

What a Tree Says

Matthew 1:1-17

Introduction: Our family tree has a lot to say about us. Matthew begins his gospel by giving us a portion of Jesus ancestors for three very good reasons.

I. Jesus as heir to the throne.

A. The importance of family.

- 1. Proved worthiness to rule in the Jewish culture.**
- 2. Provided a status symbol.**

B. Kingly ancestors.

- 1. verses 7-11 are all kings.**
- 2. Solomon (I Kings 1), Rehoboam (I Kings 12:1-24), Jehoshaphat (I Kings 22: 41-50), Manasseh (2 Kings 21:1-18)**

II. Jesus as the fulfillment of God's Old Testament promises

A. God's Old Testament promises.

- 1. Abraham - "I will make you a great nation" (Gen. 12:2) and "descendants as numerous as the stars" (Gen 15:5)**
- 2. David - "Your kingdom will endure forever" (2 Sam. 7:12-16)**

B. God will fulfill His promises to us in the New Testament.

1. **"Ask, seek, and knock" (Matt. 7:7), "Acknowledge me before men, I will acknowledge you before the Father" Matt. 10:32)**
2. **"I go to prepare a room for you" (John 14:2), "I am coming soon" (Rev. 22:12)**

III. Jesus as invitation to the family for all.

A. Spotted genealogy

1. **The liar - Abraham (Gen 12:1-20), The harlot - Rahab (Josh. 6)**
2. **The enemy - Ruth (Ruth 4:1-12), The murderer - David (II Sam. 11 and 12)**

B. Inclusion for everyone.

1. **All have sinned and come short**
2. **We can be included as well.**

Conclusion: God's family includes everyone, so this Christmas season take the time to invite someone into the family of God.