

Matthew 1:1-7

A Messy Family Tree (The King and His Kingdom)

Matthew 27:29-36

²⁹ When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head.

³¹ And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His *own* clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.

³² Now as they came out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. Him they compelled to bear His cross. ³³ And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull, ³⁴ they gave Him sour wine mingled with gall to drink. But when He had tasted it, He would not drink.

³⁵ Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet:

*"They divided My garments among them,
And for My clothing they cast lots."*

³⁶ Sitting down, they kept watch over Him there.

³⁷ And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him:

THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS

PRAY!

Intro: So Wed night we began our study in the Gospel of Matthew –

A) Matthew has been called the Gospel of the King!

B) In this gospel Jesus is presented as the King! –

1) Not only the King of the Jews but the King of kings – the Lord of lords

C) He writes to point out that Jesus is the King who was promised in the OT

There are 465 OT Prophecies THAT outline what the King would do when he showed up –

A) Matthew reveals how Jesus fulfilled many of them.

- **Isaiah** said that the coming King would give sight to the blind and hearing to the deaf (Isa. 29:18–19; Matt. 5:3; 11:5).
- **Jeremiah** said that the coming King would be from the lineage of King David (Jer. 23:5–6 Matt 1:1).
- **Ezekiel** declared that the King would be a tree planted by God (Ezek. 17:22–24; Matt. 13:31–32).
- **Hosea** said that He would take flight to Egypt (Hos. 11:1; Matt. 2:15).
- **Amos** said that the sun would go dark when He died (Amos 8:9; Matt. 24:29).
- **Micah stated** that He would be born in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:1–5; Matt. 2:1).
- **Zechariah said** that He would make a triumphal entry into Jerusalem (Zech. 9:9–10; Matt. 21:4–5). ”

B) All of those prophecies are fulfilled by Jesus in the pages of Matthew's gospel.

C) IN FACT **“Matthew records 19 prophecies that Jesus fulfilled just in the last 24 hours of His life”**

D) **THE Phrases** The Kingdom – the Kingdom of God – Kingdom of Heaven are mentioned 50 times in the book of Matthew

E) The Phrases **Sons of the Kingdom** and **the gospel of the Kingdom - used often**

1) So - The idea of the Kingdom is a **big deal** in THIS - Gospel

Matthew is about the King and His Kingdom

A) Tie in our Weekend studies to Wed night by focusing in on that – **The Kingdom aspect of the Ministry of Jesus**

B) In this THE KING AND HIS KINGDOM series We will EXPLORE –

- What does it mean for us to be a part of His Kingdom – RIGHT NOW

C) NOT LATER – NOT HEAVEN – Right Now!

God is not satisfied with informing you about the work of his kingdom.

He transforms you to participate in the work of his kingdom.” Paul David Tripp

What does that mean – what does that look like for us living in our world today

A)Wed night we met the Author: Matthew – looked at his conversion.

B)Most scholars believe he was a Renegade priest – became fed up with the religious hypocrisy in Israel

C)No spiritual or emotional ties to the nation –
1)He turns to the one place where he can make the most money for Himself – Rome

D)Becomes a tax collector –Hated – traitor – SELLOUT – despised. – His life –
1) Until Jesus shows up one day and calls him to leave the Tax booth and follow him

Matthew ends up becoming a disciple of Jesus – first hand knowledge.

A)His priestly background and knowledge of the OT comes into play in his writing.

B)99 quotes from the OT in his gospel.
1)More than Mark, Luke, John Combined

C)He presents Jesus in contrast to the religious Hypocrisy of his day. – More than whole Bible

D)Why I mentioned on Wed night – If you know someone that doesn’t like the church –
1)who doesn’t think highly of Christians....
Invite them to come out for these Sunday studies – Matthew is going to give them some ammunition.

A)They are going to find that some of the things they don’t like – Jesus doesn’t like either.

B)Been said that Jesus has been the victim of a lot bad PR – and some of it has come from his friends.

