

PRECEPT  
UPON  
PRECEPT®

# *Matthew*

PART 2

THE CHRIST, THE SON  
OF THE LIVING GOD  
(CHAPTERS 14–28)

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®  
MATTHEW PART 2  
THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD  
(CHAPTERS 14–28)

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## HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

**How to Study Your Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010*

**The New Inductive Study Bible—New American Standard Bible**

*Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2000*

**Word Study Tools**

*(The following is a list of helpful Word Study Tools:)*

VINE, W. E.; UNGER, MERRILL F.; AND WHITE, WILLIAM, JR

**Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words**

*Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1985*

RICHARDS, LAWRENCE O.

**Expository Dictionary of Bible Words**

*Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1985*

## RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

WENHAM, G. J.; MOTYER, J. A.; CARSON, D. A.; FRANCE, R. T

**New Bible Commentary**

*Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1994*

CARSON, D. A.

**The Expositor's Bible Commentary: Matthew Vol 2**

*Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1995*

WALVOORD, JOHN F.; ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

**The Bible Knowledge Commentary, New Testament**

*Colorado Springs, Colorado: David C. Cook, 1983*

## RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

**Logos Bible Software**

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at [www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com).



## LESSON ONE

### Chapters Fourteen and Fifteen

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:  
Observation Worksheets of Matthew 14–15  
“Matthew at a Glance” chart  
Map

**Little Faith?**

**No Faith?**

**Or Great Faith?**

**Welcome to our study of Matthew Part 2. Wherever you categorize yourself in the three questions above, it is our prayer that in the next eight weeks you will find yourself with a greatly increased faith that will profoundly affect every area of your life and in so doing, greatly impact the kingdom of God and hasten the day of His coming.**

## DAY ONE

If you are just joining us in the study of Matthew, we want to welcome you. You are going to find yourself gaining valuable life-impacting insights into the life of the King of kings and His teachings which will prepare you to better understand what it means to be part of the kingdom of God.

If you studied the first thirteen chapters of Matthew with us in Matthew Part 1, you’ve already seen the structure of the first of the Gospels in the New Testament: it’s a combination of narrative and teaching. The narrative gives select portions of the life and deeds of Jesus, the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham, the Son of God, the King. These are interspersed with specific teachings of Jesus, each distinguished by a common key repeated phrase which follows the conclusion of the teaching: “when Jesus had finished ....”

These phrases are found in Matthew 7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; and 26:1.

We suggest you mark each of these in a distinctive way in your Bible. You will find them helpful markers in future readings and study of Matthew.

In preparation for our study of Matthew 14, it would be good to read Matthew 13:53-58. As you do, it will become clear we are now moving into a narrative portion of Matthew. Matthew 13:53-58 in a way serves as a summary of what has transpired while also giving a sense of what is to come. The parables Jesus just

finished were powerful teachings on the kingdom of heaven. Let's review what we have seen so far. Review is an integral part of learning.

As you read the following, look at the Matthew at a Glance chart in the Appendix.

- The kingdom has been front and center from the first words of Matthew—through the genealogy Matthew lets us know Jesus has Messiah credentials; He can sit on the throne of David.
- In Matthew 2, Jesus is referred to as the King of the Jews (2:2-6).
- In Matthew 3, John the forerunner is on the scene telling people to repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand (3:2-3), which Jesus affirms in Matthew 4.
- In Matthew 5–7, Jesus teaches us about the character and lifestyle of those who truly belong to the kingdom of heaven.
- In Matthew 8–9, once again we have a narrative account of Jesus as He ministers in Galilee, healing those who are ill, casting out demons—taking away infirmities and carrying away diseases as Isaiah prophesied. When Jesus rebukes the winds and the sea, we see what kind of man He is! He eats with sinners and tax-collectors, and though He is criticized He is not deterred from His mission. Filled with compassion for these shepherdless sheep, He continues from synagogue to synagogue, village to village proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom.
- Then in Matthew 10 He instructs His twelve disciples about the cost of following Him.
- In Matthew 11–12, we return to narrative as the Son of Man sends word to the now imprisoned John the Baptist and warns the cities of the judgment to come because they did not believe despite His miracles. He is Lord of the Sabbath, who casts out demons by the Spirit of God and who invites men to take His yoke upon them.
- In Matthew 13:54 it is evident men have recognized His wisdom and have seen His miraculous powers that were clearly laid out in the narrative from Matthew 4 on.

Yet many don't get it! Who is this man? They take offense at Him, indicating what is simmering and will boil over in the segment we are about to study.

Then in Matthew 13:58 you see the power of faith—and the consequences of unbelief.

