**Trajectories of Paul**

It was in three areas that Powell made the most significant contributions to biblical-theological studies: in applying modern writings to the Bible, in interpreting Matthew's Gospel as an early Christian formation that emerged from Judaism, and in assessing what can be dependably known about Jesus by using the traditional historical methodology. Many religion students recognize Powell from his work as the novelist of a few well-known texts. He wrote the book: Introducing the New Testament to be used in study courses on the NT in colleges. While expressive in quality, it evades taking sides on controversial issues. It is well-structured with color facsimiles of oeuvre from numerous values showing NT leitmotifs, and an additional prominent aspect, conceivably the utmost essential, is that the manuscript is incorporated with embedded links to a site providing all-embracing printable materials, along with ancillary essays and indexes. The essay investigates the New Testament's gospel of Mathew, based on Powell's research for his college textbook; it serves as an introduction to the New Testament.

**The Gospel of Matthew**

**Synopsis**

Most scholars agree that Matthew's Gospel was written by a Jewish Christian who leaned on both Mark's Gospel and the now-disappeared Q manuscript for inspiration. The manuscript appears to have been made for a Jewish Christian community living in an urban area after the obliteration of the Jerusalem sanctuary (70 CE) (Powell, 2018). Among Matthew's Gospel's most intriguing features is the inclusion of previously unpublished stories. Both Peter and "the church" figure prominently in many of these tales of faith. As a result, scholars have looked at how Matthew's Gospel differed from Mark's, mentioning the approaches in which Matthew seems to have transcribed or altered what was originally written. As a result, Jesus' divine power and the leadership capabilities of his disciples have both been enhanced, as have the deficiencies of Israel's religious figures.

This passage from Matthews' Gospel focuses on God's presence in the world, which is now manifested in the church, and which is passed down from Jesus and then by the church to us. Besides having come to earth as God's Son, Jesus is also a powerful teacher, able to instruct followers on how to conduct themselves in ways that are following God's will for them (Powell, 2018). This interpretation is founded on Jesus' authority, which he exercises through the gospel, and which both binds and disobeys laws based on that authority, as well as on the authority of the gospel itself. According to Matthew's description of discipleship, Jesus' followers, despite their skepticism, adore and grasp God's word regardless of their "weak faith." Thus, the religious officials of Israel, who function as literary representations of evil in this book, are shown with extreme hatred in Matthew's Gospel as a result of his experiences.

The Gospel of Matthew is introduced in Mark Allan Powell's work, which acts as an introduction for the reader. In Matthew, there is a purposeful use of numerals, which can be construed in a variety of ways, depending on the context. When writing the First Gospel, the author pays meticulous attention to even the smallest of details right from the beginning. It is in this chapter that Matthew's historical setting is recounted for the first time. As a result, the book was most likely written after Mark had completed his gospel, according to the evidence. Powell argues that Matthew's author, even though he may have had a significant role in the book's writing, is not Matthew himself. The events described in this chapter are unique to Matthew and cannot be seen anywhere else in the New Testament, as we will see later in the chapter (Powell, 2018). In this approach, the reader can recognize Matthew's distinct personality. The writing styles of Matthew and Mark are very distinct, even though Mark's material served as inspiration for Matthew's work. To avoid any misunderstandings, the high level of precision displayed is intended to be evident.

**Characteristics of Matthew’s Gospel according to Mark Powell**

**Peter is Important**

Another distinguishing aspect of Matthew's narrative is his emphasis on the church, known as the "ecclesia" (Powell, 2018). Peter was told by Jesus, according to Matthew's account, that he is the cornerstone upon which his church will be built. In response to Matthew's teaching, Christians believe that the church is the last arbiter of disputes, highlighting the importance of religion in their daily lives.

**Matthew’s Gospel has a Strong Jewish Character**

Despite its ubiquity, the gospel is still considered to be a Jewish phenomenon. As a result, it has been referred to as a gospel that was written exclusively for Jews. According to Matthew, Christ's lineage may be traced back to Abraham, who is honored as the founder and father of the Jewish people, as well as the father of the Jewish people. The allusion to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" in Matthew's gospel indicates that Jesus came specifically for the Hebrew people and not for anybody else or any other group of people.

**Ecclesiastic interest**

Matthew's focus on the church, or "ecclesia," is another defining feature of his gospel (Powell, 2018). According to Matthew's account, Jesus told Peter that he is the cornerstone on which his church will be built. As a result of Matthew's teaching, Christians believe the church is the last arbiter of disputes, underscoring the significance of the church in their daily lives.

