

# Week 3 - **Jesus and the Gospels**

with Dr. Geoffrey Lentz



## **Wednesday, January 25—Matthew: The Community of Discipleship**

*Reading: Matthew 1-2, Matthew 5, Matthew 27-28*

Matthew's Gospel is listed first because it provided the best orientation to Jesus. This Gospel is the most Jewish in background and audience. Jesus is portrayed as a wisdom teacher, calling disciples to live into a new community and way of being.

### **I. Opening Prayer**

### **II. Review**

### **III. Background**

- A. Written—circa 80AD
- B. Anonymous Authorship
- C. Tradition of St. Matthew begins with —Papias of Heiropolis in 180AD
- D. Matthew is only mentioned twice 9:9, and 10:3—maybe it is a play on the greek word for disciple or student—*Mathetes*—**μαθητής**
- E. Written in Greek for a Jewish audience
- F. Canonical First Position

### **IV. Jewish**

- A. Written in a Jewish Greek Style, sometimes called “Synagogue Greek”
- B. Does not explain Jewish customs like Mark, but assumes they are understood
- C. Hesitation to use the name of God—“the Kingdom of Heaven”
- D. Moses Typology
  1. Deuteronomy 18:15-16
  2. Early life: Special birth, threat, Egypt
  3. Sermon on the Mount
  4. Commandments—Radicalization
  5. Five Discourses (“when Jesus had finished speaking”)—Pentateuch
    - a) The Sermon on the Mount—Matthew 5-7
    - b) The Mission Discourse—Mathew 10
    - c) The Parabolic Discourse—Mathew 13
    - d) The Discourse on the Church—Matthew 18
    - e) The Olivet Discourse—Matthew 23-25

### **V. Jesus is a Rabbi (Teacher) and Christians are Disciples**

- A. Jewish Wisdom Teacher
- B. Disciples are students
- C. Church—*ekklesia*—Three times in all the gospels—all Matthew
- D. Matthew as Book of Discipline forming community—Matthew 18:17

### **VI. Jewish Messiah, Savior of the world**

- A. Magi, Canaanites, Romans, all the nations (Matthew 25).

### **VII. Great Commission**—“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>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, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.\*”

### **VIII. Song and Prayer**

## **GO, MAKE OF ALL DISCIPLES**

Verse 1

**“Go, make of all disciples.”  
We hear the call, O Lord,  
That comes from Thee, our Father,  
In Thy eternal Word.  
Inspire our ways of learning  
Through earnest fervent prayer,  
And let our daily living  
Reveal Thee everywhere.**

Verse 2

**“Go, make of all disciples.”  
Baptizing in the name  
Of Father, Son, and Spirit,  
From age to age the same.  
We call each new disciple  
To follow Thee, O Lord,  
Redeeming soul and body  
By water and the Word.**

Verse 4

**“Go, make of all disciples.”  
We welcome Thy command.  
“Lo, I am with you always.”  
We take Thy guiding hand.  
The task looms large before us;  
We follow without fear;  
In heaven and earth Thy power  
Shall bring God’s kingdom here.**