

— Matthew 1.1-17 —

1st Sunday of Advent, Dec 2, 2018

The Book of the Generations of Jesus Christ

Mat 1.1 The book of the genealogy [lit. generations] of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. 4 Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. 5 Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. 9 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. 11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. 12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. 13 Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. 14 Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. 15 Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. 16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

* **A genealogy** would seem to be a rather boring way to open the NT, but what seems boring to us was an absolute _____ to 1st century Jews. They would have immediately recognized Matthew's opening words, "*Biblos geneleos Iasou Christou*," ("The Book of the Generations of Jesus Christ") as a direct quote from the Septuagint version of Gen _____, "*Biblos geneleos anthropon*" ("the Book of the Generations of _____" (Hebrew "_____").

* **A "book of generations"** applies only to a primogenitor or archetype, one who is the _____ and _____ of all, from whom all others flow.

* **As Adam** went, so went the _____ and the _____ and the _____. The whole OT was the "book of

the generations of _____."

* **With his opening line**, Matthew is declaring that Jesus is a new _____, the head of a new _____, and the inaugurator and ruler of a new _____ and new _____.

* **The question** that would pop into everyone's mind is, "How can this possibly be _____?" That's the question everything else in the NT was written to _____.

* **When Matthew** tells us that Jesus is the Son of David & the Son of Abraham (vs 1), he is telling us that Jesus has inherited the _____ of Abraham and the _____ of David.

Gen 22.15 [T]he angel of the LORD called to Abraham ... 16 and said, ... 18 "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed ..."

Gal 3.8 [T]he gospel [was preached] to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations will be blessed." ... 16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

2Sam 7.5 ... "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD, ... 16 "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.'"

Isa 9.6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder, And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Luke 1.30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David."

* **Matthew gives** us a genealogy that wraps a riddle inside an enigma. The enigma is _____.

* **Why did** Israel need a new Exodus, who was the real Pharaoh, and what was the real slavery?

4) Bathsheba (vs 6; 2Sam 11-12)

* **Four times**, Matthew mentions Israel's _____, but never a _____ (vs 11, 12, 17).

* **Matthew drives** his point home by adding something very unusual for ancient genealogies: He includes four _____, three of them _____ (vs 3, 5, 6).

* **Matthew's opening** line implies that Jesus is not only Abraham's and David's descendant, but also their _____.

* **What is** Matthew calling to mind through these women?

Rev 22.16 "I, Jesus ... am the Root and the Offspring of David"

1) Tamar (vs 3; Gen 38)

* **Through this** opening and genealogy, Matthew is preparing us for the _____, for until one realizes that Israel was _____, and therefore the human race is also, one is not ready for the _____.

2) Rahab (vs 5; Josh 2; Heb 11.31)

* **Jesus has** made everything _____. Jesus inaugurated a new _____, a new _____, and a new _____.

3) Ruth (vs 5; Ruth 1-4).