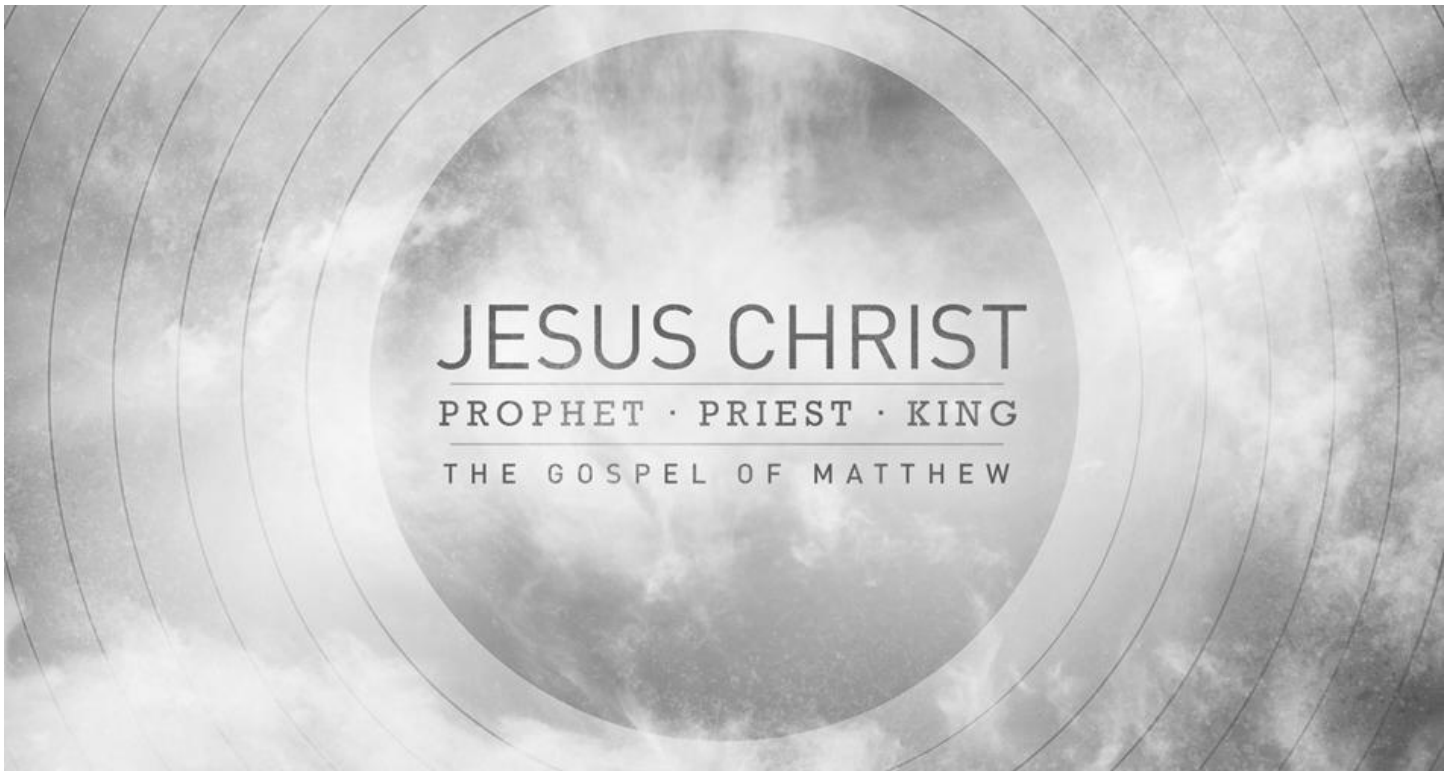




MATTHEW 8:18–22

Introduction

- Matthew begins his gospel by identifying Jesus as the “_____” (Matthew 1:1).
 - The word “Christ” is the Greek version of the Hebrew word “Messiah” – both words mean “Anointed One.” Prophets, priests, and kings were anointed for service in the Old Testament.
 - The title “Christ” came to be used of the One promised throughout the Old Testament (Genesis 3:15, 12:1-3, 15:1-6, 17:1-8, Deuteronomy 18:15, 2 Samuel 7:12-16, Psalm 2, Isaiah 52:13-53:12).
 - The miracle of the _____ teaches us that Jesus Christ was (and is) Immanuel – God with us (Matthew 1:23). We would expect the God-man to perform miracles.

“But it is necessary for eternal salvation that one also believe in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ faithfully. Now this is the true faith: That we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and human, equally. He is God from the essence of the Father, begotten before time; and he is human from the essence of his mother, born in time; completely God, completely human, with a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity. Although he is God and human, yet Christ is not two, but one. He is one, however, not by his divinity being turned into flesh,

but by God's taking humanity to himself. He is one, certainly not by the blending of his essence, but by the unity of his person. For just as one human is both rational soul and flesh, so too **the one Christ is both God and human.**" (Athanasian Creed, Athanasius of Alexandria, 293-373 AD)

- Matthew 8-9 contains a series of _____ (a leper, a centurion's servant, Peter's mother-in-law, two demon possessed men, a paralytic, a dead girl, a chronically sick woman, two blind men, and a mute man).

The Big Idea

- As the Christ (Messiah), Jesus has the right to define _____.

Discipleship

- Jesus refused to let his ministry be controlled by the _____ (Matthew 8:18).
 - Jesus came to earth with a _____ – dying on the cross (Matthew 1:21, 20:28).
 - Jesus left the church with a _____ – making disciples (Matthew 16:24-28, 28:18-20).
 - *Focusing on discipleship doesn't mean we don't want lots of people to get saved (Revelation 7:9)!*
- Jesus told his disciples they could not serve God and _____ (Matthew 8:19-20 ... Matthew 6:24, 19:23-26).
 - *Being a disciple doesn't mean we embrace poverty, laziness, and over-spending!*
 - *Giving away all your money doesn't guarantee you a place in Jesus' kingdom!*
- Jesus told his disciples that _____ must not come before God (Matthew 8:21-22 ... Matthew 10:37, 12:46-50).
 - *Prioritizing God over family doesn't mean family is unimportant or disposable!*
 - *Being a Christian doesn't free you from the obligation of the fifth commandment!*

Application

- Have I made a _____ response to the gospel message?
- Am I striving to live as a _____ disciple of Jesus?