

Jesus, The Anointed One

Matthew #2

by Chris Famisaran

Welcome to this presentation from the Downey Seventh Day Adventist Church. We are located in the greater Los Angeles area at 9820 Lakewood Boulevard in Downey, California. We would love to have your worship with us any Saturday you are in our area.

All right, well, good morning, everybody. All right. Our teachers are getting seated. Man, it's so great to be back with you again. Sorry, I missed you all. Last week, I was in Arizona, serving as a delegate on behalf of Southern California conference to vote, new leadership and policy at the union level, which is the next level above us. The well above the conference, I should say. And it was a great trip. Drove out all the way to Tucson, Arizona. I thought it was gonna be a million degrees out there. But it was only in the low 90s. So it was really nice. And actually, for the last two weeks, it had been raining. Now how many of you have ever been to Arizona during monsoon weather? Okay, a handful of you. All right. Growing up, I've been to Arizona a number of times, especially during the summer, they get the monsoons. And it is probably some of the most gnarlyist thunder and lightning I've ever experienced. In fact, in my hotel room, I was looking across the valley near Mount Lemmon. And it was a light show. It was awesome, it was amazing, but didn't have the thunder. Frankly, I was a little disappointed. And then on the last night the thunder finally did come. And I wasn't able to sleep as well. So it was rather unexpected. But throughout the two weeks prior all of that rain caused all of the hillside that we were staying at to become green. Once I drove in, I was thinking it's August. It's super hot. And yet life abounds in the midst of a dry and dreary landscape. And that had me thinking, you know, in the midst of this world, when Jesus comes into onto earth, He comes in a way that is so unexpected.

Now as Bill pointed out last week, we're beginning a new series on the book of Matthew. And it's our goal to be able to go through a number of themes that as you read through Matthew next time, and I encourage you sometime read it again from beginning to end. And you'll see these themes popping up. We're not going to go through every single section today of Jesus as the anointed one, or the Messiah, just a few. Because I want to leave it open for you to be able to discover and see as you read the gospel in a way that you had never understood or realized before. That's one of the things about the Bible. I've been reading the Bible my whole life. And there's still things that pop out to me. It's like, wow, I had never seen it that way before. That is so amazing. And so today we're going to talk about the Anointed One, also known as the Messiah. Last week, Bill touched on the fact of there are so many, there's a number of prophecies in the Old Testament pointing that Jesus is coming. And here we're going to focus especially on that of being the anointed one. So one of the things about Jesus being the Messiah is that in the book of Matthew, Jesus is the central theme. He is the nucleus of the Gospel of Matthew, you find in the first four chapters is Jesus, dedicated, Matthew dedicates the first four chapters of Matthew to Jesus being prepared for his ministry. And then in chapters 5 through 16, it talks about how Jesus went out, he taught, he preached, he healed, he listened. And then finally the last

from 16 to 28. It talks about Jesus life, death, resurrection. So Jesus is the nucleus of the Gospel of Matthew. The other thing too is, Jesus is the Messiah, the Jewish name, the one that the Jewish nation had been waiting and longing for. And so we put out a couple of texts just to kind of you can look back later but I'd like to go to one of these passages. Let's go to Second Samuel 7, Second Samuel 7, verses 11 through 16. It long been declared that the Lord would establish through through David's line, a kingdom. All right when you're there say amen. Amen. Still here a few pages flippin. By the way, if this is your first time being here, we want to say welcome. Thank you for joining us today. Glad to have you here. Alright.

So in Second Samuel 7:11 through 16. It says, "'The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: 12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me[b]; your throne will be established forever.'"

So already prior to in Second Samuel, there's this pointing of a future Messiah. Now there are other passages that we can look at. But this is just one of them. Now, the Messiah, what is the Messiah mean means to be the anointed one. And Jesus is he's the divine Son of God, he is he manual as we read a number of times, especially this last Christmas, in Matthew 1:23. In fact, okay, if we even go to Matthew 1, let's actually go to Matthew 1. Matthew 1:1. It says, This is the what genealogy? Why does Matthew start his gospel with a bunch of names? Anybody have an idea? I'm sorry, to prove his point. Absolutely. That Jesus wasn't just somebody who comes out out of nowhere, but there's a lineage Jesus has history. In fact, it starts all the way to Abraham, Father Abraham, some of us know of song father Abraham had many sons, many sons have Abraham. I won't go further. But you so tempted, so many years of Camp ministry, and so you go through, for instance, Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac, the father of Jacob, etc, etc, etc. And, and it's here that we see that Jesus is just no random figure. But comes from the line of David, all the way back. And if you're a good Jew, and Matthew, is what I guess you could say, it's the Jewish gospel. It was written for the Jewish Christians at a time where they were kind of at odds with the, the Jewish nation itself, the Jewish Christians were being persecuted. And they were they were having troubles with their non Christ believing brothers and sisters. So how do you reconcile this? Well, the author is pointing out Look, this is the one who was to come. And a good Jew knew their genealogy. They knew where they came from, if they didn't, for instance, when when the the temple was rebuilt, they were on the outs to some degree, so they knew who they were, where they came from. And not only that, as we also read earlier, this is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about this is verse 23, that the birth of Messiah Jesus of Messiah came about his mother was pledged to be married to Joseph before they came together. She was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. And eventually, it comes down to verse 23. Word says, Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us now, God can you imagine God coming down here on earth? If you were a god, would you want to come down here on Earth at the current state as it is right now?

