



Jesus as a Teacher of Restorative Justice in Matthew's Gospel

Elaine Enns and Ched Myers
Feb 25-29, 2008, Oak View, CA

Summary: Focusing on two texts (the Sermon on the Mount and Mt 18) from Year A's lectionary, we will examine a theology of Restorative Justice, and introduce participants to cutting edge contemporary practices of peacemaking. In honor of the 40th anniversary of the assassination of M.L. King, we'll also reflect on his nonviolent work for justice.

Syllabus: (Note : lectionary readings/dates listed after scripture)

Mon Feb 25

- **3:30-7 pm:** Arrival, registration, dinner
- **7-9 pm:** Introductions, learning covenant, housekeeping. Jesus and Martin Luther King as Peacemakers: Comparing sacred but contested narratives.

Tues, Feb 26

- **9-10:20 am:** Preaching the Vision: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount
- **10:40-noon:** Preaching the Vision: Dr. King's Riverside Speech of 1967
- **3-5 pm:** Mt 5:21-26 (6th Epiphany; not in '08): Jesus' midrash on the Torah of justice
- **7-9 pm:** Mt 5:38-43 (7th Epiphany; not in '08): Nonviolence as love for the adversary

Wed, Feb 27

- **9-10:20 am:** Mt 6:19-34 (8th Epiphany; not in '08; Ash Wed, Feb 6): Mammon and anxiety
- **10:40-noon:** Dr. King's last campaign: Solidarity with the least in Memphis
- **noon-5:** Sabbath Time (optional hike in area); no-host Happy Hour at Elaine & Ched's, 5 pm
- **7-9 pm:** Special Program: "Diverse Practices of Restorative Justice Today"

Thurs, Feb 28

- **9-10:20 am:** Mt 18:1-9: The least, part I: The vulnerability of potential victims

- **10:40-noon:** Mt 18:10-14: The least, part II: The offender as wounded party
- **3-5 pm:** Mt 18:15-20 (18th SOT, Sept 7) : Relational and Restorative Justice
- **7-9 pm:** Mt 18:21-35 (19th SOT, Sept 14): No Future without Forgiveness
- **9 pm - ???:** *Optional bonfire at Elaine & Ched's in celebration of Leap Day Eve*

Fri, Feb 29

- **9-10:20 am:** Mt 7:13-27 (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Jun 1): The writing on the wall: Making sense of the radical gospel vision in our world
- **10:40-noon:** *Discussion and evaluation*
- **Noon:** *Lunch and departures*

Twenty Books on Matthew's Gospel

- 1) Michael Crosby. House of Disciples: Church, Economics and Justice in Matthew. Orbis, 1988.
- 2) Michael Crosby. The Prayer that Jesus Taught Us. Orbis, 2002.
- 3) Michael Crosby. Spirituality of the Beatitudes: Matthew's Vision for the Church in an Unjust World. Revised, Orbis, 2004.
- 4) J. Andrew Overman. Matthew's Gospel and Formative Judaism: The Social World of the Matthean Community. Fortress, 1990.
- 5) J. Andrew Overman. Church and Community in Crisis: The Gospel According to Matthew. Trinity Press, 1998.
- 6) Jack Kingsbury, Matthew as Story. Fortress, 1986.
- 7) Bruce Malina and Jerome Neyrey. Calling Jesus Names: The Social Value of Labels in Matthew. Polebridge, 1988.
- 8) Warren Carter. Matthew: Storyteller, Interpreter, Evangelist. Second edition, Hendrikson, 2004.
- 9) Warren Carter. Matthew and the Margins A Sociopolitical and Religious Reading. Bible and Liberation Series, Orbis, 2000.
- 10) Warren Carter. Matthew and Empire: Initial Explorations. Trinity Press, 2001.
- 11) Elaine Wainwright. Shall we Look for Another? A Feminist Rereading of the Matthean Jesus. Orbis, 1998.
- 12) Pinchas Lapide. The Sermon on the Mount: Utopia or Program for Action? Orbis, 1986.
- 13) Justo L. González. Tres Meses en la Escuela de Mateo. Abingdon, 2000.
- 14) Herman Waetjen. The Origin and Destiny of Humanness: An Interpretation of the Gospel According to Matthew. Omega Books, 1976.
- 15) Eduard Schweizer. Good News according to Matthew. SPCK, 1976.
- 16) N. T. Wright. Matthew for Everyone. 2 vols, SPCK, 2002.

- 17) Donald Senior. What are they saying about Matthew? Paulist Press, 1996.
- 18) Amy-Jill Levine, ed. A Feminist Companion to Matthew. Sheffield, 2001.
- 19) Paul S. Minear. The Good News According to Matthew: A Training Manual for Prophets. Chalice Press, 2000.
- 20) Anthony J. Saldarini. Matthew's Christian-Jewish community. University of Chicago Press, 1994.

Bibliography:

www2.roanoke.edu/religion/Maclean/Relg312/MatthewBibliography.htm