

The Gospel of St. Matthew in Rhyming Verse

A work by a devout Christian: June 2019

Matthew Chapters 1 & 2

When Abram became Abraham
Established was a line of man,
That led to David with his sheep
Vigilant and not asleep,
When he slew satanic bear
All alone on hillside there,
And in David's earthly line
Came Jesus Christ on in time,
Double goodness three times done
And Mary's yes would make that one,
Then calming Joseph in a dream
An angel of the Lord was seen,
So in the flesh our God was come
The Son of Man and God's own Son,
To humble house wise came to see
Then from Herod all did flee,
Toddler Jesus a refugee
On Herod's death to Galilee,
In Nazareth of ill repute
The family put down a root.

Matthew Chapter 3

From the wilderness he came
John the Baptist was his name,
Now's the time to turn around
Repent Messiahs almost found,
And in the Jordan's cooling flow
The people came for sins to go,
You viper's brood you'll have your end
To Pharisees who would not bend,
Said the wild and bearded man

The herald of God's greatest plan,
That soon would come the Holy One
With Spirit's fire God's own Son,
Then even John in awe did find
That Jesus came so very kind,
To have the wild man's water bath
Perhaps with smile almost a laugh,
Yes John now let it be so
And heaven opened with a glow,
As God's Spirit like a dove
Spoke the sign of bonded love.

Matthew Chapter 4

By the Spirit Christ was led
For forty days till nearly dead,
He fasted for His mission's start
To be the power of God's heart,
Then the Devil came and said
Give proof by turning stones to bread,
Then on the Temple just jump down
For angels then will fast come round,
And you can be the world's top man
Just worship him was Satan's plan,
But each time our Lord said no
Down Satan's paths
Christ would not go,
Be gone He said and Satan went
and angels came their help they lent,
Then Jesus heard John was locked up
Now in full would come his cup,
He picked His men with "follow me"
And preached and healed through Galilee,
Repent for soon the Kingdom's reign
Cast demons out healed people's pain.

Matthew Chapter 5

The people listened much amazed
The meek are blessed made them feel dazed,
What of soldiers and of kings
No blessed are pure and weakling things,
Peacemakers and the much reviled
Who think and act like a good child,
These are the ones who shine Christ's light
To glorify the God who's right,
No killing and no anger too
Which makes the world a raging zoo,
The hates and lusts that rouse much fight
By Christ's Spirit put to flight,
Remarriage is a bad idea
Though separate if you're in fear,
No swearing just speak honestly
From all revenge your soul must flee,
Greet all and love your enemies
For our God loves even these.

Matthew Chapter 6

Sound no trumpets as you give
It simply is the way to live,
Pray often to our Father true
Not as if it's about you,
But quietly to Holy God
That Kingdom paths may soon be trod,
To forgive makes us forgiven
Avoiding Spiritual prison,
Fast in joy before our Lord
Not seen by men or no reward,
Instead save up some heaven's wealth
Don't let your soul get full of stealth,
And don't get in an anxious state
About your food or clothes or fate,
Just long that Jesus' Kingdom come

Enjoy the Spirit's Holy run.

Matthew Chapter 7

If in your eye there is a log
Don't judge another as a dog,
But when you've strived and got it out
Then you can help those round about,
So you become kind of judges
Clean and not with lots of smudges,
With Holy insights carefully pick
Those who're not of Spirit thick,
Seek and knock on God's great door
He'll give you good from His big store,
As you would want, to each then do
This is the narrow way for you,
Beware of wolves that look like sheep
Look at their fruit don't go to sleep,
So Jesus said to do his word
Not carry on like you've not heard,
No 'Lord Lord' then build on sand
And when floods come upon the land,
Get swept away a ruin be
Because we did not obey Thee.

Matthew Chapter 8

Great crowds followed Him everywhere
He healed a leper calling there,
Then He reached Capernium
Meeting a centurion,
Who came to ask His healing for
His servant who was at death's door,
An officer of occupation
And yet he showed his humble station,
Just say the word no need to come
Compared to you I am some scum,
And Jesus said He had not found

Such faith as this just so profound,
Healing Peter's mother-in-law
Brought dozens more to healings door,
As the demons were cast out
Men said they'd follow Him about,
But He raised some words of doubt
Could they really go all out?
Then in the boat He calmed a storm
With awe they looked upon His form,
And then two bad demoniacs
Were delivered from attacks.

