

MATTHEW

JESUS IS THE MESSIAH.
HE CAME TO MAKE A NEW COVENANT.

Jesus **FED 5,000 MEN** with five loaves and two fish (Mt 14:15–21).



Jesus and Peter once paid taxes with a coin found in a **FISH'S MOUTH** (Mt 17:24–27).



The name “Jesus” was chosen by God. It means **“THE LORD SAVES”** (Mt 1:20–21).

An angel started an **EARTHQUAKE** by rolling back the stone that sealed Jesus’s tomb (Mt 28:1–4).



WHO WROTE THE TEXT? Matthew, the tax collector (also known as Levi).

WHO IS THE AUDIENCE? Jewish Christians, possibly in Antioch of Syria.

WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD?

Roman control of Palestine began, 63 BC; Herod the Great died, 4 BC; Rome destroys the temple in Jerusalem, AD 70.

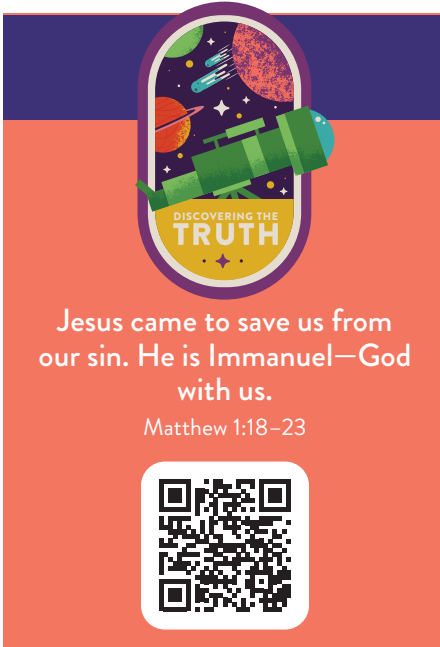
WHEN WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? AD 55–65.

WHEN DID THE EVENTS OF MATTHEW TAKE PLACE? 4 BC–AD 33.

WHERE WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? Coast of Phoenicia or Syria; perhaps Antioch.

WHY WAS MATTHEW WRITTEN? To reveal Jesus as the Messiah and the one who fulfilled prophecies. To show Jesus’s power and his ability to give that power to his disciples in order to spread the gospel.

CHRIST IN CONTEXT: In the book of Matthew, Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament promises. He is the King that God’s people had been waiting for. As Matthew told the story of Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection, he described Jesus as King and Messiah. Jesus reigns over all and he has power over everything—even death.



Jesus came to save us from
our sin. He is Immanuel—God
with us.

Matthew 1:18–23



THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS CHRIST

1 An account of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

FROM ABRAHAM TO DAVID

- 2** Abraham fathered Isaac,
Isaac fathered Jacob,
Jacob fathered Judah and his brothers,
- 3** Judah fathered Perez and Zerah
by Tamar,
Perez fathered Hezron,
Hezron fathered Aram,
- 4** Aram fathered Amminadab,
Amminadab fathered Nahshon,
Nahshon fathered Salmon,
- 5** Salmon fathered Boaz by Rahab,
Boaz fathered Obed by Ruth,
Obed fathered Jesse,
- 6** and Jesse fathered King David.

FROM DAVID TO THE BABYLONIAN EXILE

- David fathered Solomon
by Uriah's wife,
- 7** Solomon fathered Rehoboam,
Rehoboam fathered Abijah,
Abijah fathered Asa,
 - 8** Asa fathered Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat fathered Joram,
Joram fathered Uzziah,
 - 9** Uzziah fathered Jotham,
Jotham fathered Ahaz,
Ahaz fathered Hezekiah,

- 10** Hezekiah fathered Manasseh,
Manasseh fathered Amon,
Amon fathered Josiah,
- 11** and Josiah fathered Jeconiah
and his brothers
at the time of the exile to Babylon.

