

“BEHOLD YOUR KING”

Introduction to the Gospel according to Matthew

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Every Jewish person was familiar with the over-arching message contained in the O.T. scriptures: the coming of the Messiah to Israel to reign as King. *2 Sam. 7:12-13; 16-17; Isa 7:14; 9:6-9; 49:10; 53:3-7; Dan 7:13 Mal. 4:5-6*

1. MATTHEW'S IDENTIFICATION – Who was He?

He was a Jew, the son of Alphaeus (*Mark 2:14*). Original name “Levi” (meaning “joined”). Levi was his despised name. And rightly so, he was joined with a crooked sin nature and joined to the wrong kind of vocation and friendships.

2. MATTHEW'S OCCUPATION – A Publican

Publicannus = the collector of Roman taxes to give to the Roman officials. They were hired from among their own countrymen to collect taxes (poll tax) from the Jews. Publicans were the worst of sinners and were not allowed into the synagogue or celebrate any religious festivities among the people.

3. MATTHEW'S SALVATION – Matthew 9:9-12

a) *The Call of Matthew – v. 9* As Jesus is passing the tax collector's booth, He saw Matthew sitting in his sin and call to him. He got up and walked away from a life-long career of sin, to now following Jesus.

b) *The Crowd of Matthew – v. 10* Matthew was so excited to know Jesus, he invited Jesus and his disciples over for a meal! He even went a step further to invite other sinful friends because Jesus was alright with hanging around them!

God said “be ye holy.” Doesn't mean “be ye hidden.” *1 Cor. 5:9-11*

c) *The Confusion of The Pharisees – v. 11* You must think that getting right with God means that you try to live a righteous kind of life and hope that God would grade you with an A based on the things you don't do. That's self-righteousness!

d) *The Cause of Christ – vv. 12-13* Healthy people don't rush to see a doctor because there's nothing wrong with them. But sick people have symptoms and need an exam, a diagnosis, a prognosis, and a cure. Jesus can't do anything for self-righteous people because He didn't come for them. He came call sinners. And he found the crowd in Matthew's home that He came for.

4. MATTHEW'S PUBLICATION – Jesus is the Promised Messiah King!