

Theme: Matthew presents Jesus as the fulfillment of the Old Testament, God's True Son who accomplishes the call of Adam and Israel, succeeding where they failed, to bring salvation to the earth.

I. Four Gospels - One Christ

- A. Looking at the four symbols ancient church gave to Gospels
- B. These arise from visions in Ezekiel 1 and Revelation 4
- C. Different people assigned them distinctly; Jerome's became most popular in art & history
- D. Example - NT cover page, 1611 KJV (photo)
- E. Each gospel teaches many things about Jesus; we will just be considering the particular thing seen in the symbol

II. Matthew - The Man

- A. Matthew - a key theme of Jesus as the True Man
 - 1. Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of God's call for humanity - the new Adam
 - 2. Jesus is presented as the true Israel
 - 3. Jesus the True Adam and Israel is the true Son of God
- B. Jesus is seen as the True Human - fulfilling Adam's call
A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1
 - 1. Matthew alone begins with stress on Jesus' human lineage
The first face of a man signifies Matthew, who began his narrative as though about a man: The

book of the generation of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham." (Jerome)

- 2. First two chapters contain infancy narrative - showing the real humanity of Jesus
- 3. Matthew uses "son of man" label more than any other Gospel - more times, more frequently
- 4. Temptation - Jesus succeeds where Adam failed
 - a. Spirit hovers like a bird in Genesis 1:2/Matthew 3:16
 - b. Man is tempted by Satan in Genesis 3/Matthew 4
 - c. Man is tempted with food, testing God's Word, ruling all things like God
 - d. But Adam is in pristine Garden; Jesus wilderness
 - e. Adam eats all he wants; Jesus fasted for 40 days
 - f. Adam fails and we die - Jesus conquers and we live!
- 5. Jesus is the true man - fulfilling God's call
- C. Jesus is seen as the true Israelite
A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1
 - 1. Specific genealogy is of Jewish ancestry
 - 2. He is being presented as heir of Abraham & David
 - 3. Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of OT prophecies
 - a. Matthew uses "fulfill" or "prophets" most frequently (graph)
 - b. Events, words, actions of Jesus' life fulfill Scripture
 - c. Example: Matthew cites Isaiah 7:14, Luke does not

d. Jesus is the fulfillment of the OT

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.” Matthew 5:17–18

4. Jesus is the True Israel

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod.

And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Matthew 2:13–15

a. Quoting Hosea 11:1

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. ² But the more I called Israel, the further they went from me. They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images. Hosea 11:1–2

1. Clearly about Israel - but Matthew says Jesus
2. This is because Israel is just a type & shadow
3. Jesus is the fulfillment - the true Israel, God's True Son!

b. And notice Israel fails as God's son - but Jesus succeeds!

5. Temptation - Jesus succeeds where Israel failed

a. Both come through water into wilderness

b. Both are tempted in wilderness - 40 years and 40 days

c. Both are tempted with food, to test God, to follow another god

d. But Israelites have fellowship; Jesus is alone

e. Israel fed with manna; Jesus has no food at all

f. Israel fails and breaks covenant - Jesus conquers and keeps the covenant for us!

6. Jesus is the True Israel - fulfilling God's call

D. Jesus - fulfillment & inheritor of the Abrahamic covenant

1. Jesus is Abraham's True Son, True Seed

A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1

2. The importance of Abraham

a. Genesis - failure of Adam to call of Abraham

b. Abraham is beginning of God's plan to redeem, undo curse and bless

“I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:2–3

3. Jesus sends the church out to bless the nations

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:18–20

- a. As 2nd Adam, God's True Son He has authority
- b. So He sends us to bless all nations with the Gospel
- c. This is the fulfillment of the Abrahamic covenant

E. Jesus - recapitulation & fulfillment of all God's OT purposes

- 1. Jesus recapitulates the OT - Irenaeus
- 2. He reenacts the key elements of humanity, OT, but does them correctly
- 3. Where Adam, Israel, Abraham had failed - Jesus has conquered
- 4. Then He turns and gives the blessing to His people
- 5. Then He tells His people to spread the blessing everywhere

III. Applying the Word

A. Behold Jesus - the Son of Man, the True Israel, Abraham's Seed

- 1. This week we will all be reading Matthew's Gospel
- 2. Please take time to read it - don't let Martha things interfere!
- 3. As you read look for these themes of fulfillment
- 4. Be discerning when other try to show God's covenants and promises as belonging to those outside of Christ
- 5. In Christ YOU are Abrahams seed, God's only covenant people, the new humanity

- 6. Rejoice and receive all God has for you
- 7. Realize fulfillment is not found in anything other than Jesus!
- 8. In Jesus, we are now free to radically bless others!

B. The Table of fulfillment

- 1. Here we celebrate that Jesus is the fulfillment of all of God's covenant promises
 - a. The Seed promised to the woman has come
 - b. The 2nd Adam has undone the 1st Adam's folly
 - c. The Seed of Abraham, the True Israel has come
 - d. The Passover lamb has been slain once and for all
 - e. The True Manna has come down that we might live
 - f. God's final covenant has fulfilled and superseded all others
 - g. This new covenant is secure through the broken body and shed blood
- 2. Come and feast upon Christ the fulfillment

Matthew - The Man

Matthew 1:1; 2:13-15; 3:16-17; 4:1-11

March 1, 2015

Communion

Genesis 12:2-3

Teaching keywords: Lent, Christology, humanity of Christ, hermeneutics, Image of God, 2nd Adam, humanity, Israel, typology

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. Gen 12:2-3

A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Matthew 1:1

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.” Matthew 2:13–15

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him.¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.³ The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”⁴ Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple.⁶ “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.”⁷ Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor.⁹ “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him. Matthew 3:16-17; 4:1–11