



**Merry Christmas**  
**2019**

## **Generations of Grace**

**Matthew 1:1-17**

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*December 8, 2019*

Matthew's genealogy of Jesus Christ displays God's grace through His wise providence, His generous love, and His expansive reach.

Matthew's gospel and the importance of genealogies

Jesus is a descendent of Israel's greatest king, King David, and He is a descendent of Abraham, the father of the Jewish people (1:1).

Jesus is the fulfillment of two of God's promises: God's promise of blessing to Abraham in Genesis 12 and His promise of an everlasting kingdom to David in 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 7.

Matthew's genealogy of Jesus Christ displays God's grace through:

His wise providence

His generous love

His expansive reach

### Questions to Consider

1. Matthew begins by describing Jesus as "the son of David, the son of Abraham." What might that indicate about Matthew's purpose for writing this account of the life of Jesus?
2. Read Genesis 12:1-5. What did God promise to Abraham? Read 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 7:1-17. What did God promise to David? In what ways has Jesus become the ultimate fulfillment of these promises?
3. Read Matthew 1:1-17. Besides being in the line of Jesus, what do all of the individuals on this list have in common?
4. How does the genealogy of Jesus demonstrate the providence of God? Was there a time recently when you lost sight of God's wise providence in the midst of hard circumstances? How does this genealogy, that unfolded over thousands of years, offer hope?
5. Read Philippians 2:5-8. How does Matthew's genealogy serve to further emphasize the humility of Jesus Christ?
6. In what way does Matthew's genealogy help us see that God's eternal plan was for the Jewish Messiah to be a Savior for people of all nations?

*Next Week's Sermon Text: Matthew 1:18-25*

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