C)My prayer for us as a church as we study through these passages is that our hearts would be open to being challenged. – Shake the tree / hearts

D)Invite Jesus to shake up our MINDSETS a little

As we look at some of the things that Jesus said and did –

A)And compare them to our modern day situations – that we would ask ourselves – this question.

B)Am I handling this situation the way Jesus would?

C)Am I seeing that person or that group the way Jesus Would?

1)WHAT is the role that we are to play in helping the world around us to see Jesus accurately.

King and His Kingdom series – we will see that:

A)Jesus came to establish an upside down Kingdom

B)A kingdom that was radically different from the Kingdoms men were used to.

C)A Kingdom who’s chief characteristic is love not force Servanthood not Domination

1)Where Success and greatness are focused more on faithful obedience than it is on outcomes

D)Where who a person becomes IS more than what they do?

The Upside down NATURE of this Kingdom is seen right away in the OPENING verses of this book – Turn to Chapter 1 #1 Jesus is the Promised King

A)Matthew begins with a Genealogy – what we might call the family tree of Jesus-
1)Family trees are interesting –

B)How was your thanksgiving? That was the question I asked several people in our body.
1)The responses varied from great – ate to much – OR great sweet time with the family

C)TO it was ok – Mom’s house in the morning – Dad’s house in the evening
1) Sister showed up with her 4th husband

D)Brother brought his new girlfriend or my sister brought her new girlfriend

The Holidays can be a stressful time for some – because of the fact that family can be a messy place.

A) You just never know what is going to happen when the family gets together

B) If there is going to be drama. OR NOT

C) True Families can get messy!

IN Recent years – popular to retrace your family tree! Ancestry.com big bucks

A) Great until you find that there are some real skeletons in the closet of your family Ancestry

B) You are not alone – Jesus had some skeletons in his closet as well.

C) That is what makes the family pedigree of Jesus so interesting – NOT WHAT YOU WOULD EXPECT.

Certain cultures where pedigree is everything –

A) You are announced at functions as belonging to such and such family – Lord and Lady.....

B) **The family you belong to played a part in where you could go to college –**

1) who you could marry and the type of Job you would have – all connected to your Pedigree

Genealogies were very important to the Jewish people

A) for without them they could not prove their tribal memberships

B) or their rights to inheritances.

1) Anyone claiming to be “the Son of David” had to be able to prove it.”

C) So in describing the Family that Jesus would be born into – you would think that –

1) He would come from impeccable family stock - the best of the best

C) But in reality the opposite would be the case. –

1) It is one of the first things that we see about Jesus and His upside down kingdom –

D) Not what we would expect at all.

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

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

A) **Racially, He is the Son of Abraham.**
Royally, He is the Son of David.

B) We will consider both aspects and the significance of that in more detail on Wednesday night

C) Matthew’s gospel – He does something that no one else does in any of the other genealogies in the Bible –

He mentions women. FIVE to be exact.

A) In v3, Tamar is mentioned; in v 5, Rahab and Ruth are listed; in v 6, Bathsheba. Mary in V.16

B) This must have blown the minds of his Jewish readers.

1) because, you see, Jewish men prayed this prayer daily:

“God, I thank You that I was not born a Gentile, a dog, or a woman.” That Order!

C) It was a tremendously male-oriented kind of society, Woman didn’t have rights

1) where women’s names were never included in genealogies.

What’s the Lord doing?

A) He’s saying, “The kingdom I’m establishing is different from the kingdom the Jews are expecting.”

B) Paul would later write that in **Christ there is neither male nor female**, for Jesus is the great liberator of women (Galatians 3:28).

C) Study history. Find a society where the gospel has been rejected,

1) You will find a society where women have been treated poorly, even in sophisticated societies.

