

Contents

| | |
|---|------|
| <i>Foreword</i> | ix |
| <i>Acknowledgement</i> | xi |
| <i>Preface</i> | xiii |
| <i>Abbreviations</i> | xv |
| General Introduction | 1 |
| 1. The Rationale | 1 |
| 2. The Bounds | 3 |
| 3. Review of Recent Literature | 4 |
| 4. Methods Employed | 6 |
| 5. Division of Chapters | 8 |
| Chapter 1: The Socio-Historical and Economic Context of Matthew | 9 |
| 1. Introduction | 9 |
| 2. Considering Preliminary Questions | 10 |
| 2.1. The Authorship of the Gospel | 10 |
| 2.1.1. Internal Evidence | 10 |
| 2.1.2. External Evidence | 11 |
| 2.2. The Date of Composition | 13 |
| 2.3. The Place of Origin | 15 |
| 2.4. Conclusion | 18 |
| 3. The Social Situation of Matthew's Community | 18 |
| 3.1. Contemporary Judaism | 19 |
| 3.2. Conflict between Matthew's Community and Contemporary Judaism | 20 |
| 3.2.1. Nature of Conflict Faced by Matthew's Community | 22 |
| 3.2.1.1. Verbal Exclusion (5:11-12) | 22 |
| 3.2.1.2. Floggings in Synagogues, Deliverance, Persecution, and Expulsion (5:10-12, 44; 10:17, 23; 13:21; 23:34) | 23 |
| 3.2.1.3. Killings (22:6; 23:34) | 23 |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| 3.3. | Matthew's Community: Within or Outside Contemporary Judaism? | 23 |
| 3.4. | Matthew's Community and Gentiles | 28 |
| 3.5. | The Social Composition of Matthew's Community | 31 |
| 3.6. | Conclusion | 32 |
| 4. | The Socio-Economic Status of Matthew's Community | 33 |
| 4.1. | Social Description of the First Century Mediterranean World | 33 |
| 4.1.1. | The Upper Stratum | 34 |
| 4.1.1.1. | The Roman Ordines | 34 |
| 4.1.1.2. | The Rich | 35 |
| 4.1.1.3. | Retainers | 35 |
| 4.1.2. | The Lower Stratum | 35 |
| 4.1.2.1. | The Relatively Poor or Prosperous (πένητες) | 36 |
| 4.1.2.2. | The Absolute Poor (πτωχοί) | 36 |
| 4.2. | A Portrait of Matthew's Community in Relation to its Socio-Economic Status | 36 |
| 5. | Summary | 38 |
| Chapter 2: Concept of the Rich in the Old Testament, Intertestamental Writings, and Pauline | | 39 |
| 1. | Introduction | 39 |
| 2. | The Rich in the Old Testament | 40 |
| 2.1. | The Pentateuch and the Historical Books | 40 |
| 2.2. | The Poetical and the Wisdom Books | 43 |
| 2.2.1. | Psalms | 43 |
| 2.2.2. | Job | 45 |
| 2.2.3. | Proverbs | 47 |
| 2.2.3.1. | Passages Affirming Riches and the Rich | 47 |
| 2.2.3.2. | Passages Negating Riches and the Rich | 48 |
| 2.2.4. | Ecclesiastes | 49 |
| 2.3. | The Prophetical Books | 51 |
| 3. | The Rich in the Intertestamental Writings | 56 |
| 3.1. | Sirach | 56 |
| 3.2. | 1 Enoch | 59 |
| 3.3. | Dead Sea Scrolls | 60 |
| 4. | The Rich in Pauline | 62 |
| 5. | Conclusion | 68 |
| Chapter 3: Socio-Economic Reading of the Selected Texts | | 71 |
| 1. | Introduction | 71 |
| 2. | The Structure of the Gospel | 71 |
| 2.1. | The Pentateuchal Theory | 72 |

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| 2.2. | The Chiastic Model | 73 |
| 2.3. | The Tripartite Division | 74 |
| 2.4. | Structure Based on Geographical Framework | 75 |
| 2.5. | Conclusion | 76 |
| 3. | Exegetical Study on the Selected Texts from the Triple Tradition | 77 |
| 3.1. | Matthew the Tax Collector (Mt 9:9-13//Mk 2:13-17; Lk 5:27-32) | 77 |
| 3.1.1. | The Text and Its Parallels | 78 |
| 3.1.2. | The Literary Setting | 78 |
| 3.1.3. | The Redactional Material | 79 |
| 3.1.4. | The Exegetical Comments | 80 |
| 3.1.5. | Conclusion | 83 |
| 3.2. | The Rich Young Man (Mt 19:16-30//Mk 10:17-31; Lk 18:18-30) | 83 |
| 3.2.1. | The Text and Its Parallels | 83 |
| 3.2.2. | The Literary Setting | 86 |
| 3.2.3. | The Redactional Material | 87 |
| 3.2.4. | The Exegetical Comments | 89 |
| 3.2.5. | Conclusion | 99 |
| 4. | Exegetical Study on the Selected Texts from the Double Tradition | 100 |
| 4.1. | The Poor in Spirit (Mt 5:3//Lk 6:20b) | 100 |
| 4.1.1. | The Text and Its Parallel | 100 |
| 4.1.2. | The Literary Setting | 100 |
| 4.1.3. | The Redactional Material | 104 |
| 4.1.4. | The Exegetical Comments | 105 |
| 4.1.5. | Conclusion | 115 |
| 4.2. | The Two Masters: God versus Mammon (Mt 6:24//Lk 16:13) | 116 |
| 4.2.1. | The Text and Its Parallel | 116 |
| 4.2.2. | The Literary Setting | 116 |
| 4.2.3. | The Redactional Arrangement of the Material | 118 |
| 4.2.4. | The Literary Structure | 121 |
| 4.2.5. | The Exegetical Comments | 122 |
| 4.2.6. | Conclusion | 124 |
| 5. | Summary | 125 |
| Chapter 4: Findings and Implications | | 127 |
| 1. | Introduction | 127 |
| 2. | Findings | 127 |
| 2.1. | Matthew's Redactional Changes Suggest an Accommodative View of the Rich | 127 |
| 2.2. | Socio-Economic Reasons behind Redactional Changes | 129 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| 2.3. The Influence of Old Testament and Intertestamental Writings on Matthew's View of the Rich | 129 |
| 2.4. Maintaining Healthy Tension between Discipleship and Wealth | 130 |
| 2.5. Emphasizing Social Aspect of Discipleship | 130 |
| 2.6. Wealth has a Place in Heaven | 131 |
| 3. Implications | 132 |
| 3.1. Towards a Balanced Objective-Subjective Reading | 132 |
| 3.2. Church for the Rich and the Poor | 132 |
| 3.3. Practicing Just Acquisition of Wealth | 134 |
| 3.4. Towards Alleviation of Poverty | 135 |
| 3.5. Towards Interactions with Tribal Understanding of the Rich | 136 |
| 4. Conclusion | 138 |
| <i>General Conclusion</i> | 141 |
| <i>Bibliography</i> | 147 |