



Week Two

Arrival of the King

Matthew 1 & 2

Read and Summarize

Read chapters 1 and 2. Provide a brief summary in one to two sentences for each chapter, using your own words to capture the main events.

Matthew 1

Matthew 2

Clarifying the Context

1. The Gospel of Matthew is the first book written in the New Testament. In many ways, it serves as a bridge between the Old and New Testaments. It was written to convince a largely Jewish audience that Jesus is the long-awaited promised King and Messiah.

Take a minute and watch the Bible Project video summary of the book of Malachi at **bibleproject.com/videos/malachi** (the final book of the Old Testament) and write what sticks out to you about the state of God's people prior to Jesus' arrival. How does this shed additional light on the opening of the book of Matthew?



Scan here to watch the summary of the book of Malachi.

Digging into the Details

Matthew 1

2. Matthew's gospel opens with the genealogy of Jesus. In light of the themes and purposes we discussed last week, why do you think this is?
3. In verse 1, Matthew says that Jesus is the son of David and Abraham. Why do you think these are the two names that he chooses to highlight right from the outset? What is their significance? (See 2 Samuel 7:8-12 and Genesis 12:1-3, 22:18)

4. Read through the genealogy multiple times, noting anything/anyone that stands out or surprises you and why.

5. Despite the fact that lineage was usually traced through men, we find five women in this genealogy.
 - a. List each of the women below and anything you know about them, noting any similarities among them.

 - b. How are you encouraged by their inclusion in the line of Christ?

6. What is the main point Matthew wants us to understand from the genealogy, both as a whole and specifically in verses 16-17?

- 7.** What is made clear about Mary's pregnancy in verse 18 that is key to the story? (See Isaiah 7:14) How does this help us in understanding that Jesus is both fully God and fully man?
- 8.** Initially, Joseph is unaware of this fact and would have assumed that Mary was pregnant because she had been unfaithful to him. Even so, what are we told about Joseph in verse 19? How does this immediately give us insight into his character?
- 9.** What does the Lord reveal to Joseph in a dream to reassure him about taking Mary as his wife? Do you think this was easy or hard for Joseph to believe? Explain your answer.
- 10.** In the dream, Joseph is also instructed to name the baby Jesus. What are the two reasons given for the choice of this name? (See verses 21 & 23)

- 11.** How does Joseph respond to the dream, and how does this show us more of his character?
- 12.** How do Joseph's character and his actions in this part of the story encourage and/or challenge you in your own life?

Matthew 2

- 13.** In verse 2, what do we learn about why the wise men travel from the East to Jerusalem?
- 14.** Compare the responses of the wise men to that of Herod throughout this chapter.
- a.** Note how each responds and why.

- b.** How do these two responses give us a picture of the two responses all people have to King Jesus?

15. Trace the journey of Jesus and His parents after His birth as recorded in verses 16-23.

- a.** List each of the places to which they journey and why.

- b.** What deeper reason are we given for each of these moves in verses 15 & 23, and what does this show you about God?

Attribute of God & Application

- What did this week's study reveal to you about King Jesus and His Kingdom?

- How do these chapters encourage or challenge you in your life currently?

**Spend some time praising God for who He is and for what He has done.
Ask Him to help you as you seek to live in light of His Word this week.**