

Joy of Every Longing Heart—The Genealogy of Jesus the Messiah

Dec 12th and 15th, 2019

Scripture: Matthew 1.1-16

Luke 1.26-38 (NIV)

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

² Abraham was the father of Isaac,

Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

³ Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,

Perez the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

⁴ Ram the father of Amminadab,

Amminadab the father of Nahshon,

Nahshon the father of Salmon,

⁵ Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,

Obed the father of Jesse,

⁶ and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

⁷ Solomon the father of Rehoboam,

Rehoboam the father of Abijah,

Abijah the father of Asa,

⁸ Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,

Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,

Jehoram the father of Uzziah,

⁹ Uzziah the father of Jotham,

Jotham the father of Ahaz,

Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,

¹⁰ Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,

Manasseh the father of Amon,

Amon the father of Josiah,

¹¹ and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

¹² After the exile to Babylon:

Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,

Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,

¹³ Zerubbabel the father of Abihud,

Abihud the father of Eliakim,

Eliakim the father of Azor,

¹⁴ Azor the father of Zadok,

Zadok the father of Akim,

Akim the father of Elihud,

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¹⁵ Elihud the father of Eleazar,

Eleazar the father of Matthan,

Matthan the father of Jacob,

¹⁶ and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.

Read and Discuss

Introduction

In the third week of Advent (the season of anticipation leading to Christmas) Pastor Jacob shared the genealogy of Jesus from the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's list is different than others in that it goes from Abraham through David to Jesus. It also includes 5 women (an unheard of practice). Jacob shared the stories of each of these women and revealed how their inclusion in the list points to our inclusion in the family of God.

Engage the Scripture

- In reviewing the lineage of Jesus, you might be pondering how your lineage would be written. What are some of the highlights? Are there any characters who overcame rough starts or mistakes? Are there people in your lineage who are shrouded in mystery? Are there some you never talk about?
- Glance through the lineage of Jesus from Matthew 1. Underline names that stand out. What patterns do you notice? What extra bits of information pique your curiosity?
- You can read about the first 4 women in the passages listed below. What do their stories say about those who would become part of God's family in generations to come?

Tamar: Genesis 38

Rahab: Joshua 2

Ruth: Ruth 1-4

Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11

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- Matthew 1.16 says, "...and Mary was the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah." What does Mary have in common with these other women? What is unique about her? What could her presence say to those who feel like they are outside of God's story?

Pray

Pray through this verse of the hymn from Charles Wesley:

*Come, Thou long expected Jesus Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.*