

**I. Introduction.**

**II. The pedigree of King Jesus. v. 1-17**

**A. God keeps His promise. v. 1**

1. The Deliverer (Messiah) was first promised to Adam and Eve. Gen. 3:15  
Luke 3:38 10:18 Mt. 12:29 Heb. 2:14-15 Rom. 5:14 1 Co. 15:22 45:ff
2. Jesus is the Son of Abraham through Whom all nations will be blessed.  
Gen. 12:2-3 22:18 Gal. 3:16,6-7,29 John 8:56 Ro. 4:13,20ff
3. Jesus is the Son of David Who will reign as King forever. 1:20 12:23 15:22 20:30-31 21:9,15 22:41-46 2 Sa. 7:8-16 Ro. 1:3 Ps. 89:3,29 110:1 Lu. 1:32 Rev. 22:16

**B. God keeps His promise over many years. v. 2-17**

1. From Adam to Abraham (about 2000 BC). Luke 3:34-38
2. Fourteen generations from Abraham to David (about 1000 BC). v. 2-6a
3. Fourteen generations from David to the exile (about 600 BC). v. 6b-11
4. Fourteen generations from the exile to the birth of Christ. v. 12-16 Isa. 11:1ff

**C. God keeps His promise in spite of human sin.**

1. The record of Jesus' ancestors is a record of spiritual failure.
2. Abraham disobediently sought to produce an heir through the flesh and nearly gave away his wife to pagan kings. Gen. 16:1ff 12:11ff 20:1ff
3. Jacob was a deceiver. Gen. 27
4. Judah produced his heir in a particularly shameful and sordid way. v. 3  
Gen. 38:1ff 49:10
5. David bore his successor, Solomon, by stealing another man's wife. v. 6b 2 Sa. 11
6. After David, things went from bad to worse, culminating in exile. 1-2 Kings
7. Why would Matthew choose people like this to explain who Jesus is?

**D. What is the significance of the women included in Matthew's genealogy of Jesus?**

1. Ruth the Moabitess and Rahab the Canaanite show the breadth of God's grace beyond Abraham's physical offspring. Ruth 1:4 Josh. 2:9ff Deut. 23:3 Gen. 12:3 John 3:16 4:42 Luke 2:10
2. Bathsheba, Tamar and Rahab also remind us of God's great grace to sinners.

**E. Why does Matthew give us Joseph's genealogy since Joseph is not the biological father? v. 16**

1. Matthew makes it clear in the next section that Jesus is not born of Joseph. v. 18ff
2. Joseph is chosen to be the adoptive father of Jesus.
3. Through Joseph, Jesus has legal claim to the throne of Israel.

**F. Application.**

1. Marvel at the condescension of the Son of God. Phil. 2:5ff John 1:1-4,14
2. God still keeps his promises! 2 Pet. 3:3ff Acts 1:11 1 Th. 4:13ff
3. Human sin cannot thwart God's purposes. Ro. 8:28 Gen. 50:20 Acts 2:23
4. Even the best of men and women need God's grace. Gal. 2:16 Ro. 3:10ff
5. Even the worst of men and women are not outside of the reach of God's grace.  
1 Tim. 1:15-16
6. Thanks be to God that we who were far off have been brought near! Eph. 2:11ff
7. Grace does not always run in families. Ezek. 18:1ff Luke 12:52-53 Prov. 1:8ff

### III. Joseph proves himself to be a true son of David. v. 18-25

- A. God, in His wisdom, chose Joseph to be Jesus' adoptive earthly father. v. 18-19a
- B. Joseph is a righteous man. v. 18-20a
  - 1. Joseph faces a great crisis with his fiancée' Mary. v. 18b
  - 2. Joseph is a merciful man. v. 19 Gen. 38:24 Dt. 22:23-24 42:1ff Mt. 5:32 19:3ff John 8:1-11
  - 3. Application: How do you react when others hurt and wrong you? Eph. 4:31-32 Rom. 12:17-21 Mt. 18:21ff
  - 4. Joseph is also a careful man. v. 20a Js. 1:19-20 Pr. 19:2 29:20
  - 5. Application: Things are not always what they appear to be.
- C. Joseph is also a believing man. v. 20,24-25
  - 1. He receives the word from the angel without question. v. 20 Luke 1:18,34
  - 2. Joseph obeys God's angel. v. 24-25
    - a. He takes Mary as his legal wife. v. 24
    - b. He foregoes his marital privileges until after Jesus is born. v. 25a 12:46-47
    - c. He protects and provides for Mary and Jesus. 2:13-15,19-21
  - 3. Joseph gives a powerful testimony to the virgin conception and birth.
  - 4. Application: Joseph is like the silent servants among us.

### IV. Jesus is the true Son of David (and Abraham). v. 20-23

- A. He is the Son of God born of a virgin. v. 20b,23a Isa. 7:14 Luke 1:30-35 Ga. 4:4
  - 1. The conception of Jesus was miraculous.
  - 2. Why does the virgin birth matter? Heb. 4:15 2 Co. 5:21 Ro. 5:12
- B. He is Immanuel – God with us. v. 22-23 Isa. 7:14
  - 1. He is fully God. John 1:1ff 8:58 20:28 Isa. 9:6 Ro. 9:5 1 Ti. 3:16
  - 2. He is truly and fully human. John 1:14 Heb. 2:14ff Ro. 8:3
  - 3. God dwells with His people. John 1:14-18 Mt. 28:20 Rev. 21:23 Isa. 60:18ff
- C. He is Jesus, the Savior of His people. v. 21 18:11 John 3:16-17 Ps. 130:8 Isa. 53
  - 1. He was not the revolutionary political leader the Jews sought. John 1:11
  - 2. People today still misunderstand Jesus' mission – He was not merely a teacher of morality and religion.
  - 3. He came to save His people from their sin. Luke 1:47,69 John 1:29 Mark 10:45 1 Pet. 1:18-19 3:18 2 Co. 5:21 Isa. 53:4-6,10-12
- D. Jesus is incomparable! 1 Tim. 2:5 Rev. 5:9-10

### V. Concluding applications.

#### Discussion questions

- 1. What are some significant practical truths taught in Jesus' genealogy?
- 2. Who are the four women included in Jesus' genealogy?  
Why do you think they are included?
- 3. Why is Joseph's role so important?
- 4. How did Joseph demonstrate great faith?
- 5. What did God reveal to Joseph about Jesus' person and work?
- 6. How does the "spirit of Christmas" today miss the point about Jesus' birth?