

The First Coming of King Jesus Part 3: The Genealogy of Jesus

October 02, 2022

Matthew Chapter 1 in Two Parts

Matthew presents Jesus to a Jewish reader. The Jews' stumbling block is accepting and believing in Jesus as the Messiah and the King of Israel, Son of David, Zech. 12:10.

- Christ means "anointed one," or messiah. The word anointed is also associated with God's chosen ones, Ps. 105:15, with Cyrus in Is. 45:1, and Jesus as in Dan. 9:24-26.
- The coming of Jesus is described in the Abrahamic Covenant of Gen. 22:17 and Gal. 3:15-18 as the "Seed" that would come forth from Abraham and bring blessing to all the earth
- The OT also gives us the Davidic Covenant (2 Sam. 7:12-13) that would provide Israel a King that would reign forever: Ps. 89:3-4, Ps. 132:13-14, and Ps.2:6-8. Jesus would reign in a Father and Son relationship: Ps. 89:27, 2 Sam. 7:13-14. This King would bring peace to Israel: 2 Sam. 7:10-11.
- Jesus is from Judah, the line of kings; Matt. 1: 3, Gen. 49:8-12. The scepter would not depart from Judah (49:10). His kingdom would come and rest upon Him, Is. 9:1-7. He would be from Bethlehem, Micah 5:1-5. His enemies would be His footstool, Ps. 110:1. Jesus is coming, Zech. 9:9. A Branch from God, Jer. 23:5-6.

7 Theological Purposes of this Genealogy in Matthew 1: 1-17:

- 1) **Israel is Central**: the genealogy gives a basic story of Israel, according to the kings. Abraham to David V1-6. The kings from David to Jeconiah, V6-11, that failed to establish the kingdom based upon righteousness and peace. From Jeconiah to Jesus, V12-16. Jesus who can now demonstrate His authority to reign and His fulfillment of the OT prophecies to be Messiah.
- 2) **God is Sovereign**: V17: 14 generations + 14 generations + 14 generations. a) the Gaps in the genealogy are okay, b) We know Matthew could count and so there are no issues with his account. The number of generations is confirmed by Gal. 4:4, "fullness of time had come."
- 3) **Jesus is Messiah King**: V6, a) David is referred to as king. b) The scepter would remain in Judah's lineage, Gen. 49:8-10. c) The pattern of kings having sons to pass the lineage continues until V16, when it says Jesus was born to Mary. Jesus establishes His legal claim to the throne of David.
 - a. Jesus is referred to as the Christ in V1, 16, 17. God's plan included Israel's rejection of Jesus and salvation coming to the Gentiles, Rom. 11:25, 15:8-9.
- 4) **The Messiah King is God**: He is a man and He is God (V16), the hypostatic union.
 - a. How does the genealogy show that Jesus is God? The kings had their sons, but Jesus was not begotten of Joseph, but born of Mary. His holiness supersedes any sinful family. He is called Christ three times in the passage referring to God's Anointed One. He is the First and Last as shown in Is. 48:12, Rev. 1:17 & Rev. 22:13. God has sent Jesus and His Spirit to establish His kingdom.
- 5) **God is Gracious**: V10: Manasseh, from 2 Chron. 33:1-5, was polytheistic. V6, made his sons pass through the fire (child sacrifice). V9, more wickedness than other nations. But God, V12, humbled him. V13-14, God brought him back in Jerusalem. V15, he took away foreign gods from the house of the Lord. V16, sacrificed to Yahweh.
 - a. **Tamar**: 1:3, a gentile woman who desired a son from Judah even though it could mean her death. Gen 38.
 - b. **Rahab**: 1:5, a prostitute who hid spies in Jericho, Josh. 2.

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c) **Ruth**: 1:5, a Moabite woman whose people were not allowed to worship Yahweh, yet found favor with the Lord through Boaz.

d) **Uriah's Wife**: 1:6, found favor in the Lord and was blessed by God with Solomon after her marriage to King David, 2 Sam. Ch. 11-12, 2 Sam. 12:24-25.

The reader must acknowledge the grace of God and God using Gentile women to continue the genealogy of Jesus. Rahab went from being outside the camp of Israel, Josh. 6:23, to being in the lineage of Jesus. Marriage to a Jewish man would have meant taking on Judaism. Ruth, a Gentile woman, in the time of the judges of Israel, found favor from God in her marriage to Boaz and is the grandmother of King David. Bathsheba was blessed with Solomon. Tamar who was rejected by Judah, who should have desired God's plan to bring about the coming of the Messiah, instead was willing to commit fornication with foreign women, yet God birthed two sons from Tamar who are in Jesus' lineage.

6) **Mary is Anticipated**: V16, the appearance of scandal was present with Joseph willing to put Mary away quietly because the child wasn't his. But God preserved His plan.

7) **God is Faithful**: Gen. 2:4; 5; 6:9; 10:1; 11:10, 27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1; 37:2; Ruth 4:18, 22; and Matthew 1 is the continuation of His plan to bring the Messiah and save us from our sins.

a. When Israel was unfaithful, God was faithful. God used Gentiles to continue His plan is clearly demonstrated in Jesus' genealogy.

b. Christ is the firstborn among many brethren. Our genealogy continues into eternity. If it continues into eternity, then our personal genealogy began in eternity past as well (Eph. 1:4-5). 1 Pet. 1:8-9, "receiving the end of our faith," and salvation of our souls. This salvation was "kept in heaven for you," 1 Pet. 1:4, "reserved in heaven," before creation and time (Eph. 1:4-5). All for the glory of Jesus, 1 Pet. 1:7.

Further Discussion and Application

Consider the prophecies concerning Jesus from this lesson and others that you know. Why did these Jews miss Jesus as the One Anointed from God? How is our salvation dependent on the simple truths in Matthew 1: 1-17?

How does the Godhead demonstrate their sovereignty over the entire story, life, and coming of Jesus? Read Gal. 4:4, what are some aspects of the fullness of time that we now understand about Jesus?

What are some things we take away from this simple passage about the genealogy of Jesus?

For Purposes 5-7, what do these truths in Matthew demonstrate about God's desire to bring Himself glory and our part in His plan?