

## ROAD TO EMMAUS

## The Harmony of the Old and New Testament MATTHEW

Matthew 7:12 "In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

### Introduction to Matthew:

There is an ancient legend that Matthew, unlike the rest of the New Testament, was not originally written in Greek, but first in Hebrew and later translated to Greek. Most scholars do not agree with this view but I believe it to be true. Whether it is true or not, it is clear that Matthew was very familiar with the Old Testament and referred to it frequently in his gospel and emphasized Jesus' familiarity with the Old Testament as well. The study of how Matthew and Jesus use the Old Testament should help us to better understand the proper way to use the entire Bible in our own teaching, preaching, witnessing, and discussions during Christian fellowship.

#### Lesson      Topic

**Lesson 1 – Genealogy of Jesus Christ** (Matthew 1)

**Lesson 2 – Beginning of Life and Ministry** (Matthew 2-4)

**Lesson 3 – The Beatitudes** (Matthew 5:1-12)

**Lesson 4 – The Law** (Matthew 5:13-48)

**Lesson 5 – Miracles and Teaching** (Matthew 6-12)

**Lesson 6 – Promise** (Matthew 11:28-30, Jeremiah 6:16)

**Lesson 7 – Teachings and Transfiguration** (Matthew 13-19)

**Lesson 8 – Questions and Answers** (Matthew 20-22)

**Lesson 9 – Poetry** (Matthew 23)

**Lesson 10 – The End and The Beginning** (Matthew 23-28)

**Lesson 11- Example of Three Prayers** (Matthew 26:36-46)

**Lesson 12 – Praying the Scripture and Conclusion** (Matthew 1-28)

### Suggested methodology for each lesson:

1. Fellowship (Save most of this for the end of class)
2. Take prayer requests (Try to keep it from becoming a competition to see who has the most or the worst)
3. Pray (The idea is to leave our troubles with God so we can give Him our full attention.)
4. Read the lesson's scripture aloud from the Bible (or a few verses at a time as you answer the questions.)
5. Answer and *briefly* discuss the "fill in the blank" questions. (Let those who prefer to listen, listen. My answers on the next page are just one opinion; you may have a better answer if it is Scripture based.)
6. On the final "Think & Pray" question everyone should take a few minutes to pray over it and jot down their own thoughts before the discussion. **This will give the Holy Spirit a time to speak .**
7. Discuss your Think & Pray answers. (Never force anyone to share theirs. As with the other questions, my answer is just one more opinion; you may have a better answer.)
8. Close in prayer (It is good to call on others to pray, but try to get their permission first.)
9. Fellowship (Leave this as open ended as possible for the time and place you meet.)

Depending on the number of people, each lesson is expected to take about one hour. Steps 4 thru 7 are about half of that. If you take longer, let each lesson take more than one meeting. If you take less time, extra questions are usually provided for discussion called "For Further Thought"

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**Lesson 1 – Genealogy of Jesus Christ** (Matthew 1)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[1A] Matthew 1:2 | Genesis Abraham Genesis 12:11-13 What did Abraham request of Sarah?

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[1B] Matthew 1:2 | Genesis 26:7 What did Isaac do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1C] Matthew 1:3 | Genesis 38:15-18 What did Judah think Tamar was? \_\_\_\_\_

[1D] Matthew 1:5 | Joshua 2:1 What did Rahab do for a living? \_\_\_\_\_

[1E] Matthew 1:5 | Ruth 1:4 What was the nationality of Ruth? \_\_\_\_\_

[1F] Matthew 1:6 | 2 Samuel 11:2-4 What did David and Bathsheba do. \_\_\_\_\_

[1G] Matthew 1:7 | 1 Kings 11:4-9 What did Solomon do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1H] Matthew 1:9 | 2 Kings 16:2 What didn't Ahaz do? \_\_\_\_\_

[1I] Matthew 1:17 | Psalm 14:3 How many do good? \_\_\_\_\_

[1J] Matthew 1:22-23 | Isaiah 7:14 What name was to be given the virgin's son? \_\_\_\_\_

[1K] Matthew 1:23 | Isaiah 9:6-7 His name shall be called mighty what? \_\_\_\_\_

[1L] How many generations of your genealogy do you know? Does it matter?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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Abraham  
was the father  
of Isaac, and Isaac the  
father of Jacob, Jacob the  
father of Judah and his brothers,  
Judah the father of Perez and Zerah,  
whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of  
Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father  
of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon,  
Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz,  
whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother  
was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David.  
David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,  
Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the  
father of Asa, Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,  
Jehoram the father of Uzziah, Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz,  
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon,  
Amon the father of Josiah, Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to  
Babylon. After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,  
Zerubbabel father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the  
father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, Elihud the father of Eleazar,  
Eleazar the father of  
Matthan, Matthan  
the father of Jacob,  
Jacob the father of  
Joseph, the husband  
of Mary, and Mary  
was the mother of  
**Jesus**  
who is called the Messiah.

----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 1 – Genealogy of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1)**

[1A] Matthew 1:2 | Genesis Abraham Genesis 12:11-13 What did Abraham request of Sarah?  
That she deceive the Egyptians

[1B] Matthew 1:2 | Genesis 26:7 What did Isaac do? Lied.

[1C] Matthew 1:3 | Genesis 38:15-18 What did Judah think Tamar was? A harlot  
(she conceived a child by her father-in-law)

[1D] Matthew 1:5 | Joshua 2:1 What did Rahab do for a living? She was a harlot, a prostitute

[1E] Matthew 1:5 | Ruth 1:4 What was the nationality of Ruth? Moabite, a descendant of Lot's incest  
with a daughter, she was not an Israelite or a Jew

[1F] Matthew 1:6 | 2 Samuel 11:2-4 What did David and Bathsheba do. Committed adultery together

[1G] Matthew 1:7 | 1 Kings 11:4-9 What did Solomon do? Worshipped idols

[1H] Matthew 1:9 | 2 Kings 16:2 What didn't Ahaz do? He did not do what was right

[1I] Matthew 1:17 | Psalm 14:3 How many do good? None

[1J] Matthew 1:23 | Isaiah 7:14 What name was to be given the virgin's son? Immanuel,  
which means "God with us" (See also Isaiah 8:10)

[1K] Matthew 1:23 | Isaiah 9:6-7 His name shall be called mighty what? God

[1L] I know five generations of Carden's back to 1810 and some of my maternal ancestors a little further back in time. It is interesting and sometimes gives me some insight into family traditions, but in the grand scheme of things it matters very little. However, the genealogy of Jesus Christ is of great importance. It shows that God keeps His promises; even ones made thousands of years ago. Genealogy in general may just be a matter or passing curiosity but a good reason to trust God means everything.

**For further thought:**

(1m) How could the son of Rahab the Harlot be the great-grandfather of David? Rahab was in the battle of Jericho four hundred years before the time of David.

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(1m) **My answer:** My own grandfather was born 125 years ago and that is only two generations. Two grandsons of John Tyler, tenth president of the United States are still alive as I write this. John Tyler was born 1790. That is 214 years for two generations. Yes, it is rare for generations to stretch out that far, but there is no reason to doubt the written record. David's great-grandfather was the son of Rahab the harlot.

(1n) Compare Matthew 1:1 & 1:6 with Ps 89:3-4, Ps 132:11, Isaiah 11:1. What did you learn?