Oh, you know This week has been very, I don't know, I don't know about you, but hit me in the fields this week, it's a lot of stuff has been happening. And the bigger picture, my heart breaks for this world that is in pain and an agony. And I asked myself, What can I do? Sometimes I'm at a loss. And truly, the only thing that I know that I can at least do is I can try to make a difference in my home, in my neighborhood, to be kind, to be respectful, to be loving. These are things that are that were taught from a young age. And well, I can't control the whole world. I can try to do my part. And to be a disciple, and emissary and ambassador for Christ. But God comes down to earth, that's just to me that just, it blows my mind. What other God has done that? None, that I know of. And so God is here. And, and as you read through Matthew, two, three, and four, he's preparing. In fact, he in I think it's chapter four, he prepares himself in a journey. 40 days of fasting. I haven't eaten breakfast, and I'm starving already. Right. But yet it was his preparation. He was anointed he was called.

Jesus is also the bedrock of our faith without Christ, we're nothing. In fact, even an inspired writer, Ellen White says that Christ is to be the center, the heart of every message that you preach. I'm not perfect, but I have always tried to be able to preach Christ, every sermon that I get up here, that Christ be lifted up. Jesus is the bedrock and I had to actually googled What does bedrock look like. And it took me to this picture of the desert. And sometimes you might have dirt or you might have grass or something on top of it. But underneath is this rock. This rock is a foundation. And as much as you might try to, you know, jump on it, it's not moving. Right? As much as you try to maybe take a What do you call those machines that pushes dirt? Oh, a bulldozer, right. You can have the biggest bulldozer, but it's not going to be going anywhere. In fact, there's other passages where it alludes to the fact that Jesus is the chief cornerstone.

So I'd like to go to Matthew chapter 16, Matthew 16. This is an instance where Jesus is recognized as the Son of God the Messiah. Okay. So again, we're not going to go through all of them. Just a couple. But this is a story of where one of the disciples recognizes who Jesus is. Okay, we all there. All right, thank you. So, Matthew 16, verse 13, it says, When Jesus came to the region of Syria, Philip II, he asked his disciples, He asks Peter, John, all these guys, who do people say the Son of Man is, and their responses, some say, John the baptist, others say Elijah, others say, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. Now, these people are kind of looking back. For instance, they know who Jeremiah, Elijah, people that they look to, they took comfort in because they were prophets. But Jesus says, but what about you? Who do you say I am?

And Simon, I love Simon or Peter, Simon Peter, he responds with you are the Messiah, the Son of the living God. And Jesus replied, bless it, are you, Simon, son of Jonah, but this wasn't revealed to you by flesh and blood, it wasn't because of your own thinking, but it was God who reveals but by my Father in heaven, and I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. Now, there's kind of been a little bit of misunderstanding sometimes because, Peter, what what is the root name for Peter? What does it mean to be a stone or pebble right a rock and

although there's similarities with his name, and Peter has a prominent central position. He's a central figure in the work of the church after Jesus dies. This rock is not based on Peter. It's based on Christ. Jesus is the cornerstone, and on this rock, I will build my church and as it says, the gates of Hades will not overcome it. When a church chooses to not keep Christ centered in its mission, mercy, amen. We have to keep Christ centered. And Jesus the Messiah, he comes down to earth, He lives among God's people. He teaches, he preaches, he heals, he has compassion, he listens to the pleas of many who are sick, who are retired, who are hurting, and who are dying.

Much like I turned the news on this, you know, this last week? How many are hurting? How many are crying? How many are grieving? How many are so scared to death. And it could be here on the streets, I have conversations all the time of people who are struggling. And I see and I turn on the news. People just trying to have an existence without even being caught in the middle. Just trying to live a normal life. It hurts.

Jesus goes on I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. And then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Of course if you tell a child to do not to do something, what do they do? They do the opposite, right? I don't know why it is. But we always seem to want to do the opposite thing of when we're told not to do something. Here, Jesus is recognized by his disciples You are the Messiah. Everything is centered in Christ. May we always continue to do that to see Jesus as Messiah. May our prayers May our worship May our singing in our preaching, and everything that we do outside of this church may be rooted in Christ. The other thing that we realize, we have to recognize is that in in Matthew, Matthew points portrays Jesus as not just a king but a divine King.

