BN9002W  The Gospel of Matthew

Offered: 2017: Semester 1

This unit will provide a general introduction to Matthew’s Gospel, including its literary and theological character, the likely provenance of the Gospel, and an overview of recent trends in Matthean studies.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:
1. Articulate the history of interpretation of Matthew’s Gospel.
2. Describe and discuss a plausible socio-political and cultural provenance for the communities that gave rise to Matthew’s Gospel.
3. Outline a plausible literary structure of Matthew’s Gospel.
4. Exegete the Matthean text competently, employing a range of appropriate exegetical methodologies.
5. Identify distinctive Matthean christological, ecclesiological, pneumatological, missiological and eschatological understandings.
6. Discuss ways in which the proclamation of the First Gospel can provide meaning in contemporary Australian society.

Prerequisites: 45 points in Foundational Studies

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:
- One 3,000 word essay (50%)
- One 1,500 word seminar paper (25%)
- One 1,500 word critical review of readings (25%)

Faculty: Keith Dyer

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

*Byrne, Brendan. Lifting the burden, reading Matthew’s Gospel in the church today. Strathfield: St Pauls, 2004