

Major f³⁵ splits in Matthew

There are only five splits that might be called ‘major’ in Matthew. The reading listed first is the one that I have chosen as representing the family archetype, for reasons explained at the end of this article.

- 9:17 απολουνται || απολλυνται—the verb is the same and both are Indicative; the first is future middle and the second is present passive. In the immediately prior clauses, both εκχεται and ρηγνυνται are present passive and go together; so why the second reference to the wineskins? Any difference in meaning is almost too slight to translate.
- 19:29 οικιας || οικιαν—plural or singular? As with the brothers, if you only have one, that is all that you can leave; and if you have none, you leave none.
- 25:32 συναχθησονται || συναχθησεται—plural or singular; mass noun or not? The translation is the same.
- 26:29 γεννηματος || γεννηματος—the nouns are different, the first referring to plant produce and the second to animal offspring; if the second is used of plants, it is a secondary meaning. The translation is the same.
- 27:35 βαλοντες || βαλλοντες—aorist or present? In the context any difference in meaning is so slight that the translation is the same.

As is typical of variation within the family, the difference is of one letter, except for the syllable, and Matthew is not a small book. I call this incredibly careful transmission—at no point will a reader be misled as to the intended meaning. The original wording of Matthew has been precisely preserved to our day.

I checked 227 representatives of Family 35, with reference to the five major splits, and the result is plotted on the chart below. I trust that any reasonable person will grant that the sample is adequate for my purpose (the extant Family 35 representatives for Matthew number at least 250). ++ stands for the first reading, — for the second.

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
18	++	—	—	—	++	Constantinople	1364
35	—	illegible	—	++	—	Aegean	XI
55	—	—	—	++	++	Bodleian	XIV
58	—	—	++	++	—	Oxford	XV
66	—	—	++	—	—	Trinity	XIV
83	++	++	++	++	++	Munich	XI
125	++	++	++	++	—	Wien	XI
128	—	—	—	++	—	Vatican	XIII
141	missing	—	—	—	—	Vatican	XIII
147	—	—	—	++	—	Vatican	XIII
155	—	—	—	++	—	Vatican	XIII
167	—	—	—	++	—	Vatican	XIII
170	++	++	++	—	++	Rome	XIII
189	—	—	++	—	—	Florence	XIII
201	++	—	—	—	++	Constantinople	1357
204	++	—	—	—	—	Bologna	XIII
214	++	—	—	—	++	Venedig	XIV
246	++	++	++	—	++	Moscow	XIV
290	—	++	—	++	—	Paris	XIV
361	—	—	—	++	—	Paris	XIII
363	—	++	—	++	—	Florence	XIV
386	++	—	—	—	++	Vatican	XIV
394	—	++	—	—	—	Rome	1330
402	++	—	—	++	—	Neapel	XIV
415	missing	++	—	—	—	Venedig	1356

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
479	—	—	—	++	—	Birmingham	XIII
480	++	—	—	—	++	Constantinople	1366
510	++	—	—	++	—	Oxford-cc	XII
516	++	++	++	++	—	Oxford-cc	XI
520	—	—	++	—	illegible	Oxford-cc	XII
521	—	++	—	—	—	Bodleian	1321
536	—	—	—	++	—	Ann Arbor	XIII
547	—	—	—	++	—	Karakallu	XI
553	—	++	—	—	—	Jerusalem	XIII
575	++	++	++	—	++	St Petersburg	XV
586	++	—	—	++	—	Modena	XIV
584	++	++	++	++	++	Parma	X
594	++	—	—	—	++	Venedig	XIV
645	—	—	++	++	—	Cyprus	1304
664	++	++	++	++	—	Zittau	XV
673	missing	—	—	—	missing	Cambridge	XII
676	—	—	++	—	—	Munster	XIII
685	—	—	++	—	++	Ann Arbor	XIII
689	missing	++	—	++	++	London	XIII
691	++	—	—	—	++	London	XIII
694	—	—	—	—	++	London	XV
696	—	—	—	++	—	London	XIII
746	++	++	++	++	—	Paris	XI
757	++	missing	++	++	++	Athens	XIII
758	++	—	—	—	—	Athens	XIV
763	++	++	++	++	++	Athens	XIV
769	—	++	—	—	—	Athens	XIV
781	—	—	—	++	—	Athens	XIV
789	++	++	++	++	++	Athens	XIV
797	++	—	++	—	—	Athens	XIV
824	++	++	++	++	++	Grottaferrata	XIV
825	—	—	++	—	—	Grottaferrata	XIII
867	—	—	—	++	—	Vatican	XIV
897	missing	—	—	++	—	Edinburgh	XIII
928	—	—	—	—	—	Dionysiu	1304
932	++	++	++	—	—	Dionysiu	XIV
938	—	++	—	++	—	Dionysiu	1318
940	++	—	—	++	—	Dionysiu	XIII
952	—	++	++	—	++	Dionysiu	XIV
953	—	—	++	++	—	Dionysiu	XIV
955	++	++	++	++	++	Dionysiu	XV
958	++	++	++	—	++	Dionysiu	XV
959	++	++	++	++	++	Dionysiu	1331
960	++	++	++	++	++	Dionysiu	XIV
961	—	—	++	—	—	Dionysiu	XV
962	—	—	—	—	++	Dionysiu	1498
966	—	—	++	++	—	Dochiaru	XIII
978	++	++	++	++	missing	Dochiaru	1361
986	++	—	—	++	—	Esphigmenu	XIV