This is where we begin Matthew Part 2. It is always good to begin your study with prayer, asking the Author of His Word to help you understand His Word so that you might handle it accurately and give it the respect due it by living according to His precepts.

1. Let's start today by observing Matthew 14. Using your Observation Worksheet which is in the Appendix of this workbook, read the chapter. Every time the narrative moves to a new occasion, a new happening, a new event draw a line. Then in the margin use a few words to summarize what happens.
2. Now read Matthew 14 again. This time mark
  - a. all references to time in a distinctive way (if you can't decide how, mark it like this ⌚). This includes words such as *immediately*, *after*, *evening*—anything giving you specific time or sequence of time.
  - b. all geographical locations. Do it your way, or double underline them in green.
  - c. *John the Baptist*
  - d. *Herod*
3. Record the chapter theme on the “Matthew at a Glance” chart in the Appendix. The **chapter theme** is simply a few words that summarize what the chapter is about. Try to use words from the text.
4. Let's continue observing Matthew 14 one incident, one event at a time. We'll begin with 14:1-12.
  - a. Who are the main participants in this ‘happening’? List them below with a brief description from the text as to their identity.

*For those of you who have just started with us in Matthew, Matthew first introduced us to John the Baptist (to distinguish him from the Apostle John) in Matthew 3. In Matthew 11 we discover that John has been imprisoned. Now, you discover John has been beheaded.*

- b. God has let you know who is tetrarch (ruling) at this time. List everything this text tells you about the man.

- c. Now read Luke 3:1-3. Find the Herod of Matthew 14 in Luke and list where Herod is ruling. Note also who occupies the high priesthood at this time. It will be helpful information.
- d. There's a chart at the end of this lesson: "Herod's Family Tree." Study it and find this "Herod." List what you learn from the Family Tree about him.
- e. Now find Herodias on this tree. She's mentioned in two places. Use the information you find in Matthew 14:3.
- f. Now you have the historical setting of Matthew 14:1-12. List when it is happening—after what?

*You are off to a good beginning, faithful one. May God greatly reward your discipline in studying His Word.*

DAY  
TWO

1. As we said, we are going to look at Matthew 14 one event at a time. Observe Matthew 14:13-21. You will want to make a key word bookmark for this part of Matthew, or use the one you made for Matthew Part 1. A **key word bookmark** is a card to list key words on and color-code them the way you want to mark them. You can use the back of the perforated card on the back cover of your Precept book. Marking suggestions for some frequently used words in the Bible are on the front of the card.

Key words are important words, usually repeated, that the author uses throughout a chapter, a segment of Scripture, or an entire book. They help unlock the meaning of the text. Color-coding them and/or marking them in a distinctive way helps you see when they are used.

Write the key words *compassion* and *heal* on your bookmark and color-code or mark them each in a distinctive way as you will on your Observation Worksheets.



c. John 6:5-15

4. Interesting, wasn't it! It helps you think about what is important to each Gospel and the timing of the account. So what is common contextwise in the feeding of the 5,000?
  
5. Finally, what difference does it make to you today that Jesus fed 5,000 men, along with women and children? What do *you* learn and how can it impact your thinking, your character, and/or your lifestyle? Write it out.

*We think you've been fed enough, so let's call it a day.*

DAY  
THREE

1. Today we need to finish observing Matthew 14. Let's begin with Matthew 14:22-36.
  - a. Since we are examining our faith,
    - 1) list *faith* as a key word on your bookmark, as you will see it in the text today.
    - 2) Add *worship(ed)* also. It is not used a whole lot, but it is a significant word.
    - 3) Mark *Son* when it refers to Jesus. When you mark it, notice how the Son is described. Son of whom, what?

- b. Reading the text and asking the 5 Ws and an H about the event, are there any new insights you discover? List your insights in the following space. Did you notice what Peter says to Jesus before he walks on the water? How does Peter frame his request?
- c. What do you learn from marking *faith* and *worship*?
- d. Now, think about what precedes this event.
- 1) What did the disciples witness in Matthew 14:15-21?
  - 2) Now, what are they seeing?
  - 3) What does the incident of Matthew 14:22-33 drive home to the disciples?
2. Do you believe these are true accounts? Why?
3. How does such knowledge impact your life—or doesn't it?
4. How would you describe faith or explain it to another person?

5. Although the chapter and verse divisions were not in the original text of Scripture, summarize what these closing verses of Matthew 14 (34-36) tell you about Jesus and how it ties in with what has transpired previously.

