

Matthew 1:1-17 – The Genealogy of Jesus Christ, Part 1

Introduction:

1. Do not pass by the genealogy of Jesus Christ so easily
2. These 17 verses summarize the story of the Bible
3. Matthew was a Jew writing to a Jewish audience
4. Genealogy gave Identity and Credibility
5. Matthew's focus in his gospel: The Kingship of Jesus

Main Idea: God is faithful to His covenant promises made in the Old Testament, and in His Son Jesus Christ, He fulfills them all.

Structure of Jesus' Family Tree (v 17)

1. Abraham to David, David to Exile, and Exile to Jesus Christ, each fashioned by 14 generations
2. Not a full genealogy – intention is to see important truths about the identity of whose family tree this is
3. The longest genealogy in Scripture
4. Purpose is to show the Identity of Jesus before what He does: Get His identity right, and everything falls into place
5. Jesus is the King of kings!

Redeemer: Jesus is the Christ (vv 1a, 16)

1. Christ (Greek) for Messiah (Hebrew): *Anointed One*
 - a. Set apart by God to perform a specific role & purpose
 - b. Anointing was not earthly, but heavenly
 - c. Jesus was set apart to further & accomplish God's mission in the world
 - d. Jesus is the Anointed One: Prophet, Priest, King
2. Jesus taught, lived, and clarified how the Kingdom of Heaven was to be understood – different and unique
 - a. Jesus was not political, military campaigner
 - b. Jesus was the suffering servant who laid His life down for the sheep – Redeeming His People
 - c. Jesus came NOT as people expected: Reject/Receive

Royalty: Jesus, the Son of David (vv 1b, 6b-11)

1. Jesus is the heir to the throne of David
2. Davidic Covenant – David would be a father to kings, his house would be a royal house
 - a. The identifying marker of goodness in the OT
 - b. Benchmark for all kings who would follow
3. Point of Kingship:
 - a. Rule and Reign over a people, cities, territory

- b. Be a Vice Regent for God on earth to Demonstrate:
 - i. A Picture of How God Rules and Reigns
 - ii. A Portrait of How God lives to justly serve His People
 - iii. An Expression How God Wars against Evil
 - iv. An Example of How God Cares for the Poor, Widow, and shows Hospitality (equity)
 - v. How God creates an environment where He is loved, worshipped, honored, and obeyed
- c. The Davidic Kingship went from Good, to Bad, to Worse
 - i. Few good kings amongst the Evil
 - ii. God's exercised His justice, sending His people into exile to Babylon
 - iii. The Mission of God seemed like a failure
 - iv. Where the Davidic kings failed, Jesus succeeded as King of kings
- d. God was faithful to His covenant with David

Race: Jesus, the Son of Abraham (v 1, Galatians 3:16)

1. Abrahamic Covenant: He and Sarah were old, childless, barren
 - a. God promises a race of people through Him
 - b. A nation would spring forth from Abraham
 - c. All of Israel's Priests, Prophets, and Kings would come through Him – And the One Seed, the Messiah
 - d. All the families of the earth would be blessed through his seed, for the sake of the nations
2. God is the Promise Maker and the Promise Keeper

Three Lessons from The Genealogy of Jesus Christ (vv 2-6)

1. God is Faithful & Reliable through a Sinful & Chaotic History
 - a. Redemptive History Seems to look like a Failure & Painful
 - b. Beware of the Christian who says that they can see through the details of what God is doing and How He will do it
 - c. Do not look at the mess of sin, failure, and pain in your life and conclude that God is not faithful and not doing anything in your life (**Romans 8:28**)
2. God's Purposes Are Not Thwarted
 - a. No obstacle/impediment can halt God's purposes
 - b. Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba (Women in a genealogy, Gentiles) = God is not paralyzed by Sin, but has Grace
 - c. There is more Grace in Jesus Christ than Sin in the heart
 - d. The genealogy is about sin abounding and grace abounding more (**Romans 5:20**)
3. God's Work Are Not Delayed by Insignificance and Anonymity – Mary and Joseph, in Bethlehem, in a Cave with a baby in a Manger fulfilling the purposes of God in Salvation