

II. Sectional Studies of the Gospel of Matthew

(These are treated in a common way in our study. First we raise some general questions by a perusal of the text and then we discuss the text on a segment by segment fashion. Finally we offer some conclusions and observations.)

A. Meeting the King: Matthew 1-4

1. Some questions from the text in general:

- a. Why is the genealogy given (ch. 1)
- b. What are some lessons learned from the genealogy (ch. 1)
- c. Who were the wise men (ch. 2)
- d. Who was John the Baptist (3)
- e. Where does the teaching of baptism originate (ch. 3)
- f. How is Jesus authenticated for his ministry at His baptism? (3)
- g. What is the purpose of the temptation (ch. 4)
- h. What is the nature of the temptation (4)
- i. Why does Jesus begin a ministry in Capernaum (4).

No doubt many other questions arise and these are simply thought questions to make us think about the text. Some of them are essentially rhetorical.

2. Particular segments:

a. The generations (genealogy) 1:1-17

- (1) Note the countings --14 generations-- and observe from 1:17 that the list is more a mnemonic device than a precise list of all in the family that preceded Joseph.
- (2) Note particularly vs 5, 6, 8
- (3) Note vs. 11

And this genealogy needs eventual comparison with the one given in Luke..but not now!