Let's go to Matthew 26. Matthew 26. Are we there? Okay, so here are a few pages turning. All right. While Jesus was in Bethany, in the home of Simon the leper, a woman came to him with an alabaster jar, a very expensive perfume, which she poured on his head as he was reclining at the table. When the disciples saw this, they were what? They were indignant. They were mad, they were upset. And when the disciples so why this waste, this perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor and aware of this, Jesus said to them, why are you bothering this woman, she's done a beautiful thing to me, the poor, he will always have with you, but you will not always have me. He's already pointing to head to his death here. And when she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done has also will also be told in memory of her. Now, it was common practice in the Old Testament, for somebody to be a king to be anointed before to be anointed beforehand, and also in death. And so there's kind of a double illustration here. But this woman sees and recognizes who Jesus was, and anoint them just before his death. Now Jesus, who's the Messiah is not just a normal king of divine King. This was not the king that the Jewish nation was expecting. Although they've been loving I'm

waiting long and hoping for them to be able to overthrow the Roman Empire wasn't to be the case. You know, every teenager when they hit the point of 15, or 16, what do they want to do? They want to drive right. So maybe they'll get their driver's permit. And eventually, they want to get their driver's license so they can have what? Freedom Thank you, Bill. They want freedom. And then about two or three weeks later, after driving and doing mom and dad's errands, they think that's grand about two or three weeks later, they realize, wait a minute, this driver's license is not as cool as I thought it was. Try because now I have to do I have to go and run errands. I got to pick up my little kid brother from some appointment this or that. And you realize that you become the errand boy or the errand girl at some point, not what you expected in life, amen. How many of you who are older brothers and sisters experienced the pain that we had to go and Shepherd our siblings and do errands for mom and dad? Not quite. We have this grand illusion that we can do whatever we want, when we have a license. Like you can't, you just because you have a license doesn't mean you get to go 100 miles down the freeway, right? You can't just do whatever you want. Oh, and so the Jewish nation, they've thought, okay, the Messiah has come. But yet the Messiah does not act like the Messiah should. Messiah is humble. He helps people. When's he going to take over? In fact, the disciples were waiting, when is he going to become a king? And more importantly, when can I park my chair next to him so we can rule. All of a sudden the script is flipped. And when Jesus dies, the Messiah, he's on the cross where the disciples they're gone. Save for John. Because Jesus, you'll find in the book of John, Jesus gives the responsibility of John to be able to care for his mother. It was the ladies who had been there who would, who had financially helped them care for them fed for them that were close, closest to Jesus. Peter, he denied Jesus three times. There was no way he was going to be close to show his face felt too guilty. Divine King. This was not what was expected. And yet, when we look at the whole, whole perspective, the beautiful perspective is that as the divine King, Jesus conquers death. Amen. Jesus brings grace and salvation. Amen. Hmm. Sometimes when we look and think of kings, we think of strength. And Jesus obviously had a lot of strength that took a lot of strength, when he could have just crushed the whole earth, as it says in other points where I think there was what 10,000 angels ready to go. But no, Jesus practices humility. He practices humility, and leadership, he protects, he blesses others, he was looking out for others. A good king, a good leader, doesn't take but serves and helps, listens, provides all the things that Jesus did.

The question I have for you knows who is the Lord of your life? Where do you put your trust yourself and others, other humans, the government, want to encourage you, trust God, if you've never had that opportunity? Let's take a moment. God, there's some here who were sitting in the pews who have never had perhaps the opportunity to accept you as, as their as your as their Savior, as a Lord of their life. And as a king, no less a God. We pray. Lord, enter our hearts. May you as the divine King, be with us, guide us, may the Holy Spirit help us in all things to shape and mold us to be your disciples. And God as we continue this series, Lord, help us to understand the other themes as we read through Matthew and other other scriptures, Lord, They just pop out and to recognize what you're trying to tell us. What Matthew is trying to tell us. That Lord, you were promised before and you have come into this world, and you have overcome. And now Lord, until we meet again, Grant his wisdom, strength, and courage to be loving to be kind to be your ambassadors, as Paul says, In Second Corinthians, above all, Lord, may we be a reflection of you. Help us Lord, and especially when there are times, Lord, when we are especially discouraged or even when we make mistakes. We know though that you are a God of love.

We don't do this because we're trying to get an advantage. But Lord, we are sinners. And day by day, Lord, as we grow with you, in relationship, Help us, Lord, the things that pull us down, may we be able to free, be free from those things. And ultimately, to love and serve you and to draw closer to you. In Jesus name, everybody said, Amen.

Grace and peace, everybody. May God bless you. We'll see you next week.