DAY  
FOUR

1. Since we have two days to focus on Matthew 15, we are only going to observe and study Matthew 15:1-20 today. Mark the following:
  - a. *tradition* and any synonymous terms (watch for the one in verse 9)
  - b. *Pharisees* (add this to your keyword bookmark)
  - c. *heart* (add it to your keyword bookmark)
  - d. *defile(s)*
  - e. *hear*
  - f. *understand* (add it to your key word bookmark)
2. From observing the text, what was part of the tradition of the Pharisees? And how does this tie in verses 1-20, making it a unit of thought in Matthew 15.
3. How does Jesus answer the Pharisees? What is the contrast and what does He show them?
4. What do you learn from marking the references to
  - a. defile?
  - b. the heart?

- c. Pharisees?
5. What does your mouth reveal about your heart? What's the tone, the focus of your speech?
  6. Is your Christian walk more governed by a traditional code of dos and don'ts or by the clear commandments and teachings of the Word of God? Don't answer this off the cuff—think it through.
  7. If you have the tools, look up *traditions* and/or *Pharisees* in a Bible dictionary, commentary, or computer program and see what you learn.
  8. Finally, compare Matthew 15:13-14 with Matthew 13:36-43 and write down why we would direct you to Matthew 13.
  9. What is your prayer after these past four days of study?



4. It's interesting to compare this woman's faith with Matthew 6:30; 8:26. Check out these verses by asking the 5 Ws and an H. What's the contrast? (You'll see it mentioned again when you study Matthew 16 so watch for it).
  
5. What do you learn from Jesus' response in Matthew 15:24?
  
6. Does this line up with what you have studied to this point in Matthew?
  - a. Who's the principal audience in Matthew?
  - b. Where are these events occurring?
  - c. How does Matthew substantiate the events of Jesus' life? What does he use?
  
  - d. Can you see any relationship between Jesus' response to the Canaanite woman and Romans 1:16 and Acts 1:7-8; 2:36-39? (There are many other verses we could look at, but this will suffice for now in getting you to think about the ramifications of Jesus' statement in 15:24.)
  
7. Now read Matthew 15:29-39.
  - a. List the events covered in this portion of Matthew. Also note any references to time.

- 
- b. The text says Jesus departed from there. From where? Look at the previous geographical location you marked and write down your answer.
  - c. Find the geographical references on the map.
8. The Gospel of Mark may shed greater insight into the events of Matthew 15:29-39 since it tells us more specifically where Jesus went when He returned to the Galilee. Read Mark 7:31–8:10 and observe the geographical references. Note what region Jesus and His disciples came to and then fed the 4,000 men. Write it down and then locate it on the map.
  9. Decapolis was primarily a Gentile region. So who would Jesus possibly have healed and fed?
    - a. In the two feedings, who did He feed first in Matthew 14, and then who in Matthew 15?
    - b. Do you think there is any significance to this? If so, what?
  10. Finally, what are the differences between this feeding of the crowd in Matthew 15 and the former one recorded in Matthew 14? List them below.

*Next week you are going to see Jesus once again refer to the faith of the disciples.*

11. Record the theme of Matthew 15 on the **At a Glance** chart.

12. Now, Beloved of God, what have you learned that you can personally apply to your life? Write it out or express it in a song, poem, or prayer.

13. If you have the time, feel free to consult your commentaries.



MATTHEW 14  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

- AT** that time Herod the tetrarch heard the news about Jesus,
- 2 and said to his servants, “This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him.”
  - 3 For when Herod had John arrested, he bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip.
  - 4 For John had been saying to him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.”
  - 5 Although Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded John as a prophet.
  - 6 But when Herod’s birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before *them* and pleased Herod,
  - 7 so *much* that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked.
  - 8 Having been prompted by her mother, she said, “Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist.”
  - 9 Although he was grieved, the king commanded *it* to be given because of his oaths, and because of his dinner guests.
  - 10 He sent and had John beheaded in the prison.
  - 11 And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother.
  - 12 His disciples came and took away the body and buried it; and they went and reported to Jesus.
  - 13 Now when Jesus heard *about John*, He withdrew from there in a boat to a secluded place by Himself; and when the people heard *of this*, they followed Him on foot from the cities.
  - 14 When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.

