

Matthew 1:1-17

Why do Genealogies Matter?

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. 4 Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. 5 Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot David the king.

David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. 9 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. 11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.

12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.

13 Zerubbabel begot Abi/ud, Abi/ud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. 14 Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud.

15 Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. 16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, **of whom** was born Jesus who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are **fourteen generations**, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

So here we have the Genealogy of Jesus –

A)Q. Why do we begin the greatest story ever told with a genealogy? **Names hard to Pronounce**
It sounds so boring.

B)Not to a Jewish person, it was paramount.

#1 Land Rights

A)If you had land and you are in a tribe, you would want to know your genealogy and pass the genealogy on because if you ever had to sell that land, or if lost from your family

B)In order for that land to be purchased again and

brought back into your family you had to be a Goel kinsman redeemer, {**Ruth in marriage**

1)You had to prove the genealogy to get the land back so that the land could stay within the tribal allotment,

C)It's why they would memorize their Genealogies

D)That is why this genealogy was divided into 3 groups of Generations divided into 14 generations - Memorization

- 1st group- Patriarchs – Abraham to David
- 2nd Group – the Kings – David to Jeconiah
- 3rd group goes from Captivity – to Jesus

Why do we begin the greatest story ever told with a genealogy?

- Important for:
 - #1 Land Rights
 - #2 Priesthood Rights

If you were a priest, You had to prove that your genealogical ladder was unbroken, all the way back to Aaron

A)You had to show every single generation from where you are all the way back to Aaron unbroken or you couldn't serve as a priest.

B)Recall in the book of Ezra when they come back from the captivity,

1)There were some men who claimed to be from the priestly line – they wanted to serve in the temple.

C)Problem was they couldn't find their genealogical records – so they were not allowed to SERVE ! – DEVASTATED!

So it was important for

#1 Land rights

#2 It was important for the Priesthood Rights

#3 Prove who was the Messiah

A)If you're going to say, "This guy is the Messiah."

Aa)The first question is, "Prove it. Where was he born? What tribe does he come from?"

B)Prophecies in the OT declaring the Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah

1)So that would be one of the first things Checked – what tribe

C) Prophecies – A descendant of David - Son of David

1) The Son of David is a messianic term.

When you read the Son of David, it means more than just a descendant of David, but it is used in a special term to refer to the anticipated Messiah that was to come.

A) That is why when Jesus was out healing people -- you read it in the Gospels -- the question was, "Could this be the Son of David?"

B) Now, they knew he was a descendant of David but in using the term "Could this be the son of David",

1) unmistakably they meant the one predicted that would rule and reign and bring in the kingdom – MESSIAH

C) NOTE V.16 – **Mary gave birth to Jesus who is called the Christ**

1) I hope you realize Christ is not his last name. It's his title.

D) It wasn't like this is the Christ family and there was Joseph Christ and Mary Christ and little baby Jesus

1) and the mailbox read the Christ's family.

When it says Jesus who was called THE CHRIST – Christ is His title

A) Christ is the Greek equivalent "Christos" of the Old Testament Mashiach, the Hebrew Mashiach = Messiah. And by the way, the idea of the word

B) The word Messiah, means to rub or to smear. And it comes from the inaugurating process of kings and priests when they would pour, rub, and smear olive oil over a person.

C) And so Messiah simply means the anointed One of God.

D) He is the one God anointed to be the savior and ultimately the king. He's the messiah.

1) He had been long awaited for generations when he came on the scene.

Why do we begin the greatest story ever told with a genealogy?

- Important for:
#1 Land Rights

#2 Priesthood Rights

#3 Prove who was the Messiah

So What does the Genealogy of Jesus teach us?

#1 Jesus is the Promised King

A) The Old Testament is a book of promise, while the New Testament is a book of fulfillment.

B) Sure there are promises in the NT too – but I am talking about the overall emphasis of the OT –

1) The OT is about a promised Redeemer

C) Beginning with Genesis 3:15 = - God promised a Redeemer; After the fall

“And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” Genesis 3:15

In the very first Genealogy in the Bible Genesis 5 – That Genealogy does not include the birth of every human being who ever lived –

A) But the specific line that leads to the Messiah.

B) Adam and Eve had 3 sons – It traces the line through their 3rd son Seth – but when you lay out the names it gives us a message.

