What happens in Daniel's dream?

Four beasts, a lion, a bear, a leopard, and a beast with horns come up out of the sea. The last beast has a horn speaking great things. The Ancient of Days arrives, destroys the beast, and gives authority to the Son of Man.

7. What is the "coming of the Son of Man?"

When the Son of Man comes before the Ancient of Days and he is given authority over all nations.

8. How does the angel interpret these events?

According to the angel, the four beasts are four nations, and the last is a kingdom with a king that persecutes the saints. However, God gives power to the saints, in the end.

It might shock your students, but the Son of Man is interpreted as the saints (7:27). This is because we are united to Jesus. When Jesus receives authority, he is our representative and we receive authority with him!

9. Does the Son of Man come from heaven to earth?

No, he goes from earth to heaven.

EZRA 1, 3, NEHEMIAH 9 ISRAEL RETURNS TO THE LAND

Babylon was replaced, as we saw, by Persia, and the king of Persia changes Israel's fortunes.

1. Who is the king of Persia and what does he tell the people to do?

Cyrus, and he tells the people of Israel to return to their land.

2. What treasures do they bring with them?

1:5-11 The treasures of the Temple which Nebuchadnezzar had taken.

3. What do the people who come back build?

They rebuild the Temple.

4. Are the people happy?

3:11-13 The people rejoice, but the people who had seen the former Temple weep because it's not as glorious as Solomon's Temple.

Nehemiah was a counselor to the king of Persia, and he builds Israel's wall. However, he runs into trouble when he tries to help Israel become a godly nation. He leads the people in a confession of sin.

5. What does Israel keep doing again and again, as the confession of sin shows?

They keep sinning and turning away from God.

6. At the end of their prayer, do the Israelites think they are in a good place?

No, they are still enslaved to another nation.

7. What do the people do together at the end of their prayer?

They make another covenant together to serve God.

The book of Nehemiah does not end well. The people of Jerusalem keep sinning and turning away from God, right up to the last chapter. Israel keeps breaking the covenant. How can God fulfill his promise to bless the nations through Abraham and to preserve David's throne? How can he solve the problem that began in the Garden with Adam, if Israel just keeps repeating the same mistake?

Read the Book of Malachi to know what Israel is like at this time: they still do not serve the Lord with all their heart, and God promises to send an Elijah who will refine them with fire.

Be sure that as you prepare for the quiz, you review the Gospel divisions, NT genres, and dates and that you review your previous quizzes. (This reading is not part of the reduced schedule.)

INTER-TESTAMENTAL PERIOD

The story of the Bible has a large gap right between the two Testaments. At the end of the Old Testament, Israel is back in the land under Persia around, and at the beginning of the New Testament, they are a province under another empire, Rome. What happened during the five hundred years between Malachi and Matthew?

Thankfully, God had told the prophet Daniel that there would be seventy weeks before the time of the end and the coming of the Son of Man. This is usually interpreted as 490 years (seventy times seven), which is why people are eagerly waiting for the Messianic king prophesied by Isaiah during the time of Jesus, but they also know that a few kingdoms will come before then.

The Persian empire is finally defeated by Alexander the Great, a king of Macedonia, near Greece. All of Asia starts speaking Greek, and this is why the New Testament is written in Greek. According to legend, Alexander the Great stops at the Temple in Jerusalem on his way to India, and wants to go inside it, but they show him the book of Daniel and he leaves in peace.

After Alexander's death, his kingdom falls apart. Israel remains under the power of Greek nations. One Greek nation, called Seleucia, tries to destroy the Jewish religion. They say the Jews may not circumcise their sons and they have to sacrifice pigs in the Temple. Some of the Jews, known as the Maccabees, revolt and make Israel an independent nation again. Their story is exciting and can be found in the books of Maccabees. (Catholics accept them as Scripture, but Jews and Protestants do not accept them.)

However, when the Maccabees take power, they make themselves the high priests. This offends many Jews. These priests are known as the Sadducees. Some Jews think this makes the Temple unclean and they flee to the desert. Others stay in the city and worshiped at the Temple, but they think Israel needs to follow many more purity laws than are in the Torah. These are the Pharisees.

