

9/10/17

Matthew 1

We have looked at the introduction to Matthew, now we want to begin our study of Matthew through the Bible, verse by verse.

1. Matthew is the most appropriate to bridge the Old Testament with the New Testament by giving the genealogy of Jesus Christ.
2. The genealogical ancestry was of the greatest importance to the Jew in order to prove their life of inheritance and right to the nation.
3. Ezra records the genealogy of those returning from Babylon. Ezra 2
4. Ezra tells us the Samaritans were rejected because they married their genealogy. Ezra 4
5. The Sanhedrin had public records of the Jews who had a purity of lineage.
6. The name of Herod the Great being half Jew and Edomite was not in the official genealogies, so he ordered their destruction, in order that no one could challenge his tainted pedigree.
7. The fulfillment of Scripture in the birth announcement to identify Jesus as the promised Messiah is the theme of the first chapter of Matthew.
8. The second chapter focuses on the important location of the birth of Jesus, His flight to Egypt and His return to reside at Nazareth as the legitimate King of the Jews in contrast to the

residence of Herod at Jerusalem where the wise men came seeking the King of the Jews that was born, as a result he murdered the infants at Bethlehem to protect and secure his office of illegitimate King.

1:1-17 The Ancestry of the Jews.

- 1:1** The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ.
- * “The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham.”
- 1) The word genealogy “genesis”, means the book of the genesis, origin.
 - a) The Old Testament phrase “these are the generations” “toledoth” is plural and are the history of the individual and his descendants and look forward, never backwards.
 - b) The Greek word “genesis” is the history of one person, looking backward the origin of the promised Messiah.
 - 2) Jesus Christ, indicates His human and divine nature, the second man and the Last Adam. 1Cor. 15:45-47; Gen. 5:1
 - a) Jesus “Iesous” is His human name and means Yahweh is salvation, the translation of the Hebrew name Joshua.

- b) Christ “Christos” is His title, the anointed Messiah.
- 3) Son of David, this identifies His family line, as King and heirs to the throne of Israel. 2Sam. 7:12-16; Is. 9:6; Acts 2:29-36; Rom. 1:3; Rev. 22:16
- 4) Son of Abraham identifies His nationality, as God promised Abraham to make him the father of a nation, through whom the Messiah, the Savior of the world would come and all the families of the earth would be blessed. Gen. 12:3; 13:15; 22:18
* A true Jew.

1:2-6a The line from Abraham to David.

- * The cross-reference of genealogy. 1Chron. 2:3-15

1:2 The three Patriarchs.

- * “Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.”
- 1) Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the patriarchs of Israel.
- 2) Judah and his brothers refers to the all the tribes of Israel.
- a) The phrase “his brothers” is the first brake in the pattern of the word “begot”, found one other time in verse 11.

- b) Judah is the key for Jesus came from the tribe of Judah.
- 3) Matthew is ascension from Abraham to Joseph through Solomon, the legal ancestry of Jesus to the throne of David. vs. 7
- 3) Luke is a descension from Mary to Adam through Nathan, his human ancestry of Jesus to Joseph. Lk. 3:31

1:3 The line of Judah.

- * “Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram.”
- 1) Judah had given her his two sons, Er and Onan and they had died, so Judah had promised to give his third son Shelah.
- a) Er was wicked before the Lord, so God killed him. 1Chron. 2:3
- b) Onan did not want to raise up seed in the name Er, so God killed him. Gen. 38:8-10
- 2) Time passed and Tamar saw Judah was not going to give his son Shelah to her, so Tamar passed herself as a prostitute and became pregnant by Judah. Gen. 38
- a) Tamar “Thamar” means palm tree and the first of three women listed, a rare things to list women, especially being immoral, a Gentiles, a Canaanite.

b) There will be three other women listed, two Gentiles, Rahab and Ruth, then Bathsheba the daughter of Eliam, all with sordid backgrounds. 2Sam. 11:3

* Jesus has come to save Jew and Gentile, even with such sordid states.

3) The royal line is traced through Perez and Zerach. 1Chron. 2:3-4; Ruth 4:12

1:4 The line of Judah to the father of Boaz, Salmon.

* “Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon.” 1Chron. 2:8-12

1:5-6a The line of David.

* “Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king.”

- 1) Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab is the harlot in Jericho, another immoral woman that proselyted into Israel. Josh. 2
- 2) She is also a Canaanite and was the great, great grandmother of David.
- 3) Boaz married Ruth and begot Obed, David’s grandfather.
- 4) Ruth was a Moabite, a descendent of an incestuous relation of Lot with his oldest daughter and cursed till the tenth

generation, which she was when she returned with Naomi. Gen. 19:34; Deut. 23:3-6; Ruth 1

- 5) Ruth was the grandmother of Jesse and great grandmother of David.
- 6) Remember David left his father and mother in Moab when Saul was persecuting him. 1Sam. 22:3-4

1:6b-11 The line of David to the captivity.

