Do you know what a “telescoped genealogy” is? In a few words, it’s a genealogy which skips a generation now and again, as long as it doesn’t affect the total picture. That’s what we’re about to look at in Matthew 1.

But first:

- **What is a genealogy?**
  It’s a list of whom was born to whom in one family, from one generation to the next. Also called a “Family Tree”, this factual listing of names spells out grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles, and either adopted or natural-born children. It proves who might be qualified to inherit an estate. Or it points to who might be a natural choice for a kidney transplant. Or, in Matthew, it proves Who has the legal right to be the King of Israel.

- As a simple little exercise, try sketching out your own genealogy back for a few generations:

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What is a Genealogy?
So, for comparison purposes...if I trace my genealogy on my Father’s side (since Jewish genealogies traced only the Father’s path) – I can go back to my great-grandfather. That’s all the Wallace genealogy I know.

My Great-Grandpa – Ira Wallace
My Grandpa – Tom Wallace, Sr.
My Dad – Tom Wallace, Jr.
Kathleen

If my genealogy was “telescoped”, you could say “Ira Wallace begat Kathleen Wallace.” That would be accurate, even though we’re leaving out my grandfather and father.

How far back can you go? I’ll bet most people can’t go back farther than their great-grandparents. Why? Because it isn’t written down anywhere. Not many families have worked diligently to keep their Family Tree filled in. But in the time of Jesus, Jewish people did. Geneologies were intentionally carefully kept.

Why? There were three main reasons:

1) Because the land of Israel was initially parceled out by God to Jewish families. The land was required to stay in the possession of that family. There had to be proof of what family you were a part of.

2) And because certain important positions in Israel were given only to people of specific heritage. Priests, for instance, were all of the family of Levi. Kings were all of the family of Judah. Again..proof was needed.

3) And, also, because a Messiah was promised to come some day to rescue the people of Israel from their sins. And the Messiah would come from the family of David. (Jeremiah 23:5&6)

“Behold the days are coming”, says the Lord, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper.” - Jeremiah 23:5
Chapter 1 of Matthew
Proof That a Genealogy is Awesome!
www.kathleendalton.com

Now...Let’s look at Matthew 1, verse 1, and talk a little bit about this “telescoped” genealogy in the first chapter of Matthew.

Matthew 1:1  “The Book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham.”

Just in this first verse, who are two major people in history who are in the genealogy of Jesus?

Answer: 1. King David - The Jewish King of Israel in about 1,000 BC
2. Abraham - the first Jew – in about 2,000 BC

We’ll see from this Matthew genealogy that King David is a descendant of Abraham. And Jesus is a descendant of David. This will prove to us undeniably that Jesus was a Jew, and Jesus had the legal right to be the King of Israel.

Jesus descended from Abraham, the first Jew, making him undeniably a Jew. (Genesis 12:1-9) And He descended from David, who had been given the Kingship of Israel by the One, True, God – and had been told that any of His sons had the legal right to be the King after him. (Psalm 89:3&4)

And what difference does that make? Why does it matter to me that Jesus was qualified to be the King of Israel? Israel is just a small country – a tiny group of people, right? So what if they have a King? How does that King affect me?

Look again at Psalm 89:3&4, in the box to the right. It says “your seed I will establish
forever, and build up your throne to all generations.” That’s proof that the sons of David met the qualification to be the kings of Israel.

But, look closely. It also says something else…it says “forever” - a future son of David would reign on the throne of Israel “forever”. Not just for a lifetime. Not just for 100 lifetimes. But “forever”. For eternity. Look again at Psalm 89 – but this time at verses 35-37:

“Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David; His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before Me; It shall be established forever like the moon, even like the faithful witness in the sky.” Psalm 89:35-37

Do you see what difference it makes to you and me that Jesus could have been the future seed of David – the eternal King of Israel? The eternal King of Israel is not just King of Israel. He’s King of the World. He’s King of Eternity. He Himself is eternal. He will never die. He’s God.

Now look also at another Old Testament passage – a longer one - which describes this promised future eternal son of David:

“There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

His delight is in the fear of the LORD, and He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, nor decide by the hearing of His ears; but with righteousness He shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, and faithfulness the belt of His waist.

Psalm 89:35-37 “...I will not lie to David; his seed shall endure forever...”
The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play by the cobra’s hole. And the weaned child shall put his hand in the viper’s den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.” Isaiah 11:1-9

Wow. When the eternal son of David appears, He’s going to be filled with the very Spirit of God...and the whole world will change. No more fear. No more injuries. No more ignorance of God.

I have to conclude, then, that the King of the Jews is the King of the World! He’ll change everything! That’s why it matters to me whether or not Jesus is the King of the Jews. If He is King of the Jews, then He should be my King, too.

But....and this is a big but.....why didn’t He change everything in our world back to the way it was supposed to be? He’s been here, right? If Jesus is the King of the Jews – the King of the world, He already came, right? Why is the world still such a rotten place?

Keep reading in Isaiah 11:10

“And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to that people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him...”

This root of Jesse (Jesse was King David’s father)....this eternal son of David....this King of the Jews...this King of the world....first He must be held up as a banner so that the Gentiles can seek Him. And then His resting place shall be glorious.
So that’s where we are now. Jesus, King of the Jews, King of the World, came, lived perfectly, and was rejected and murdered. And then He rose from the dead. And since then, for the last 2,000 years, He has been held up as a banner for all the Gentiles to get their chance to believe in the King of the World.