**Apocalyptic Interests**

Matthew had a strong interest in eschatology, which is the study of events that take place in the latter days. He brought up the question of the end of the world. The Tale of the Talents and the Parable of the Ten Virgins were two parables that were only contained in Matthew's gospel: the Tale of the Talents and the Parable of the Ten Virgins. All of these had foreboding implications to them.

**The Abiding Presence of God and Jesus is Important**

Matthew also made an effort to demonstrate that Jesus was the Jewish people's prophesied Messiah. As a result, he relied heavily on the Old Testament to support his case. Before he made a connection to an Old Testament allusion in something he was writing about, he said, "that it may be fulfilled." "So that it would be fulfilled that 'out of Egypt I have called my son,'" Matthew wrote regarding Joseph's travel to Egypt with his nuclear family. The verse he was referring to was Hosea 11:1.

**Themes of the Mathew’s Gospel According to Powell**

According to Mark Allan, Matthew's subject has always been interpreted as Jesus as the Jewish King. This Gospel, without a doubt, has a lot to say about Jesus as a King and His Kingdom (Powell, 2018). The emphasis is on Israel, and the original intended audience was primarily Jewish. We believe Jesus as King of the Jews as a starting point for interpreting Matthew's Gospel, but this does not encompass everything we are about to see. The goal of this Gospel, rather than proving that Jesus is the King of the Jews, is to help the reader understand who Jesus, the King of the Jews, truly is.

According to the book, divine hands have been woven together with various threads of thought. What, according to Mark, are the most important aspects of Matthew? Because Matthew's Gospel has a strong Jewish emphasis, it's safe to assume that Jesus Christ fulfilled everything the Old Testament said about the Messiah. As the story progresses, Jesus demonstrates His power by performing seemingly impossible miracles. Previously, we learned that Jesus Christ the King explains and governs His Kingdom in unprecedented ways. As one reads through Matthew, it becomes clear that Jesus Christ would be rejected. He was rejected despite all evidence pointing to Who He is. When we combine all of these ideas, we get a clear picture of Matthew's message. As a result, the central idea running through Matthew's Gospel is that Jesus Christ is God's Son.

Mark demonstrates how the issue is systematically dealt with throughout the Book of Matthew, employing a variety of techniques such as hypocrisy, prophesy fulfillment, and sin to do this. It was necessary to show a ruler and his domain from the perspective of Jews, especially for Jewish readers. This kingdom is primarily spiritual, with some governmental elements thrown in for good measure (Powell, 2018). Their Messiah would be a powerful and mighty ruler, but they did not expect Him to be God's Son Himself. Matthew's original audience was Jewish, and they expected their Messiah to be a mighty monarch. While Jesus is the promised Messiah, the Old Testament only got as far as the hem of his garment because of the limitations of the language of the Old Testament. God's Son, the long-awaited Messiah King Jesus, is the Son of God.

**Reflection**

Allan Powell presents Matthew from a new perspective in this book, which I found to be a personal favorite of mine. Because of the reasons presented in the book, I now see it as more than just the first book of the gospels. Reading this book has convinced me to take a fresh look at it, allowing me to obtain a better understanding of the subject at hand. Instead of reading the content superficially, the reader will be able to obtain a more in-depth comprehension of it this way. The book appears to be addressed by current Christians due to its relevance in context. It is no longer required to follow Jewish customs, and they use terms like silver, gold, and city that are familiar to Christians today. The book also helped me understand Matthew's organization, and as a result, I obtained a better knowledge of the novel.

**Conclusion**

Mark Allan Powell set out to illustrate the veracity of the Gospel of the New Testament in Introducing the New Testament, and he did so admirably. It is not just about whether God exists or whether Jesus Christ is divine; it's also about the origin, authority, and canonicity of the gospel and epistles. As a result of today's extensive criticism, atheists, false faiths, and even individuals who believe in flawed teaching have all called into question the Bible's purity. In our post-modern age of many gods, there are many erroneous beliefs, which is why Introduction to the New Testament, which addresses the origin and authorship problems for New Testament literature, is so crucial for dispelling misconceptions not just at the time of its initial publication. In Mark Powell's book, Introducing the New Testament, many key problems remain unanswered. Powell, for example, never provides a clear timeline or graph depicting the chronology of the New Testament.

**References**

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