



MATTHEW

The Savior-King and His Kingdom

The Genealogy of the King

Matthew 1:1-17

Message #1 of 80 – S1031

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Sunday Morning Service

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The Genealogy of the King

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Opening Comments

- Today, we begin a new series through the gospel of Matthew – **The King and His Kingdom**
- Last week we were all blessed to have Pastor Cal fill in for me while I was sick.
- One of the things he said was that the whole Bible is about Jesus.
- As our faith grows and our knowledge of God deepens and our understanding of His Word broadens, we are able to see Jesus more clearly on every page of the Bible – even in the book of Numbers with the seemingly endless lists of names and places.
- Once we turn to the New Testament it is much easier to see Jesus
- That is especially true of the gospels.
- Matthew is the first of four gospels – written by Matthew, one of the original Twelve disciples.
- I can still remember the first time I read through the Bible.
- I read through Matthew and then started reading Mark.
- I thought it was odd that there were a lot of similarities.
- It seemed a bit redundant to me.
- And then I read Luke and that feeling was compounded.
- John was a refreshing change because there was a lot of unique things in his gospel accounts.
- I did eventually learn the reason for the four gospels.
- The gospels each represent a different perspective of Jesus.
- They are also written to different audiences.

Matthew – King – Jews

Mark – Servant – Romans

Luke – Man – Greeks

John – God – All Believers

- By understanding who the original audience was, we can better understand why the gospel is written the way it is.
- For example, knowing that Matthew was writing to Jews helps us understand why he started his gospel the way he did.

- Our goal in this study is to get to know our Savior-King better and better and learn how to live in His Kingdom while we wait for Him to come back.
- Let's pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us do that. **Pray**

Teaching

- **The Genealogy of the King**
 - The gospel of Matthew opens with a genealogy.
 - I'm not going to ask for a show of hands, but I wonder how many inwardly groaned when they heard that?
 - People often struggle with the genealogies in the Bible.
 - The names are often unfamiliar and sometimes hard to pronounce.
 - We need to keep in mind that God thought it was important to put those lists of names in the Bible.
 - At the very least, we should respect that.
 - Let's read through it and then we will look more closely at it.
 - **Matthew 1:1-17**
 - This is one of two genealogies of Christ. The other is in Luke 3.
 - This one traces Christ's ancestors through Mary's husband Joseph.
 - The one in Luke traces the ancestry of Mary.
 - This one is the royal genealogy and proves His right to sit on the throne of David.
 - The one in Luke is the bloodline of Christ and reminds us of His connection to humanity.
 - Matthew is writing to Jews – faithful Jews who are waiting for the Messiah to come and save them.
 - We should remember that Matthew is not writing what he wants to but what God has inspired him to write **2 Timothy 3:16**.
- All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...**
- By putting this genealogy first, Matthew is bridging the Old and New Testament together for the Jews.
 - No matter who the original audience was, God intends for us to know Christ better through this gospel.
 - Let's read verse 1 again.

- **Matthew 1:1**

- ‘Christ’ – Is the same as Messiah. It means ‘anointed One’.
- In the Old Testament kings and priests were anointed with oil.
- It is a symbol of position and authority.
- Jesus, the Messiah, fulfills both roles: king and priest.
- ‘the Son of David’ – one of the key qualifications of the Messiah was that He would be descended from King David **Isaiah 11:1**

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots.

- Both Rod and Branch are idioms for the Messiah **Jeremiah 23:5**.
“Behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD, “that I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.”

- ‘the Son of Abraham’ – points to the promise God made to Abraham **Genesis 12:3**.

I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

- Other Scriptures say the Messiah will also be descended from Jacob, Judah, Jesse, and Zerubbabel.
- God ordained that the Savior-King would descend from this lineage.
- If you were going to create a genealogy for the Messiah, what kind of people would you put on the list?
- Probably not most of these people!