* The cross-reference to genealogy. 1Chron. 3:17-19

1:6b The line of David to Solomon.

* “David the king begot Solomon by her *who had been the wife* of Uriah.”

- 1) Jesse was the father of David the king.
- 2) Bathsheba was the wife of Uriah, who David seduced and committed adultery with and the child died. 2Sam. 11:2-5
- 3) Bathsheba bore Solomon and was a Hittite.

1:7-11 The line of David from Solomon to the Babylonian exile.

* 1Chron. 3:10-14

- 1) “Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa.” vs. 7

- * Rehoboam was a foolish young man and caused the kingdom to divide by taking the council of the young men over the older men.
- 2) “Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah.” vs. 8
- * Between Joram and Uzziah, three kings are omitted, Ahaziah, Joash and Amaziah. vs. 8
- 3) “Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah.” vs. 9
- a) Uzziah also known as Azariah, Isaiah saw the Lord at the death of Uzziah, until he became presumptuous to burn incense on the golden altar, so God struck him with leprosy. vs. 9; Is. 6
- b) Uzziah spent his life in a special house built for him and his son Jotham his son reigned in his stead.
- c) Ahaz was a wicked king.
- 4) “Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah.” vs. 10
- * Hezekiah was a good king and began with a great Passover and initiated a great reform, God healed Hezekiah extending his life 14 years and Manasseh the most wicked king was born, Josiah was a good king and also brought great spiritual reform, but it

was superficial by the people, he became presumptuous went out to was and was killed by Pharaoh Neco.

- 5) “Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.” vs. 11
- a) Jeconiah was cursed from any descendants being on the throne.
- b) Jeremiah records the cursing. Jer. 22:30
- c) But since this is Joseph’s line it doesn’t matter, Jehoiaqim is omitted.
- d) One generation is omitted between Josiah and Jeconiah “Jehoiaqim”

1:12-16 The line of David from captivity to the Messiah.

1:12 The first return from Babylon.

- * “And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.”
- 1) The decree came by Cyrus in 437-36.
- 2) Zerubbabel is the prominent figure and some see a contradiction of “Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel” and Luke say “son of Neri”. Lk. 3:27
- 3) Neri comes through the line of “Nathan”
- 4) Zerubbabel is the legal son of Shealtiel, the natural born son of Pedaiah, at Shealtiel’s death without children, his

brother Pedaiiah married his widow by a Levirate marriage. Deut. 25:5-10

- 5) Matthew gives the legal line on which all Jewish descendants lay stress as we shall see in the case of Joseph, the legal father of Jesus.” Luke follows the line of natural inheritance.

1:13-15 The name of the priests till Joseph.

* “Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob.”

- 1) The priesthood is listed in this verse.
- 2) The family of David, the house of Judah.

1:16 The marriage of Joseph to Mary.

* “And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.”

- 1) The pattern is broken the word “begot” is not used for Jesus, but “Mary of whom was born Jesus who is called the Christ”.

* The Seed of the woman. Gen. 3:15;
Gal. 3:16

- 3) The natural understanding by the unbeliever would be that Jesus was illegitimate, tradition tells us the Jews

rumored Jesus was the child of Mary and a Roman soldier, a complete lie.

- a) The evidence is found in John when Jesus told the Pharisees, “You do the deeds of your father.” Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father-- God.” Jn. 8:41
- b) “Now Jesus Himself began *His ministry at* about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) *the son of* Joseph, *the son of Heli.*” Lk. 3:23
- 5) The connection of the immoral lives of Tamar, Rahab and Bathsheba is not coincidence, Jesus came to save sinners and call them to repentance, breaking down the barrier of male and female, sexually pure and defiled, Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Rom. 3:23

1:17 Three groups of fourteen.

* “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.”

- 1) These are purposely arranged for simplicity and memory, not to give an exact chronological record.
- 2) The name of David in Hebrew DVD has a numerical value of fourteen, called “gematria”.
- 3) The three-fold division is given by the three-fold repetition, this is purposeful.
- 4) The captivity is mentioned twice to emphasize the how low the house of David had sank.

1:18-25 The announcement of Jesus birth.

1:18 The miraculous conception.

- * “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.”
- 1) Prior to this was the betrothal parent’s would arrange marriages for their children that could be affirmed or rejected by the couple at the betrothal.
- 2) Mary was betrothed during this one year that was legally binding as marriage and needed a writing of divorce.
 - a) The women lived with her parents.
 - b) No sexual relations were consummated till after the one-year betrothal after the wedding.

- 4) The clear statement is that they had not had sexual intercourse, but rather Mary was found with a child of the Holy Spirit. vs. 21; Lk. 1:35
 - a) Not that Joseph alone found out, though we are not told of others.
 - b) Mary did not tell Joseph about the angel’s visitation, but went to see her cousin Elizabeth that was six months pregnant with John the Baptist.
 - c) She left it entirely to God, being only 14-16 years of age.