Eventually the Maccabees lose power. Two brothers start fighting over the throne and one of them invites the Romans to help him take over Jerusalem. The Romans take over and eventually put someone else in charge of Israel, a non-Jew called Herod. Herod dies around the time that Jesus is born, and the kingdom is divided between his sons. At the time of the Gospel, Herod's son Herod Antipas is ruling in the north of Israel, called Galilee, and a Roman governor, Pontius Pilate rules in the south of Israel, called Judea. Many Jews feel they are still in captivity, and they are hoping for a Messiah that will remove the Romans and perhaps also the corrupt Jewish leaders.

OVERVIEW: THE STORY OF THE GOSPELS

This section gives an outline of the five parts of each Gospel, so that you will be able to get the big picture of the story of Jesus. Often we just think of the Gospels as full of a bunch of random stories that are all strung together, ending with Jesus's death and resurrection. But actually each Gospel can be divided into five sections:

1. Preparation: We learn about how God prepares Jesus for His life and teaching. We sometimes learn about his birth and childhood, but we always learn about his baptism by John the Baptist and his anointing as the Messiah. God speaks from Heaven calling him His "beloved son." God anoints Jesus to minister to Israel.

2. Ministry: Jesus then starts teaching about the coming kingdom of heaven. He chooses disciples who will follow His teaching. He performs miracles and heals the sick, which prove that He is bringing redemption to Israel. He also confronts the leaders of Israel, the Pharisees and the Sadducees and declares that they will be judged.

3. Teaching: After John the Baptist is killed by king Herod, Jesus continues to perform miracles, but He spends more time teaching the disciples about how they should serve one another. The kingdom of God is not about power and overthrowing the Romans, but is about serving others. The Jews think that the Messiah will come to conquer the Romans, but instead Jesus and His disciples need to be ready to suffer.

4. Last Days: Jesus goes to Jerusalem and confronts the Jewish leaders in the Temple. He attacks them for their corruption and although they try to outwit him, He refutes them. Jesus then leaves the Temple and goes to the Mount of Olives where He tells the disciples that God is going to destroy the Temple and the Jewish leaders, but they will preach the Gospel to the nations and after a time of persecution, they will triumph.

5. Deliverance: Jesus has the Last Supper and then is arrested by the Jewish leaders, who sentence Him to death. The Roman governor Pilate reluctantly agrees to crucify Him, too. Jesus dies for our sins and rises again from the dead, and tells His disciples to preach the gospel.

That is the basic story of the Gospels. Jesus is chosen by God, performs miracles that prove the kingdom of heaven is finally here, teaches His disciples about what it means to be part of the kingdom, confronts the Jewish leaders in the Temple, and dies and rises from the dead.

The order of some of these things is switched in different Gospels. Luke includes a lot of Jesus's teaching about how to be a good disciple before describing Jesus's ministry. The Gospel of John is completely different and puts Jesus's confrontation of the Jewish leaders in the Temple all the way through the book. But this summary should give you the big picture.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

*The Gospels consist of five parts: Preparation, Ministry, Teaching, the Last Days, and Deliverance. This part of the book is about **Preparation**, how God prepared Jesus for his ministry. Read carefully and see how the beginning of the Gospel shows how Jesus is fulfilling His promises to Abraham, Moses, and the prophets.*

MATTHEW 1-4 JESUS' BIRTH, BAPTISM, AND TEMPTATION

1. Who are the four women that we see in Matthew's genealogy and what do they have in common?

Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba. They are all "unrespectable" Gentile women.

2. Why is this Genealogy here at the beginning of the Gospel?

It shows that Jesus is the fulfillment of the promises to Israel.

3. What does God tell Joseph in a dream that Jesus will do?

1:21 He will save His people from their sins.

4. What does the name Immanuel mean?

1:23 God is with us.

This is the first Old Testament verse which is "fulfilled." You should notice that the Gospels do not just hunt for simple prophecies in the Old Testament. Often they are not saying that a prophecy has been fulfilled, but are applying a passage in the Old Testament to a situation in the New Testament. They also want you to look carefully at the context of the passage. You might look at a chapter, such as Isaiah 7, Micah 5, Hosea 11, Jeremiah 31, or Isaiah 9, and write about it in your notebook.

5. Who do the wise men think Jesus is?

2:2 They think He is the king of the Jews and they are there to worship Him.

6. Why would Herod be afraid of Jesus?

Herod is king and he is afraid that Jesus will overthrow him.

This is not said explicitly in the text, but it is pretty clear that Herod is afraid that Jesus is a political threat, which is why he kills all the boys in Bethlehem.