**Lesson 2 – Beginning of Life and Ministry** (Matthew 2-4)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[2A] Matthew 2:4-6 | Micah 5:2 Where was the Messiah prophesied to be born? \_\_\_\_\_

[2B] Matthew 2:15 | Hosea 11:1 Where was the Son called out from? \_\_\_\_\_

[2C] Matthew 2:16-18 | Jeremiah 31:15 Who was weeping for her children? \_\_\_\_\_

[2D] Matthew 2:23 Where did Joseph go to live with his family? \_\_\_\_\_

[2E] Matthew 3:1-3 | Isaiah 40:3 Where is the voice that is calling for repentance? \_\_\_\_\_

[2F] Matthew 3:15 What was necessary to fulfill all righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_

[2G] Matthew 4:3-4 | Deut 8:3 What besides bread sustains us? \_\_\_\_\_

[2H] Matthew 4:5-6 | Ps 91:11-12 Who was guarding Him? \_\_\_\_\_

[2I] Matthew 4:7 | Deut 6:16 What are we not to do? \_\_\_\_\_

[2J] Matthew 4:8-10 | Deut 6:13 Who alone are we to worship? \_\_\_\_\_

[2K] Matthew 4:15-16 | Isaiah 9:1-2 Who saw a great light? \_\_\_\_\_

[2L] Compare Jesus temptations in Matthew 4 with those experienced by Eve in Genesis 3:6. Categorize them according to the categories in 1 John.2:16. So what? (Hint: Hebrews 4:15)

*Think & Pray*

Temptation in 1st John 2:16	Temptation in Genesis 3:6	Temptation in Matthew 4:3-9
Lust of the Flesh		Mt 4:3
Lust of the Eyes		Mt 4:8-9
Pride of Life		Mt 4:5-6



----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 2 – Beginning of Life and Ministry (Matthew 2-4)**

- [2A] Matthew 2:4-6 | Micah 5:2 Where was the Messiah prophesied to be born? Bethlehem
- [2B] Matthew 2:15 | Hosea 11:1 Where was the Son called out from? Egypt (See Ex 4:22-31 & Num 24:8)
- [2C] Matthew 2:16-18 | Jeremiah 31:15 Who was weeping for her children? Rachel
- [2D] Matthew 2:23 Where did Joseph go to live with his family? Nazareth
- [2E] Matthew 3:1-3 | Isaiah 40:3 Where is the voice that is calling for repentance? The wilderness
- [2F] Matthew 3:15 What was necessary to fulfill all righteousness? The Baptism of Jesus
- [2G] Matthew 4:3-4 | Deut 8:3 What besides bread sustains us? God's word
- [2H] Matthew 4:5-6 | Ps 91:11-12 Who was guarding Him? The angels of God
- [2I] Matthew 4:7 | Deut 6:16 What are we not to do? Put God to the test
- [2J] Matthew 4:8-10 | Deut 6:13 Who alone are we to worship? The Lord our God
- [2K] Matthew 4:15-16 | Isaiah 9:1-2 Who saw a great light? People in darkness

[2L] Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin."

Temptation in 1st John 2:16	Temptation in Genesis 3:6	Temptation in Matthew 4
Lust of the Flesh	Good for food	Satisfy your hunger Mt 4:3
Lust of the Eyes	Delight to the eyes	Shown glorious kingdoms Mt 4:8-9
Pride of Life	Desirable to make one wise	You are indestructible Mt 4:5-6

Can you think of any temptation that does not fit one of these three categories? I can't. Jesus answered them all with Scripture. What scriptures do you have memorized to fight your temptations?

**For further thought:**

- (2m) What does the story of Jesus and Satan in the wilderness teach us about dealing with temptation?
- (2n) How does Isaiah 60:1-3 shed light on Matthew 4:12-17? (Pun intended) Matthew is quoting Isaiah 9:1-2 not Is 60, so this is really a two part question. How does Isaiah's use of the metaphor of light in chapter 60 help us understand what he said in chapter 9? And then once we have that understanding, does that make Matthew 4 more clear? Or is Isaiah using light as a metaphor at all? Does he mean literal light?
- (2o) Matthew 2:23 says the prophets said "He shall be called a Nazarene." Where is that in the Old Testament?
- (2p) What does "fulfill all righteousness" mean in Matthew 3:15?

**My further thoughts:**

(2m) Scripture is our first defense against Satan. If you don't know what God's word says, how can you hope to obey it?

**Lesson 3 – The Beatitudes** (Matthew 5:1-12)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[3A] According to **Matthew 5:3** who has the kingdom of heaven? \_\_\_\_\_

[3B] In Luke 4:16-21 who does Jesus say is doing the speaking in Isaiah 61:1. \_\_\_\_\_

[3C] In Isaiah 57:15 what does the "High and Exalted One" do for the "oppressed and lowly in spirit."  
\_\_\_\_\_

[3D] According to **Matthew 5:4** who will be comforted? \_\_\_\_\_

[3E] In Isaiah 57:18 what happens to the mourners? \_\_\_\_\_

[3F] In Jeremiah 31:9 God brings back those who come weeping with what? \_\_\_\_\_

[3G] According to **Matthew 5:5** what will the gentle inherit? \_\_\_\_\_

[3H] According to Psalm 37:11 what will the humble (gentle) inherit? \_\_\_\_\_

[3I] According to Psalm 149:4 who is adorned with salvation? \_\_\_\_\_

[3J] In **Matthew 5:6** what happens to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_

[3K] According to Proverbs 2:3-5 how are diligent seekers rewarded? \_\_\_\_\_

[3L] In Isaiah 26:9 what is being longed for and why? \_\_\_\_\_

[3M] According to **Matthew 5:7** what will the merciful receive? \_\_\_\_\_

[3N] In Psalm 41:1-2 who is preserved by the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_

[3O] In Proverbs 14:21 what will happen to those who show kindness to the poor? \_\_\_\_\_

[3P] According to **Matthew 5:8** who will see God? \_\_\_\_\_

[3Q] According to Psalm 24:3-4 who can visit God in His holy place? \_\_\_\_\_

[3R] In Psalm 73:1 who is God good to? \_\_\_\_\_

[3S] According to **Matthew 5:9** what will peacemakers be called? \_\_\_\_\_

[3T] In Haggai 2:9 who provides peace? \_\_\_\_\_

[3U] In Isaiah 9:6 what is Jesus the prince of? \_\_\_\_\_

[3V] According to **Matthew 5:10-12** what should we do when we are persecuted? \_\_\_\_\_

[3W] In 2 Chronicles 36:16 what stirs up God's anger? \_\_\_\_\_

[3X] What fails to make the Psalmist become disobedient in Psalm 119:157? \_\_\_\_\_

[3Y] What is the sermon text for the beatitudes? \_\_\_\_\_

[3Z] What does the way Jesus used the Old Testament teach us about the Bible in general?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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----- ANSWERS -----

- [3A] According to **Matthew 5:3** who has the kingdom of heaven? The poor in spirit.
- [3B] In Luke 4:16-21 who does Jesus say is doing the speaking in Isaiah 61:1.  
Jesus says He is the Me in the verse.
- [3C] In Isaiah 57:15 what does the "High and Exalted One" do for the "oppressed and lowly in spirit."  
He revives their spirit and their heart.
- [3D] According to **Matthew 5:4** who will be comforted? Those that mourn.
- [3E] In Isaiah 57:18 what happens to the mourners? God restores their comfort.
- [3F] In Jeremiah 31:9 God brings back with what those who come weeping? Consolation or comfort.
- [3G] According to **Matthew 5:5** what will the gentle inherit? The earth
- [3H] According to Psalm 37:11 what will the humble (gentle) inherit? The Land  
(and will enjoy abundant prosperity.) (See also Ps 37:34)
- [3I] According to Psalm 149:4 who is adorned with salvation? The Humble
- [3J] In **Matthew 5:6** what happens to those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?  
They will be filled or satisfied.
- [3K] According to Proverbs 2:3-5 how are diligent seekers rewarded?  
Knowledge of God and fear of the Lord
- [3L] In Isaiah 26:9 what is being longed for and why?  
Yahweh (The Lord) so that people will learn righteousness.
- [3M] According to **Matthew 5:7** what will the merciful receive? Mercy.
- [3N] In Psalm 41:1-2 who is preserved by the Lord? Those who care for the poor.
- [3O] In Proverbs 14:21 what will happen to those who show kindness to the poor? They will be happy
- [3P] According to **Matthew 5:8** who will see God? The pure in heart.
- [3Q] According to Psalm 24:3-4 who can visit God in His holy place?  
One with clean hands and a pure heart
- [3R] In Psalm 73:1 who is God good to? The pure in heart
- [3S] According to **Matthew 5:9** what will peacemakers be called? Sons of God.
- [3T] In Haggai 2:9 who provides peace? God
- [3U] In Isaiah 9:6 what is Jesus the prince of? Peace
- [3V] According to **Matthew 5:10-12** what should we do when we are persecuted? Rejoice.
- [3W] In 2 Chronicles 36:16 what stirs up God's anger?  
The ridicule of and scoffing at His prophets and messengers.
- [3X] What fails to make the Psalmist become disobedient in Psalm 119:157? Persecution
- [3Y] What is the sermon text for the beatitudes? The Old Testament.
- [3Z] Jesus was helping us understand that the Old Testament is the foundation of Christianity. The New Testament is not changing the Old. The Old is the basis for the New. The New explains the Old.

