

4.1a The Gospel of Matthew

1. How does Matthew 7.28 illustrate the point that Matthew conveys His view, the narrator's view of Christ, through the words of those who interact with the Lord Jesus?

Matthew presents the crowd's view: **the crowds were astonished**; so is Matthew, so are we as readers! Now note 7:29, **for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes**. There is no quotation. Matthew simply explains (**for**). This is a brief commentary. Contrast this with the *explanation by quotation* of amazement in 8:27: a) **And the men marveled**, b) **saying, "What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey him?"** Here we have no comment by Matthew but we know this is his memory of the Lord Jesus that he gives in the words of the marveling men. Recording the question drives us to even deeper meditation (we stand amazed in the presence of Jesus).

Thus, for emphasis, note the writer's way of remembering. He causes us to remember Jesus in terms of our Lord's own words and works with very little commentary (Matthew recedes to the margins). He taught the gospel He secured by His death and resurrection. As redeemer and healer of afflicted sinners, He saves the whole person body and soul through His resurrection.

2. What outline for the book results from the formula Matthew uses in 7.28, 11.1, 13.53, 19.1, and 26.1?

- ...when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching (7.28)
- ...when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples (11.1)
- ...when Jesus had finished these parables (13.53)
- ...when Jesus had finished these sayings (19.1)
- ...when Jesus had finished all these sayings (26.1)

Rough and ready, we get an outline that centers on five great speeches:

Introduction chapters 1-4

I. 5-7

II. 8-10

III. 11-13

IV. 14-18

V. 19-25

Conclusion chapters 26-28