

Listening to Jesus

**Discourses in
the Gospel According to Matthew**

What is a Discourse?

A message to a specific audience (crowds, disciples, etc.) in order to instruct – or teach – something, often related to moral behaviour.

Purpose of Matthew's Gospel

Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah

Jesus was the King from the line of David, spoken
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Jesus shows what a true disciple is like

Jesus will return one day – be prepared

Major Discourses in Matthew

1. Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7)
2. Commissioning of the Twelve (chapter 10)
3. People with Wrong Hearts (chapter 15)
4. Church and Community (chapter 18)
5. Woes (chapter 23)
5. Olivet Discourse (chapters 24-25)

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1. Sermon on the Mount (chapters 5-7)
2. Commissioning of the Twelve (chapter 10)
3. Parables (chapter 13)
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4. Church and Community (chapter 18)
5. Woes (chapter 23)
5. Olivet Discourse (chapters 24-25)

Structure

start and distinct end statements

Blocks of narrative material

Interwoven with blocks of discourse

“When Jesus had finished...”

Beginning

Ending

10:1a Jesus summoned His twelve disciples and gave them authority

11:1 When Jesus had finished giving instructions to His twelve disciples, He went on from there

13:1-2 large crowds gathered to Him, so He got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd was standing on the beach.

13:53 When Jesus had finished these parables, He departed from there.

15:1 Then some Pharisees and scribes *came to Jesus from Jerusalem

15:21 Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon.

18:1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and

19:1a When Jesus had finished these words, He left Galilee...

23:1 Then Jesus spoke to the crowds and to His disciples

26:1 When Jesus had finished all these words, He said to His disciples,

Key Words

Christ
(Messiah)

Son of Man

Son of God

Son of David

My Father

hypocrisy

hypocrite

Rabbi (teacher)

King of the
Jews

Kingdom
Of God

**Kingdom
of heaven**

Kingdom

Disciples

- Followed their master
- Saw, interacted with, learned
- Sought to imitate values and way of life

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Master of all masters – Jesus!

The GOAT – the Greatest of All Time!

Following the Master

“A student is not above the teacher; but everyone, when he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher.”

Luke 6:40 (NASB 2020)

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?”

Matt 16:24-26 (NASB 2020)

Commissioning the Twelve (10)

- Audience – 12 disciples/apostles
- Instruction/teaching
 - the meaning of discipleship, expect persecution, fear not, work will be rewarded

“The one who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and the one who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And the one who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. The one who has found his life will lose it, and the one who has lost his life on My account will find it.” Mt 10:37-39

People with wrong hearts (15:1-20)

- Audience – scribes and Pharisees from Jerusalem
- Instruction/teaching
 - Jesus notes that their hearts really aren't in the right place.

For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, acts of adultery, other immoral sexual acts, thefts, false testimonies, and slanderous statements.

Mt 15:19

Church and Community living (18:1-35)

- Audience – the disciples
- Instruction/teaching
 - ...be like little children to enter the kingdom of heaven, warns against causing people to stumble
 - significance of searching for the lost
 - importance of forgiveness.

“Truly I say to you, unless you change and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

18:3

For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst. 18:20

Eight woes (23:1-39)

- Audience – crowds and disciples
- Instruction/teaching
 - not to be like the scribes and Pharisees; they loved being seen as leaders and loved being honored, but really did things to be noticed by other people.

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who have been sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling. Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!’” (23:37-39)

Olivet Discourse (24)

- Audience – disciples
- Instruction/teaching
 - signs of the end of the age, coming of the Son of Man, parables

But about that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. (24:36)

For this reason you must be ready as well; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will. (24:44)

Olivet Discourse (25)

- Audience – disciples
- Instruction/teaching
 - Final judgment, sheep and goats

(sheep) For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me. (25:35-36)

(goats) These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life. (25:46)

Summation

- Comprehensive instruction book on being a disciple
- Blessed are: the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the gentle, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the pure in heart, peacemakers, the persecuted
- Choose the narrow gate
- Build on the rock

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Do you see yourself in the types of people?

Have you chosen the narrow road?

How solid is your foundation?

Gift of Salvation

- We've all sinned and fall short of God's standard
- Jesus was crucified for the sin of the world
- God reaches down to us.. Offers grace, forgiveness, and a personal relationship
- acknowledge and repent of our sins
- accept the gift of salvation in Jesus

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We can't change the past

**we can start the journey on an abundant, full, life
with Jesus**

Start your journey as His disciple today

Jesus, the Greatest of All Time!

Jesus said, “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he may become like his teacher, and the slave like his master.” 10:24

And the one who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. 10:38

Hypocritical Hearts

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

-‘AND IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME,
TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE
COMMANDMENTS OF MEN.’

Mt 15:8-9

A New Covenant

“For this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days,” declares the LORD: “I will put My law within them and write it on their heart; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD, “for I will forgive their wrongdoing, and their sin I will no longer remember.” Jer 31:33-34

Kingdom of Heaven

- Not just about a time in the future
- It's also about the time we have with God now
- Doesn't protect us from hard times, trials, tribulations, persecution

We have God with us

Olivet Discourse

- Jesus talks about:
 - end times and His returning
 - events signify the beginning of birth pains

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None of us know the exact day...

A time of judgment is coming

Are you ready?