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
1003	++	++	++	++	++	Iviron	XV
1023	—	++	—	++	—	Iviron	1338
1025	++	++	++	++	++	Iviron	XIV
1030	++	++	++	—	++	Iviron	1518
1040	++	++	++	++	++	Karakallu	XIV
1046	++	++	++	++	++	Kutlumusiu	XII
1059	++	++	—	++	++	Kutlumusiu	XV
1062	++	—	—	++	++	Kutlumusiu	XIV
1072	++	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XIII
1075	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1088	++	—	—	—	—	Xiropotamu	XVI
1092	—	—	++	—	—	Panteleimonos	XIV
1095	—	—	++	—	—	Pavlu	XIV
1111	—	—	++	++	++	Stavronikita	XIV
1117	++	++	++	++	++	Philotheu	XIV
1131	++	++	++	++	++	Philotheu	XV
1132	—	—	++	—	—	Philotheu	XV
1133	—	—	++	—	—	Philotheu	XIV
1145	++	++	++	—	++	Constantinople	XII
1147	missing	—	—	—	—	Constantinople	1370
1158	++	—	++	++	—	Lesbos	XIV
1165	—	—	++	—	—	Patmos	1335
1180	—	++	++	—	—	Patmos	XV
1185	++	++	++	—	++	Sinai	XIV
1189	—	—	—	—	—	Sinai	1346
1199	—	—	++	++	—	Sinai	XII
1234	++	—	++	—	++	Sinai	XIV
1236	—	—	++	—	—	Sinai	XIV
1247	++	++	—	—	++	Sinai	XV
1248	++	—	—	—	++	Sinai	XIV
1250	++	—	++	++	++	Sinai	XV
1251	—	—	—	++	—	Sinai	XIII
1323	—	—	++	—	—	Jerusalem	XII
1328	++	++	++	++	++	Jerusalem	XIV
1334	—	++	—	—	—	Jerusalem	XIII
1339	++	++	++	++	++	Jerusalem	XIII
1384	illegible	—	—	++	—	Andros	XI
1389	—	—	++	++	—	Patmos	XV
1390	++	++	++	—	—	Stavronikita	XIV
1401	—	—	—	++	—	Pantokratoros	XII
1409	++	++	++	++	++	Xiropotamo	XIV
1427	—	—	—	—	—	Sofia	XIV
1435	—	—	—	++	—	Vatopediu	XI
1445	++	—	—	—	—	M Lavras	1323
1461	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIII
1462	++	++	—	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1476	—	—	++	—	—	M Lavras	1333
1480	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1482	—	—	—	—	—	M Lavras	1304

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
1487	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIII
1488	++	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XIV
1489	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XII
1490	—	—	—	++	—	M Lavras	XII
1492	++	—	—	—	++	M Lavras	1342
1493	—	—	—	—	—	M Lavras	XIV
1496	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIII
1501	++	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XIII
1503	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	1317
1508	++	++	—	++	++	M Lavras	XV
1517	++	—	++	++	++	M Lavras	XI
1543	—	++	++	++	—	Vatopediu	1236
1548	++	++	++	—	++	Vatopediu	1359
1551	++	++	++	—	++	Vatopediu	XIII
1552	—	++	++	++	—	Vatopediu	XIV
1559	++	++	++	++	++	Vatopediu	XIV
1560	++	++	++	++	++	Vatopediu	XIV
1572	—	—	—	—	—	Vatopediu	1304
1584	++	++	++	++	++	Vatopediu	XIV
1591	++	++	++	++	++	Vatopediu	1591
1596	++	++	++	—	++	Vatopediu	1596
1599	—	—	—	++	—	Vatopediu	XIV
1600	++	++	++	missing	++	Vatopediu	XIV
1609	++	—	++	++	—	M Lavras	XIII
1614	missing	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	1324
1617	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1619	missing	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1620	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1621	missing	missing	—	++	—	M Lavras	XIV
1622	++	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XIV
1625	—	—	++	—	—	M Lavras	XV
1628	++	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	1400
1636	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XV
1637	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	1328
1648	missing	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XV
1649	++	++	—	++	—	M Lavras	XV
1650	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1652	++	++	++	++	++	M Lavras	XVI
1656	missing	++	++	—	++	M Lavras	XV
1658	missing	++	—	++	++	M Lavras	XIV
1659	other	—	—	++	—	M Lavras	XIV
1667	missing	++	++	++	—	Panteleimonos	1309
1680	—	—	++	—	—	Panteleimonos	XVI
1686	++	++	++	++	++	Athens	1418
1688	—	—	—	—	—	Athens	XIV
1694	—	—	++	—	—	Athens	XIII
1698	—	—	—	++	—	Athens	XIV
1700	other	—	++	—	—	Athens	1623

