

ANCCI UNIVERSITY

BS 104 MATTHEW

The Authority and Dates of the Gospels

Instructor: Dr. Steven Waterhouse, Pastor, Westcliff Bible Church in Amarillo Texas, author of 21 books on theology, gospel history and counseling

Rationale: Bible critics assert the Gospels are forgeries with unknown authors. Further, they often say these books were composed long after the life of Christ. Such authors never personally knew Jesus and were making up stories about His life and teachings.

Objectives: The goal of this study is to counter liberal Bible critics. The results should be that students themselves are protected from “wolves” and become better trained in apologetics. Long term students can minister in protecting other Christians against assaults on the integrity of the New Testament Gospels.

Strategy: This course will ...

1. Prove the early dates and apostolic authorship of the Gospel of Matthew.
2. Argue that references to “the Elder John” by early Church fathers should be interpreted as the Apostle John. Since there were not two authors named John, only the Apostle John remains as the author of John’s Gospel.
3. As time permits, there will be a review of historical evidence that the Gospels of Mark and Luke are authentic and should be dated early.

Evaluation: Students will be tested over the lecture and written material. This will involve a selection from a list of a major essay question.

Textbook: The main textbook will be Waterhouse, Steven. *Papias and Matthew: Papias and His Elder John*. Amarillo, Texas, 2014. Also, students should read Chapters 2, 3, 4, and 5, *Jesus and History*, Amarillo, Texas, 2009. Additional notes will be used in class. All books available for digital download at www.webtheology.com.