If you are not a believer in Jesus...if you have never bowed your knee and your heart to the King of the World....then stop whatever else you are working on and seek Him with your whole heart. Do not stop seeking until you find Him. Read your Bible. Talk to Him and ask Him to show you how to know Him. Stay with us in this Matthew Bible Study. Go to a church where the Bible is taught – and keep going back every Sunday. Do not stop seeking. He is the King of the World. Nothing else matters but being right with Him and knowing Him. Nothing.

“For thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:10&11
Today’s portion of our Matthew 1 genealogy begins with Abraham, but let’s go briefly back all the way to Adam, the man God created when He created the world.

Adam and Even were created by God and then given a home in the Garden of Eden – the most perfect place to live in the world. The Lord God walked with Adam & Eve in the cool of the day – and, well, basically, they were in utopia.

But they sinned. And when they did, they opened the door to death and suffering and more and more sinning – this was the legacy they passed on to their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc., all the way to us who live in the same world today.

But not only did the Lord God give them the punishment they rightly deserved....He also gave them hope....in the form of a promise.

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

*Genesis 3:15*

What does that mean? The Lord God is speaking to satan in the above verse, and He’s promising that someday a “seed” (or future man-child) of
the woman would crush his (satan’s) head. Yes, satan would be able to “bruise” this future man-child of the woman, but the man-child of the woman would utterly crush, or destroy satan.

Why was that promise a hope for Adam & Eve? The Lord God was telling them that someday their sin problem would be gone forever, and they could once again walk in the cool of the day with the One, True God. And the one who would provide that deliverance from their sin problem would be one who would come from their own bodies. Their child...or grandchild...or great-grandchild....or further on....

So even from the time of the very first sin, a promise was made that a future deliverer was on the way. Adam and Eve passed on that knowledge to their children, and their children to theirs, etc., so that the whole population of the world would from that point on that God Himself was going to save them from their sins.

Simply believing that promise was faith. And faith was what it took to change the sinner into a forgiven child of God. It was the same back then as it is now...back then they looked forward in faith to the Savior Who would come...today we look back in faith to the Savior Who did come.

Adam and Eve brought the awfulness of sin into the world (and they and their children would pay a terrible price for it), but their faith in the someday Savior Who would be provided by God, placed them safely back in the arms of their wonderful Lord.

The Lord God gave them this promise...and He also gave them a picture. They had covered themselves with leaves because of their shame, and He provided them with a different covering.

He killed a perfectly innocent, unblemished animal, shed that animal’s blood, and clothed them with the skins.
From that point on, they could pass on to their future family the knowledge that innocent blood had to be shed in order to cover the sin in a life.

So with this promise, and this picture, Adam and Eve were driven out of utopia and began to live a hard, heartbreaking life, to bear children, and to wait for the promise of God to be fulfilled.

In between Adam and Abraham was 2,000 years – and one more very important picture:

By the time the world rolled around to Noah, about 2,600 years after creation, there was hardly a person of faith to be found anywhere. All the Ancient Ones had died – Adam, Seth, Enoch, Methuselah – and the Lord saw the complete destruction sin had done in the world.

He found one man, Noah, and his family, who still believed in the promise of the future Savior. And in Noah, which he passed on to one of his sons, Shem, was the seed which would someday become that manchild promised to Adam and Eve. The Lord God told Noah to build an arc, to preach of the promises and judgments of God for 120 years, and then to walk into the arc with his family and be saved from the judgment which God Himself rained down on the world.
Noah and his family were the only ones who believed all that 120-years worth of preaching. They entered the arc and were saved. The seed of the coming Savior was safe.

The picture would be passed on, now, to future generations: **The Lord God will provide a safe place to survive His judgment.** Enter it by faith. Believe that He will do what He said He will do. Take His offer of safety.

So – now – we come to today’s portion of the Matthew 1 genealogy, and the exciting news that the promised Savior had arrived!!!!

Matthew starts the story with Abraham – by the time Abraham came on the scene, the world knew three things about this coming Savior:

1. He would be a man
2. He would somehow sacrifice innocent blood which could forever take care of the sin problem.
3. He would provide a safe place for sinful people to survive their well-deserved judgment.

*Matthew 1:2-6*  "Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon, Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the King..."
Which names do you recognize from these verses?  Abraham, Isaac?  Boaz? Ruth? David the King?  Solomon?

The first 6 verses of this geneology are chock-full of Jewish history and Bible stories.  They cover the period of time from when God chose Abraham to be the first Jew, Abraham offered Isaac upon an altar, Isaac was lied to by his own son Jacob, Jacob had 12 sons who were the 12 tribes of Israel, the whole nation of Israel was captive in Egypt, and then Moses freed them from Pharoah, and the people of Israel moved back to their land, the walls of Jericho came tumbling down, and a sweet young girl named Ruth was saved from poverty by an older, loving man named Boaz….to the time when a Jewish man with seven sons saw his youngest son, David, a poet and a shepherd, crowned King of Israel.  

These years covered in verses 2-6 gave the world more promises and more pictures of the manchild Savior Who was on the way:

**Abraham**

Responded to the call of God to leave his land and everything he knew, and go to a land God was going to give to him and his future children.  He was to go by faith, not having seen the land, but believing it was given to him by God.

The Lord God also promised him that he would be a great nation (although right then he had no children) and that through him the whole world would be blessed.  Ahhhh...the promised manchild Savior was in Abraham!  **The Savior would be a Jew.**
Isaac

The miraculous birth of Isaac, born to Abraham and Sarah – way too old to bear children - was the first part of the promises come true for Abraham.