Matthew Chapter 9

To His own home town He came
And healed a paralytic lame,
And forgave his sins as well
To fully break satanic spell,
The Son of Man who sins forgave
Wanted sinners to be brave,
To Matthew He said "follow me"
And tax collectors He made free,
The Pharisees detested it
For their thoughts were from the pit,
No fasting while the bridegrooms here
Christ's wine is new and not old beer,
A ruler came but knelt to Him
My daughter died please touch her skin,
Then a woman touched His cloak
"Your faith has healed you", so He spoke,
Then He raised the girl who'd died
And through the streets all this was cried,
One possessed and two blind men
Jesus made all well again,
The good news was the Kingdom come
To Him so many sheep did run.

Matthew Chapter 10

Jesus called the twelve to Him
And gave them power from within,
Cast out spirits heal the sick
Tell Israel Kingdom will come quick,
Take no money staff or clothes
And in them so much faith arose,
If you find a worthy place
Bring it peace and stay your pace,
But if they treat you bad and wrong
Shake off their dust and carry on,
Be innocent as doves but wise
Beware of men like wolves inside,
Let God's Spirit lead your speech
If they punish flee their reach,
Do not fear men but fear our God
Though He gives care as well as rod,
Speak of Jesus before all men
And He'll speak for you in heaven,
With Spirit's sword just give your life
Love Him more than kin or wife,
And those who help and give to you
Will be rewarded through and through.

Matthew Chapter 11

Even John was much perplexed
Two comings made the priests be vexed,
Messiah should be a great King
Not just casting out and healing,
Jesus said not all would see
The Kingdom is in loving free,
Then after Godly love gets smashed
In second coming sin gets thrashed,
For in the scriptures of the Jews
Messiah did not come in twos,
John knew that Jesus came from God

But where was His almighty rod,
As for the priests and scholars
Both John and Jesus were bad fellahs,
Then worse than Sodom it would go
For towns that little faith did show,
For it is those of childlike mind
Who yoke to Jesus the great find.

Matthew Chapter 12 v.1 - 42

They garnered grain against the rule
And Pharisees that were so cruel,
Said to Jesus stop this sin
But God's power was in him,
And on the sabbath Jesus healed
Again the lawyers took the field,
Good deeds are good for any day
Said the Master of the Way,
To murder Him they made their plans
But Jesus left them with His bands,
Filled with God's Spirit, caring Brother
Prince of Peace, friend like no other,
The Pharisees at Spirit railed
For now their schemes and plans had failed,
The people knew He was from God
Shielding them from lawyers rod,
You brood of vipers in your heart
From there comes all your twisted art,
The Pharisees said give a sign
But Jesus said you've had your time.

Matthew Chapter 12 v. 43 and Ch. 13

More bad spirits can return
If Holy Spirit you don't yearn,
His mother and His brothers came
Who were of Jesus' earthly name,
But Jesus said those truly kin

Were those who obey God not sin,
In parables He spoke and taught
So earthly wisdom came to nought,
Of seeds and fruit and growing weeds
So those with ears could have good feeds,
But those whose spirits would not hear
Would make a choice that cost them dear,
Tales of treasure pearls and fishing
Let the Kingdom be your wishing,
We must give up all for this
If we want the Kingdom's bliss,
Disciples of the Kingdom true
Bring out their treasures old and new.

Matthew Chapter 14

When news of Jesus reached the King
He thought it John, though he'd killed him,
For Herod on a lustful whim
For his wife's sake beheaded him,
When Jesus heard of John's bad fate
He walked alone in thoughtful state,
But soon the crowds were on His track
And thousands followed at His back,
With only five loaves and two fish
For thousands He did make a dish,
Yet He had said to each disciple
You feed them as if a trifle,
He then went on alone to pray
Disciples in a boat that day,
He walked to them through a rough wave
It is a ghost, a cry they gave,
He said it's me and Peter jumped
and walked some steps across seas humped,
But then all his fears kicked in
And Jesus caught and guided him,
Back on land the crowds soon came

He healed the mad, the blind, the lame.