**For further thought:**

- (aa) Compare Psalm 32 to Matthew 5:3. What is the same? What is different?
- (bb) Do Psalm 40:1-3, Psalm 116:3-7 and Isaiah 12:1 better match Mt 5:3 or Mt 5:4?
- (cc) How is Isaiah 58:6-12 like Matthew 5:7 and how is it different?
- (dd) Are Proverbs 22:11 and Matthew 5:8 related? How?
- (ee) Is there any relationship between 1 Chronicles 12:17 and Matthew 5:9? What?
- (ff) Do Ps 35:1, Ps 38:20, Ps 37:12 and/or Ps 119:71 Ps 119:161 give us any more understanding of Matthew 5:10-12?



**Lesson 4 – The Law** (Matthew 5:13-48)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[4A] Matthew 5:22 | Deut 5:17 What is the difference?

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[4B] Matthew 5:28 | Deut 5:18 What is the difference?

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[4C] Matthew 5:32 | Deut 24:1-3 What is the difference?

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[4D] Matthew 5:33-34 | Deut 23:21-23 What is the difference?

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[4E] Matthew 5:39 | Deut 19:21 What is the difference?

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[4F] Matthew 5:44 | Leviticus 19:18 What is the difference?

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[4G] Compare Matthew 5:39 and Deuteronomy 19:21. Is Jesus changing the law?

(Hints: Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 5:17-18)

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

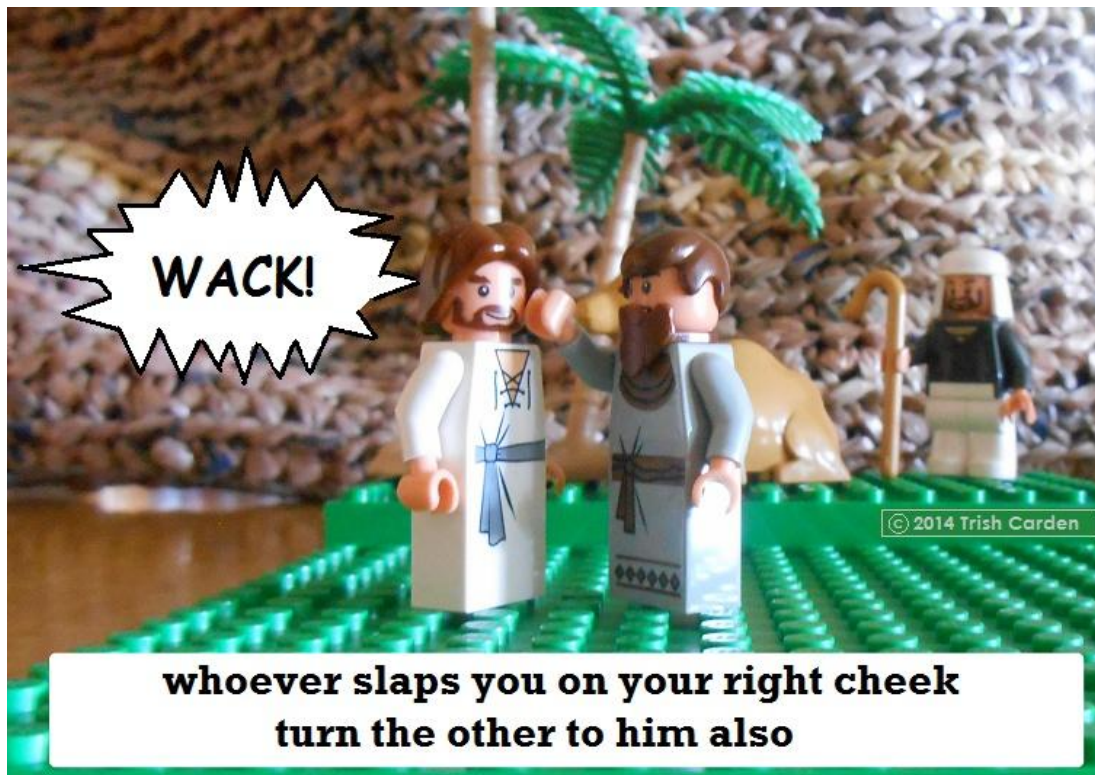
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----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 4 – The Law (Matthew 5:13-48)**

[4A] Matthew 5:22 | Deut 5:17 What is the difference?

Jesus was talking about insults but Deuteronomy was talking about murder.

[4B] Matthew 5:28 | Deut 5:18 What is the difference?

Jesus was talking about imagining adultery but Deuteronomy was talking about actual adultery.

[4C] Matthew 5:32 | Deut 24:1-3 What is the difference?

Deuteronomy allows divorce for any reason, but Jesus only for certain reasons.

[4D] Matthew 5:33-34 | Deut 23:21-23 What is the difference?

Deuteronomy says to keep your promises but Jesus says to not make promises, or at least to make very few.

[4E] Matthew 5:39 | Deut 19:21 What is the difference?

Jesus says to accept mistreatment, while Deuteronomy prescribes tit for tat.

[4F] Matthew 5:44 | Leviticus 19:18 What is the difference?

Leviticus says love your neighbor, but Jesus says love your enemy.

[4G] No, not at all. Leviticus 19:18 says not to take vengeance. All Jesus is doing is explaining that "your people" in Leviticus means all descendants of Noah, not just descendants of Jacob.

**For further thought:**

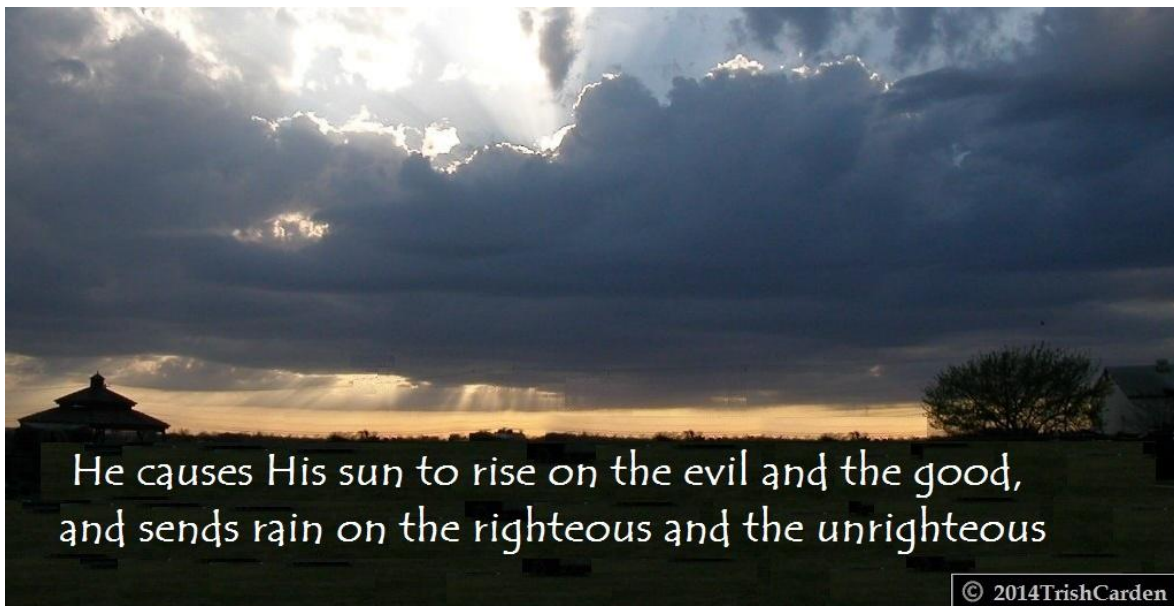
(4h) In Matthew 5:14 Jesus says we are “the light of the world.” What does that mean? What "good works" is Matthew 5:16 talking about? Is Jesus talking about charity or what? What does that mean to your life and Christian walk?