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
1702	++	++	++	++	++	Konstamonitu	1560
1705	++	++	++	—	—	Tirana	XIV
1713	++	++	++	++	++	Lesbos	XV
1786	++	—	—	—	—	Sofia	XV
1813	—	++	++	++	—	Duke	XII
2122	illegible	—	—	++	—	Athens	XII
2175	++	++	—	—	—	St Petersburg	XIV
2204	++	—	—	++	—	Elasson	XV
2221	++	++	++	++	++	Sparta	1432
2253	++	++	—	++	++	Tirana	XI
2255	++	++	++	++	++	Ivion	XVI
2260	—	—	++	++	—	Kalavryta	XII
2261	—	—	++	—	—	Kalavryta	XIV
2265	++	—	—	—	—	Sparta	XIV
2273	—	++	—	++	—	St Petersburg	XIV
2284	—	—	—	—	—	Manchester	XIII
2296	—	—	—	++	—	Manchester	XII
2322	—	++	—	—	—	Prinkipos Is	XII
2323	++	++	++	—	++	Benaki (Athens)	XIII
2352	++	++	++	++	++	Meteora	XIV
2355	++	++	—	—	—	Sinai	XIV
2367	—	—	—	++	—	Princeton	XII
2382	++	—	—	++	—	Constantinople	XII
2399	missing	++	—	++	++	Chicago	XIV
2407	—	—	++	—	—	Chicago	1332
2418	missing	—	—	++	—	Zagora	XV
2444	—	—	—	++	—	Munster	XIII
2454	++	++	++	++	++	Vatopediu	XIV
2460	missing	—	—	++	—	Joannina	XII
2466	—	—	—	—	—	Patmos	1329
2483	—	—	—	++	missing	Bulligny	XIII
2496	++	—	++	—	—	Sinai	1555
2503	++	—	—	—	++	Sinai	XIV
2508	—	—	++	—	other	Athens	XIV
2520	—	—	—	++	—	Athens	XIII
2554	++	++	++	++	++	Bucharest	1434
2559	missing	—	—	—	missing	Benaki (Athens)	XII
2598	—	—	++	—	—	Strasburg	XIV
2621	missing	—	++	—	++	Princeton	1380
2635	++	++	++	++	++	Athens	1568
2636	++	++	++	—	++	Athens	XVI
2647	—	++	—	++	—	Amorgos	XIII
2673	—	—	++	—	—	Dimitsana	XV
2689	++	++	—	++	++	Meteora	XIV
2692	++	++	—	—	—	Meteora	XV
2709	++	++	++	++	++	Meteora	1377
2714	—	—	++	—	—	Meteora	XVI
2715	—	—	—	++	missing	Meteora	XVI

MS	9:17	19:29	25:32	26:29	27:35	LOCATION	DATE
2765	—	—	—	++	—	Corinth? (Oxford)	XIV
2767	—	—	—	++	—	Bucharest	XIV
2774	++	++	++	—	++	Sofia	XIV
2806	++	++	—	—	++	Trikala	1518
2897	++	++	++	—	++	Orlando	XIII
2916	++	—	++	—	missing	Athens	XIII
I.2110	++	++	++	++	++	Ivion	1322
L.65	++	++	missing	++	missing	Leukosia	XIV

I will now plot the patterns for the five variant sets. I ignored ‘corrections’ and ‘alternates’ for the purpose of this exercise. That purpose is to evaluate whether the patterns indicate independent lines of transmission within Family 35. Here are the patterns. The numbers stand for the first reading (++), — for the second.

