

What Child Is This?

Matthew 1:1-17

Introduction

What we AREN'T going to do

1. We won't be meticulously discussing the historical significance of each and every name in this list.
 2. We won't be engaging deeply in the "Why are Matthew's and Luke's genealogies slightly different" debate.
 3. We're not going to get into the significance of "14 generations." There's much that we could learn from diving into to that, but unfortunately this morning...we're not gonna do it.
-

What we ARE going to do

❖ Matthew 1:1—*The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,*

1. **BOOK**
 2. **GENEALOGY**
-

Lesson's from the List

1. This list is LONG

42 Generations long to be precise! In fact, Christ's genealogy is "The longest Genealogy in the bible which itself says, "This is the most important person in the whole bible (according to one commentator).¹"

2. This list is different from Luke's

¹ *Bible Speaks Today*, Olivetree Edition

"He [*Matthew*] demonstrates Jesus' legal claim to the throne of David, emphasizing Jesus' legal descent from David and Abraham, while Luke's genealogical record (Luke 3:23–38) emphasizes Jesus' biological descent from David and Adam.²"

3. This list tells the Jewish people that Jesus is legit!

❖ Ezra 2:62—*These sought their registration among those enrolled in the genealogies, but they were not found there, and so they were excluded from the priesthood as unclean.*

4. This list is sprinkled with Gentiles

Christ is not the savior of Jews only!

"Matthew shows how God's grace forgives the darkest of sins and reaches beyond the nation of Israel to the world. He also points out that God can lift the lowest and place them in royal lineage.³"

5. This list is sprinkled with Women

Christ is not the savior of men only!

In the time of Christ, nearly every Jewish man began his day by thanking god that he wasn't "a Gentile, a slave, or a woman."

"Women are not usually named in ancient Near Eastern genealogies, but they are intrinsic to God's purpose in sending Christ. The five women named in Jesus' genealogy all remind us that God often does the unexpected and chooses the unlikely. Tamar (v. 3) reminds us of Judah's failures (Gen. 38:6-30); Rahab (v. 5) was a harlot (Josh. 2); Ruth was a Moabite (Ruth 1:4) and thus subject to a special curse (Deut. 23:3-5); Uriah's wife, Bathsheba (v. 6), was David's downfall (2 Sam. 11). Mary fulfills Is. 7:14 (v. 23) and the even more important promise of Gen. 3:15 (Gal. 4:4). At least three of the five (Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba) have Gentile associations, an important theme in this gospel (2:1-12; 28:18-20).⁴"

The Real Point of the List

❖ **Matthew 1:1**

² *ESV SB*, Olivetree Edition

³ *NKJV SB*, Olivetree Edition

⁴ *RSB*, Olivetree Edition

1. The Christ (*the anointed one*)

What did this mean to Matthew's original audience?

The Anointing of Prophets.

- ❖ 1 Kings 19:16—*And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and **Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place.***

The Anointing of Priests.

- ❖ Exodus 30:30—*You shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may serve me as priests.*

The Anointing of Kings.

- ❖ 1 Kings 1:34—*And let Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet there anoint him king over Israel. Then blow the trumpet and say, Long live King Solomon!*

So then...In calling Jesus THE anointed one, THE Christ, Matthew is quite intentionally saying that...

Jesus is THE prophet!

- ❖ Deuteronomy 18:15—*The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—*

Jesus is THE priest! The great high priest!

- ❖ Hebrews 10:11-14—*And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.*

Jesus is THE king!

- ❖ Revelation 19:16—*King of kings and Lord of lords.*
- ❖ Philippians 2:10-11—*every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
- ❖ Isaiah 9:6-7—*the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.*

2. The Son of David

Long ago, God made a promise to David...



❖ **2 Samuel 7:11b-16**

❖ John 18:36—*My kingdom is not of this world.*

❖ Matthew 16:18—*I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*

3. The Son of Abraham

❖ **Genesis 12:1-3**

❖ **Genesis 22:18**

❖ Ephesians 2:12—*alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*

❖ Ephesians 2:13—*now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.*

❖ 1 John 4:14—*the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.*

The Real Point of this sermon

1. **That we would know Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham**
2. **Haste! Haste to bring him laud!**