(4i) Compare Malachi 2:16 with Matthew 5:32 and Deut 24:1. What did you learn?

(4j) Compare Matthew 5:33-34 with Numbers 30:2, Leviticus 29:2 and James 4:15. So what?

(4k) Compare Matthew 5:44 with 2 Samuel 19:6. Who is talking with whom in 2 Samuel? How does this help our understanding of Matthew? Does Psalm 143:12 help you understand this issue or make it more obscure? Why?

(4l) What does Matthew 5:45 tell us about the nature of God?



**Lesson 5 – Miracles and Teaching** (Matthew 6-12)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[5A] Matthew 7:12 What is the Law and the Prophets? \_\_\_\_\_

[5B] Matthew 7:23 | Psalm 6:8 What does He want evil people to do? \_\_\_\_\_

[5C] Matthew 8:4 What does Jesus tell them to obey? \_\_\_\_\_

[5D] Matthew 8:14-17 | Isaiah 53:4 What did Jesus fulfill by healing people? \_\_\_\_\_

[5E] Matthew 9:10-13 | Hosea 6:6 Who did Jesus come to call? \_\_\_\_\_

[5F] Matthew 10:34-39 | Micah 7:6 Where are a man's enemies to be found? \_\_\_\_\_

[5G] Matthew 11:9-13 | Malachi 3:1 Who did Jesus say that John the Baptist was? \_\_\_\_\_

[5H] Matthew 11:28-30 Jeremiah 6:16 What is found in the ancient ways that Jesus was teaching us?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[5I] Matthew 12:5-7 | Hosea 6:6 How can we avoid making false accusations against the innocent?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[5J] Matthew 12:17-21 | Isaiah 42:1-4 In whose name will the Gentiles hope? \_\_\_\_\_

[5K] Matthew 12:38-40 | Jonah 1:17 How long was Jonah in the whale? \_\_\_\_\_

[5L] Matthew 12:41 | Jonah 3:5 How successful of a prophet was Jonah? \_\_\_\_\_

[5M] Matthew 12:41-42 | 1 Kings 10:1-10 Why did the Queen of the South visit Solomon? \_\_\_\_\_

[5N] Does Matthew 8:14-17 mean that Jesus motives for healing people were not love and compassion but were only to demonstrate how miraculously powerful He was? How do you know?

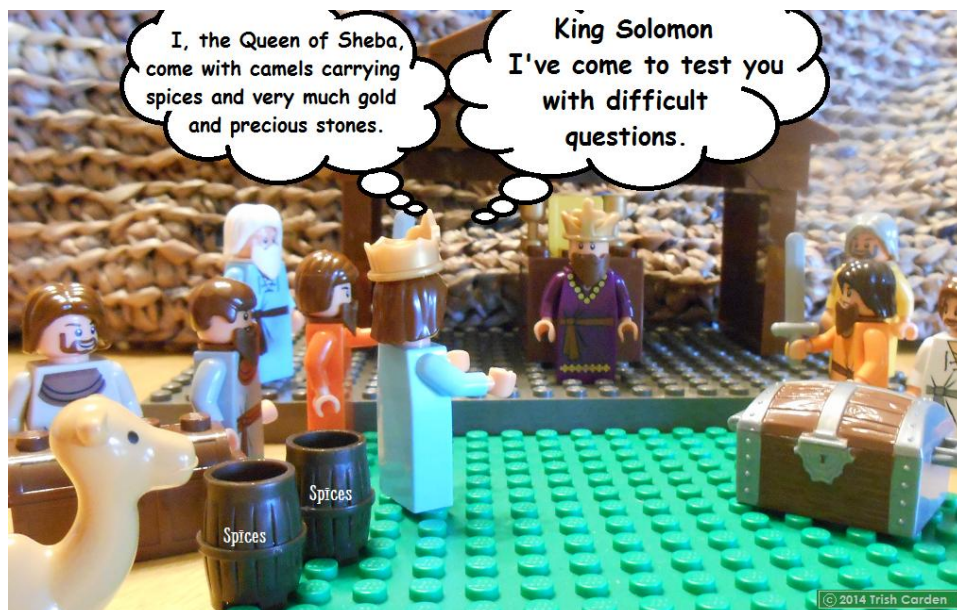
*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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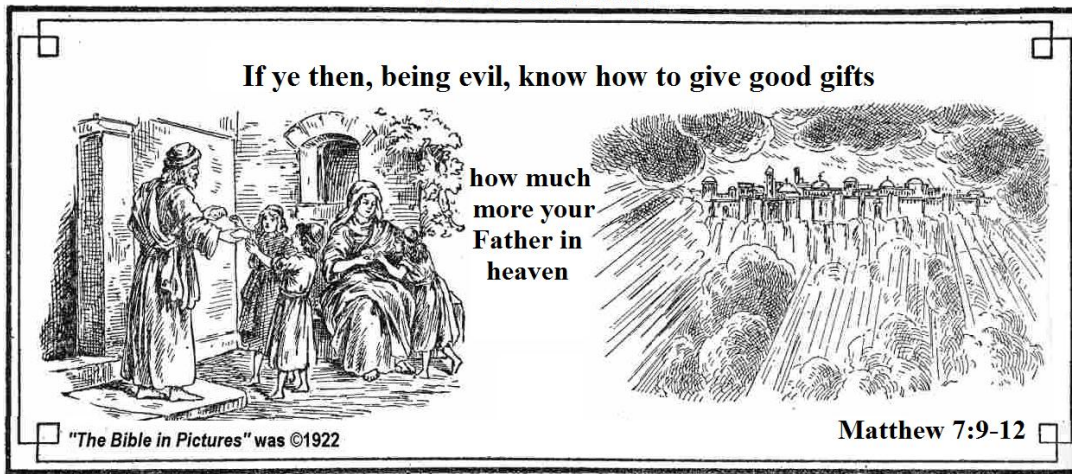


----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 5 – Miracles and Teaching** (Matthew 6-12)

[5A] Matthew 7:12 What is the Law and the Prophets? Jesus is referring to the Old Testament which He equates to "The Golden Rule" – Treat others as you want to be treated.

**The Golden Rule**



[5B] Matthew 7:23 | Psalm 6:8 What does He want evil people to do? Depart from Him

[5C] Matthew 8:4 What does Jesus tell them to obey? Moses, meaning the Old Testament

[5D] Matthew 8:14-17 | Isaiah 53:4 What did Jesus fulfill by healing people? Prophecy

[5E] Matthew 9:10-13 | Hosea 6:6 Who did Jesus come to call? Sinners

[5F] Matthew 10:34-39 | Micah 7:6 Where are a man's enemies to be found? In his own household

[5G] Matthew 11:9-13 | Malachi 3:1 Who did Jesus say that John the Baptist was? God's messenger

[5H] Matthew 11:28-30 Jeremiah 6:16 What is found in the ancient ways that Jesus was teaching us?

Rest for our souls.

[5I] Matthew 12:5-7 | Hosea 6:6 How can we avoid making false accusations against the innocent?

Knowing and understanding the word of God.

[5J] Matthew 12:17-21 | Isaiah 42:1-4 In whose name will the Gentiles hope? Jesus Christ

[5K] Matthew 12:38-40 | Jonah 1:17 How long was Jonah in the whale? Three days and three nights

[5L] Matthew 12:41 | Jonah 3:5 How successful of a prophet was Jonah?