1:19 The initial response of Joseph.

- * “Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.”
- 1) Joseph is called her husband and a just man, meaning upright and honorable.
 - a) The personal devastating sense of betrayal and deception is unimaginable.
 - b) The sense of shame and dishonor to his person, name and family was socially humiliating.
- 2) Joseph still refused to expose Mary publically example of having committed adultery, which was punishable by stoning. Deut. 22:23-24

- a) Under the law a woman deceiving her husband of being a virgin and found not to be so was stoned to death.
Deut. 22:13-20
- b) So to put her away secretly meant he would exercise his legal right quietly and discretely, not in a legal trial, being merciful and compassionate towards Mary, merely giving her a private letter of divorce before two or three witnesses, making it legal.
* Some say the death penalty by the Jews was not allowed by Rome, but we have the case of woman caught in adultery the stoning of Stephen and Paul's testimony that he put to death Christians. Acts 8:1; 22:4; 26:10
- c) Adultery was remedied by stoning.
Lev. 20:10

1:20-21 The visitation of an angel.

- * "But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit."
- 1) The word thought "enthumeomai", means to bring to mind, resolve or ponder this

- seeming horrible situation of Mary. vs. 20
- a) The word "but" marks the sharp contrast between verse 19 and 20.
- b) The aorist passive indicates "at the proper time" God intervened says Lenski.
- 2) An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. vs. 20b-c
 - a) The word behold "idou" has the idea of something taking place suddenly at this critical time.
 - b) Not the Angel of the LORD.
 - c) Five times God spoke through a dream. Matt. 1-2
- 3) The angel's message to Joseph. vs. 20d-g
 - a) The angel called him by name "Joseph". vs. 20d
 - b) The angel confirmed his line to the throne, "son of David". vs. 20e-f
 - c) Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife". vs. 20g
 - d) The reason given, "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit." vs. 20h
* Luke confirms this. Lk. 1:35
 - e) God used angels. Matt. 1:20, 24; 2:13, 19
- 6) The prophetic announcement to Joseph about Mary's pregnancy. vs. 21

- * “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”
- a) Mary would give birth to a Son.
 - b) Joseph was to make sure the named the child Jesus. vs. 21b
 - c) The purpose and reason for the name Jesus was that He would save His people from their sins. vs. 21c
 - 1)) He is emphatic in the Greek.
 - 2)) His people, the Jews.
 - * The allusion is from the Psalms. Ps. 130:8
 - 3)) Sins “hamartia”, to miss the mark.
 - 4)) The name Jesus “Iesous”, means Yahweh is salvation.
 - * “He came to His own, but His own received Him not.” Jn. 1:11

1:22-23 The prophetic fulfillment of the conception and birth by a virgin.

- 1) All this was prophetic of the Messiah’s birth, “So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying.” vs. 22
 - * The repeated phrase in Matthew for the prophecy coming to pass was, “That it might be fulfilled”, 14 times and “it is written” 6 times.

- 2) The prophecy was two-fold, “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” vs. 23
 - a) The short-term prophecy was a sign to Ahaz that Syria would not take Jerusalem. Is. 7:14
 - 1)) The most obvious interpretation is that a woman in the days of Ahaz, probably in the royal family would bear a son and call his name Emmanuel, God with us, as the sign of Ahaz’s unbelief and lack of trust in Yahweh, that God would defend Jerusalem. Is. 7:15-16
 - 2)) The only association for the short-term fulfillment in the context is Isaiah’s son, Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz, having a double name “Emmanuel”, like Benjamin and Solomon. Is. 8:1-4
 - b) The long-term prophecy was the birth of the Messiah, identifying Him as Emmanuel, God with us. Is. 9:6
 - * This is the Incarnation of God and final spokesman for God. Jn. 1:1, 14; Heb. 1:1-3
 - c) The word virgin “parthenos”, means a woman that is sexually pure.
 - 1)) The word in Hebrew is “alma”, means a virgin engaged,, opposed

to the word “bethulah” in Hebrew is a virgin not espoused or engaged, both are used for Rebekah. Gen. 24

- 2)) The RSV translates it young maid because “Gesenius” in his lexicon because he didn’t believe in miracles.

1:24-25 The obedience and submission of Joseph to God.

- 1) He believe God through the angel, “Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, vs. 24
* Joseph was awakened from sleep and took Mary as his wife!
- 2) Joseph did not know, meaning have sexual relations with Mary until after the birth of her son, naming Him Jesus, “and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.” vs. 25
 - a) The phrase “first born” implies Mary had other children.
 - b) The dogma of Rome of Mary’s perpetual virginity is a lie, she had other children. Matt. 13:55-56
 - c) 1854 Pope Pius the 9th declared the “Immaculate Conception”, that Mary had no sin.