7. What does John the Baptist say is "at hand"?

3:2 The kingdom of heaven.

8. Is judgment coming upon Israel?

3:9-10 Yes, being a son of Abraham does not matter and the axe is at the root of the tree. I owe

the observation that the axe is at the root of the tree to Peter Leithart.¹

9. Why does Jesus say he is being baptized by John?

3:15 It is necessary to fulfill all righteousness. Again, Jesus is fulfilling the Old Testament.

Notice that the Spirit comes upon Jesus in His baptism, just as it came upon many of the Old Testament heroes, such as Gideon (Judges 6:34), Samson (Judges 14:6), Saul (1 Sam. 10:6), and David (1 Sam. 16:13). Jesus's Baptism begins His fight for Israel.

10. What does Satan tempt Jesus to do in the wilderness?

4:3, 6, 8-9 He tempts him to turn stones into bread, to throw Himself off the temple, and to worship him.

11. What book does Jesus quote back at the devil?

He quotes passages from Deuteronomy.

12. How is it fitting that Jesus quotes from this book? How is Jesus' situation similar?

Just as Israel was in the wilderness for forty years and was tempted to sin, so too Jesus is in the wilderness and is tempted to sin.

13. What does Jesus start proclaiming when He arrives in Galilee?

4:17, 23 Jesus proclaims the coming of the kingdom of God.

14. What are the first things Jesus does in His ministry?

He calls disciples to follow Him and heals the sick.

1. See *The Four* (Moscow, ID: Canon Press, 2010), 58-59.

MATTHEW 5-7 JESUS'S MINISTRY: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

*Jesus has begun His **Ministry** and started proclaiming the coming of the kingdom of heaven. In these chapters, He starts teaching about what the people of the kingdom of heaven is about.*

1. What kind of people does Jesus call “blessed”? These verses are famously called “the Beatitudes.” The word “Beatitude” means “blessed.”

The poor in spirit (5:3)

Those who mourn (5:4)

The meek (5:5)

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (5:6)

The merciful (5:7)

The pure in heart (5:8)

The peacemakers (5:9)

Those who are persecuted because of righteousness (5:10)

Those who people insult, persecute, and falsely say all kinds of evil because of Jesus (5:11)

2. Is the kingdom of heaven getting rid of the law and the prophets?

5:17-20 No, Jesus is the fulfillment of the law and the prophets.

3. What kind of righteousness do people need to have to enter the kingdom of heaven?

5:20 A righteousness that exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees.

4. Find three of the quotations of the Law in this chapter.

a. Exod. 20:13 in 5:21

b. Exod. 20:14 in 5:27

c. Deut. 24:1 in 5:31

d. Exod. 21:24, Lev. 24:20, or Deut. 19:21 in 5:38

e. Lev. 19:18 in 5:43

5. What is wrong with the way the Jewish leaders interpret the Law?

They are legalistic and follow the letter of the law, but do not obey from the heart.

6. Who do the Jewish leaders seek to praise from?

6:1, 2, 5, 16 They seek a reward from men, not from God.

7. Who does Jesus say will give us a reward for our secret works?

6:4, 6, 18 We should look for a reward from His Father in heaven.

8. Where should our treasure be?

6:20 Our treasure should be in heaven.

9. What is the problem with worrying about food or clothing?

6:32-33 Our Father in heaven knows we need such things and if we seek His kingdom, He will take care of these things.

10. What is the problem with the people who judge others?

7:1-5 They are hypocrites and need to take the beam out of their own eye before they help someone else.

11. How do we know a good tree?

7:15-20 By their fruits. A bad tree does not produce good fruit.

Note that a lot of unbelievers use this verse to argue that nobody should judge anybody ever. However, look at the context. First, the immediate context of the passage is that people who are guilty of serious sins should not be attacking other people for their smaller sins. This is what the Jewish leaders would do (cf. 23:24). Jesus is warning his disciples about the superficial and outward righteousness of the Jews who are fine with large sins so long as people keep the law outwardly. Jesus also says that, instead of tolerating both sins, people should deal with their own sin so that they can deal with other people's sins (7:5).

12. Whose words does Jesus say we need to obey?

7:24, 26 We need to obey His words.

13. How is Jesus's teaching different from the teaching of the scribes and Pharisee's?

7:29 He teaches with authority. The scribes and Pharisees interpret the Old Testament, but Jesus teaches as though His words were equal to Scripture!