

Matthew 1.1-17

Genealogy of Jesus the Christ

Verses we're likely to SKIP > Let's get on with Main Thing > JESUS

Genealogy of Jesus Christ > 3 distinct Sections > 14 generations each

Deliberate OMISSIONS > Not COMPLETE Details

Reason: God intended to teach IMPORTANT things about JESUS

Theological / Historical High Points / 3 Sections of 14 Generations

7 = Divine Number, double blessing!

14 = Numerical Values of David's name

14 = Jesus is our Sabbath – Super-sized Daniel's prophecy: 70 weeks/490 years

14 generations of 35 years each

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be **complete, equipped for every good work.**”
2 Timothy 3.16,17

Key: Sufficiency of Scripture

Whatever we need for life and godliness is recorded and preserved in Scripture, speculation can be interesting, but it is not essential. We are ‘fully equipped’ with what is in the Bible.

Beginning of Most IMPORTANT Story in History > Main Person

Eyes SKIP Over these Strange, Unknown, Unpronounceable Names

Sounds like INTRO to Ancestry.com

1. Important for History > Newscast! Well Documented, Researched

Before you look into Manger > See down Corridors of History

Christianity GOOD News of REAL Event in Recorded HISTORY

Bible Story of God and World

Underlines FACTS > Events of Bethlehem BEGAN Long Before!

RISEN Jesus has Family He was Born Into > Same yesterday, today, forever

Buddhist priests protesting "Don't Make Same Mistake Twice" / "Ban Reincarnation"

History has PURPOSE > Pointing to Jesus > World Shaped by Him

Unfolding Purposes of God to bring the Christ > Fulfillment

Every Story whispers the Name of Jesus

1.1 “book of beginnings” / Genesis 2.4 / 5.1,2

Links Jesus to CREATION of World > Birth of First Man: ADAM

Holy Spirit hovered over Created World / hovers over Virgin Mary

Abe / David / Jesus > Jesus FULFILLS 2 Great Promises of Old Covenant

Blessing of Abe / Kingship of David

The Lord said to Abram, “...in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Genesis 12.3

“in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith” Galatians 3.14

“You shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts ...I will make for you a great name ...I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever’ 2 Samuel 7.10-14 “

“...the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end” Luke 1.32,33

Matthew does not WANT Reader to take Rabbit Trail > FOCUS on Jesus

Jesus comes from DYSFUNCTIONAL Family >

Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus does a lot of work. First, it roots Jesus in history. The gospel doesn’t begin “once upon a time.” Christ isn’t a legend; he was a flesh-and-blood human being in space and time. Second, the genealogy includes women who were racial and cultural “outsiders” (Rahab and Ruth) as well as involved in incest, adultery, and prostitution (Tamar, “Uriah’s wife,” and Rahab).
Tim Keller

Skeletons in Closet > Uncle Zak – Convicted Murder – Held in Death Row – Electric Chair

“worked for Dept Justice for Number years – Given Chair of Applied Electronics – at well known govt institution – became quite attached – held there by strong ties until eventually he died – death came as quite a shock

1. God’s Promises are Faithful even thru our Failures

God’s ways seem CONFUSED – Unfair – Unjust

Both Abe & David tried DO things OWN Way > Disobeyed GOD

v. 6 “father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah”

God seems SLOW to Fulfill his Promises

Promises and Providence of God are Perfectly Ordered

God is on the Field when He is most INVISIBLE

In ancient and less individualistic times, one's genealogy was like one's résumé. Like today's résumés, many things were usually expunged to make it look better to the reader. Women were seldom put in ancient genealogies at all, let alone women who reminded readers of the sordid sins and corruption of ancestors such as Judah and David. All of these figures would have been disowned or expunged from a normal genealogy, but here they are not. They are all—male and female, king and prostitute, Jew and Gentile—equally part of Jesus's family. So even the “begats” of the Bible drip with God's mercy.

2. No Difficulty can Stop God's Purposes for Us

Tamar – Pretended Prostitute

Rahab – Full on Prost

Ruth – Some thought she acted like Pros

Bathsheeba – Violated by Powerful King made to act like Prost

Women No Legal Rites – Property / Things – 4 in List

3 Foreigners – All 4 are Crucial in Part they Play – Morally Questioned

Jesus NOT Ashamed to be Born into this Family > Friend of SINNERS

Identifies with Sinners > Baptized into Sin > Weight of World ON Him

Ahaz – child sacrifice, worshipped idols

Manasseh – more evil than nations around Israel

Rehoboam, Jechaniah – Dirty Men

“Good Men” – Josiah? All NEED a Savior / Cannot save OURSELVES

Baptism > Jesus LABELED with Sinners / Mary herself ACCUSED

Son of God our Savior INCARNATE into Messy Family / Broken World

ALL of them Needed Him to be their Savior

Did not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance

Nothing COMMENDS you to God, Nothing CONDEMN you from God

Women in LIST of Men > GENTILES

God used SIN of Evil Men to continue the Plan of Saving Grace

For Them and the World > More Grace in Jesus than Sin in our Hearts

Where SIN abounds > GRACE Super-abounds

Never be Paralyzed by Past > Unbelief > Rejection of Gospel

Grace transforms GUILTY to Trophies of God's Glory

3. No Obscurity can Hinder God's Work thru Us

Origin, Rise, & Fall of House of David

Royal Blood line of David in Obscure town of Bethlehem > CAVE

Simple Carpenter & Teenage Wife > LINE of Promise is PROTECTED

Obscure People as Important in Fulfillment of God's Perfect Plan

No Mary – Joseph to help Her – No Jesus

Humanity of Jesus not come from Heaven > thru Humble People > Blood

Mary & Joseph set their Hearts on having Lord Jesus > RECEIVE Him

Word of God – helpful to salvation and walk

Esp impt for ROYALTY > KING of Israel is super Israelite

Deported to Babylon > KINGDOM failed and ENSLAVED

Mary and Joseph > NOBODIES – Nazareth? Galileans? Herod is KING but not mentioned

Faithful and Failures <https://www.firstbornmusic.org/study>

For ALL because Jesus came for ALL > Messy and Magnificent > Jew – Gentile > Winners and Losers

Jesus genealogy is LAST in Bible > No other Family Matters > ULTIMATE, FINAL

Every follower becomes Child of God the Father and Sisters and Brothers of Jesus

We are Born Again into God's Family > w/out New Birth cannot See the Kingdom

Reborn by Holy Spirit

Really love Biological family? Invite them to join your Forever family?

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/video/matthews-genealogy-never-heard-before/>