

“Genealogy of Jesus - Fulfilling a Messianic Requirement”

Matthew Chapter 1

Three Basic Foundations to establish before reading the Gospel According to Matthew

1) Who Was Matthew

- Levi a tax collector – a man despised by his own people. His job was to collect taxes for Rome. He gathered what a quota that went to Rome but whatever else he can get was his to keep. He was considered a traitor and thief.
- **Matthew 9:9-13** Though all Israel saw Matthew as a sinner, traitor, thief and despised him, Jesus came by and “*saw a man*”. This truly caught Matthew attention and Matthew became a believer and followed the Lord.
- Matthew means “Gift of God”

2) Who was Matthew’s Audience

- Each Gospel is important for all people to read, each of the four gospels was written with a specific audience in mind.
 - a) Matthew – to the Jews
 - b) Mark – to the Roman
 - c) Luke – to the Greek
 - d) John – to the Church
- Written by a Jew, to the Jews, about a Jew.
- Matthew uses more Old Testament quotations than any other gospel. (99 references)
- Matthew doesn’t translate Aramaic terms such as *raca* (Matthew 5:22) and *corban* (Matthew 7:11).
- Matthew refers to Jewish customs without explanation (Matthew 15:2 to Mark 7:3-4; see also Matthew 23:5).
- Matthew starts his genealogy with Abraham (Matthew 1:1).
- Matthew presents the name of Jesus and its meaning in a way that assumes the reader knows its Hebrew roots (Matthew 1:21).
- Matthew frequently refers to Jesus as the “Son of David.”
- Matthew uses the more Jewish phrase “Kingdom of Heaven” instead of “Kingdom of God.”
- Matthew also triumphantly ends with Jesus commanding His followers to make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:19-20). So the Gospel of Matthew is deeply rooted in Judaism, but at the same time is able to look beyond; it sees the gospel itself as more than a message for the Jewish people; rather it is a message for the whole world.

3) What is the purpose of this Gospel

- The Gospels all point to a different conclusion about Jesus.
 - a) Matthew – Jesus is Messiah
Genealogy back to Abraham
 - b) Mark – Jesus is Servant
No Genealogy (slaves had no heritage in Rome)
 - c) Luke – Jesus is the Son of Man (Greek ideal of perfection)
Genealogy back to Adam
 - d) John – Jesus is Lord
Genealogy back to Beginning of Creation
- Matthew’s goal was to present Jesus as Messiah, King of the Jews.
- This Gospel uses Jesus’ genealogy, baptism, message, miracles and ministry to point to one conclusion: JESUS IS THE MESSIAH

Mat 1:1

1) The Genealogy of Jesus vs 1-17

The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

- This Gospel begins with a strong Statement. “*the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah.*” The Jews were hoping for the Messiah to come. They needed the Messiah. They were desperately looking for him. Here Matthew tells his Jewish audience “Jesus is the Messiah”
- For Jesus to be the Messiah he needed to fulfill 2 Old Testament requirements in His genealogy.
 - 1) Must be son of David - 2 Samuel 7:12-16
 - 2) Must be a son of Abraham - Genesis 12:3
- Jesus fulfills them both.

This genealogy is the legal lineage through Joseph. The Gospel according to Luke provides the blood lineage through Mary.

- Mat 1:2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.
- Mat 1:3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram.
- Tamar is the **first** of four women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy. Tamar became a prostitute to provide an heir. (Genesis 38)
- Mat 1:4 Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.
- Mat 1:5 Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse.
- Rahab is the **second** of four women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy. Rahab was a Canaanite prostitute who protected Joshua's spies and therefore God preserved her. (Joshua 2 & 6:22-23)
 - Ruth is the **third** of four women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy. Ruth was a Moabite woman. (Ruth 1)
- Mat 1:6 Jesse was the father of David the king, David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah.
- Bathsheba is the **fourth** of four women mentioned in Jesus' genealogy. Bathsheba was an adulterous woman with King David. (2 Samuel 11)
 - These Four Women show that Jesus Royal line was not due to human aristocratic purity.
 - These Four Women show that Jesus was for All Peoples
 - These Four Women show (especially in a Hebrew genealogy) that women and gentiles have a place with Jesus.
- Mat 1:7 Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa.
- Mat 1:8 Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah.
- Mat 1:9 Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.
- Mat 1:10 Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah.
- Mat 1:11 Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.
- Mat 1:12 After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel.
- This is the end of genealogy that can be found in the Old Testament. Matthew has access to more information concerning genealogies and so he continues.
 - The Levites / scribes kept records on genealogies for the sake of knowing who was of the levitical line and for the sake of land, kinsman redeemers and the year of Jubilee.
 - It was important for these records to be kept so the land could be returned to the proper tribe as God instructed.
- Mat 1:13 Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor.
- Mat 1:14 Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud.
- Mat 1:15 Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob.
- Mat 1:16 Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.
- The wording here is very specific. "*Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born*" Matthew is being very clear that Joseph was Mary's husband but not the father of Jesus.
 - Matthew is also making it very clear the second time so far that Jesus is the Messiah.