And then the Lord God asked Abraham to offer up Isaac as a sacrifice! Now Abraham knew that the Lord God did not ask for sacrifice of children. Every other false God in their world did, but the Lord God did not. Abraham believed in the Lord God, and knew that He would not do something against His nature, so he obeyed, believing that somehow another sacrifice would be provided before he would have to actually kill his son. By faith he and Isaac and some servants travelled to the mountain God had specified. By faith Abraham told the servants to wait as he and Isaac climbed up that mountain to make the sacrifice. By faith Abraham and Isaac built the altar. By faith Abraham tied his beloved son to the altar. And by faith Abraham raised the knife to slay the sacrifice – his son.

And the Lord God spoke: “Abraham! Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” Then Abraham saw, in a thicket nearby, a ram which was caught by his horns. He untied his son from the altar, put the ram in his place, and slew and sacrificed the innocent ram in the place of his son.

Another picture for the world to see – the Jewish manchild Savior who was to come- the One who would provide a safe place from judgement – The Savior would provide a sacrifice to substitute for all of us who deserved to die on that altar.

Genesis 22:16 & 17
“...because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son – blessing I will bless you...”
Jacob

Isaac had two sons. Jacob and Esau. Jacob was a man who loved the Lord God of his father Isaac, and of his grandfather Abraham. Esau...not so much.

But Jacob, though he believed in the One, True God, was such a liar! He was spoiled of his Mom, spoiled of his Dad, and used to getting whatever he wanted by manipulation and lies.

He paid a heavy price for his lies, though. After stealing the blessing from his ailing father – the blessing which should have gone to Esau (who, by the way, did not deserve it, but still it was what Isaac was going to give him) – Jacob ran away to live where his grandfather Abraham had originally migrated from. He lived with his uncle Laban, and apparently met his match. For in Laban he found a man even more manipulative and dishonest than he was.

On his way to Uncle Laban Jacob met the One, True God. And he began to change from a man who knew about God to a man who knew God. He learned, far away from home, the price of lies. He married two women, and had a huge family. And then he headed home. He was rich, prosperous, smart, blessed of God, and scared to death.

Would his brother, Esau, remember the old lies and kill him and his family as he returned?

On the way back home, he met God again. And this time he knew the only way to go forward was to believe in the promises of the One, True God and take whatever comes.

Esau welcomed Jacob back home. Not exactly best friends – but he didn’t kill him. 😊 And the world had another picture of the manchild Savior yet to come. **The Savior would bring us back home.**
Judah

Jacob had 12 sons. Judah was one of them. When Jacob was ready to die, he gave blessings to all of his 12 sons. To Judah he said: “...Judah is a lion’s whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He bows down, he lies down as a lion; and as a lion, who shall rouse him? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes.” Judah would be a Lion and a Ruler. The seed of the promised manchild Savior was in Judah. The promised manchild Savior would come from the tribe of Judah and would be a King.

Genesis 49:10 “...the scepter shall not depart from Judah...”

Perez

Now here comes a picture which would have given the world something to talk about for years to come! Perez was the son of Judah – but you will not believe the way it happened. You might call it sort of “unorthodox”. 😊

None of the 12 sons of Jacob were to marry women from the cultures which surrounded them. They were to marry Jewish women who had faith in the One, True God.

Judah, however, found a Canaanite woman he just had to have. And he married her. They had three sons. When their oldest son got to marriageable age he found a young Jewish woman he wanted to marry – her name was Tamar. But this oldest son was a wicked man, and the Lord killed him. Yep – that’s what the scripture says. (Genesis 38). So, the 2nd son is asked by Judah to father a child with Tamar so that she will have a future
(this was sanctioned by God so that women would be cared for). He didn’t want to do it, so God killed him.

Now there is one son left, who legally was required, when he got to a marriageable age, to do what Judah’s 2nd son had refused to do. Give Tamar a son. But this 3rd son is young, so Judah tells Tamar to just wait awhile and when he is old enough, he will marry her.

Tamar waits. But it becomes evident that Judah never intended to give his 3rd son to this woman, so Tamar takes matters into her own hands. She has a right to a son from this family, and a son she will have!

Tamar dresses up as a harlot during the time of harvest, goes out to the road near one of Judah’s fields, and waits there for Judah to pass by. Apparently Judah’s reputation was not so great when it came to harlots – she pretty much knew what he would do. He took her up on her offer, not knowing who she was, and slept with her. When they were done, he had no money on him, so he, honorably, gives her his signet, cord and staff as a pledge that he will come back with payment. She takes them and disappears. He tries to, but never can pay her. He was probably irritated at this, but, oh well, who cares?

Months later the widowed daughter-in-law of Judah, Tamar, is obviously pregnant, and the whole community is in an uproar. She has sinned! They get ready to burn her with fire, but she says to everyone – I’ll tell you who the father is – he’s the one to whom this signet and cord and staff belong! And Judah, standing there ready to condemn her, realizes in one moment what he has done. He cheated this woman out of her legal right to a son, then he treated her like a harlot, and then he’s ready to kill her for sinning. And he rightly says “She has been more righteous than I…”

Tamar lives and delivers twins. Judah takes care of them for the rest of their lives, but does not live with Tamar. One of the twins she names Perez. And the seed of the manchild Savior which is to come was safely delivered...
from Judah to the next generation – and Perez (and his twin brother Zerah) had a mother who loved and had faith in The One, True God. Another picture for the watching world: **The Lord God of Israel made sure the Seed of the Savior was never in danger.**

And Perez begot Hezron.