Matthew Chapter 15

The Pharisees were full of anger
That traditions were in danger,
His disciples did not keep the rules
Making them appear like fools,
But Jesus said their hearts were far
From the true worship they did bar,
Just lip worship and rules of men
And dodges to get rich again,
God did not plant you Pharisees
And rooted up you all will be,
Eating unwashed does not defile
But from their minds do run a mile,
In Tyre a desperate woman came
A demon holds my daughter's rein,
I am a dog about your feet
But please Lord just a crumb to eat,
Great is your faith so be it done
The demon left her little one,
Then at the Galilean Sea
He healed and fed four thousand free.

Matthew Chapter 16

How many signs did they need?
Those He had shown they would not heed,
But still the big men wanted more
So Jesus just showed them the door,
Pharisees you are a bore
Just Jonah's sign for you no more,
Of Pharisees and priests beware
Their leaven is of evil fare,
The disciples had it in their head
That He had seen we're short of bread,
His leavened bread of twelve and seven

Meant Jews and Gentiles could have heaven,
Then it clicked He meant their teaching
The leaven of their deed of preaching,
Who do men say that I am?
The Son of God said one man,
Yes Peter on this proclamation
I'll build a church from every nation,
Though yet soon I must be killed
Peter with disgust was filled,
That is of Satan take your cross
Or your spirits will get lost.

Matthew Chapter 17

So up the mountain they did go
Taste of the Kingdom in a glow,
Jesus in transcendent gleam
By Peter, James and John was seen,
With the Law and Prophets men
Elijah, Moses back again,
But God said listen to my Son
For this is my beloved one,
Then down the mountain He did come
Casting demon from man's son,
Then in Galilee He said
Soon like John they'll kill me dead,
To Peter Temple tax-men came
Does your master pay this same?
Peter saying yes in haste
Was Jesus' caution made to taste,
We do not have to but we will
To not offend we will fulfil,
So get our tax coin from a fish
And put it in the tax-man's dish.

Matthew Chapter 18

They asked who in heaven was the best
Be like a child to pass the test,
For Jesus said to receive me
Be humble, like these children be,
Those who tempt Christians to sin
May as well do themselves in,
Cut out from your soul within
Any cause you have for sin,
Both children and the childlike one
Have angels before God's own throne,
The Good Shepherd searches for just one
It is for each and not the sum,
Keep on forgiving to the sorry
But if not the church should worry,
If we in Jesus name do meet
He'll back us and our prayers He'll greet,
Be forgiving and be kind
We'll be forgiven in God's mind,
As otherwise you'll pay your debt
Long time in 'prison' you will get.

Matthew Chapter 19

Again He healed the desperate folk
But Pharisees came with their yoke,
Trying hard to put Him down
With questions that would make you frown,
Moses said we can remarry
But with scriptures He did parry,
A man shall cleave then to his wife
Some may split but soul bonds for life,
They asked "but Lord why then marry?"
He said 'tis better singles tarry,
Let he who for the Kingdom can
Take singleness, the higher plan,
And do not chase the kids away

He blessed them then they went to play,
A rich young man then came to Him
Now follow me give everything,
To give up all was just too much
His riches were for him a crutch,
Jesus said "Those who follow me
Will gain the Kingdom of the free."

Matthew Chapter 20

A parable leads carnal mind
To stay spiritually blind,
Switch on your spirit ask for sense
God gives all some recompense,
It is His nature to give full
Not calculating human pull,
When you can feel that love is justice
You will know who Jesus Christ is,
Again He warned He would be killed
For being with God's Spirit filled,
Some wanted honour at His side
Can you from suffering not hide,
Such places are for God to know
Now be a servant, let Christ flow,
For Jesus said I come to serve
Then two blind men called out with verve,
He touched their eyes with servant's love
They followed Him and looked above.

Matthew Chapter 21

Jesus said, "To that village go
Get their donkey, they will know,
Just tell them that the Lord has need"
Fulfilling prophecy indeed,
As He rode to Jerusalem
The people threw palm leaves for Him,
The cry went up Hosanna high

And money changers had to fly,
Be off you evil den of thieves
He healed all those who did believe,
The priests and scribes were seeing red
But the children truth had said,
The Son of David's come to reign
The priests were withered not the lame,
They challenged Him like withered trees
Their withered hearts He could not please,
The priests had promised to serve God
But it was just a baseless nod,
They would kill even God's own Son
They grew no fruits of His Kingdom,
Now they waited to get Him
But they feared the people's vim.

