

An Introduction to Matthew

Outline of Lesson 1:

The Importance of Matthew's Gospel

The Structure of Matthew's Gospel

The World of Matthew's Gospel

Who Was the Author of Matthew?

Who Was Matthew?

When Was Matthew Written?

Is There a Synoptic Problem?

Was Mark the Earliest Gospel?

Were the Gospels Written Independently?

Why Do We Have Four Gospel Accounts?

Was Matthew Written Before or After AD 70?

Why Was Matthew Written?

The Theme of Worldwide Blessing

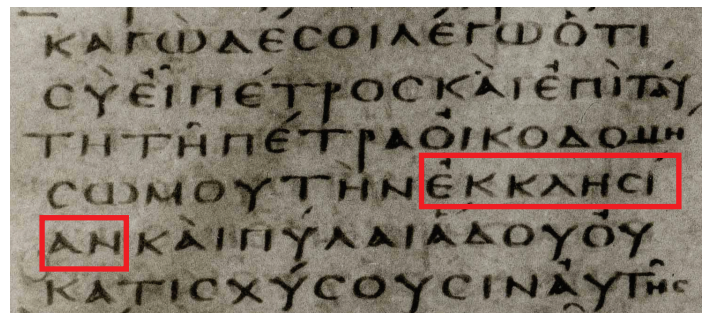
The Theme of Fulfillment

The Theme of the Kingdom

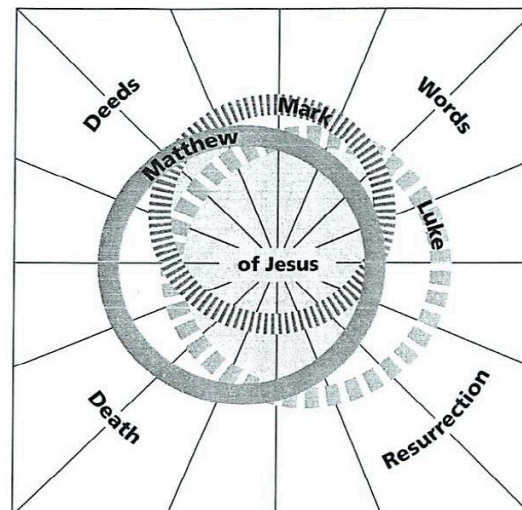
The Theme of Christ the King



The Magdalen Papyrus (shown above) contains fragments of Matthew 26. Some scholars have dated this papyrus to AD 60. (*Eyewitness to Jesus: Amazing New Manuscript Evidence About the Origin of the Gospels*, by Carsten Thiede and Matthew D'Ancona (Doubleday, 1996)).



Matthew 16:18 in the 4th century Vaticanus Manuscript with the Greek word ἐκκλησίαν (*ekklesia*) for "church" highlighted.



Source: *Is There a Synoptic Problem? Rethinking the Literary Dependence of the First Three Gospels* by Eta Linnemann, Baker Book House, 1992, p. 201.

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