Very successful. (The entire city of Nineveh repented)

[5M] Matthew 12:41-42 | 1 Kings 10:1-10 Why did the Queen of the South visit Solomon? To test him

[5N] The Lord is Love. That was what was being demonstrated.

**For further thought:**

(5o) Why does Jesus quote Hosea 6:6 in Matthew 9:10-13 and again in Matthew 12:7? What does the Hosea passage have to do with what He was talking about?

(5p) Compare the calling of the disciples in Matthew 10:1-15 & Luke 10:1-24 with the selection of the spies in Numbers 1-33 with particular attention to the reports they gave when they returned. What did you learn?

(5q) In Matthew 11:7-15 Jesus compares John the Baptist with Elijah. Is Jesus saying that John the Baptist is Elijah reincarnated? Resurrected? Recreated? What does He mean? (Also see Matthew 17:1-13)

(5r) In Matthew 12:17 it says, "This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet." What does "this" mean here?

**Lesson 6 –Promise** (Matthew 11:28-30, Jeremiah 6:16)

Read these two promises from the Bible and compare them by answering the questions below:

**Jeremiah 6:16**

[6A1] Who is speaking to whom?

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[6B1] What is promised to whom?

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[6C1] What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any?

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**Matthew 11:28-30**

[6A2] Who is speaking to whom?

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[6B2] What is promised to whom?

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[6C2] What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any?

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[6D] Do these promises apply to us? Why or why not?

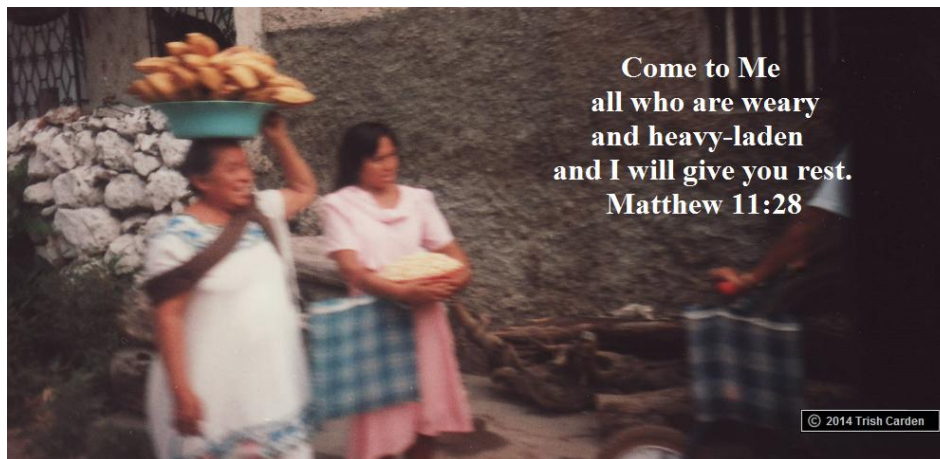
*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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**Lesson 6 –Promise** (Matthew 11:28-30, Jeremiah 6:16)

**Jeremiah 6:16**

[6A1] *Who is speaking to whom?*

The Lord is speaking through Jeremiah to the descendants of Benjamin, [v.1]; the inhabitants of Jerusalem, [v. 8]; and His people, [v. 14]

[6B1] *What is promised to whom?*

Rest for your souls to those who meet the conditions of the promise.

[6C1] *What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any?*

Walking in the ancient paths of goodness.

**Matthew 11:28-30**

[6A2] *Who is speaking to whom?*

Jesus was speaking to the crowds, [v. 7].

[6B2] *What is promised to whom?*

Rest for your souls to those who are weary and heavy-laden who meet the conditions of the promise.

[6C2] *What are the conditions of the promise being fulfilled, if any?*

Those who come to Him and learn His ways.

[6D] *Do these promises apply to us? Why or why not?*

Clearly Jesus' promise applies to us since He was speaking to any and all listeners in the crowd. I think the promise given through Jeremiah also applies to us, or at least anyone who is one of God's people, i.e. all Christians. I further believe that there is a strong implication here that Jesus is promising to teach us the ancient ways of goodness.

Notes from class discussion:

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**For further thought:**

(6e) Compare the promise in Matthew 5:4 with the promises in Psalm 23:4 and Psalm 147:3.

(6f) Compare the promise in Matthew 7:7-11 with the promises in Isaiah 65:24 and Jeremiah 33:3.

(6g) Compare the promises in Matthew 16:16 and Matthew 28:18-20 with Numbers 23:19.

(6h) Analyze these passages in Matthew answering these questions: Is it a promise, and if so who is promising what to whom under what conditions? Does the promise, if any, apply to us?

- |                  |                    |                |                         |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Matthew 1:21     | Matthew 3:11       | Matthew 4:19   | Matthew 4:4-6           |
| Matthew 5:11-12  | Matthew 5:19       | Matthew 5:3-10 | Matthew 6:14            |
| Matthew 6:30, 33 | Matthew 6:4, 6, 18 | Matthew 7:11   | Matthew 7:21-23         |
| Matthew 8:11-12  | Matthew 10:42      | Matthew 12:31  | Matthew 13:41-42, 49-50 |
| Matthew 17:20    | Matthew 18:4       | Matthew 18:19  | Matthew 18:35           |
| Matthew 19:14    | Matthew 21:21-22   | Matthew 25:34  | Matthew 25:41-46        |

**Lesson 7 – Teachings and Transfiguration** (Matthew 13-19)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[7A] Matthew 13:10-17 | Isaiah 6:9-10 Who had longed to see and hear Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

[7B] Matthew 13:35 | Psalm 78:2 How long has the truth revealed in the parables been true? \_\_\_\_\_

[7C] Matthew 15:4 | Exodus 20:12 & Deut 5:16 Who are we to honor? \_\_\_\_\_

[7D] Matthew 15:4 | Exodus 21:17 & Leviticus 20:9 What was the punishment for cursing parents?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[7E] Matthew 16:13-14 Who did they say Son of Man was?  
\_\_\_\_\_

[7F] Matthew 17:3-4 Who appeared with Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

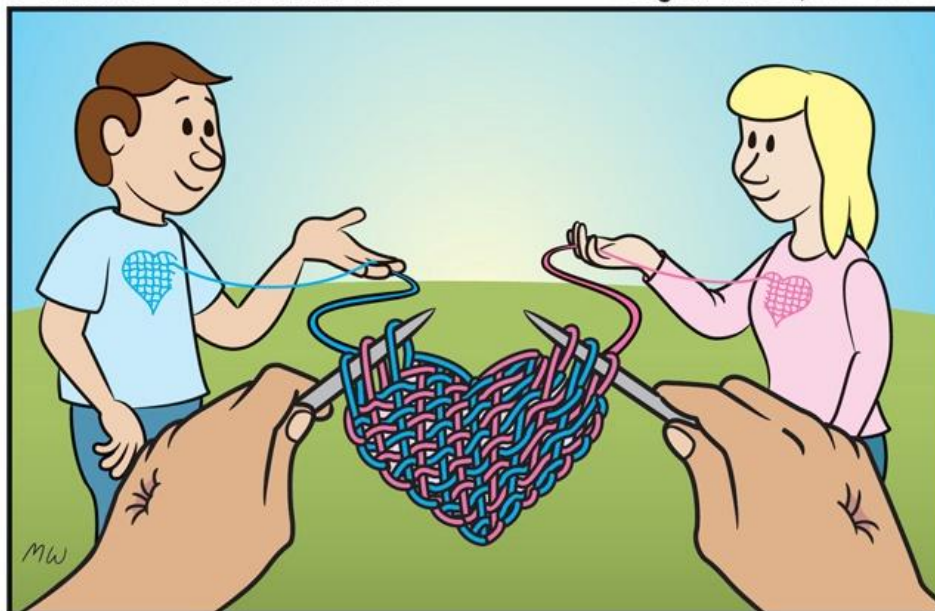
[7G] Matthew 18:16 | Deuteronomy 19:15 Is the testimony of a single witness enough to convict? \_\_\_\_\_

[7H] Matthew 19:4 | Genesis 1:27 In whose image did God create people? \_\_\_\_\_

[7I] Matthew 19:5 | Genesis 2:23-24 Why do they become one flesh? \_\_\_\_\_

**JOINED TOGETHER**

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate. — MATTHEW 19:6 NIV

[7J] Matthew 19:7-8 | Deuteronomy 24:1-4 Did Old Testament law allow divorce? \_\_\_\_\_

[7K] In Matthew 15:8-9 Jesus refers to a prophecy of Isaiah 29:13. What does Isaiah say happens to people like the ones Jesus was describing? So what?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 7 – Teachings and Transfiguration** (Matthew 13-19)

[7A] Matthew 13:10-17 | Isaiah 6:9-10 Who had longed to see and hear Jesus?