Matthew Chapter 22

Jesus had a startling word
For those who with the spirit heard,
Many called but few are chosen
Be clothed in Him or get frozen,
But to say or not His name
To have God's Spirit is not the same,
Give your taxes to the Caesars
But to God give all that pleases,
God wants our love and not our tax
Not putting burdens on our backs,
There is no marriage up in heaven
No wives at all though there were seven,
Like angels you will serve and praise
Almighty God from age to age,
Even now first love Lord God
Then neighbours be like peas in pod,
He asked whose Son in the Messiah?
They said David was the higher,
Jesus said that's wrong way round

Look in the scriptures till you've found.

Matthew Chapter 23

Jesus said beware of preachers
Who practice not, but say they're teachers,
They're all for show and want respect
But from discipleship defect,
In the Spirit don't say Father
Keep for God such titles rather,
Among you servants are the great
Not scribes and priests in prideful state,
Woe to all of you blind leaders
Actors and the unclean feeders,
You built the tombs of the just prophets
And use their names to make your profits,
So all your generated ilk
Will be responsible in guilt,
Oh people of Jerusalem
How I want to be your hen,
To gather you beneath my breast
Your leaders now reject the best.

Matthew Chapter 24

Jesus said the Temple's stones
Will be thrown down to peoples moans,
Such time of sorrow will be coming
To false Messiahs don't be running,
Famine Pestilence and War
And persecution for you sure,
But the end will only come
When Kingdom Gospel fully run,
Then terrible events will be
Then Son of Man that all will see,
The Son of Man in glory's power
Trumpets then the angels flower,
Unbelievers will not pass away

Until the coming of that day,
But no one knows the day or hour
Watch, be ready for God's power,
If we live life in wanton pride
From wrath there'll be no place to hide.

Matthew Chapter 25

You do not know the day or hour
Keep lamps ready with oil's power,
If your light is nearly out
Get the Spirit from God's tout,
Abilities of some type
God gives to all but do not hype,
Share them and they'll multiply
Hide them and they'll slowly die,
And out you'll go when He return
He did not give what will not earn,
And when Jesus does return
It is for works of faith He'll yearn,
He yearns that He can say to us
You cared for me, you I can trust,
For any deeds done in Christ's Spirit
Does eternal bliss inherit,
But for those who serve themselves
Outside forever this one dwells.

Matthew Chapter 26

The High Priest and his evil tribe
Plotted and prepared a bribe,
To crucify the Holy One
God's greatest gift, His special Son,
Even disciples by Judas fooled
Came against a woman called,
So to anoint our Saviour's head
But her deed would be told and read,
Judas then did take the bribe

Then Eucharist for Jesus' tribe,
And yet He said that all would fall
Even Peter who talked tall,
Peter struck out with carnal sword
Trying to protect the Word,
But Jesus stopped this carnal way
Yet Peter did not try to pray,
Then he said Christ he did not know
As for most others they did go,
At least Peter and youthful John
Had the courage to tag along.

Matthew Chapter 27

The priests and elders bound Him tight
Led Him to Pilate at first light,
Judas' conscience smote him sore
Though not of Spirit but the Law,
Blood money he did not desire
But would not take repentance fire,
Did not believe the Lord would rise
And killed himself and lost the prize,
The Governor did not want Him killed
But the priests with hate were filled,
His wife did tell him of her dream
In which the Just Man she had seen,
So then Pilate washed his hands
People said on us this deed stands,
Jesus beaten mocked and murdered
But God's greatest cause was furthered,
For this God man sacrifice
Was all that ever could suffice,
To win that battle in the war
But still we have to fight some more,
And guards were set around His tomb
His followers were full of gloom.

Matthew Chapter 28

Amongst the dreadful thickening gloom
Went half-mad Mary to His tomb,
How can the Son of God be dead
The thought was doing in her head,
But at the tomb the angel said
He is risen and gone ahead,
He is going to Galilee
Go tell His followers you see,
And as they ran, this news to tell
They Jesus met, at His feet fell,
Rejoice He said, go tell them all
To Galilee I give the call,
And the elders of the Jews
Bribed the guards to tell fake news,
That disciples when they slept
Stole His body for they crept,
And on a hill in Galilee
They met with Him and they did see,
Make more disciples and baptize
Teach My way and change their lives.