Hezron

And Hezron begot Ram

Ram

And Ram begot Amminadab

Amminadab

Amminadab was the father-in-law of Aaron. And Amminadab begat Nahshon.

Nahshon

I like Nahshon – he was a leader of the tribe of Judah as the Israelites left Egypt. I think he must have been brave and wise. He just happened to be a part of the wrong generation. He apparently listened to most of the people he grew up with, and agreed to distrust the promises of the Most High God.

Nahshon sent his relative, Caleb, as one of the 12 spies who went in to the land of Canaan when the people of Israel approached that land after they had received the 10 Commandments at Sinai. Caleb came back from the...
spy trip full of faith and hope for going into the land and beginning to conquer it. He saw the land as God did – a place of great future blessing.

But Nahshon apparently did not. He listened to the fear in the voices of the 10 spies who came back afraid, and agreed with them that now was not the time to obey the Lord God and go in and take the land. The enemies looked too big, the blessings too small.

So Nahshon and his whole generation....everyone over 40....were given a curse by the Lord. They would all die out before the children of Israel would again make the attempt to take the land God had promised them.

All except Caleb. And Joshua. Everyone else in that generation would die...and then their children would go in and take the land. The seed of the future manchild redeemer passed silently from Nahshon to Salmon. The Messiah/Savior was protected and passed on even by people with faltering faith.

And Nahshon begat Salmon.

Salmon

After the 40 years passed, and his father Nahshon had died, Salmon was there at Jericho when the walls came tumblin’ down. He heard of the courageous prostitute of Jericho who believed in the God of Israel and staked her life on protecting the spies who went in again, this 40 years later.

He met that prostitute later, when she left her destroyed city and became a part of the community of Israel. I think he must have loved the faith he saw in her, because he married her. She was a “used” woman, not a virgin, not a Jew...but a woman of faith. And he loved what he saw in her, and married...
her….and the silent seed of the future Messiah passed through a man of faith and a woman of faith….who was a Gentile and a forgiven prostitute- on to the next generation.

Salmon begat Boaz. (telescopied)

Boaz

A little telescoping here jumps us to a generation way down the years from Salmon. Boaz eventually is born. The seed of the future Messiah has passed down to him.

And it looks like it may stop there, because Boaz has not married, and he is getting on in years. Not “old”, but not a young, marriageable man anymore, either.

Then a young, beautiful widow – not a Jew, but a woman of Moab – comes upon the scene. She has returned to Israel with her mother-in-law Naomi, who is a Jew. Naomi and her young husband had left Israel years earlier in order to survive during a famine. They had two sons in Moab, and then Naomi’s husband died, both sons married women of Moab, and then those two sons died. Naomi, bitter, poverty-stricken, and broken in spirit, returns to her hometown with only one bright spot in her life. Her beautiful daughter-in-law returns with her – a foreigner in Israel, but a lover of the One, True God. She had learned of Him from her Jewish in-law family, and she had come back to their home because she was trusting her future to the God of Israel.

Ruth 1:16 “...your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.”

Boaz falls in love with her, but does not dare to think she might love an older man. But she comes to him – offering her love and trust – and they marry, and a sweet baby boy is born – Obed. Obed melts the heart of his grandmother, Naomi, and gives a young widow a new lease on life, and an old man a way to pass on what he didn’t even know he carried – the seed of the coming Messiah.
A new picture is painted. The coming Redeemer would be a “kinsman” redeemer, just as Boaz was. **The Savior would somehow be “related” to the ones he was coming to save.** How was Jesus a “kinsman redeemer”? He became a man. So that he could save men and women.

**Obed**

The baby which brought such hope begat Jesse.

**Jesse**

And Jesse had 7 sons. Of those strapping boys, the youngest, the smallest, the quietest, the poet-at-heart, the one out taking care of the family’s sheep….would be the first God-chosen King of Israel, David. The seed passes on. **And we get a fresh picture of the coming Savior/Messiah – not necessarily the best-looking, or the most visible, but chosen of God.**

Before Abraham, the world knew the coming Savior would be:

- A Man
- A sacrifice
- A safe place during judgment

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*I Samuel 16:11 “And Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Are all the young men here?’ The he said, ‘There remains yet the youngest, and there is he is, keeping the sheep.’”*

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And now, as the world has watched the Jewish nation grow, falter, lean on God, and learn painful lessons, they have new pictures and prophecies of this coming one:

- He would be a Jew
- He would be the substitute sacrifice for people who deserve to die
- He would bring us home
- He would be of the tribe of Judah
• He would be protected, even by people with faltering faith, until the time came for him to arrive
• He would come from forgiven people
• He would be related to the ones he came to save
• He would be not the most beautiful, nor the most visible.

In our next lesson, we’ll see the seed pass on through the sons of David.

One question as we finish up this first third of Matthew’s genealogy: how many women have you seen in this list?

Three, right? Tamar, Rahab, & Ruth. The interesting thing is that women were not usually mentioned in genealogies, because what always mattered in genealogies was who the father was...not who the mother was. But to God it always mattered who the mother and the father were. Why? Because God looked for faith. Mothers of faith have a much better track record when it comes to raising children of faith. Tamar, Rahab, & Ruth. Not perfect women... just women who learned through some rough spots in life to trust in God. Women of faith. Read more about them in Genesis 38 (Tamar), Joshua 6 (Rahab), and the book of Ruth (Ruth),

Whether you are a man or a woman, remember - there’s no promise from God that your offspring – your children - will serve Him – they each will some day have to decide for themselves whether or not they will believe in Jesus, the One, True God. But are you taking the opportunity to live your life full-out for God, so that your kids will get see what the One, True God is all about?
Matthew 1:6-11 "...David the King begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon."

