

A Curse, Promises and A Virgin Birth
Jeremiah 22:24-23:1-6, 33:14-26 / Matthew 1:1-17
December 10, 2023
Pastor Gary Hollinger

The genealogy given by Matthew proves Jesus' right to permanently sit on the royal throne of David while the genealogy given by Luke overcomes God's curse on His ancestors.

- I. God also cursed the son of Jehoiakim who is named Jehoiachin (as well as Coniah and Jeconiah) keeping any of his offspring from possessing David's throne. (22:24-30)**

The descendants of Jehoiachin the captive:

Shealtiel his son, Malkiram, Pedaiah, Shenazzar, Jekamiah, Hoshama and Nedabiah. (1 Chronicles 3:17-18)

- II. God promises to raise up a Righteous Branch of David: The Messiah. (23:1-6, 33:14-26)**

“I declare to you that the LORD will build a house for you: When your days are over and you go to be with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my love away from him, as I took it away from your predecessor. ¹⁴I will set him over my house and my kingdom forever; his throne will be established forever.” (1 Chronicles 17:10b-14)

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.
He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.
The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6-7)

III. Jesus' name and title identify His unique mission as the “second Adam” who is to rescue mankind from the fall. (v. 1)

This is the account [generations of] of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens (Genesis 2:4)

This is the book of the generations of Adam. When God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. (Genesis 5:1)

So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man. (1 Corinthians 15:45-49)

a. Jesus is the Greek form of Joshua meaning Yahweh saves.

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.” (Luke 1:31-33)

b. The Christ is the Greek form of Messiah meaning anointed One.

Jesus went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke: 4:16-21)

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12)

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)

IV. God inspires Matthew to break this genealogy into three sets of fourteen names. (v. 17)

- a. In Hebrew numerology, David’s name adds up to fourteen.**
- b. To accomplish this, Matthew leaves some ancestors in the lineage unmentioned.**

V. The genealogy of the Messiah contains many unlikely individuals.

- a. Tamar posed as a prostitute and seduced her father-in-law. (v. 3; Genesis 38)**
- b. Rahab was a gentile prostitute who lied to shelter the Israelite spies as they scouted the Promised Land. (v. 5; Joshua 2 & 6)**

In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? (James 2:25)

- c. Ruth was a Moabite who had worshiped their gods (although she became a worshiper of Yahweh). (v. 5; Ruth)**

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. The women said to Naomi: “Praise be to the Lord, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel! He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth.”

Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. The women living there said, “Naomi has a son!” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. (Ruth 4:13-17)

- d. Bathsheba was married to a Hittite named Uriah and committed adultery with King David. (v. 6; 1 Samuel 11 & 12)**

e. Many of the men listed were flawed and/or sinful as well.

VI. This is the most likely explanation for the differences between Matthew and Luke's genealogies. (Luke 3:23-38)

a. Matthew covers the royal line.

b. Luke covers the blood line through Mary.

VII. Remarkably, God inspires Matthew to conclude the list that leads to Joseph by explicitly denying his parentage. (v. 16)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness... (2 Timothy 3:16)