Many prophets and righteous people

[7B] Matthew 13:35 | Psalm 78:2 How long has the truth revealed in the parables been true? Forever

[7C] Matthew 15:4 | Exodus 20:12 & Deut 5:16 Who are we to honor? Our parents

[7D] Matthew 15:4 | Exodus 21:17 & Leviticus 20:9 What was the punishment for cursing parents?

Death

[7E] Matthew 16:13-14 Who did they say Son of Man was?

John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the other prophets

[7F] Matthew 17:3-4 Who appeared with Jesus? Moses and Elijah

[7G] Matthew 18:16 | Deuteronomy 19:15 Is the testimony of a single witness enough to convict? No

[7H] Matthew 19:4 | Genesis 1:27 In whose image did God create people? His own

[7I] Matthew 19:5 | Genesis 2:23-24 Why do they become one flesh?

Because they started out as one flesh

[7J] Matthew 19:7-8 | Deuteronomy 24:1-4 Did Old Testament law allow divorce? Yes

[7K] When people claim to speak for God but are speaking only for themselves their wisdom and knowledge are revealed as ignorance and foolishness. What they think is smart is in reality the opposite of smart. So what? You need to be careful. If you are living in your own wisdom you are really being very stupid. If you are teaching others your own wisdom masqueraded as Biblical truth, you are in grave danger.

**For further thought:**

(7L) In the light of Deuteronomy 29:4; Psalm 119:70; Isaiah 6:9-10, Isaiah 42:19-20; Jeremiah 5:21; Ezekiel 12:2; Zechariah 7:11 what is Matthew 13:10-17 talking about?

(7m) In Matthew 13:31-32 Jesus was referring to which of these Old Testament passages -- Psalm 104:12; Ezekiel 17:23; Ezekiel 31:6; or Daniel 4:12? How do you know?

(7n) Is Matthew 15:27 Jesus seems to be referring to Psalm 62:12. Is He talking about rewards or punishment?

(7o) In Matthew 17:1-5 how did they know it was Moses and Elijah?

(7p) In Matthew 19:18-19 Jesus lists some of the commandments from Exodus 20:1-17, Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and Leviticus 19:1-37. There are several that He did not include. So what?

(7q) Compare Matthew 20:22-23; Matthew 26:39-42; Isaiah 51:17-22; and Jeremiah 49:12. Are they all talking about the same cup?





----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 8 – Questions and Answers (Matthew 21-22)**

[8A] Matthew 21:4-5 | Zechariah 9:9-10 How was the king expected to enter? On a donkey

[8B] Matthew 21:9 | Psalm 118:26 Who is blessed? He who comes in the name of the Lord

[8C] Matthew 21:13 | Isaiah 56:7 & Jeremiah 7:11 What kind of house does the Lord have?

A house of prayer

[8D] Matthew 21:16 | Psalm 8:2 Who controls what comes from the mouth of infants? Our Lord

[8E] Matthew 21:42 | Psalm 118:22-29 Who rejected the stone? The builders

[8F] Matthew 22:24 | Deuteronomy 25:5 Who was to marry a widow? Her brother-in-law

[8G] Matthew 22:29 What did they not understand? Neither the Scriptures or the power of God

[8H] Matthew 22:32 | Exodus 3:6 What conclusion did Jesus draw from God's statement concerning His identity?

That since God is the God of the living, not the dead, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob would be resurrected from the dead.

[8I] Matthew 22:37 | Deuteronomy 6:5 Who or what are we to love above all else? God

[8J] Matthew 22:38-40 | Leviticus 19:18 Who are we to love as much as we do ourselves? Our neighbor

[8K] Logically one of the things they believed had to be false, descendants can be superior to ancestors. But that didn't stop them. They just kept right on believing it. What logical inconsistencies are there in your beliefs? We know from our latter day perspective that Jesus is Lord, but they could not accept that it was possible. Is Jesus your Lord?

**For further thought:**

(8l) What can we learn from the way Jesus handled the taxation question in Matthew 22:15-22?

(8m) The Old Testament does not say there will be no marriage in heaven. How did Jesus know this?

(8n) What lessons can we draw from the way Jesus answered the question in Matthew 22:23-33? Without Jesus' divine insight how could we answer such a question?

**My further thoughts:**

(8l) This particular loaded question also assumed facts not in evidence. There is no law in the Old Testament that precludes the payment of taxes to rightful authority. One of the first things to think about when someone asks a question is whether it has any assumptions in it. Before you answer the question the one asking should be required to show the truth of their question's assumptions. Just ask them questions about their assumptions, nicely. If they are without knowledge or evidence their argument will implode without you ever having to answer their question at all. Jesus could have simply asked them to show Him what law in the Old Testament they were referring to. However, in this case Jesus had a better way and a broader perspective. We should always look for a broader perspective as well.

(8m) How did Jesus know? Heaven is His home town. How could He not know?

(8n) Even without Jesus special knowledge their argument was empty, founded on nothingness. Jesus had a better way. He used it as a "teachable" moment to show them something out of their own sacred writings that actually answered their deeper question. If you have that kind of opportunity, by all means take it, but we are neither as good as Jesus, nor know as much about people's hearts and thoughts as He did. We probably won't have as many opportunities as He did, but we should always be willing to follow the Holy Spirit's guidance.

**Lesson 9 – Poetry** (Matthew 23)

The New Testament was written in Greek, but its writers except for Luke were steeped in Hebrew poetry, and as it was mentioned in the introduction, Matthew may have been originally written in Hebrew. Hebrew poetry is made up of structures in the meaning, not the sounds of the words. Because of this it survives the translation process better than poetry in other languages. In this lesson we are going to analyze that structure which is usually made up of similar meanings repeated, or starkly opposite meanings. Here are a couple of examples to get you started:

**Contrasting concepts:**

Verse 3 – Do as they say vs. not as they do.

Verse 4 – Heavy burdens on others vs. none for themselves – shoulders contrasting with fingers

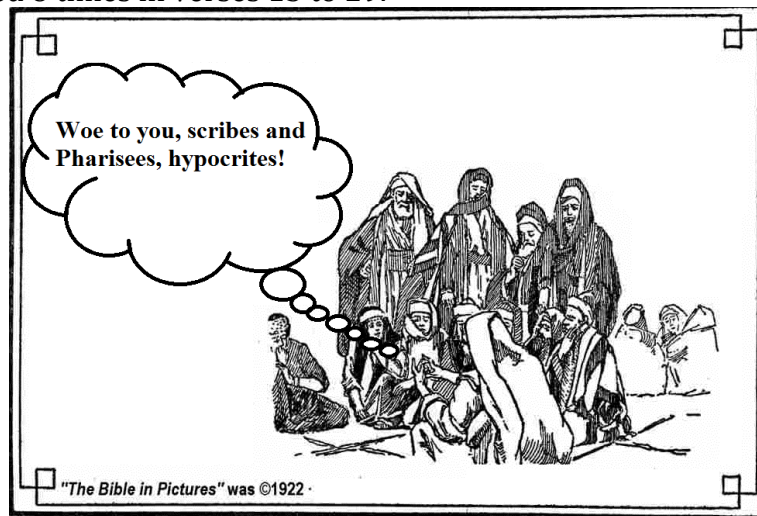
**Parallel concepts**

Verse 5 – broaden phylacteries & longer tassels = increase "religious" symbol size on clothing

Verse 6 – place of honor at banquets, chief seats in synagogues = jockeying for position

**Linking structures:**

"Woe to you" repeated 8 times in verses 13 to 29.