- **Matthew 1:2**

- Abraham was a pretty good guy, but he did ask his wife to lie about their relationship because he was afraid of the locals.
- Isaac was not too bad.
- Israel started out as Jacob – was a schemer.
- Judah and ten of his brothers sold their brother Joseph into slavery in Egypt.
- And then this sordid account

- **Matthew 1:3**

- Tamar is first of five women who will be named in this genealogy.
- That is very unusual – usually only men, with occasional women.
- Tamar had been married to two of Judah’s sons.

- God killed them both because they were wicked men before she was able to have children.
- Judah sent her home to father until his third son was old enough to marry Tamar.
- After a while she realized Judah wasn't going to let her marry his son.
- She disguised herself as a prostitute and Judah slept with her and she conceived and gave birth to twins, Perez and Zerah.
- **Matthew 1:4-5**
- Rahab was a Canaanite harlot in the city of Jericho when Joshua led the people out of the wilderness and into the Promised Land.
- She protected the spies Joshua sent to check out Jericho.
- God spared her and her family from the destruction of Jericho.
- Ruth was a Moabite. Ruth, herself, was a noble character in the Bible.
- The Bible book of Ruth is a book of God's providence, faith, love, and loyalty.
- **Matthew 1:6**
- David was a good king and he loved God **Acts 13:22**.
And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'
- David was far from perfect.
- That is hinted at in the phrase 'her who had been the wife of Uriah'.
- Saw Bathsheba bathing on a rooftop – seduced her – got her pregnant – tried to cover it up – had her husband killed.
- The list goes on to list a series of kings who ruled after David.
- Some were good kings – some were evil – some were terribly evil.
- The evil kings often had sons who were good and good kings often had sons who were evil.
- Skip down to verse 16
- **Matthew 1:16-17**
- Notice the change in language here.
- Jacob begot Joseph, but Joseph did not beget Jesus.
- Joseph was betrothed to Mary, but he had not been with her before she conceived by the Holy Spirit – we'll look at that next week.
- There is very little righteousness in the lineage of Jesus.

- Jesus' ancestors were an unbroken line of sinners.
- Jesus didn't come into the world through perfection.
- He came from perfection as the perfection of God to save those who are imperfect **1 Timothy 1:15**.

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...

- Jesus in His perfect righteousness came to save the unrighteous **Matthew 9:13**.

But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.

- The New Testament begins with a genealogy to prove that Jesus met the requirements set forth in the Old Testament for the Messiah.
- Within this list you will find representatives from all of humanity.
- There are people of radical faith and people with no faith.
- People who walked intimately with God and people who rejected God completely.
- There are rich people and poor people. There are kings and a harlot.
- There are Hebrews and foreigners.
- There are good people and evil people.
- There are people who tried to live a good life but made mistakes.
- There are people who followed God but later turned away from Him.
- There are people who lived lives of rebellion but then repented and turned to God.
- The genealogy of Jesus is a picture of humanity and reminds us of who He came to save.
- The Greek word for genealogy can be translated as 'Genesis'.
- In the first Genesis God created the heavens and the earth and everything in them.
- In this new Genesis we see God creating something new, not in the world, but inside each of us **2 Corinthians 5:17**.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- If God included all these people, good and bad, in the genealogy of Christ – He can include you or anyone else He chooses in His family.
- All we need to do is believe – Jesus came to save sinners – people like me and like you.

- **Living in the Savior-King's Kingdom**
- **Savior** - Jesus is the Savior of every human on this earth.
- But to be saved, we must believe that what He did on the cross was for our sins.
- If you have already done that, then regularly thank Jesus for saving you. If you haven't we will pray about that in a minute.
- **King** - Matthew's gospel begins with a genealogy to prove to the Jews that Jesus has the right to sit on the throne of David as King.
- But not just of the Jews – as believers in Christ, Jesus is our King also.
- One of the ways we live in our Savior-King's kingdom is to examine our lives and make sure we have yielded authority to Him in every part of our lives, including our thoughts.
- **Family** – A genealogy is something of a family history.
- When we received Christ, we were adopted into God's family.
- And now that we are a part of God's family, He wants us to play a role in growing His family.
- We do that when we introduce people to our Savior and King.
- Jesus is our Savior and King, and He has made us a part of His kingdom and family.
- That is something we can rejoice in and tell others about! - **Pray**