

**READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021 Week 23 (June 7- 11)**

*("Let the Word of Christ dwell in us richly" ... and bear fruit in our lives) – Colossians 3:16.*

**Historical Context** (Paul's third missionary trip).

**59 AD** When Paul continues to be imprisoned in Caesarea (arrested in Jerusalem in 57 AD, and then transferred to Caesarea to save him from being assassinated), the original version of Matthew appears to have been already been written, and this in the Hebrew language.

It currently appears to have been written after 50 AD, as it borrows whole sections of text from Mark (the oldest copy of Mark found to date is from around 50 AD).

The original version of Matthew – written in Hebrew – was then translated and edited at some point to Greek: the form of the Gospel we know today.

<b><u>Day</u></b>	<b><u>Reading</u></b>	<b><u>Clarification from the Greek (the original language)</u></b>
Mon.	Matthew 1	(:21) <b>Jesus</b> = The Greek, and its translation into English, do not catch the play on words which would be found in the original Hebrew. "Jesus" (Yeshua) is derived from the word "save" (Yoshia). - <a href="http://www.datingthenewtestament.com">www.datingthenewtestament.com</a>
Tues.	Matthew 2	(:23) <b>Nazorean</b> = Again, the Hebrew in which Matthew was originally written is helpful. This gives us at least three meanings  It can be the name of someone from the town of Nazareth – which was despised as noted by Nathaniel in John 1:46. This would then correspond with the Messiah being described as despised in Isaiah 53:2-3.  It can also be derived from the Hebrew word "netzer" which means "branch". Netzer is used of the Messiah, in Isaiah 11:1, as being the "branch of David".  A third option is the Hebrew word "natsar" which means to "watch over / protect / preserve". This fits well with the use of this word – and idea of this word – in describing the Messiah in Isaiah 49.
Wed.	Matthew 3	(:15) <b>Fulfill</b> = It is derived from the word for "full / fullness" and means to "complete / accomplish / fill / carry out." It is also used of fulfilling a wish / desire / obligation / task. It can also mean to complete what it lacking – to fill it to the very brim.
Thurs.	Matthew 4	(:19) <b>Follow</b> = Is actually a combination of two Greek words: "come" + "after / behind".
Fri.	Matthew 5	(:48) <b>Perfect</b> = Originally, it meant the turning point, at which one stage ends and another begins. It then came to mean to the goal / the end / the completion. From there is adds the meaning: "complete / perfect". One could be a perfect thief, or a perfect gymnast, or perfect in self- control, or perfect in goodness ...

Sources: [www.thebiblejourney.org](http://www.thebiblejourney.org); [www.datingthenewtestament.com](http://www.datingthenewtestament.com); [The Jewish New Testament Commentary](#), [The Englishman's Greek Concordance to the New Testament](#); [The Englishman's Hebrew Concordance to the Old Testament](#); [The Interlinear NOV Hebrew-English Old Testament](#); [Matthew – A Commentary by Frederick Dale Bruner](#); [Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, Vol II](#); [The Interlinear NIV](#); [Dictionary of New Testament Theology, Vols. 1-3](#);  
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