

To Be a Disciple

Unit 101: *The Genealogy of Jesus*

Matthew 1:1-17

INTRODUCTION

A. Who was MATTHEW?

1. Tax Gatherer for Roman Empire
2. Matthew 9:9-13 (Call to be a Disciple)
3. Two names in the New Testament (*Levi* and *Matthew*)
4. Gospel targeted on a *Jewish audience*.
5. *Discipleship* vs *Casual Church Membership*

I. MEETING JESUS THROUGH HIS GENEALOGY (Matthew 1:1-17)

A. Genealogy means "book of generations" (Genesis 5:1-5)

1. Jesus is genealogically connected back to two JEWISH SUPER-HEROES
 - a. KING DAVID (Royalty) ... 1 Chronicles 17:1, 11
 - b. ABRAHAM (Messianic Promise ... Genesis 22:15-18
2. Jesus is the *Anointed One* (Acts 10:38)
3. Traceable back to the 12 sons of Jacob [Israel - *Wrestle with God*]
4. *Judah* singled out because of *royal descent* (Genesis 49:10)

B. Four *female invasions* into Jesus' Genealogy (no privileged people)

1. Tamar (Genesis 38)
2. Rahab (Joshua 2)
3. Ruth (Ruth 4:12-22)
4. Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11:2-12:25)

C. Genealogical Shift: The Kings of Israel

1. Emphasize the *royal descent* of Jesus.
2. Three groups of fourteen generations

- a. ABRAHAM (2000 BC) to DAVID (1000 BC) - 14 Generations
- b. DAVID (1000 BC) to BABYLON EXILE (605 BC) - 14 Generations
- c. BABYLONIAN DEPORTATION (605 BC) to CHRIST (30 AD)

3. Likely reasons for 13 Generations:

- a. 14 days for the moon to rise to apex and fall
- b. Numerical value of Hebrew name David [דָּוִד] totals 14
- c. 7×2 (7 is number of COMPLETION in Scripture)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Matthew tells us that his Gospel is a "genealogy". What is a "genealogy"?
2. Why does Matthew trace Jesus' genealogy through *David* and *Abraham*?
3. Who are the *four women* in Jesus' genealogy - and what do you know about them from these biblical references.

Genesis 38
Joshua 2
Ruth 4:12-22
2 Samuel 11:2-12:25

4. What does it tell you that, beginning with verse 7, Matthew traces Jesus' descent through the *kings of Israel*?
5. Why does Matthew emphasize that there were *three groups of fourteen generations each* in Jesus family tree?
6. What do you think *the message* of this section (Matthew 1:1-17) of Matthew's Gospel is?