FROM THE EXILE TO THE MESSIAH

- 12** After the exile to Babylon
Jeconiah fathered Shealtiel,
Shealtiel fathered Zerubbabel,
- 13** Zerubbabel fathered Abiud,
Abiud fathered Eliakim,
Eliakim fathered Azor,
- 14** Azor fathered Zadok,
Zadok fathered Achim,
Achim fathered Eliud,
- 15** Eliud fathered Eleazar,
Eleazar fathered Matthan,
Matthan fathered Jacob,
- 16** and Jacob fathered Joseph
the husband of Mary,
who gave birth to Jesus who is called
the Messiah.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations; and from David until the exile to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the exile to Babylon until the Messiah, fourteen generations.

THE NATIVITY OF THE MESSIAH

18 The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. **19** So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly.

20 But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 See, the virgin will
become pregnant
and give birth to a son,
and they will name him Immanuel,
which is translated "God is with us."

EXCAVATING
 THE PAST

FAMILY TREE

Matthew wanted the Jewish people to understand that

JESUS WAS THE PROMISED MESSIAH.

So Matthew went all the way back to Abraham and explained how God had been faithful to the Jews and had brought Jesus to

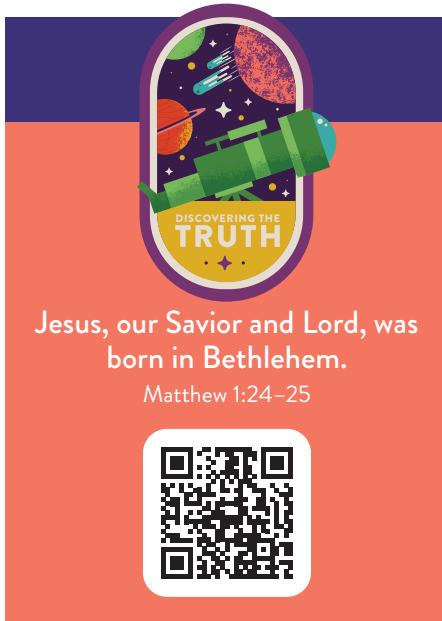
earth through their great big **FAMILY TREE**. From Abraham to Isaac to King David and beyond, Abraham's family tree grew and grew until Jesus was born.

The **TIMELINE** in this photograph was created in the year 1230 by Peter of Poitiers. Like Matthew, Peter of Poitiers went back many, many generations to record Jesus's family tree and create this timeline of world history.


DIAGRAM OF THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL

KING DAVID

JESUS'S BIRTH



Jesus, our Savior and Lord, was born in Bethlehem.

Matthew 1:24-25



²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her²⁵ but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.

WISE MEN VISIT THE KING

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, wise men from the east arrived in Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star at its rising and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴So he assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people and asked them where the Messiah would be born.

⁵"In Bethlehem of Judea," they told him, "because this is what was written by the prophet:

⁶ **And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah: Because out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.**"

⁷Then Herod secretly summoned the wise men and asked them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for

the child. When you find him, report back to me so that I too can go and worship him."

⁹After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was — the star they had seen at its rising. It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route.

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

¹³After they were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Get up! Take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. For Herod is about to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and escaped to Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until Herod's death, so that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled: **Out of Egypt I called my Son.**

THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS

¹⁶Then Herod, when he realized that he had been outwitted by the wise men, flew into a rage. He gave orders to massacre all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, in keeping with the time he had learned from the wise men.

¹⁷Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

¹⁸ **A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children; and she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.**

THE RETURN TO NAZARETH

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, because those who intended to kill the child are dead."

²¹So he got up, took the child and his mother, and entered the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned in a dream, he withdrew to the region of Galilee. ²³Then he went and settled in a town



HEROD WHO'S WHO

A **HEROD** is a ruler from the **HERODIAN DYNASTY**. King Herod, also known as Herod the Great, was the King of Judea when Jesus was born. He is one of **SIX HERODS** mentioned in the New Testament.

37-4 BC

HEROD THE GREAT

was king between 37-4 BC over Judea, during the Christmas story.



4 BC-AD 6

HEROD ARCHELAUS

was king between 4 BC-AD 6 over Judea, Samaria, and Idumea. He was the reason Joseph refused to move Mary and Jesus back to Bethlehem.