Mat 1:17

So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

- Abraham - David = 14 Generations
- David - Deportation = 14 Generations
- Deportation - Jesus = 14 Generations
- Ivan Panin - Dec 12, 1855 - Oct 30, 1942
 - A Russian emigrant to the US who discovered Numeric patterns to the Hebrew and to the Greek Texts.
 - Hebrew and Greek are not like English. They use their Alphabet as their number system.
 - For 50 years he researched a numeric code in the texts Of the scriptures. He hand wrote 43,000 pages on the subject.
 - In the Genealogy of the gospel of Mathew
 - The Number of Words are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Letters are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Vowels are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Consonants are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Words that Begin with a Vowel are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Words that Begin with a Consonant are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Words Appearing More than Once are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Nouns are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Names are divisible by 7
 - The Number of Generations are divisible by 7
 - Just looking at this genealogy for this to occur, the possibility of this happening by chance is 678,223,720,849 : 1
 - Matthew -- 28 chapters; 1071 verses; Both divisible by 7
- It was a common practice to skip people in listing of genealogies.
- 14, 14, 14, ?? Well there were a few more people. Some who were accursed not to be mentioned are not included. This brings us to a very important issue between Matthew's genealogy and Luke's genealogy.
 - Matthew shows the LEGAL line through David. David then Solomon
 - Luke shows the BLOOD line through David. David then Nathan
 - This is important because (in Matthew's genealogy) between Josiah and Jeconiah (verse 11) was a king Jehoiakim.
 - Jehoiakim was so wicked that Jeremiah spoke for the Lord that no one from his line would sit on the throne.

Jeremiah 36:30-31 " Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah, "He shall have no one to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat of the day and the frost of the night. I will also punish him and his descendants and his servants for their iniquity, and I will bring on them and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the men of Judah all the calamity that I have declared to them—but they did not listen."
 - This problem of the cursed line is solved by the virgin birth.



Mat 1:18

2) The Birth of Jesus vs 18-25

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

- Matthew says this is how the birth of Jesus came to be. Luke gives more detail.
- "Mary was with child before they came together":
 - The Jewish custom concerning marriage was that it was a 3 step process:
 - 1) Engagement - can happen when the couple was quite young. This was usually a prearranged agreement between parents.
 - 2) Betrothal - (espousal) This was more like the engagement period we are accustomed to today. It was a time of preparation usually the year prior to the marriage. The weight of the betrothal was that they were considered married yet they have not consummated the marriage by ceremony or intercourse.

3) **Marriage** - The formal ceremony and pronouncement.

- It was during the betrothal that Mary was found to be with child.
- The child was conceived by a VIRGIN and the HOLY SPIRIT

Mat 1:19 **And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.**

- Mary was probably 15 - 16 years old. Betrothed to Joseph. Found Pregnant. Incredible scandal for Mary and for Joseph.
- Joseph was a righteous (just) man.
 - He doesn't want to disgrace her.
Proverbs 10:12 "*Hatred stirs up strife, But love covers all transgressions.*"
 - Her wants to put her away secretly (privately).
1 Peter 4:8 "*Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.*"
 - Unwritten - He did not believe Mary's story.
1 Corinthians 13:7 "*LOVE... bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*"

Mat 1:20 **But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.**

Mat 1:21 **"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."**

Mat 1:22 **Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet:**

Mat 1:23 **"BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."**

- Joseph was considering this issue in his life. KJV says he "*thought on these things*" - You can imagine how he was occupied with this crisis. The beautiful girl that he thought loved Jehovah, loved him and just seemed perfect. He was the guy that was going to girl every guy hoped for.
 - Now she is pregnant and telling a crazy story.
- An angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream.
 - Joseph was guided a 4 more times by dreams (see Matthew 2).
 - This angel told Joseph not to be afraid.
God's plans can be quite concerning to mankind.
This angel tells Joseph that he can trust God by not being afraid.
 - This angel told Joseph to take Mary as wife.
God has options that we don't think of.
And sometimes the obvious and simple are over looked.
 - This angel said the Child was conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Mary wasn't lying. This is a God thing.
 - This angel said to call His name JESUS. "*Salvation of YHWH*"
Peter said in Acts 4:12 "*And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.*"
Paul in Philippians 2:9-11 "*For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*"
 - This angel said the Child will save His people from their sins.
There were many saviors in Israel.
Moses from Pharaoh
Joshua from the Canaanites
Gideon from enemies
David from Nations
Only Jesus can save people from their SINS!

- Matthew shows the Jewish reader that this birth fulfills prophecy concerning the Messiah.
- **Isaiah 7:14** this was spoken by Isaiah to Ahaz. That there will be a sign, a virgin with a child.
 - Critics view this to be translated that this word is a young woman
 - A young woman being with child isn't much of a sign.
 - The word '*alma*' means young woman ready for marriage. She is ready because she was a virgin.
 - Verse 25 says Joseph kept her a virgin until the Child was born. Joseph couldn't keep her just a young woman but he could keep her a virgin.
 - **Luke 1:34** (KJV) "*Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?*"
- Jesus shall be called Immanuel GOD WITH US!

Mat 1:24 *And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife,*

Mat 1:25 *but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.*

- This chapter ends with another demonstration of the character of Joseph.
- He did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.
 - Took Mary as wife
 - Kept her a virgin
 - Called His name JESUS.
- We have looked at the genealogy with all these names. But the chapter ends with the greatest of names. JESUS.

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