



PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

English Standard Version

Matthew

PART 2

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

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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—English Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

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.



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 permeate every aspect 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.

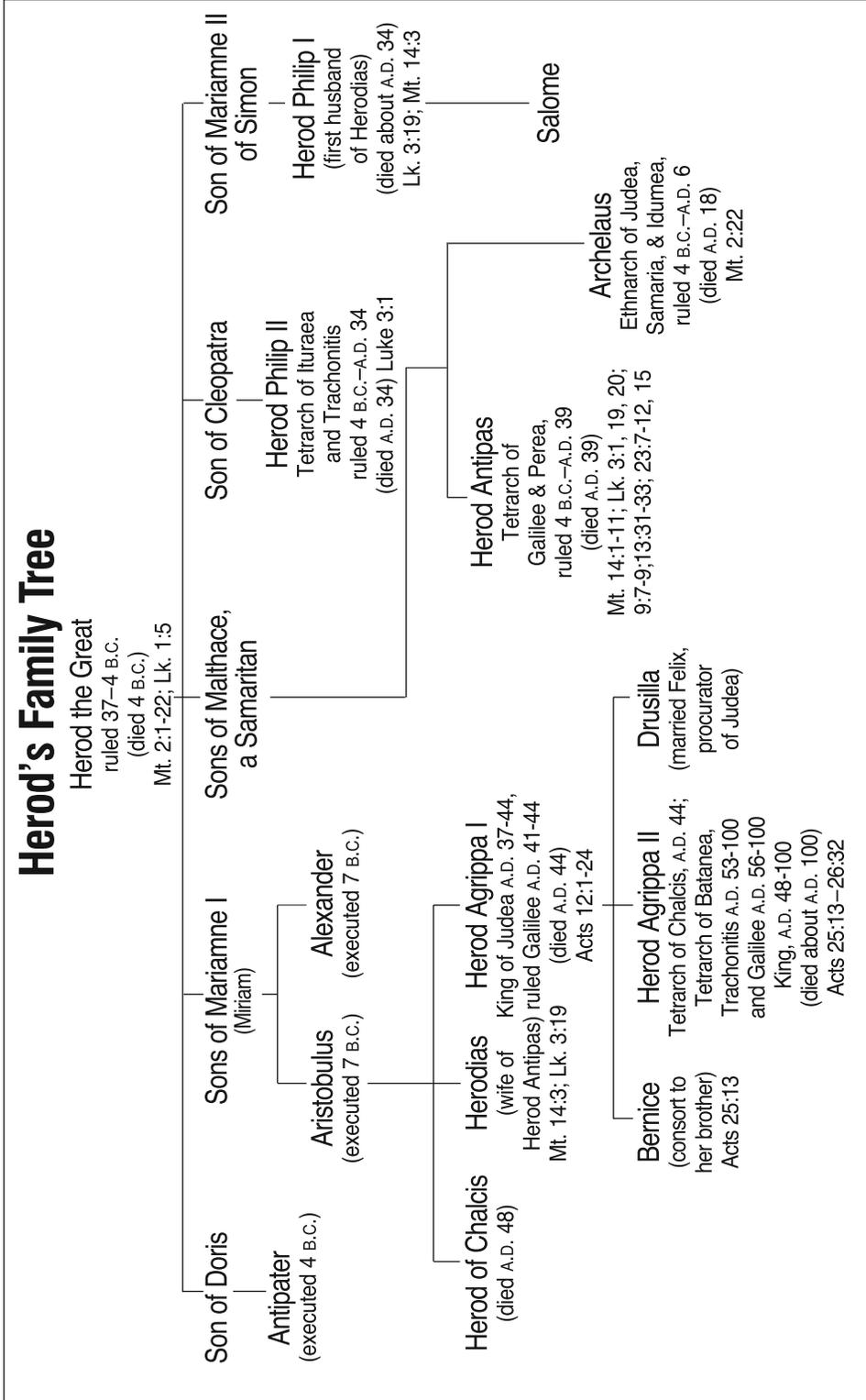
Next week you are going to see Jesus once again refer to the faith of the disciples.

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 about the fame of Jesus,
- 2 and he said to his servants, “This is John the Baptist. He has been raised from the dead; that is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.”
 - 3 For Herod had seized John and bound him and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife,
 - 4 because John had been saying to him, “It is not lawful for you to have her.”
 - 5 And though he wanted to put him to death, he feared the people, because they held him to be a prophet.
 - 6 But when Herod’s birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company and pleased Herod,
 - 7 so that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she might ask.
 - 8 Prompted by her mother, she said, “Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter.”
 - 9 And the king was sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he commanded it to be given.
 - 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 And his disciples came and took the body and buried it, and they went and told Jesus.
 - 13 Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns.
 - 14 When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.



- 15 Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”
- 16 But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.”
- 17 They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.”
- 18 And he said, “Bring them here to me.”
- 19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
- 20 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over.
- 21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.
- 22 Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.
- 23 And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,
- 24 but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them.
- 25 And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea.
- 26 But 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 heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”
- 28 And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”
- 29 He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.



- 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.”
- 31 Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”
- 32 And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
- 33 And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”
- 34 And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.
- 35 And when the men of that place recognized him, they sent around to all that region and brought to him all who were sick
- 36 and implored him that they might only touch the fringe of his garment. And as many as touched it were made well.



MATTHEW 15

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

THEN 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.”

3 He answered them, “And why do you break the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?”

4 “For God commanded, ‘Honor your father and your mother,’ and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’

5 “But you say, ‘If anyone tells his father or his mother, “What you would have gained from me is given to God,”

6 he need not honor his father.’ So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.

7 “You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said:

8 ‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me;

9 in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ ”

10 And he called the people to him and said to them, “Hear and understand:

11 it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person.”

12 Then the disciples came and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?”

13 He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up.

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



- 15 But Peter said to him, “Explain the parable to us.”
- 16 And he said, “Are you also still without understanding?
- 17 “Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled?
- 18 “But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person.
- 19 “For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.
- 20 “These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone.”
- 21** And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon.
- 22 And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.”
- 23 But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.”
- 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
- 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”
- 26 And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”
- 27 She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”
- 28 Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.
- 29** Jesus went on from there and walked beside the Sea of Galilee. And he went up on the mountain and sat down there.
- 30 And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them,



- 31 so that the crowd wondered, when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they glorified the God of Israel.
- 32 Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion on the crowd because they have been with me now three days and have nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way.”
- 33 And the disciples said to him, “Where are we to get enough bread in such a desolate place to feed so great a crowd?”
- 34 And Jesus said to them, “How many loaves do you have?” They said, “Seven, and a few small fish.”
- 35 And directing the crowd to sit down on the ground,
- 36 he took the seven loaves and the fish, and having given thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.
- 37 And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up seven baskets full of the broken pieces left over.
- 38 Those who ate were four thousand men, besides women and children.
- 39 And after sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.



MATTHEW AT A GLANCE

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



Chapter Themes

		14
		15
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