*Give it a try. It is not as difficult as it seems at first.*

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If you had fun with this lesson you may want to study our course on Hebrew Poetry at [LoveBibleStudy.com](http://LoveBibleStudy.com).

**Lesson 9 – Poetry (Matthew 23)**

**Contrasting concepts:**

- Verse 3 – Do as they say vs. not as they do.
- Verse 4 – Heavy burdens on others vs. none for themselves – shoulders contrasting with fingers
- Verse 12 – self exaltation leads to involuntary humbling, voluntary humbling leads to exalting by others
- Verse 14 – devour windows vs. long prayers for show = actual evil vs. public appearance of good
- Verses 16-17 - Incorrect comparison – gold :: no gold vs. correct comparison - gold :: temple
- Verses 18-19 - Incorrect comparison – altar :: offering vs. correct comparison - offering :: altar
- Verse 23 – tithing condiments vs. justice, mercy and faithfulness
- Verse 24 – strain out a gnat vs. swallowing a camel
- Verse 25 – cup clean outside vs. dirty inside
- Verse 27 – whitewashed tomb vs. full of dead men's bones

**Parallel concepts**

- Verse 5 – broaden phylacteries & longer tassels = increase "religious" symbol size on clothing
- Verse 6 – place of honor at banquets & chief seats in synagogues = jockeying for position
- Verse 7 – respectful greetings & called Rabbi = seeking the praise of men
- Verse 13 – shut off ... from people & nor allow ... entering = hypocrites are stumbling blocks
- Verses 16-17 with Verses 18-19 = sanctification determines value
- Verse 25-28 - Three times: clean outside only vs. cleaning from the inside out
- Verse 33 - serpents & brood of vipers as a metaphor for evil people

**Linking structures:**

- Verses 8-10 Three times: "Do not be called \_\_\_\_, One is your \_\_\_\_, " etc.
- Verses 13-33 - "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites" is repeated seven times. "Woe to you, blind guides" appears once, but clearly links the concept of blind guides to the scribes and Pharisees as well. The "woe to you" construction appears 8 times, each time followed by a description of poor behavior and/or the evil consequences of that behavior.
- Verses 16-19 – Twice there are incorrect comparisons followed by correct comparisons
- Verses 20-22 – Three times: if you swear by \_\_\_\_ you swear also by \_\_\_\_\_

**Repetitive Terms:**

- Some terms are often repeated: Swearing is mentioned 10 times. Scribes nine times. Pharisees 8 times. Hypocrites seven times. Places of worship 13 times (i.e. temple 6 times, altar 5 times, synagogue 2 times). Jerusalem or city 5 times. Prophets are mentioned 5 times. Blind 5 times. Blood 4 times. Righteous or clean seven times. Heaven is mentioned 3 times but hell only twice and earth twice. Fathers is mentioned twice and Father is mentioned twice.

Some of these provide an additional overlay of linking, for instance:

- Verses 16 & 24 "blind guides," and Verses 17 & 19 "blind men," and Verse 26 "blind Pharisee,"
- Also look at the way altar and tomb are used as symbols in one place as the actual thing in another.

**Other Poetical Points of interest:**

- Trinity – Verses 8-10 Teacher (Spirit), Father, Christ.
- Cup and tomb as symbols of person – Verses 25-27, one holds sustenance and the other death

This listing is certainly not all of them. You may have found others I did not that are perfectly valid. (Especially since I stopped looking after I ran out of room on this page.)

**Lesson 10 – The End and The Beginning** (Matthew 23-28)

Please read these scriptures and answer the associated questions:

[10A] Matthew 23:2 In whose place had the scribes and Pharisees put themselves? \_\_\_\_\_

[10B] Matthew 23:39 | Psalm 118:26 Who is blessed \_\_\_\_\_

[10C] Matthew 24:29 | Isaiah 13:10 What will happen to the sun? \_\_\_\_\_

[10D] Matthew 24:29 | Ezekiel 32:7 What will happen to the moon? \_\_\_\_\_

[10E] Matthew 24:30 | Daniel 7:13 Who will they see coming on the clouds of the sky? \_\_\_\_\_

[10F] Matthew 24:31 | Isaiah 27:13 What instrument will the angels have? \_\_\_\_\_

[10G] Matthew 26:31 | Zechariah 13:7 Who would be struck down? \_\_\_\_\_

[10H] Matthew 27:9-10 | Zechariah 11:12-13 How many silver coins were involved in the transaction? \_\_\_\_\_

[10I] Matthew 27:43 | Psalm 22:8 What reason was given for rescue? \_\_\_\_\_

[10J] Matthew 27:46 | Psalm 22:1 What was God asked to explain? \_\_\_\_\_

[10K] In Matthew 27:46 is Jesus really forsaken by God or is Jesus just quoting Psalm 22:1 to call attention to the fulfillment by His crucifixion of the prophecy in that Psalm? What can we learn from this?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_

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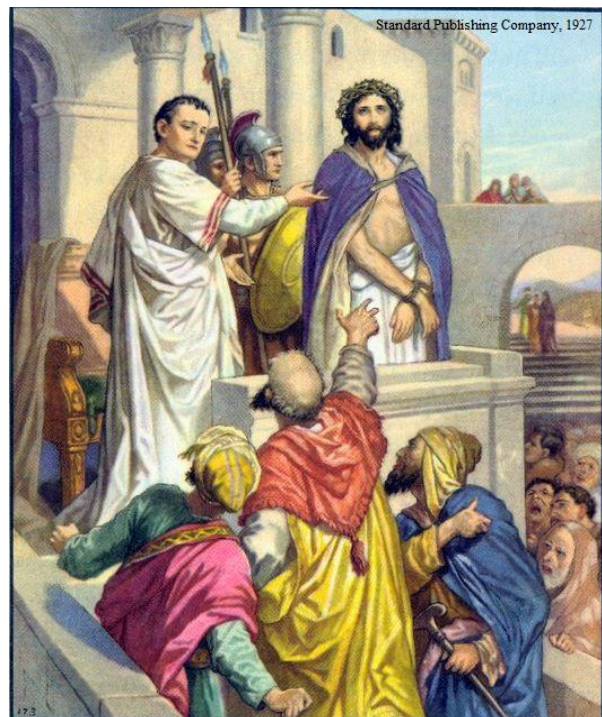
----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 10 – The End and The Beginning** (Matthew 23-28)

- [10A] Matthew 23:2 In whose place had the scribes and Pharisees put themselves? Moses  
[10B] Matthew 23:39 | Psalm 118:26 Who is blessed? He who comes in the name of the Lord  
[10C] Matthew 24:29 | Isaiah 13:10 What will happen to the sun? It will be darkened  
[10D] Matthew 24:29 | Ezekiel 32:7 What will happen to the moon? It will not give light  
[10E] Matthew 24:30 | Daniel 7:13 Who will they see coming on the clouds of the sky? Son of Man  
(See also Matt 26:64)  
[10F] Matthew 24:31 | Isaiah 27:13 What instrument will the angels have? A great trumpet  
[10G] Matthew 26:31 | Zechariah 13:7 Who would be struck down? The Shepherd  
[10H] Matthew 27:9-10 | Zechariah 11:12-13 How many silver coins were involved in the transaction?  
[10I] Matthew 27:43 | Psalm 22:8 What reason was given for rescue? The Lord's delight  
[10J] Matthew 27:46 | Psalm 22:1 What was God asked to explain? Forsaking the speaker

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[10K] Why can't it be both a cry of anguish and another teaching by Jesus? We learn that quoting Psalms (or any appropriate Scripture) is a great thing to do when you are in trouble. We also learn that Psalm 22 contains several prophecies of the crucifixion which demonstrate the power and foreknowledge of God. Taken together it demonstrates that when Jesus was hanging on the cross in extreme distress He was still thinking about us and loving us.