D) Greece – Arab countries today –

Gospel elevates

Jesus was a great liberator of Women and having women mentioned in his genealogy is an example

A) But it is also a great EXAMPLE to us of

#2 A Messy family tree

B) Women are interesting to say the least

C)V.3 mentions Tamar³ Judah begot Perez and Zerah by **Tamar**

D)Her story is recorded in Genesis 38 – Tamar was married to Judah’s son Er.

Er was a wicked young man and the Lord killed him before he was able to produce a son with Tamar.

A)Now it was the custom of the day that if your older brother died before he could produce a male heir

B)that the next brother in line would marry her – produce an heir

1)So younger brothers always paid close attention to who their older brothers were dating

C)So **Er dies and Judah say to his brother Onan** – You need to take her and make a baby.

1)Onan basically refuses to help her get pregnant – and so God kills him too!

D)Well Judah has one more son – Younger name is Shelah. – Judah is thinking – Tamar is bad luck

1) **Black widow – A son gets close ends up DEAD! So he comes up with a stall plan.**

A)Tells Tamar – Shelah is too young to marry –

B)why don’t you move back to your dad’s place and – when Shelah is older – I will call you!

1)He is hoping this turns into one of those out of sight out of mind things –

C)Tamar just moves on and forgets about it.

1)Well She doesn’t.

When Shelah is finally old enough to get married – Judah is still stalling –

A)So Tamar comes up with a plan to take matters into her own hand.

B)**Judah’s wife dies** and after a period of mourning – He decides to go on a little business trip –

1)He is going to venture down to city of Timnah

C)Tamar hears that Judah is heading there

1)she is going to go to Timnah as well and sort of ambush Judah

She gets there and dresses up like a prostitute and sits along the side of the road leading into Timnah

A)here comes Judah

B)Hey Big boy – looking for a good time – Why not

1)Doesn’t recognize her – covered - Ends up sleeping with her-

After the deed is done – he is like – I forgot my wallet I can’t pay you but next time – I will bring you payment.

A)Tamar is smart she wants something for collateral

B)Leave your signet ring your cord and your staff with me – Judah says ok. – Goes his way.

1)Sounds like a soap opera right – Days of our lives – Bible style

Well 3 months go by and Judah hears that Tamar is pregnant!

A)He is incensed – Bring her here and let her be burned to death!

B)**Tamar shows up and says** – Don’t you want to know who the father is ? SURE!

1)The man who owns this signet ring – this cord and this staff

C)Everyone looks at Judah –BUSTED!!!!

TAMAR GIVES BIRTH TO TWINS – Perez and Zerah

A)Imagine the stories – Kids come home from school

B)Mom the kids at school were teasing us SAYING Grandpa is our daddy –

1)EPISODE OF JERRY SPRINGER

B)Imagine the conversations – We are talking a messy family here.

C)This is family tree of Jesus – The Son of God!

1) **Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. ⁴Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. ⁵Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab,**

Rahab is the next woman mentioned.

A)Tamar pretended to be a Prostitute – Rahab was a prostitute.

B) In the days of Joshua, when the spies came to scope out Jericho, it was Rahab who hid them

C) She is honored not only by appearing here in the genealogy of Jesus Christ,

1) but in the listing of the Hall of Faith found in Hebrews 11.

D) Rahab was a tremendous woman because, in spite of her limited knowledge and understanding,

1) she risked everything, believing that the God of Israel was the True and the Living God.

Next V.5 Boaz begot Obed by Ruth,

A) Ruth is a Moabitess – a Gentile – She was from Moab-

where did the people of Moab come from?

B) The Moabites and the Ammonites were the descendants of Lot –

1) both became bitter enemies of Israel

C) Remember Lot was the nephew of Abraham who settled in Sodom.

When God decided that He was going to destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah – Lot and his two daughters were the only ones who got out alive.

A) Well after watching their city get destroyed and lost everything –

B) Lot's two daughters are thinking – we need to get pregnant – We need Heirs.....

C) So they get dad drunk and seduce him into sleeping with them so they can have babies –

1) Talk about Skeletons – Those kids were brothers and cousins at the same time.

