

~MATTHEW (230)

(Mat'thew) [probably a shortened form of the Hebrew Mattithiah, Meaning, Gift of Yehowah]

- A Jew, otherwise known as Levi, who became an apostle of Jesus Christ and the writer of the Gospel bearing his name. He was the son of a certain Alphaeus and was a tax collector before becoming one of Jesus disciples.
- Philip and Bartholomew, Thomas and **Matthew** the tax collector, James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus. (**Matthew 10:3**)
- But as he was passing along, he caught sight of **Levi** the son of **Alphaeus** sitting at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. And rising up he followed him. (**Mark 2:14**)
- The Scriptures do not reveal whether **Levi** also had the name **Matthew** before becoming a disciple of Jesus, received it at that time, or was given that name by Jesus when he was appointed as an apostle.

See Also TAX COLLECTOR

- It appears that early in his Galilean ministry, **30** or early **31 C.E.**, Jesus Christ called **Matthew** from the tax office in or near Capernaum.
- So, boarding the boat, he proceeded across and went into his own city. (**Matthew 9:1**)
- Next, while passing along from there, Jesus caught sight of a man named **Matthew** seated at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. Thereupon he did rise up and follow him. (**Matthew 9:9**)
- However, after some days he again entered into Capernaum and he was reported to be at home. (**Mark 2:1**)
- Again he went out beside the sea, and all the crowd kept coming to him, and he began to teach them. (**Mark 2:13**)
- But as he was passing along, he caught sight of Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. And rising up he followed him. (**Mark 2:14**)

- Leaving everything behind, **Matthew** rose up and went following Jesus.
- Now after these things he went out and beheld a tax collector named **Levi** sitting at the tax office, and he said to him; Be my follower. (**Luke 5:27**)
- And leaving everything behind he rose up and went following him. (**Luke 5:28**)
- Perhaps to celebrate the receiving of his call to follow Christ, **Matthew**, spread a big reception feast, attended by Jesus and his disciples as well as many tax collectors and sinners. This disturbed the Pharisees and the scribes, causing them to murmur about Christ's eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners.
- Also, **Levi** spread a big reception feast for him in his house, and there was a great crowd of tax collectors and others who were with them reclining at the meal. (**Luke 5:29**)
- At this the Pharisees and their scribes began murmuring to his disciples, saying; Why is it you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners? (**Luke 5:30**)
- Later, while he was reclining at the table in the house, look! Many tax collectors and sinners came and began reclining with Jesus and his disciples. (**Matthew 9:10**)
- But on seeing this the Pharisees began to say to his disciples; Why is it that your teacher eats with tax collectors and sinners? (**Matthew 9:11**)
- Later he happened to be reclining at the table in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many of them and they began following him. (**Mark 2:15**)
- But the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw he was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, began saying to his disciples; Does he eat with the tax collectors and sinners? (**Mark 2:16**)
- Later, after the Passover of **31 C.E.**, Jesus selected the 12 apostles, and **Matthew** was one of them.

- And he ascended a mountain and summoned those he wanted, and they went off to him. (**Mark 3:13**)
- And he formed a group of twelve, whom he also named apostles, that they might continue with him and that he might send them out to preach (**Mark 3:14**)
- And to have authority to expel the demons. (**Mark 3:15**)
- And the group of twelve that he formed were Simon, to whom he also gave the surname Peter. (**Mark 3:16**)
- And James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James, he also gave these the surname Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder. (**Mark 3:17**)
- And Andrew and Philip and Bartholomew and **Matthew** and Thomas and James the son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus and Simon the Cananaean. (**Mark 3:18**)
- And Judas Iscariot, who later betrayed him. And he went into a house. (**Mark 3:19**)
- In the progress of these days he went out into the mountain to pray, and he continued the whole night in prayer to God. (**Luke 6:12**)
- But when it became day he called his disciples to him and chose from among them twelve, whom he also named apostles. (**Luke 6:13**)
- Simon, whom he also named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip and Bartholomew. (**Luke 6:14**)
- And **Matthew** and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who is called, the zealous one. (**Luke 6:15**)
- And Judas the son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who turned traitor. (**Luke 6:16**)
- Though the Bible makes various references to the apostles as a group, it does not mention **Matthew** by name again until after Christ's ascension to heaven. **Matthew** saw the resurrected Jesus Christ

- For I handed on to you, among the first things, that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. **(1 Corinthians 15:3)**
- And that he was buried, yes, that he has been raised up the third day according to the Scriptures. **(1 Corinthians 15:4)**
- And that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **(1 Corinthians 15:5)**
- After that he appeared to upward of five hundred brothers at one time, the most of whom remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep in death. **(1 Corinthians 15:6)**
- Received parting instructions from him, and saw him ascend to heaven. After this he and the other apostles returned to Jerusalem.
- The apostles were staying in an upper chamber there, and **Matthew** is specifically named as being among them, so he must have been one of the some 120 disciples who received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost **33 C.E.**
- And while he was meeting with them he gave them the orders; Do not withdraw from Jerusalem, but keep waiting for what the Father has promised, about which you heard from me. **(Acts of Apostles 1:4)**
- Because John, indeed, baptized with water, but you will be baptized in Holy Spirit not many days after this. **(Acts of Apostles 1:5)**
- When, now, they had assembled, they went asking him; Lord, are you restoring the kingdom to Israel at this time? **(Acts of Apostles 1:6)**
- He said to them; It does not belong to you to get knowledge of the times or seasons which the Father has placed in his own jurisdiction. **(Acts of Apostles 1:7)**
- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit arrives upon you, and you will be witnesses of me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth. **(Acts of Apostles 1:8)**

- And after he had said these things, while they were looking on, he was lifted up and a cloud caught him up from their vision. ([Acts of Apostles 1:9](#))
- And as they were gazing into the sky while he was on his way, also, look! Two men in white garments stood alongside them. ([Acts of Apostles 1:10](#))
- And they said; Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus who was received up from you into the sky will come thus in the same manner as you have beheld him going into the sky. ([Acts of Apostles 1:11](#))
- Then they returned to Jerusalem from a mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, being a Sabbath day's journey away. ([Acts of Apostles 1:12](#))
- So, when they had entered, they went up into the upper chamber, where they were staying, Peter as well as John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and **Matthew**, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealous one, and Judas the son of James. ([Acts of Apostles 1:13](#))
- With one accord all these were persisting in prayer, together with some women and Mary the mother of Jesus and with his brothers. ([Acts of Apostles 1:14](#))
- Now during these days Peter rose up in the midst of the brothers and said; the crowd of persons was all together about one hundred and twenty. ([Acts of Apostles 1:15](#))
- Now while the day of the festival of Pentecost was in progress they were all together at the same place. ([Acts of Apostles 2:1](#))
- And suddenly there occurred from heaven a noise just like that of a rushing stiff breeze, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. ([Acts of Apostles 2:2](#))
- And tongues as if of fire became visible to them and were distributed about, and one sat upon each one of them. ([Acts of Apostles 2:3](#))
- And they all became filled with Holy Spirit and started to speak

with different tongues, just as the spirit was granting them to make utterance. ([Acts of Apostles 2:4](#))