

READING THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021 Week 24 (June 14 - 18)

("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 Approximate date of the writing of Matthew.

Currently the oldest fragments of a copy of Matthew found are from Egypt, are written on papyrus, and date with a date of about 80 AD.

Diocletian's Edict of 303 made it illegal to have New Testament writings. This led to governing officials demanding that all texts be surrendered so that they might be burned. What we have today come from documents that were hidden away.

Day Reading Clarification from the Greek (the original language)

Mon.	Matthew 6	(:1)	<p>Piety = This is actually the same root word that we looked at in week 18 (Romans 5:1). From this, we noted in classical Greek, "the person described as "righteous" is one whose behavior fulfills the rightful obligations towards the gods and others in society."</p> <p>Prior to this, the Greek word meant: instructress / instruction. Therefore, our righteousness is often based on the instruction that we have received. This follows with the description of Jesus teaching them at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount (5:2), and Jesus' repeated use of the phrase "you have heard it said ..." followed with "but I say to you ..."</p>
Tues.	Matthew 7	(:21)	Will = Intention / wish / desire.
Wed.	Matthew 8	(:3)	Touched = To touch / take hold of. For reflection: to understand what the man and Jesus just did, it is worth reading Leviticus 13 and 14; and Leviticus 5:1-6. See also Isaiah 53:1-4.
Thurs.	Matthew 9	(:13)	... Learn ... = The phrase is "but going, learn what it is". "Learn" means to adapt oneself / grow accustomed to / prepare oneself for / acquire knowledge that can be both practical and theoretical.
Fri.	Matthew 10	(:32-33)	<p>Acknowledge / deny =</p> <p><u>Acknowledge</u> is the word "same" + "say"; and means to legally agree with another's statements, and so commitment one's self to what they have said – that it is true. It also means to acknowledge / have solidarity with.</p> <p><u>Deny</u> means to reject / refuse / decline to give / dispute / disown / renounce / to say that one does not have dealings with.</p>

Sources: www.thebiblejourney.org; www.datingthenewtestament.com; hope-of-Israel.org; christianpublishinghouse.com; [The Interlinear NIV](#); [The New Linguistic and Exegetical Key to the Greek New Testament](#); [The Interlinear NIV](#); [Dictionary of New Testament Theology](#), Vols. 1-3; © DFN (May be printed, but not used for profit).