

**Introduction to the Gospel According  
to Saint Matthew**

**(pages 3-5)**

1. Who does tradition identify as the author of the first Gospel? (page 3)
  
2. How does modern scholarship view this tradition? (page 3)
  
3. When does it appear that the Gospel was written? What two major factors support that the Gospel was written in the middle of the 1<sup>st</sup> century? (page 3-4)

4. What group was the Gospel written for and what geographic area? What language was it written in? (page 4)

5. What is the central theme of Matthew's Gospel? (page 4)

6. How does the Kingdom relate to King David? How is the Kingdom ethical, ecclesial and eschatological? (page 4-5)

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW

## The Genealogy of Jesus Christ

Matthew's Gospel was written to a Jewish audience, why would references to Abraham and David be important? (note 1:2-17)

What is the difference between Luke's genealogy and Matthew's genealogy? (note 1:2-17)

Who are the four women in the genealogy and what is the significance in their inclusion? (note 1:3-6)

Why does Matthew stress the division of the genealogy into 3 units of 14? What about the relationship of the number of generations and the wilderness journey of Israel? (note 1:17)

### The Birth of Jesus Christ

How do Joseph and the Old Testament patriarch Joseph share similar experiences? (note 1:20)

What is the Church's teaching on the Virgin Birth? (note 1:25)

## The Visit of the Wise Men

What is the significance of the small city of Bethlehem? (note 2:1)

Who is Herod the Great? What is the significance of the prophecy of Balaam? (note 2:1)

What is the symbolism of gold, frankincense and myrrh? (note 2:11)

## The Escape to Egypt

What is the meaning of the quotation from Hosea 11:1 “Out of Egypt have I called my son”? (note 2:15)

Is Matthew’s infancy Narrative Historical?

How does the life of Jesus mirror that of Moses?  
(note 2:16)

## The Preaching of John the Baptist

Who is John the Baptist? (note 3:1)

What is meant by the Kingdom of Heaven? (note 3:2)

What is the difference between John's baptism and sacramental baptism? (note 3:11)

## The Temptation of Jesus

How does the temptation of Jesus contrast with the temptation of ancient Israel? (note 4:1-11)

## Jesus Begins Preaching in Galilee

Why did Jesus choose Galilee as a place to restore the lost sheep of the house of Israel? (note 4:12, note 4:15-16)