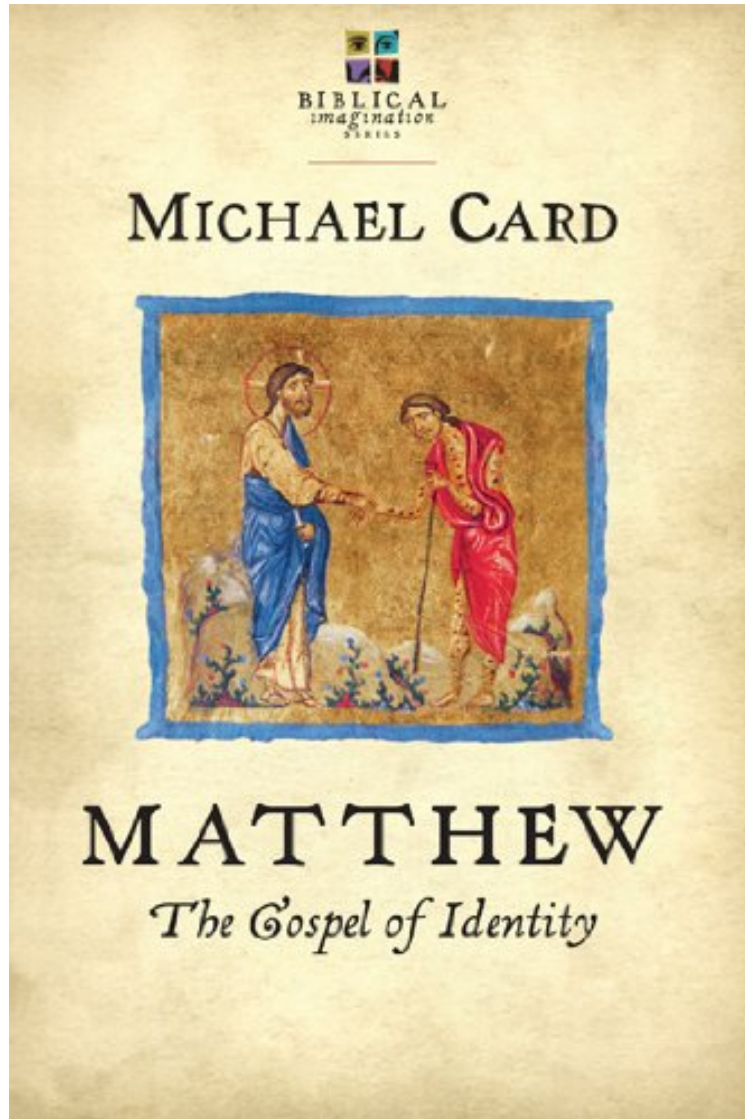


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Matthew: The Gospel of Identity (Biblical Imagination)

Michael Card

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Michael Card : Matthew: The Gospel of Identity (Biblical Imagination) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Matthew: The Gospel of Identity (Biblical Imagination):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Fresh Take on the Gospel of MatthewBy ElaineS
The author presents a new look at Matthew in this third in the Biblical Imagination series. Studying scripture intellectually or emotionally is incomplete; imagination bridges the gap and provides a complete picture. Matthew uses two themes: Galilee in Crisis and the question of identity. Written for Christians who didn't yet know they were Christians, Matthew records the sayings of Jesus as well as the parables in five "blocks" of scripture, revealing the identity of Jesus so his followers

could understand who they were.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Delightful un-commentary!By KennethI'm thoroughly enjoying this book. The subject matter is, of course, the gospel of Matthew, but the style is nothing like a dry commentary. It feels much more like a lecture on the book of Matthew, with the speaker pointing out cool, geeky, parenthetical facts about the book of Matthew. I especially liked his comments about how Matthew was writing to the Jewish Christians who were suffering an identity crisis. This very much mirrors the American church as we struggle to adapt to postmodernism, and an increasingly pagan/secular culture0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Michael Card is a great writer, in that he helps those of us ...By JAVMichael Card is a great writer, in that he helps those of us who aren't particularly imaginative to use our imagination and dig deeper into what's really going on. He helps you to really notice the details that you would ordinarily skip over. You can't go wrong with anything he's written

"You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:13-14 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church." Matthew 16:18 The world tries to define us in different ways. We try to define ourselves one way or another. But who are we really? How does God define us? The Gospel of Matthew was written to a group of Christians who didnt yet know who they were. They were faithful Jews in the synagogue community in Galilee who had found the Messiah. Jesus had changed everything. But how should they think of themselves now, as Jewish or Christian? What did it all mean? Matthew writes his Gospel to help his readers define their new identity as followers of Jesus the Messiah. Michael Card unpacks how Matthews emphasis on fulfillment confirms their Jewish connection to the Torah, while his focus on the kingdom helps them understand their new identities in Christ. Matthew presents this process of redefinition as an exercise of the imagination, in which Jesus reshapes who we are in light of who he is. Come alongside Matthew in this pilgrimage, and discover how your new identity in Christ fulfills all that you are meant to be.

"Matthew: The Gospel of Identity shimmers with life: spirit and truth, emotion and intellect, dramatic storytelling, evocative dialogue and imagery. Michael Card has captured our imaginations with his books centering on the four Gospels, this being the third in the series. Providing the backstory, historical, and emotional context, he connects and weaves together the 'Story' from the two testaments and places us squarely in the middle of the actiona distillation that reads like a Bible and a film script. Dull hearts feel, blind eyes see, and disengaged minds connect to passages heard or read many timesand to the person of Jesus. Because Card guides us through every verse in the Book of Matthew, this would be ideal, either as an individual, small group, or a community-wide centerpiece for study and immersion." (Worship Leader Magazine, July/August 2013)About the AuthorIn a career that spans 30 years, Michael Card has recorded over 31 albums, authored or co-authored over 24 books, hosted a radio program, and written for a wide range of magazines. An award-winning musician and performing artist, he has penned such favorites as "El Shaddai," "Immanuel" and many other songs. He has branched his ministry beyond music and written numerous books, including A Sacred Sorrow, A Violent Grace, The Parable of Joy and Sleep Sound in Jesus (a children's book). He has also written the Biblical Imagination Series, with a book and accompanying music CD for each of the four gospels. A graduate of Western Kentucky University with a bachelor's and master's degree in biblical studies, Card also serves as mentor to many younger artists and musicians, teaching courses on the creative process and calling the Christian recording industry into deeper discipleship. Card lives in Tennessee with his wife and four children.