These verses cover Jewish history from the time of David, the first God-chosen King of Israel, to the time when the Babylonians captured the Israelites and carried them away to Babylon.

Many kings of Israel are in this list. Some were men of faith, some were not. The ones who were not were the reason the Jews were taken captive.
They led their people to idol worship and choosing the things of this world over the majestic, glorious God of Israel...let’s take a look at them:

David the King

Before the days of Abraham, the world knew that the Savior-to-come was going to be a man, born of a woman, and that He was going to offer the sacrifice to make all sinners right again with Almighty God, and that He would provide a safe place to hide during the judgment of God.

Then, from the time of Abraham to David, the world learned more about the Savior-to-come:
- He would be a Jew
- He would provide the substitute sacrifice for people who deserve to die
- He would bring us home
- He would be of the tribe of Judah
- He would be a King
- He would be protected, even by people with faltering faith, until the time came for him to arrive
- He would come from forgiven people
- He would be related to the ones he came to save
- He would be not the most beautiful, nor the most visible.

With even these few pictures and prophecies the world could have recognized this Savior when He arrived. but now, during the years the Kings ruled in Israel, pictures and prophecies of the coming Savior simply exploded on the landscape of Israel!

Psalm 132:11  “The LORD has sworn in truth to David; He will not turn from it: I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body....forever

“And Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all the young men here:” Then he said “There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep.”
I Samuel 16:11a

With the crowning of King David, the world began to see that the coming Savior would
be a King of the Jews....and as such, would also be the King of the World. For this Savior/King of the Jews would reign forever! No mere King reigns forever – only God Himself could reign forever – so this King of the Jews/King of the World was also going to be God Himself!

And King David himself spread prophecy far and wide – the Psalms he wrote are full of prophecies of the Savior Who was to come – the Savior who would be a son of David – the seed of the Savior-to-come was in David. The One Who would someday solve our sin problem forever was held in safety within David.

Just look at David’s prophecies in the book of Psalms:

- Son of God (Psalm 2:7)
- Kings would worship Him (Ps. 72:10&11)
- He would be betrayed by a friend (Ps. 41:9)
- He would be rejected (Ps. 118:22&23)
- He would be crucified (Ps. 22)
- He would be offered vinegar (Ps. 69:21)
- His garments would be parted (Ps. 22:19)
- He would ascend to heaven (Ps. 68:18)

Did you catch the significance of Psalm 22 in that list? Before David the world knew this coming Savior would offer a sacrifice for the sins of sinners, and that this coming Savior would provide that sacrifice, too, but now....now the world knew that the coming Savior was actually going to be that sacrifice!

So who was next in the line of people to be the King of the Jews? After David, who inherited the Kingship?

Psalm 89:35-37 “Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David: His seed shall endure forever…”

Psalm 2:7 “I will declare the decree: the LORD has said to Me, You are My Son, Today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance…”
Here are all of David’s sons...every one of them had the legal right to inherit the throne:

- Amnon
- Daniel
- Absalom
- Adonijah
- Shephatiah
- Ithraeum
- Shimea
- Shobab
- Nathan
- Solomon
- Ibhar
- Elishama
- Eliphelet
- Nogah
- Nepheg
- Japhia
- Elishauna
- Eliada
- Eliphilet

And there were also sons of concubines, not listed here, and 1 daughter, Tamar.

All the sons listed to the left had the legal right to be the King of the Jews.

Only one of those sons had the seed of the Savior-to-come within him.

Solomon

Solomon inherited the throne from David, but not without challenges. Adonijah declared himself king when David was near death, and Bath-Sheba and the prophet Nathan intervened, encouraging David to be sure Solomon was crowned before David left this earth.

Solomon was wise and kind. He wrote much of the book of Proverbs, and the book of Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. In Song of Solomon he
gave us a picture of the coming Savior – the One Who loved us with an everlasting love – Who was anxiously waiting to come to us – just waiting for the time chosen by the Father.

He asked for wisdom to rule the Jews even before he asked for wealth. And God gave him that wisdom. But Solomon strayed away from God as he reigned. He married many women who did not know of love the One, True God, and although Solomon was a believer in Him, he allowed himself to be influenced by his pagan wives, and the kingdom of Israel began to slip into idolatry and worship of pagan gods.

He passed the kingdom on to his son, Rehoboam, who took a bad situation and made it worse.

### Rehoboam

Rehoboam listened to his young advisors, ignored the sages who had been with his father, and by his arrogance and stupidity, split the kingdom in two.

Rehoboam kept two tribes, Judah and Benjamin, and they continued to worship the One, True God in Jerusalem, but their lives were hard.

Jeroboam took the northern kingdom of 10 tribes away from worship of the One, True God in Jerusalem...but gave them the life of ease they wanted.

Who was right? The people who clung to God’s ways, even though life got harder.

---

**Song of Solomon 8:14**

“Make haste, my beloved, and be like a gazelle or a young stag on the mountains of spices.”
Rehoboam passed on the kingship to Abijah.

And with Abijah begins a procession of bad kings (who did not love the One, True God) and good kings (who did) in the southern Kingdom of Judah. Matthew doesn’t trace the northern kingdom’s kings – because they did not carry the legal right to be the King of the Jews.