4 BC-AD 34

HEROD PHILIP II

was king between 4 BC-AD 34 over Iturea and Trachonitis, northeast of the Sea of Galilee.



4 BC-AD 39

HEROD ANTIPAS

was king between 4 BC-AD 39, reigning most of Jesus's life and killing John the Baptist. His territory included Galilee and Perea.



AD 37-44

HEROD AGRIPPA I

was king between AD 37-44. He put Peter in prison in the book of Acts (read about it in Acts 12).



AD 53-93

HEROD AGRIPPA II

ruled over various areas north of Israel between AD 53-ca 93. He heard the apostle Paul's defense in Caesarea (read about it in Acts 25).



EXCAVATING
 THE PAST

HEROD THE GREAT'S GREAT BUILDING PROJECTS

HEROD THE GREAT ruled over Judea when Jesus was born. Explore some of the places he had built during his reign.

**MODEL OF THE
 TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM**

**FORTRESS AT
 MOUNT HERODION**

**RUINS OF
 HEROD'S FORTRESS**

**PALACE IN
 SEBASTIA, SAMARIA**

**RUINS OF THE
 PALACE AT MASADA**

**HIPPODROME (STADIUM)
 IN CAESAREA MARITIMA**


called Nazareth to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

THE HERALD OF THE MESSIAH

3 In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea² and saying, “Repent, because the kingdom of heaven has come near!”³ For he is the one spoken of through the prophet Isaiah, who said:

**A voice of one crying out
in the wilderness:
Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight!**

⁴ Now John had a camel-hair garment with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.⁵ Then people from Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the vicinity of the Jordan were going out to him,⁶ and they were baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins.

⁷ When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?⁸ Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance.⁹ And don’t presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones.¹⁰ The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn’t produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I. I am not worthy to remove his sandals. He himself will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹² His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn. But the chaff he will burn with fire that never goes out.”

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.¹⁴ But John tried to stop him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and yet you come to me?”

¹⁵ Jesus answered him, “**Allow it for now, because this is the way for us to fulfill all righteousness.**” Then John allowed him to be baptized.

¹⁶ When Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water. The heavens



JOSEPH

Jesus’s Earthly Father

STORY IN BIBLE: Matthew 1–2; Luke 3.

BORN: Around 30 BC.

NAME MEANING: “May He Add.”

OCCUPATION: Carpenter.

RELATIVES: Wife—Mary. Adopted son—Jesus. Children—other sons and daughters.

CONTEMPORARY: Herod the Great.

CLAIM TO FAME:

- Earthly father of Jesus.
- In the ancestral line of David.
- Lived in Nazareth, a hilltop town in northern Israel.
- Never speaks a word in the Bible.
- Probably made furniture and farm tools, as houses then were made of stone and earth.
- Was told in a dream to marry Mary, even though she was already pregnant.
- Took Mary to his family’s hometown of Bethlehem to register for the census.
- Was told in a dream to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt to escape Herod.
- Is not mentioned at all after Jesus is about 12 years old.

DISCOVERING THE TRUTH

We should worship Jesus.
Matthew 2:1-15,19-23

THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ Then the tempter approached him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

⁴ He answered, "**It is written: Man must 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, had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written:

He will give his angels orders concerning you, and they will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

⁷ Jesus told him, "**It is also written: Do not test the Lord your God.**"

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. ⁹ And he said to him, "I will give you

suddenly opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased."

ROADTRIP!

The wise men traveled about **800 MILES** to find Jesus.

HOW FAR IS 800 MILES? IT WOULD TAKE:

- 267 HOURS TO WALK** (Image of a person walking)
- 32 HOURS TO RIDE ON CAMELBACK** (Image of a camel)
- 53 HOURS TO BIKE** (Image of a person on a bicycle)
- 2 HOURS TO FLY ON A PLANE** (Image of an airplane)

EXPLORING CREATION

NEW YORK CITY TO CHICAGO 790 MILES

CHICAGO NEW YORK