Adam – Man / **Seth** – Appointed
Enosh – Mortal / **Cainan** – Sorrowful
Mahalalel – The Blessed God
Jared – Shall come down / **Enoch** – Teaching
Methuselah – His death shall bring
Lamech – The despairing / **Noah** – Rest and comfort

Man/ Appointed / A Mortal/ Sorrowful
The Blessed God / Shall come down / Teaching /
His death shall bring / The despairing /
Rest and comfort

C) The NT is about the fulfillment of that Promise
So Matthew starts the book with a Genealogy to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Prophecy of Genesis 3:15 – the Picture in Genesis 5 –

A) As well as the many other prophecies of the OT

B) What does the Genealogy of Jesus teach us

#1 Jesus is the Promised King

#2 The Promise is fulfilled in two ways.

➤ 1st Human Heredity

The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

A) Matthew begins by saying Jesus is the rightful Heir to the throne of Israel both racially and royally.

B) Racially, He is the Son of Abraham.

1) In the Book of Genesis, God made a promise to Abraham that through his seed the entire world would be blessed.

C) Wasn't talking Nobel peace prize winners – even though since 1901 there have been 881 people who have been given the Nobel peace prize – 194 Jewish

1) Almost 22% of the winners have been Jewish.

D) God was talking to Abraham about something greater –

1) From his seed the entire world would be blessed by a SAVIOR – Save his people from their sins

E) Apostle Paul would later point out that the word God used was “seed,” not “seeds,” and that the “Seed” was Christ Jesus.

Jesus is the rightful Heir to the throne of Israel

- Racially, He is the Son of Abraham.
- Racially, He is the Son of David.

A) Another great promise – One day David said to the prophet Nathan, “I want to build a house for God.”

1) Nathan Great idea – go for it!!!!

B) But that night, the Lord spoke to Nathan, saying, **“David can't build Me a temple because his hands are full of blood. He's a man of war, not a man of peace.**

C) Go tell David he can't build, but tell him this: **Although he can't build Me a house, I will build him a house.”**

1) From his line – the greatest King!!!

D) I love that about God – he has a way of tempering our disappointments with even greater blessings that we had no idea were coming,

Has God recently said no to you – been silent to a request –

A) Don't lose heart – hang in there – what is coming is greater than you could imagine.

B) My life – so many things that I prayed for – God said no – His plan has been so better.

1) Girl I thought I should marry

C) What I wanted to do with my life – Baseball Career and Coach

D) Different kind of coach – Not winning games – souls – Eternal value

E) I will be honest – there are some other things in my life – where God has said no – I am still waiting to see how it plays out.

1) Even if I don't get to figure it out until I am with the Lord – that is ok – HE HAS BEEN MORE THAN FAITHFUL

So the Lord says to Nathan – tell David I am going to build him a house from his line – Messiah – the King of Israel

A) The Jews knew the Messiah must be of the seed of Abraham and a Son of David.

B) Did you know there is only one Jew able to make such a claim?

Bb) In A.D. 70, when the Romans sacked Jerusalem, all of the genealogical records of the Jewish people were destroyed.

C) Thus, there is no Jewish person today who can claim with certainty and authority to be a Son of Abraham and a Son of David except Jesus.

D) His genealogy recorded in this first chapter of Matthew is the only preserved genealogy that fits both requirements.

That being said – at the time of Jesus there were many Jewish men who could trace their family back to King David.

A) So It would take more than human Heritage or pedigree to make Jesus Christ “the Son of David” and heir to David's throne.

B) This is why the 2nd way the promised was fulfilled in Jesus was so important – not just His Human Heredity but his Divine Heredity

2nd His divine Heredity V.18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

Next week Chapter 2 {Birth of Jesus & wise men

Matthew 1:16 and 1:18 make it clear that Jesus Christ's birth was different from that of any other Jewish boy named in the genealogy.

A) See Matthew pointed out that Joseph did not "begot" Jesus Christ.

B) V.16 Rather, Joseph was the "husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ."

C) Jesus was born of an earthly mother without the need of an earthly father. This is known as the doctrine of the virgin birth."

D) Genesis 3:15 – The Seed of the woman

Difference in genealogies in Matthew and in Luke

A) Matthew – legal heir traces Jesus' Genealogy from David through Solomon – down to Joseph – Jesus was the legal son of Joseph

B) Luke – rightful heir – traces Jesus' Genealogy from David through his son Nathan down to Mary.