Abijah (bad king)  
↓
Asa (good king)  
↓
Jehosaphat (good king)  
↓
Joram (bad king)  
↓
Uzziah (good king)  
↓
Jotham (good king)  
↓
Ahaz (bad, bad king)  
↓

And all this time, during good kings and bad kings, the LORD God kept gracefully giving the world prophecies and pictures of the Savior-to-Come….

Like Jonah – who showed us that the coming Savior would be in the earth 3 days and 3 nights….

And Hosea – who married a prostitute who broke his heart, and then went to go get her and restore her to himself…

And Amos – who dealt the Israelites severe verbal blows for their sins, but then ended his prophecy with such wonderful promises of a future time of peace, when all would be well with the world again. (Amos 9:13-15)

And then, wow, Isaiah…
From Uzziah to Hezekiah, one prophet shone like the stars...Isaiah. He told the world so much about this coming man-child Savior-to-Come:

- He would be born of a virgin (Is. 7:14)
- He would perform miracles (Is. 35:5&6)
- He would be meek & mild (Is. 42:2&3)
- He would be sought by Gentiles (Is. 42:1)
- He would be smitten (Is. 50:6)
- He would suffer & bring salvation (Is. 53)

Not only would this Savior/God/Soon-to-Come Redeemer be the sacrifice for our sins, but He would suffer greatly doing it.

By the time Jeconiah (also called Jehoiachin), came on the scene, the Babylonians were breathing down the necks of the nation of Judah, and only a few more years were left before Jerusalem was torn brick-by-brick apart, and burnt to the ground...and the people of Judah were taken captive to Babylon. Jeconiah was not a good king...but more about him in the next lesson.
In the next lesson we’ll look at the 70 years in Babylon, the return to Jerusalem, and the 400-year wait for the Savior-to-come.

But as we finish up this lesson, I have another question for you:

How’s your Family Tree? How many have lived for God, and how many have lived for the world? Did anyone pass on their faith to you? Or did you come to faith for some unknown reason in the middle of a Family Tree with no faith showing up anywhere?

Whatever your Family Tree looks like, if you are a sold-out believer in the Savior-who-came, it did not happen by accident.

Who was praying for you?

Check out the “Kings of Israel and Judah” chart on the next page.
### Chapter 1 of Matthew

#### Proof That a Genealogy is Awesome!

After David and Solomon: Kings of **Judah** and **Israel**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year B.C.</th>
<th>Kings of Judah</th>
<th>Kings of Israel</th>
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Chapter 1 of Matthew
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The Family Tree
Jeconiah to Joseph (Babylon and Back)
Matthew Chapter 1:12-17

Matthew 1:12-16 "And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begon Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. And Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ."

These verses cover Jewish history from the time the Israelites were taken captive to Babylon to the time when Jesus, the son of Mary, was born.

After Jeconiah, the last king of Israel, The Majestic, Glorious God of Israel put His beloved people under the rule of pagans for 500 years. After that He came to them - a baby, born to a young virgin named Mary and a young man named Joseph. From the beginning of time He had waited to come to them now with healing and love and salvation. Even though they deserved His anger, all along He had planned to show them mercy. Jeremiah 29:10&11.

In this lesson, we’re going to start at the end (verse 16 – Jesus is born), then go back to the beginning (verse 12 – Jeconiah is the king in Israel), and then walk through a bunch of names, most of which we will not recognize, and then end up at Jesus again. And as we do this little back-
and-forth walk through these verses, you are going to experience true “shock and awe”!

So here we go –

“And Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.” (1:16)

The culmination of this whole Matthew geneology is Jesus. The geneology proves He was the son of Abraham, and the son of David, right? And because He was the son of David, He had the right to be King of the Jews, and therefore, King of the World…

Right…? Well…something interesting has happened in this list.

The whole panorama of evil, non-faith kings had done something irreversibly horrible to the monarchy. In the end, even with the occasional king who believed in the One, True God, the evil kings brought down the nation of Israel. The LORD tapped the Babylonians on the shoulder and put in their minds to capture the Jews, take them away in captivity to Babylon, and destroy their capital city – Jerusalem. Why did He do such a thing? Because His chosen people were headed for destruction of a permanent sort…and He wanted to save them from themselves. And from their kings. So He stripped them of all they held dear, placed them in a foreign, cruel culture, and brought them back to their senses. After 70 years, He brought them back home to their broken-down city and weed-infested land, and promised them He would be with them forever. They believed Him, obeyed Him, and never turned to idols again. And never had a king again. And never were a free, sovereign nation again. From that point on, until May of 1948, the people of Israel were always under the thumb of some world ruler.

It seems that it was the last King of Israel, Jeconiah, (also called Jehoiachin) who completely filled up the cup of the righteous anger of God – and brought down the house.
He was an evil king, the last of a whole array of evil kings in Judah. And God was pretty much fed up with them all. His grandfather, Josiah – a good king – had two sons. Jehoahaz and Jehoiachim. (notice the “m” on the end of his name – not the same as Jehoiachin..”n”.) After Josiah’s death, Jehoahaz was made king. He was evil. After he was forcefully removed from the kingship, Jehoiachim “m”, became King. He was captured by Babylon. After that, his son Jehoiachin “n”, became king. He lasted only lasted 3 months before Babylon carted him away, too.

Whew! Confusing! And it was a confusing time, too. So much evil...so many enemies...so many kings....

But the point is – Jehoiachin “n” (also known as Jeconiah) was the grandson of Josiah, and carried in himself the legal right to be the King of the Jews. The kingship had been passed on to him, and he had the right to pass it on to a son of his.