So They each give birth to a son –

A) One of them is named Moab – becomes the father of the Moabite people

B) This is who Ruth belongs to – she belongs to this line of people that came from the drunken polluted relationship of Lot and his daughter –

C) Ruth was a stand up gal

She goes down in history as this incredible woman who pledges her allegiance to her mother-in-law after both their husbands die

A) She forsakes her own family – says to Naomi her mother in law – Your people will be my people your land my land – your God my God!

B) God blesses her for it – Rich dude Boaz takes a liking – **Married – had a Baby – Obed**

C) But the thing Matthew is pointing out – Messy family tree Racially includes the Moabites

Next Matthew brings up Bathsheba –

Obed begets Jesse – begets David - V.7 David the king begot Solomon by her who had **been the wife of Uriah.**

A) So not only does the Family tree of Jesus include – a woman who pretended to be a Prostitute,

B) And an actual prostitute – INCEST– **add to that Adultery and Murder.**

C) David takes Uriah's wife – in a moment of lust – sleeps with her /

1) some even suggesting that **this was RAPE –**

D) and then when he finds out she is pregnant with his child –

1) David has her husband murdered and takes Bathsheba as his wife.

C) THE baby dies before born

1) DAVID and Bathsheba have another son – named Solomon

D) And of all the sons that David had – God hand picks Solomon – who's mom is Bathsheba – to be the next King

E) And to be in line that would lead to Jesus –

1) Teaching at Bible College – Does that bug you?

What does all of this teach us about God?

A) **#1 God is not afraid of Messy!** – We don't pick our relatives BUT JESUS DID

B) We will SEE ON Wednesday night – Messes in the Men in this list as well.

C) God is not afraid of Messy!

God is able to redeem the messy parts of our lives and use them for His glory.

A) No matter the MESS – JESUS can clean it up
Beauty for Ashes – Broken to a masterpiece

B) You and I don't have to be defined by our past.
1) Our past is not an excuse for poor behavior

Tamar could have argued: but I was deceived.

A) Rahab could have said *-but I've got a bad reputation.*

B) Ruth but I wasn't raised a Christian.

C) Bathsheba could have argued I was violated

D) This Genealogy reminds us that – **the Past doesn't have to be the end of your story!**

1) You can rise up with the help of Jesus out of the Ashes – write a new chapter

E) Live a life with Jesus that has redemptive Value

Matthew West: Mended

When you see broken beyond repair
I see healing beyond belief
When you see too far gone
I see one step away from home
When you see nothing but damaged goods
I see something good in the making
I'm not finished yet
When you see wounded, I see mended

#2 It reminds us that Jesus came to save Sinners!

A) He was actually called the friend of sinners in Matthew 11:9

B) Saw in our study on Wed night the conversion of Matthew – Matthew throws a party

1) **Tax collector buddies – riff raft** – the came with them – ill repute of society – worst of the worst

C) Jesus is smack dab in the middle of all of them

1) No recorded sermon – no confrontation – just there – religious leaders question it – can't comprehend it

³⁰ And their scribes and the Pharisees complained against His disciples, saying, "Why do You eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

³¹ Jesus answered and said to them, "Those who

are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ³² I have not come to call *the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.*"
Luke 5:30-32

This is So Key: Jesus doesn't see Bad or Good – Right or Wrong -

A) He sees - **Sick or Well**

B) **We are all Sick** – Disease called Sin

1) Sin – Missed the Mark – Perfection

C) Jesus **left heaven came to this earth** – born of a woman – BABY

D) Grows to a man – Helps sinners - the disconnected get connected to God.

E) What excites Heaven: Luke 15:10 **"there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."**

The Cross completed the work.

A) If you're reliving the failures of yesterday, last Monday, or last month, you're missing the Good News of the gospel.

B) The genealogy of Jesus says, "I'm doing something new." Go your way rejoicing, saint. You have been included in His family.

C) If you are not you can be today! - PRAY