

What is the point of Jesus' reference to Abel and Zechariah (vs. 35)?

What will be the result of this long history of murders (vss. 34-35)?

How did Jesus state that the Pharisees had failed to learn the lessons of Israel's history?

From this text, what do we know with certainty about the Jewish religious leaders?

GOSPEL CONNECTION

Peter preached (Acts 2:14ff) of the One the OT prophets foretold God would send as the Savior for the sins of man...

Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹"For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself." ⁴⁰And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" ⁴¹So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls." Acts 2:38-41

APPLICATION

What will you do this week to align your inward character with your outward religious activity (Prov. 4:20-27)?

MEMORY VERSE

⁹"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? ¹⁰"I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds." Jeremiah 17:9-10 (ESV)

Sermon-Based Study Guide

// April 21, 2024 //

Sermon Series:
King Jesus

Ethan Johnson
Century Baptist Church

Selective Memory

Matthew 23:29-36

1. Hindsight

2. Foresight

Sermon available at centurybaptist.org/watch/

Sermon-Based Community Life Group Study

// April 21, 2024 //

Our desire and goal is for all who call Century Baptist their church home to be involved in a community life group, Bible study, or missional community. We believe one of the best ways to be fed and exhorted in our faith is to interact with the Sunday sermon. This guide is a tool to facilitate that interaction.

The purpose of this guide is for all groups, studies, and communities to dive into the Sunday message through the study of Scripture together. If you are not in a group, we encourage you to take the step of involvement in community around your faith and the pursuit of faith in Jesus. This study guide can be used individually, however, the greatest benefit of growth in Scripture and faith comes when people are interacting together around Biblical truth and how God is at work in their lives.

Contact Pastor Paul Herr at 701.223.0478 to learn more about sermon-based community life groups, and leading or hosting a group.

OPENING UP

Tell about something you were certain you would never do when you became an adult, but did, much to your own dismay?

Introduction to Matthew

Matthew, someone has said, followed Jesus—and took his pen with him. As a tax collector, he was used to writing and to gathering information together in a clear and ordered way. When Jesus called him to live the life of a disciple, Matthew (called Levi in other places) was destined to use his gifts to give us an ordered and carefully written account of who Jesus was and what he came to do. As a disciple himself, Matthew focuses on three things: the King whom disciples follow, the lifestyle his disciples follow, and the way in which people become disciples. The identification of Jesus as a king draws us back into the Old Testament, to themes and predictions which find their fulfillment in his life and work.

(Campbell, I. D. (2008). *Opening up Matthew* (p. 14). Leominster: Day One Publications.)

Read Matthew 23:29-36

What was one point or statement from the message that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Who are these words addressed to?

What is the meaning and purpose of the term *Woe* (Greek: ouai)?

What is the meaning of the word *Hypocrites* (Greek: hupokritaes)?

Why are the scribes and Pharisees called hypocrites by Jesus?

What did these religious leaders claim according to Jesus (vs. 30)?

What does verse 31 mean?

What command does Jesus give in verse 32?

What is the meaning of that command for the scribes and Pharisees?

How does **1 Thessalonians 2:14-16** help us understand verse 32?

What terms does Jesus use to describe his audience in verse 33?

What is the significance of those terms?

What claims is Jesus making in verse 34?