But look at what God said to this young, evil Jeconiah: 

"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". What is He saying? NO SON OF JECONIAH (JEHOIAICHIN) WILL EVER SIT ON THE THRONE OF DAVID AGAIN. NO KINGS WILL COME FROM JECONIAH. IT’S OVER.

Well....OK...God can certainly do whatever He decides to do...but what about the promises He made to David that a son of his
would be King of Israel forever? And what about the seed of the Savior-to-come, who was to come from David? Wasn’t that seed in Jehoiachin? What happens to the seed? Is God going back on these promises?

Ahhh….remember?.....God is never up in heaven wringing His hands. He knew what was going to happen. He knew the future. He knew He was going to have to put a curse on the sons of Jeconiah.

....So He had safely tucked the seed of the Savior-to-come in a son of David – but it wasn’t Solomon! And therefore, that seed wasn’t in Jehoiachin.

And that’s where Mary comes in. Now it’s time for shock & awe! 😊

Look with me at Mary’s geneology. You’ll find it in Luke 3:23-38. I’ve attached a chart at the end of this lesson which will line up Joseph’s genealogy in Matthew with Mary’s genealogy in Luke. To save a little time I’m going to skip to the good news: Mary was also from the line of David – through a son of David we may not have noticed – Nathan. He carried the seed of the Savior-to-come! It was never Solomon. It was Nathan! And any son of Nathan, son of David, could become King of the Jews.

Joseph had the title - he gave Jesus the legal right to be king, but Jesus never could have reigned as king if that was all He came into the world with, because the LORD had put a curse on the future sons of Jeconiah (and Joseph was his “son”)....none of them would ever be King of the Jews, even though they had the legal right.

**But Mary had the seed.** It passed from King David, through his son Nathan, through generation after generation, for 1,000 years – and ended up in a young virgin named Mary – who was overshadowed by the Most High God – and brought forth a Son – who was free to be the King of the Jews!

So cool. Surprise ending. Now – back to the beginning of this week’s passage:
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Matthew 1:12 "And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel…

Let’s begin walking through this list of descendants of David and Solomon, and see what we might know about any of them:

Jecconiah

We already know he was an evil king. But what happened to him? II Kings 24:8-12 tells us Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) was taken captive to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar. He was a prisoner there for 37 years, and then when Evil-Merodach became the new ruler of Babylon, he set Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) free, and allowed him to live in comfort until he died in Babylon. (II Kings 25:27-30)

Israel was 70 years in Babylon, and sometime during that 70 years, Jeconiah adopted a son...

Shealtiel

Yes, Shealtiel was adopted. How do we know that? Because he also shows up in Mary’s geneology (Luke 3:27) …with a different father, not Jeconiah. So we can guess that at some point, perhaps at the time all of Israel was carted away to Babylon, Shealtiel’s parents were killed, and he was an orphan. He was a descendant of Nathan, son of David, but he needed protection and a home, and was adopted into the family of Jeconiah.

Clever of God, wasn’t it? Shealtiel had the seed of the Messiah in him, but no one knew that. And now, as the adopted son of Jeconiah, he also was known as someone who was in line for the throne. He never was a king, but he carried a king in him. And he passed on that seed and that potential title to his son...
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Zerubbabel

Perhaps you’ve heard his name. He was one of the leaders of Israel who were allowed to return back to their land after the Persians conquered the Babylonians, 70 years after the Jews had been taken away captive.

Zerubbabel was the governor of the people who returned. He had the right to sit on the throne of Israel, but he never did. He ruled, but not as King. He governed under the watchful eye of Persia.

But as Israel’s leader, he guided them to rebuild the temple and re-institute sacrifices, and begin again to live as God directed in the land He had given them.

Abiud

Zerubbabel had more than one son. Abiud was one of them. He carried the legal right to sit on the throne. But he didn’t carry the seed of the Messiah. That seed was passed on to Rhesa – who eventually passed it on to Mary.

And here the seed once again seems to disappear into the huge family descended from David...but of course, God knew where it was all along. And when the time was right....

Through the rule of the Persians, then the rule of the Greeks, and then the rule of Rome, these Jewish men who had the legal right to ascend the throne of Israel, simply lived, had families, and died in the land of Israel.

We don’t know whether or not they were men of faith...

But we do know that somehow the sweet message of the Savior-to-Come stayed alive in at least some hearts, and was communicated from one generation to the next, because by the time we meet Joseph, husband of Mary, we see that he is a man who believes in and loves and will faithfully obey the Words of the One, True

Eliakim
Azor
Zadok
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↓
Achim
↓
Eliud
↓
Eleazar
↓
Matthan
↓
Jacob
↓
Joseph The husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called “Christ”.

Matthew 1:17 “So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.”

Now we’re back to that term “telescoped genealogy”.

Matthew tells us here there were 14 generations from Abraham to David. 14 generations from David to Babylon. And then 14 generations from Babylon to Jesus.

But in fact, there were a few more than 14 generations from Abraham to David. And a few more than 14 generations from David to Babylon. And a few more than 14 generations from Babylon to Jesus. It was a common practice in genealogies in this day....and I think it was mostly because it was easier to teach and learn this way. The genealogy was not compromised. It was just slimmer, easier to memorize.
I’ve been asking myself: “What is there to be learned from this last 1/3 of this Matthew geneology? What do Jeconiah, Sheltiel, Zerubbabel and Joseph teach us?

