**BETTER TOGETHER** in 2022

November 27, 2022

Dr. Jerry Edmonson, LeadPastor

**Hope is Born**

**Generations of Hope**

**Matthew 1:1-17**



**It is human nature to wonder about our ancestors** — who they were, where they lived, what they were like. **Growing up maybe you had a family bible**, where births, marriages, baptisms, deaths were recorded.

**This morning we begin a journey** … a journey that begins by looking at the past in order to understand our present and future hope.

God fulfilled His **promise** generation by generation.

You cannot understand **the arrival of Jesus** without understanding it in the grand scheme of things.

There is a pattern in the first chapter of Matthew …

**Abraham** to **David**

**David** to Exile

Exile is **Jesus**

**Three people, one event**

Jesus is the long awaited for fulfillment of all **prophecy** and **promise**.

*For* ***all the promises of God******find their Yes in him****. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.* 2 Corinthians 1:20

**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ**, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Matthew 1:1

Matthew communicates in reverse.

Jesus is the son of David. **Jesus is the long awaited for King** in the kingly line. He is climatically the last king. Numbers matter in the Bible, numbers like 40, 12, 7. Here with 3 sections of 14 Matthew is right up front pointing to the connection between Jesus and David.

Who Jesus is … **Jesus starts the genealogy.** He is the one from who all others come forth, beginning and end.

Jesus fulfills the promise given to **David**.

*… And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that* ***the Lord will make you a house****. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers,* ***I will raise up your offspring after you****, who shall come from your body, and* ***I will establish his kingdom.*** *He shall build a house for my name, and* ***I will establish******the throne of his kingdom forever****. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but* ***my steadfast love will not depart from him****, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.* ***And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever****.’ ” In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.* 2 Samuel 7:11a–17

David’s name – ד ו ד

דDalet=4 +וVav=6 + דDalet=4 = 14

David’s numerical value is 14. Matthew does his genealogy chronologically and numerically.

**The Kingdom is near,** the climatic rest is almost here. Jesus will finish God’s work and bring in the final rest of history.

Jesus fulfills the promise given to **Abraham**.

*Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And* ***I will make of you a great nation****, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and* ***in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed****.”* Genesis 12:1–3

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.* Isaiah 7:14

***Abraham*** *was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah* ***by Tamar****, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz* ***by Rahab****, and Boaz the father of* ***Obed by Ruth****, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king.* Matthew 1:2-6

Three women who were not Jewish …

**Tamar** – Genesis 38

**Rahab** – Joshua 2

**Ruth** – The book of Ruth

*No Ammonite or* ***Moabite*** *may enter the assembly of the Lord. Even to the tenth generation, none of them may enter the assembly of the Lord forever …****You shall not seek their peace*** *or their* ***prosperity*** *all your days forever.* Deuteronomy 23:3,6

*And* ***David*** *was the father of Solomon by* ***the wife of Uriah****, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers,* ***at the time of the deportation to Babylon****.* Matthew 1:6-11

**Bathsheba**, the wife of Uriah – 2 Samuel 11

*And the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers. Then this people will rise and whore after the foreign gods among them in the land that they are entering, and they will forsake me and break my covenant that I have made with them. Then my anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide my face from them, and they will be devoured. And many evils and troubles will come upon them, so that they will say in that day, ‘Have not these evils come upon us because our God is not among us?*’ Deuteronomy 31:16–17

*And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month,* ***Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem and laid siege to it****. And they built siegeworks all around it.* 2 Kings 25:1

*And* ***the rest of the people*** *who were left in the city and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the multitude, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard* ***carried into exile****.* 2 Kings 25:11

*And* ***after the deportation to Babylon****: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of* ***Joseph the husband of Mary****, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.* Matthew 1:12-16

**Mary** – the one who under scandalous circumstances would bear the child who would become prophet, priest and king.

*So all the generations from* ***Abraham to David*** *were fourteen generations, and from* ***David to the deportation*** *to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the* ***deportation to Babylon to the Chris****t fourteen generations.* Matthew 1:12-16

*If Matthew had ransacked the pages of the Old Testament for improbable candidates, he could not have discovered four more incredible ancestors for Jesus Christ. But surely, there is something very lovely in this. Here, at the very beginning, Matthew shows us in symbol the essence of the gospel of God in Jesus Christ, for here he shows us the barriers going down.* William Barclay

So what can we take away from this genealogy of Jesus?

Why should you have hope for the generations - past, present and future?

God brings hope through **real** people … not **perfect** people.

God is **faithful**, even when I am not.

God’s **grace** is greater than any failure on my part.

God redeems my **messes** and sin to fulfill His **perfect** plan.

*And we know that for* ***those who love God******all things work together for good****, for those who are called according to* ***his purpose****. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.* Romans 8:28–30

God **brought** me to where I am, but He does not want to **leave** me here.

*And* ***I will give you a new heart****, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.* Ezekiel 36:26

***I will give them a heart to know that I am the Lord****, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for* ***they shall return to me with their whole heart****.* Jeremiah 24:7

God is the **answer** to the nagging question: “Who am I?”.

May all who come behind us find us **faithful**.