Matthew is an influential Gospel written sometime around 40-50AD and used by the early church as doctrine. The major theme of the book is the coming of Jesus, the King.

4 Facts the Gospel of Matthew Demonstrates:

- 1) Matthew Announces the Kingdom: the audience of Matthew are Jews. Romans 3:2 states that the Jews received God's Law. The vocabulary of the book would be understood by Jews. The genealogy, the chronology of the book picking up after Malachi, saturation of OT allusions, and fulfillment of OT prophesies are all relatable to Jews. The reader would be expected to know and be obeying God. Matthew reveals the fact that God is Trinity and One God. Father is mentioned (43X), Holy Spirit (12X), and Son (230X). Of the 37 miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels, Matthew records 21 of them. The miracles prove Jesus' deity and that the Messiah spoken of in the OT has come. John the Baptist heralds the coming of Jesus in Matt. 3:1-3. Jesus provides 5 blocks of teaching about the Kingdom.
 - **a.** Outline of the Book: Ch. 1-2, The Birth of the King. Ch. 3-7, Introduction to the King. Ch. 8-10, The Authority of the King is Demonstrated. Ch. 11-13, Israel Chooses to Oppose their Own King. Ch. 13-19, Jesus withdraws from the Jews and Begins Commending the Faith of Gentiles. Ch. 19-26, Israel's Official, Total Rejection of their King. Ch. 27-28, The Death and Resurrection of Israel's King.
- 2) <u>Jesus is the King of the Kingdom</u>: Jesus fulfills the prophesy that the King is coming on a colt, Matt. 21: 1-5, Zech. 9:9. These things show Jesus is King:
 - 1) Names of Jesus: Son of God (known by Satan, demons, Peter), Son of David (kingly lineage), Son of Man (human qualification to be king), Messiah/Christ, King of the Jews/Israel.
 - 2) Identification of Jesus: Matt. 1:1, the genealogy of Jesus, continuing from Gen. 5.
 - 3) Worship of Jesus: Matt. 2:2, wise men from the east bringing gifts to a baby.
 - 4) Forerunner of Jesus: John the Baptist, Matt. 3:1-3.
 - 5) <u>Temptation of Jesus</u>: victory over Satan.
 - 6) Preaching of Jesus: Matt. 5-7, "The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."
 - 7) Miracles of Jesus: God giving a foretaste of His kingdom and love for His people.
 - 8) His Commission: to make the Kingdom known, sending out the 12, Matt. 10:5-15.
- 3) Matthew Teaches the Kingdom: 7 Categories:
 - 1) The Kingdom is coming soon: 3:2, 4:17, 10:7.
 - 2) A Kingdom from Heaven: 15 Chapters describe it
 - 3) Kingdom of God and who will be in it: 19:24, 21:31 & 33.
 - 4) <u>It is a spiritual and physical kingdom</u>: there are internal heart attitudes of a kingdom citizen, Matt. 5-7. The righteous inherit the kingdom, Matt. 13:43. Resurrection of the physically dead into the Kingdom, Matt. 22:23-33.
 - 5) <u>The Kingdom is a purified Kingdom:</u> Matt. 13, shows who enters and who doesn't. You must believe the Gospel to be purified, coming from darkness to light.
 - 6) The Kingdom is the prophesized Kingdom of the OT: the promises are coming to pass in Christ. Abraham > the nations and King. The throne of David over Israel > Jesus.
 - 7) The Kingdom has not yet come: the True King Jesus was rejected and delayed His coming. The physical rule of Christ is yet to come and He will come to rule on earth.

- 4) <u>Israel is the Focus of the Kingdom</u>: Israel would fail without the Holy Spirit. A future restoration is coming. Nations are a feature of the eternal kingdom, Rev. 21-22.
 - From Isaiah 49:3: God has a Servant, Israel referred to a person, Jesus. V5 & 6, Jesus the light to Gentiles and Jews, Israel gathered to Him, Jesus the strength of Israel, salvation to the ends of the earth (for all people).
 - ➤ Does Matthew show us the same person in Jesus as Isaiah writes about and a Jew would know?
- **1:18** Isaac born to Abraham and Sarah; Jesus born of a virgin.
- **2:14** Joseph took Jesus to Egypt to escape Herod, Joseph brought Israel to Egypt.
- **2:16** Moses and Jesus were sought after to be killed.
- 3:13 Red Sea crossing like a baptism for Israel, Jesus is baptized.
- **3:1-2** Moses taught in the wilderness as John did.
- **4:3-4** Jesus tempted after 40 days of fasting, responds that man lives by the Word of God.
- **4:5-7** Israel tempted God, but Jesus establishes that God should not be tempted.
- **4:8-10** Israel failed to serve God, but Jesus corrects Satan and serves the Lord.
- **4:12-17** Jesus fulfills the prophesy of Isaiah by being the light to those in darkness.
- **4:23-25** Jesus demonstrated the power of the Kingdom, the Messiah living as the ultimate Israelite.

Further Discussion and Application

What was the result of Israel rejecting Messiah as King? Who benefitted? How does God receive glory from His eternal plan to establish Jesus as King of Jews and Gentiles?

Do we see that Jesus was a perfect substitute for sinners? Jesus was a perfect Israelite. Jesus was God and man. How does Matthew's Gospel clearly demonstrate that Jesus is the Messiah and the King of kings coming to be a light to the world?

For us as Gentiles who believe in Jesus as our Messiah, what do we see Jesus doing so plainly in Matthew's Gospel that no Israelite could ever do and yet Jesus fulfilled Scripture and was the faithful Servant of God spoken of in Isaiah 49:1-6? What light have we seen? What darkness have we left? Jesus is the king and will be king over all.

Matthew provides numerous evidences and similarities of Jesus' life that would be recognized by Jews because of their nation's history. How does that demonstrate that Jesus is the perfect and ultimate Israelite? How is the life of Jesus easy for a Jew to understand and identify with?