<u>PATTERNS</u>					<u>TOTAL</u>
1	2	3	4	5	— — 45**

1	2	3	4	—	— — 4

1	2	3	—	5	— — 19*

1	2	—	4	5	— — 5

1	—	3	4	5	— — 2

—	2	3	4	5	— — 0

missing	2	3	4	5	— — 1

1	missing	3	4	5	— — 1

1	2	missing	4	missing	— — 1

missing	2	—	4	5	— — 2

missing	2	3	4	—	— — 1

1	2	3	—	—	— — 3

1	2	—	4	—	— — 1

1	2	—	—	5	— — 2

1	—	—	4	5	— — 1

—	—	3	4	5	— — 1

—	2	3	4	—	— — 3

—	2	3	—	5	— — 1

1	—	3	—	5	— — 1

1	—	3	4	—	— — 2

1	—	3	—	missing	— — 1

1	—	—	—	5	—	10*
—	—	—	4	5	—	1
—	2	3	—	—	—	1
—	2	—	4	—	—	6
1	—	—	4	—	—	6
—	—	3	4	—	—	7
1	—	3	—	—	—	2
—	—	3	—	5	—	1
1	2	—	—	—	—	3
missing	2	—	—	—	—	1
missing	—	—	4	—	—	1
Illegible	—	—	4	—	—	1
—	Illegible	—	4	—	—	1
1	—	—	—	—	—	6
—	2	—	—	—	—	6
—	—	3	—	—	—	21*
—	—	—	4	—	—	23*
—	—	—	—	5	—	2
—	—	—	—	—	—	9*
missing	—	—	—	—	—	2
missing	—	—	—	missing	—	1

There are no fewer than 29 patterns, which indicates a normal transmission.

I will disregard all lines that are not complete, as well as all lines that have less than nine ‘votes’. I invite attention to the following six patterns:

- 1) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 = 45 MSS
- 2) —,—,—, 4,— = 23 MSS
- 3) —,—, 3,—,— = 21 MSS
- 4) 1, 2, 3,—, 5 = 19 MSS
- 5) 1,—,—,—, 5 = 10 MSS
- 6) —,—,—,—,— = 9 MSS

I consider that pattern 1) represents the family archetype; it is by far the strongest pattern and of necessity represents a line of transmission. But what of pattern 2); did 23 copyists just happen to make the same set of choices independently? Is it not far more likely that they represent an independent line of transmission?

Indeed, I have collated many dozens of f^{35} MSS, and with few exceptions the copyists were faithful to their exemplar. For example, consider the following evidence for six of the patterns listed above:

Pattern 1)—GA 2554 (Bucharest, 1434, eapr) and GA 1046 (Kutlumusiu, XII, e) are precisely perfect copies of the line of transmission that has Pattern 1). There are several others that are all but perfect.

Pattern 2)—GA 867 (Vatican, XIV, e) is missing the first five chapters of Matthew, but otherwise is a precisely perfect copy of the line of transmission that has Pattern 2). GA 128 (Vatican, XIII, e) is almost perfect.

Pattern 3)—It happens that I have collated only one of the 21 MSS that have this pattern, and it is not a good copy. However, this pattern has a wide geographic distribution, so it is not a local product (the 21 are presently located in over 15 locales).

Pattern 4)—GA 1072 (M Lavras, XIII, eapr) is an all but perfect copy of the line of transmission that has Pattern 4). GA 246 (Moscow, XIV, e) is almost perfect.

Pattern 5)—GA 18 (Constantinople, 1364, eapr) and GA 2503 (Sinai, XIV, e) are almost perfect copies of the line of transmission that has Pattern 5).

Pattern 6)—GA 1189 (Sinai, 1346, e) is a virtually perfect copy of the line of transmission that has Pattern 3). GA 928 (Dionysiu, 1304, eap), GA 1572 (Vatopediu, 1304, e) and GA 2466 (Patmos, 1329, eap) are all good.

What would be Pattern 8)—GA 586 (Modena, XIV, e) is a perfect copy of the line of transmission that has Pattern 8). GA 2382 (Constantinople, XII, e) is almost perfect, and GA 510 (Oxford-cc, XII, e) is virtually so.

Clearly the copyists were faithfully reproducing their exemplars, that represented distinct lines of transmission. Three of the patterns have overt XI century attestation, and another has overt XII, and all have scattered geographic distribution. The evidence before us simply requires the conclusion that the Family 35 archetype had to exist in the uncial period, and probably well back in that period. I have argued elsewhere that the evidence in hand indicates that it already existed in the III century, if not earlier still. **All preconceived notions concerning von Soden's K^r need to be discarded.**