C) If Jesus Christ were conceived and born just as any other baby, then He could not be God.

1) It was necessary for Him to enter this world through an earthly mother, but not to be begotten by an earthly father.

D) By a miracle of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary, a virgin (Luke 1:26–38)."

He is sinless and able to pay the price for our sins

A) Lamb without blemish – the OT picture

B) Some have raised the question that perhaps Mary was not a virgin.

C) The Prophet Matthew quotes in v.23 – Isaiah 7:14 - Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

Here is the argument: The Hebrew word virgin that Isaiah uses can also be translated young woman – Virgin or Young woman

A) Here is the problem with saying the right interpretation is young woman.

B) Isaiah starts by saying Therefore the Lord will give you a sign – there is no sign if it is just a young woman giving birth – that happens everyday.

C) But it is a SIGN if it is a Virgin – that is something to talk about!

D) On top of that Matthew writes in the Greek language and the word that Matthew uses is only used in the NT to speak of an actual virgin 1) or figuratively of the Church as the Bride of Christ.

What does the Genealogy of Jesus teach us

#1 Jesus is the Promised King

#2 The Promise is fulfilled in two ways.

#3 Jesus is a King who came to save Sinners

A) This genealogy is filled with a list of imperfect people.

1) Abraham – tried to help God – Hagar

Pass his wife off as his sister – twice / Issac – same

B) Jacob – Liar, cheat – took matters into his own hands

C) Judah – a womanizer

➤ David – Adulterer and a Murderer

- Solomon – Hedonist – pursued pleasure at all cost – including idolatry
- Uzziah – Pride – did what only priest could do – Leprosy

D) Rehoboam Pride - split the kingdom

1) Manasseh may be the worst and most wicked King in Israel's history of the Kings

Here is what is interesting – several of these men are listed in Hebrews 11 the great Hall of faith.

A) Flawed men – but also men of faith – the men who are listed in the hall of faith – Sinners – flawed men – but men of faith

B) In other words they failed – but they kept seeking God – Keep pursuing Him

1) David man after my own Heart – After God – pursuer of God

C) Your heart? What are you after – David – One thing I have desired and that will I seek

1) Passion – Pursuit

Abraham – in that List – and in Hebrews 6 he patiently endured the promise – NO HE DIDN'T

A) THAT IS HOW THE LORD SEES OUR LIVES – on the other side of Calvary –

B) He doesn't see the flaws – the failures – He sees us in Jesus

C) This Genealogy speaks to us in a huge way: A list full of sinners

Jesus came to save – Jesus makes righteous

1) Hope for you and me

Finally tonight – Mentioned last week and on Sunday – Matthew writes to contrast Jesus with the religious Hypocrisy of his day.

A) Matthew is going to throughout his book – challenge everything that the religious self-righteous Jewish person would put their confidence in

B) Things like – Male superiority / their sexual purity / racial superiority and even their OT Hero's –

C) HE does that here right in the beginning – by including women in his genealogy -

Final thing we will point out that the Genealogy of Jesus teaches us

#4 Jesus is a King who elevates Women

A) Jewish prayer – Thank you I am not a Gentile/ Dog / Woman

B) Lets include some women – Jesus elevates women in his ministry

1) He treats women with care – dignity – respect -

C) They are Human beings created in the image of God

D) Peter called Husbands to treat your wife right – or else your prayers would be hindered for she is

“a fellow heir of the grace life”

“she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life.”^{NLT}

“they are heirs with you of the grace of life.”^{ESV}

So by including these women – Matthew is challenging the very things that the Jews put their confidence in

A) Male superiority - The Lord challenges that right off by placing Tamar in the Genealogy

B) She cunningly tricked her father-in-law Judah into sleeping with her by disguising herself as a prostitute. – to carry on the line

The Jewish people also prided themselves in Sexual Purity

A) The Lord places a Prostitute named Rahab in the Genealogy of Jesus

B) Jews prided themselves in their Racial Superiority – Chosen People – chosen didn't mean better - The Lord says – lets put a Moabite in there Ruth

C) We Talked on Sunday The Moabites were the result of an incestuous relationship between Lot and his two daughters

Israel took pride in their OT Hero's

A) Bathsheba – David's adultery – Rape – Murder

B) Point:

1) It is not our good works – status – what our parents – grand parents did

C) What Have we done with Jesus?