

THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

Text: Matthew 1:1-16

INTRO: Granted, this is not usually considered to be among the most interesting readings in the Scriptures. Several other passages contain similar readings. Let us note some Bible truths that make this passage meaningful.

I. IT PROVES JESUS TO BE THE FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PROMISES TO ABRAHAM.

Gen 12:1-3, Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family & from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you & make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, & I will curse him who curses you; & in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Gen 22:18, In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

A. The Messiah would be a descendent of Abraham thru Isaac.

Gen 21:1-3, And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said, & the LORD did for Sarah as He had spoken. For Sarah conceived & bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him--whom Sarah bore to him--Isaac.

B. He would be a descendent of Abraham thru Isaac & Jacob.

Gen 28:13-14, [To Jacob:] And behold, the LORD stood above it & said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father & the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you & your descendants. Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west & the east, to the north

& the south; & in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.

- C. Later, it was revealed that the Christ would descend from Abraham, Isaac & Jacob thru Judah.

Gen 49:8-10, Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's children shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; & as a lion, who shall rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; & to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

READ MATTHEW 1:1-2

II. IT PROVES GOD'S INTEREST IN THE GENTILES BEFORE, DURING & AFTER THE TIME OF MOSES' LAW.

- A. The promises to Abraham began to be made before the covenant of circumcision, Gen. 12, Gen 17, and extended to all nations, all families.
- B. At least 2 of Jesus' ancestors were Gentiles, even while Moses' law was in effect.

1. Raham was a Canaanite, Joshua 2
2. Ruth was a Moabite, Ruth 2:2

READ MATTHEW 1:5

III. OUR TEXT PROVES JESUS' RIGHT TO SIT ON THE THRONE OF DAVID.

- A. The scepter thru Judah, Gen. 49:10.
- B. The Christ would be a descendent of Jesse.

Isa 11:1-2, 10, There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, & a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom & understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD... And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, & His resting place shall be glorious."

- C. He would descend from Judah, thru Jesse, thru David.
 - 1. The angel told Mary "The Lord will give Him the throne of His father David" (Luke 1:32).
 - 2. Peter's statement, Acts 2:30, [David was] a prophet and God [swore] with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,
- D. All the kings of Judah were direct descendents of David. Matthew's account of Jesus' ancestry reads like a Who's Who of the kings of Judah.

READ MATTHEW 1:6-11

IV. IT PROVES THAT JESUS' THRONE WILL NEVER BE IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM OR IN THE LAND OF JUDAH.

- A. At the time of the Babylonian exile, God vowed that no descendent of Jeconiah (Coniah) would ever again reign in Judah.

Jer 22:24-30, "As I live," says the LORD, "though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet on My right hand, yet I would pluck you off; & I will give you into the hand of those who seek your life, & into the hand of those whose face you fear--the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the hand of the Chaldeans. So I will cast you out, and your mother

who bore you, into another country where you were not born; and there you shall die. But to the land to which they desire to return, there they shall not return. "Is this man Coniah a despised, broken idol--a vessel in which is no pleasure? Why are they cast out, he and his descendants, & cast into a land which they do not know? O earth, earth, earth, Hear the word of the LORD! Thus says the LORD: 'Write this man down as childless, a man who shall not prosper in his days; for none of his descendants shall prosper, sitting on the throne of David, and ruling anymore in Judah.' "

- B. But Jesus' right to the throne is indeed traced through Jeconiah (Coniah), Matt. 1:12, 16.
- C. Therefore Jesus' throne is NOT in Jerusalem, not in Judah, and never will be. This truth is underscored in other passages.

Zech 6:11-13, Then speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: "Behold, the Man whose name is the BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, & He shall build the temple of the LORD; Yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, & shall sit & rule on His throne; So He shall be a priest on His throne, & the counsel of peace shall be between them both." '

Heb 6:19-7:1, This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure & steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him...

Heb 8:4, For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law.

Heb 7:12, For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.

V. PROVES THAT NEITHER JEWS NOR GENTILES NEED EVER LOOK FOR ANOTHER CHRIST.

- A. Jesus is THE Christ, the Son of the living God, direct descendent of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Jesse, David & all the kings of Judah.
- B. With the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. the genealogical records were destroyed. They had accomplished their purpose & will never be needed again..
- C. The temple altar & priesthood with their animal sacrifices were destroyed, never to be reinstated.
- D. There was, in Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' birth, a man named Simeon to whom God had promised that he would live to see the Christ, Luke 2:26.
- E. Both Jews & Gentiles can find salvation & forgiveness thru the Jesus whose genealogy is recorded in Matt. 1:1-16.

Luke 2:25-32, And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, & this man was just & devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brot in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God & said: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, & the glory of Your people Israel."

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, May 14, 1995
Wrightsville, PA, July 14, 1995 (meeting)
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, March 20, 2005