- 15 When it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, “This place is desolate and the hour is already late; so send the crowds away, that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”
- 16 But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away; you give them *something* to eat!”
- 17 They said to Him, “We have here only five loaves and two fish.”
- 18 And He said, “Bring them here to Me.”
- 19 Ordering the people to sit down on the grass, He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up toward heaven, He blessed *the food*, and breaking the loaves He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples *gave them* to the crowds,
- 20 and they all ate and were satisfied. They picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve full baskets.
- 21 There were about five thousand men who ate, besides women and children.
- 22 Immediately He made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead of Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.
- 23 After He had sent the crowds away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray; and when it was evening, He was there alone.
- 24 But the boat was already a long distance from the land, battered by the waves; for the wind was contrary.
- 25 And in the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea.
- 26 When the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear.
- 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.”
- 28 Peter said to Him, “Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.”
- 29 And He said, “Come!” And Peter got out of the boat, and walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

- 30 But seeing the wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”
- 31 Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”
- 32 When they got into the boat, the wind stopped.
- 33 And those who were in the boat worshiped Him, saying, “You are certainly God’s Son!”
- 34 When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- 35 And when the men of that place recognized Him, they sent *word* into all that surrounding district and brought to Him all who were sick;
- 36 and they implored Him that they might just touch the fringe of His cloak; and as many as touched *it* were cured.



MATTHEW 15  
Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme \_\_\_\_\_

**THEN** some Pharisees and scribes came to Jesus from Jerusalem and said,

2 “Why do Your disciples break the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.”

3 And He answered and said to them, “Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?”

4 “For God said, ‘HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER,’ and, ‘HE WHO SPEAKS EVIL OF FATHER OR MOTHER IS TO BE PUT TO DEATH.’

5 “But you say, ‘Whoever says to *his* father or mother, “Whatever I have that would help you has been given *to God*,”

6 he is not to honor his father or his mother.’ And *by this* you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.

7 “You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you:

8 ‘THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS,  
BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME.

9 ‘BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME,  
TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN.’ ”

**10** After Jesus called the crowd to Him, He said to them, “Hear and understand.

11 “*It is* not what enters into the mouth *that* defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man.”

**12** Then the disciples came and said to Him, “Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this statement?”

13 But He answered and said, “Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be uprooted.

14 “Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if a blind man guides a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”

- 15** Peter said to Him, “Explain the parable to us.”
- 16** Jesus said, “Are you still lacking in understanding also?
- 17** “Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated?
- 18** “But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man.
- 19** “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.
- 20** “These are the things which defile the man; but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man.”
- 21** Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon.
- 22** And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and *began* to cry out, saying, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed.”
- 23** But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, “Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us.”
- 24** But He answered and said, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
- 25** But she came and *began* to bow down before Him, saying, “Lord, help me!”
- 26** And He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”
- 27** But she said, “Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”
- 28** Then Jesus said to her, “O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed at once.
- 29** Departing from there, Jesus went along by the Sea of Galilee, and having gone up on the mountain, He was sitting there.

- 30 And large crowds came to Him, bringing with them *those who were* lame, crippled, blind, mute, and many others, and they laid them down at His feet; and He healed them.
- 31 So the crowd marveled as they saw the mute speaking, the crippled restored, and the lame walking, and the blind seeing; and they glorified the God of Israel.
- 32 And Jesus called His disciples to Him, and said, “I feel compassion for the people, because they have remained with Me now three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.”
- 33 The disciples said to Him, “Where would we get so many loaves in *this* desolate place to satisfy such a large crowd?”
- 34 And Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” And they said, “Seven, and a few small fish.”
- 35 And He directed the people to sit down on the ground;
- 36 and He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples *gave them* to the people.
- 37 And they all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, seven large baskets full.
- 38 And those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.
- 39 And sending away the crowds, Jesus got into the boat and came to the region of Magadan.



MATTHEW AT A GLANCE

		<b>Chapter Themes</b>
<p><b>Author:</b></p> <p><b>Purpose:</b></p> <p><b>Key Words:</b></p>	<p>THE KING AND RIGHTEOUSNESS TO ENTER HIS KINGDOM</p>	<b>1</b> Jesus' genealogy and birth / Messiah, son of David
		<b>2</b> Magi and Herod / Jesus—King of the Jews
		<b>3</b> John the Baptist, "Repent for the kingdom is at hand" / Jesus baptized
		<b>4</b> Jesus was tempted and preached, "Repent for the kingdom is at hand"
		<b>5</b> Blessed...righteousness to enter kingdom
		<b>6</b> Don't practice righteousness before men—give, pray, fast / Do not worry
		<b>7</b> Do Father's will to enter kingdom
	<p>HIS AUTHORITY</p>	<b>8</b> Jesus healed, calmed storm / What kind of man is this?
		<b>9</b> Son of Man—authority to forgive, compassion
		<b>10</b> Jesus sent out the 12 with authority / Don't fear
	<p>WARNING TO THOSE WHO THINK THEY'RE IN KINGDOM, BUT AREN'T</p>	<b>11</b> John the Baptist in prison / Woe to Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum
		<b>12</b> Lord of Sabbath greater than temple, Jonah, Solomon / scribes and Pharisees
		<b>13</b> Parables about the kingdom

**Chapter Themes**

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