

# 2020 New Testament Reading Plan

Living Hope Fellowship, Chico  
Directed Study, Week 4  
Matthew 22–28

## Emphasis

The last 7 chapters of Matthew chronicle the last 4 days of Christ's life, then the resurrection (Tuesday through Sunday). There's a lot Matthew wants us to know about this period of Christ's life.

1. Why might Matthew see these days as extremely important?

## Main Themes

As Matthew closes, he hasn't forgotten about his main themes (see 1:1 for his three point outline: Jesus is the *Christ, Son of David, and Son of Abraham* (also "fulfilled")).

2. How many connections can you find to these themes in the last chapters? Look particularly for those key words as well as themes of king, kingdom, and blessing to the nations.

## Jesus' View of the Bible

In Chapter 22:23-33 & 41-45, how does Jesus interpret Old Testament texts? Literally? Symbolically? Does Jesus read into those texts something that isn't there or point out things that are right under our noses?

3. How does the way Jesus handles the Bible inform you on how to look at the Bible?

## Worship

Key to the King's glory is his rightful worship.

4. Where is Christ worshiped in this section and what does that imply about who he is?

## Discourse on Last Things

Chapters 24 & 25 form Jesus' last discourse of 5 in Matthew (Matt is very concerned with Jesus' authoritative teaching and preaching). This also happens to be one of the most controversial sections of this gospel, primarily with Christians disagreeing on the *timing* of the events Jesus predicts.

5. Instead of solving for timing now, what *themes* show up repeatedly in this section and what does the King want citizens of his kingdom to do? What does he want them to believe?

## Authority & Blessing

Matthew closes his gospel with Jesus' words. Revelation is the only other NT book to do so (at least Jesus' words are almost the final ones). Thus, the NT books open and close with Christ's personal message.

6. How does the "great commission" of 28:18-20 return to the main themes of Matthew which are actually main themes of Jesus' teaching & preaching?