**A reproach of men and despised by  
the people. All who see me sneer at me;  
Psalm 22**

**For further thought:**

- (10L) Please read Matthew 24:15. Now you have read it. It says that the reader is to understand. Do you? Compare it with Daniel 9:27, 11:31 and 12:11. Does the comparison help you understand?  
(10m) Compare Matthew 24:31 and Zechariah 9:14. Who will blow the trumpet? So?  
(10n) What specific scriptures being fulfilled is Jesus talking about in Matthew 26:51-56  
(10o) Compare Matthew 26:64 with Psalm 110:1. Who sits to the right of whom? So?  
(10p) In Matthew 19:18-19 Jesus lists some of the commandments from Exodus 20:1-17, Deuteronomy 5:1-21 and Leviticus 19:1-37? There are several that He did not include. So what?  
(10q) Compare Matthew 20:22-23; Matthew 26:39-42; Isaiah 51:17-22; and Jeremiah 49:12. Are they all talking about the same cup?

**Lesson 11- Example of Three Prayers in Matthew 26:36-46**

Please read Matthew 26:36-46 and answer the questions below:

[11A] Who is praying? \_\_\_\_\_

[11B] Who besides God is listening? \_\_\_\_\_

[11C] What is being requested? \_\_\_\_\_

[11D] Who is/are the people who are expected to receive what is being requested?

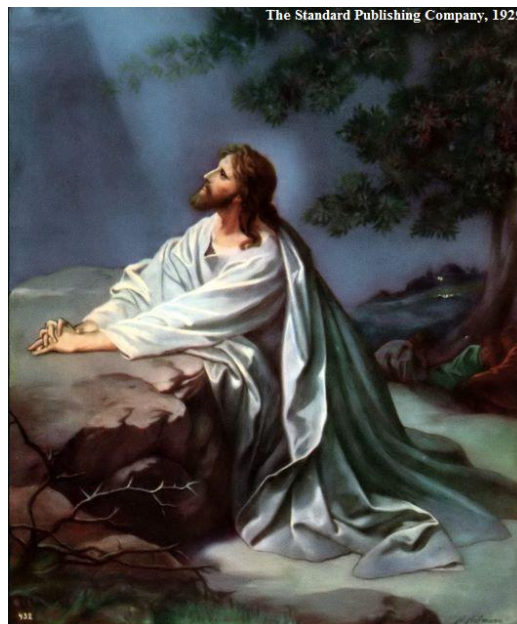
[11E] How does the person praying try to convince God to answer?

[11F] What is the place, posture [kneeling, bowing, or what] and mode [silent, out loud, written] of the prayer?

[11G] What results, if any, are reported to the prayer? \_\_\_\_\_

[11H] How can we apply this to our own prayer life?

*Think & Pray* \_\_\_\_\_



----- ANSWERS -----

**Lesson 11- Example of Three Prayers (Matthew 26:36-46)**

(You may have to look at the context before and after for some of the answers)

[11A] *Who is praying?*

Jesus

[11B] *Who besides God is listening?*

The disciples were listening, but only part of the time when they were not asleep.

[11C] *What is specifically being requested?*

"My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

"My Father, if this cannot pass away unless I drink it, Your will be done."

[11D] *Who is/are the expected recipient[s] of what is being requested?*

Jesus is praying for Himself to be delivered from the coming torture

[11E] *How does the person praying try to convince God to answer?*

Submission to the Father's will and repetition of the prayer three times

[11F] *What is the place, posture and mode of the prayer?*

Praying aloud face down on the ground of the garden

[11G] *What results, if any, are reported to the prayer?*

The answer is "No." Jesus is immediately arrested.

[11H] *How can we apply this to our own prayer life?*

Sometimes God says, "No." What would have happened if Jesus had not been crucified?

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**For further thought:**

(11i) In Matthew 26:39 and 42 Jesus asks for a cup to be taken away from Him. Compare this with Matthew 20:22-23; Isaiah 51:17-22; and Jeremiah 49:12. Are they all talking about the same cup?

(11j) In Matthew 27:46 Jesus cries out to God. Is Jesus really forsaken by God or is Jesus just quoting Psalm 22:1 to call attention to the fulfillment of that prophecy by His crucifixion?

(11k) Look at these passages and determine if they are an example of prayer or a teaching about prayer. Use questions like the ones in this lesson to analyze these passages. What can be learned about prayer from each one?

- |                  |                    |                  |                  |                   |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Matthew 5:22-26  | Matthew 6:5-13     | Matthew 7:7-11   | Matthew 8:1-4    | Matthew 8:23-27   |
| Matthew 8:28-34  | Matthew 8:5-13     | Matthew 9:18, 19 | Matthew 9:20-22  | Matthew 9:27-31   |
| Matthew 9:37-39  | Matthew 11:25-27   | Matthew 14:23    | Matthew 14:28-30 | Matthew 15:21-28  |
| Matthew 17:14-21 | Matthew 18:19, 20  | Matthew 18:23-35 | Matthew 20:20-28 | Matthew 20:29-34  |
| Matthew 21:18-22 | Matthew 23: 14, 25 | Matthew 25:20-24 | Matthew 26:26    | Matthew 27:46, 50 |



**Lesson 12 – Praying the Scripture and Conclusion**

[12A] Pick out a scripture from Matthew and reword it into a prayer. Try to include a passage from the Old Testament, if possible. Passage Reference[s]: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Prayer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You may or may not want to share your prayer with the group. What we did with Matthew 5:4, Psalm 23:4 and Psalm 147:3 is on the next page.

[12B] What did you learn from this course that you hope you will remember?

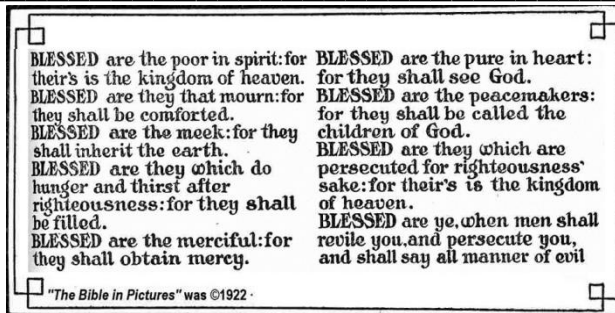
Think & Pray \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[12C] Is there a verse or passage from the book of Matthew that you might want to memorize? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

[12D] If someone asked you what the book of Matthew is about, what would you say?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Lesson 12 – Praying the Scripture and Conclusion**

[12A] Matthew 5:4 4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Psalms 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted; And binds up their wounds.

**Our prayer:** Lord Jesus, I am sad. I have many broken relationships with people I love. Some have died. Some have moved to distant places and we have lost the closeness we once shared, partly or wholly because of my neglect. Some have betrayed me, perhaps unwittingly. Some are angry with me or lost interest in me and I have no idea why. But You, Lord, are always there – alive; close, even within me; never neglectful even when I neglect You, never betraying me, never unmindful of me, always interested in me, and always loving me. Over and over again You put people in my life to show me Your love and to allow me to enjoy the passing of Your love through me to them. I am safe in You. Your comfort far exceeds my mourning. Please forgive me my doubts, my impatience with others, and my sadness in the face of your overwhelming blessings. Thank You for Your abiding joy within me, always co-existing with my grief and often obscuring all woe from my heart entirely. You are an awesome God! Amen.

[12B] Notes on classroom discussion about something to remember from Matthew:

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[12C] Notes on classroom discussion about passages from Matthew to memorize and why:

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[12D] Notes on classroom discussion about the general overall purpose and meaning for Matthew:

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"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7:12