The verse which has been popping into my mind as I write this is Psalm 119:41: "Let Your mercies come also to me, O LORD – Your salvation according to Your Word.”

Jeconiah certainly didn’t deserve the mercy and salvation of God. But he got it. Although no son of his would ever sit on the throne of Israel, yet Jeconiah was treated kindly by his captors eventually, and his adopted son, Shealtiel, turned out to be even more valuable than a son which would have someday temporarily sat on the throne. Shealtiel had the true King of the Jews, the eternal King of the Jews, safely inside him. Jeconiah never knew that. But God had mercy on him. And God has had mercy on you and on me. We do not deserve the salvation He has extended to us....and, probably, if we knew all the other blessings and mercies he is heaping on us, we’d be filled with “shock and awe”
## Genealogy of Jesus in Matthew (Joseph) and Luke (Mary)

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<th>Matthew</th>
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<td>Salmon</td>
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<td>Boaz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse</td>
<td>Jesse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David</td>
<td>David</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Solomon was one of 19 sons – Nathan was another) Solomon:
- Nathan
- Nathan
- Maitthale
- Maitthale
- Elia
- Elikim
- Jonath
- Joseph
- Judah
- Simeon
- Levi
- Matthat
- Jorim
- Eli
- Joseph

(God Himself cursed Jeconiah – no seed of his would ever reign) Jeconiah:
- Shealtiel
- Zerubbabel (Zerubbabel returned to the Promised Land)
- Rhesa (Rhesa was one son of Zerubbabel, Abia another)

(Seeliel was adopted into the Jeconiah family) Shealtiel:
- Abiud
- Elia
- Jorim
- Eli
- Joseph

(Matthew) Matthew:
- Nathan
- Jannai
- Levi
- Matthat
- Jannai
- Joda
- Azor
- Aza
- Addi
- Melchi
- Levi
- Matthat
- Eli
- Joseph

(Mary) Joseph:
- Joseph (Mary)
Before we finish this first chapter of Matthew, I thought it would be fun to put together a small “harmony” of the Gospel accounts of the birth of Jesus.

A harmony is simply putting together all the pieces of the story – found in different places – so that it becomes one smooth picture...

Here are the different things we know about the birth of Christ, in chronological order:

1. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit together agreed, before They ever made the world, that God the Son would become a man and pay the blood-price for the sin which would be committed by the people They were about to create.
   
   Acts 2:23  I Peter 1:20  Rev. 13:8

2. 6,000 years of prophecies, pictures, and progeny
   
   Genesis through Malachi
3. In about 4 BC, A priest named Zechariah takes his turn supplying the incense and oil to burn in the Holy Place. As he keeps the oil burning, he silently prays, pouring out his heart to the Lord...he prays for his own deep needs, and the same deep needs of the people he represents. He and his wife are childless...and the nation of Israel is also childless...the long-awaited Savior has not come.

Luke 1:5-22

4. Soon after this prayer, Zecharias’ wife, Elizabeth, get pregnant.

Luke 1:23-25

5. When Elizabeth is 6 months pregnant, the angel Gabriel comes to a young girl named Mary, telling her she has been chosen to bear the Savior of the world in her womb. Mary accepts the unbelievable gift.

Luke 1:26-38

6. Mary immediately goes to visit her relative, Elizabeth. Both Elizabeth and her yet-to-be-born baby know the Savior is within Mary. Mary stays 3 months.

Luke 1:39-56

7. Elizabeth and Zechariah’s son is born. They name him John. He is raised in the desert. (He will be known later as John the Baptist)

Luke 1:57-79

8. It becomes known that Mary is pregnant, though not yet married to Joseph.

Matthew 1:18

9. Joseph, believing Mary has been unfaithful to him, does not want to humiliate Mary, he just wants to put her away somewhere private to have the baby – intending, of course, to never marry her ever.

Matthew 1:19

10. But before Joseph can put that plan into action, an angel of the Lord appears to him in a dream and tells him what has happened –
that Mary is carrying the Savior within her, and has not been unfaithful to him. He is told to marry her, take care of her until the Savior is born, and then live with her as husband and wife after that. He is told to name the baby Jesus. Joseph obeys.
Matthew 1:20-25

11. Just before Mary is ready to deliver her baby, Caesar orders that all Jews return to the city of their birth to be registered in a census. Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem.
Luke 2:1-5

12. The baby is born in Bethlehem, in a stable.
Luke 2:6-7

13. Shepherds near Bethlehem see a bright star, and hear a whole skyfull of angels saying the Savior has been born. They go to Bethlehem and find Mary, Jesus, and Joseph, then leave and tell everyone about it. They are filled with joy.
Luke 2:8-20

14. 8 days later, Jesus was circumcised and named Jesus.
Luke 2:21 Matthew 1:25b

15. 32 days after that, Mary & Joseph, because Jesus was their first-born, presented their baby boy to the Lord in Jerusalem, offering the traditional sacrifice.
Luke 2:22-24

16. During this visit to Jerusalem, a faith-filled man named Simeon saw Mary & Joseph with Jesus in the temple, and confirmed that this was, indeed, the promised Savior of the world, who had been promised for 6,000 years with prophecies, pictures, and progeny. He also warned Mary of what was to come.
Luke 2:25-35
17. After Simeon made this proclamation, another Godly person, Anna, who lived at the temple, also confirmed that this was the coming Savior.

Luke 2:36-38

18. Mary & Joseph return to Bethlehem to live for 2 or 3 more years. Then 3 wise men from the Gentile countries make the trip to Bethlehem to see this Savior of the world, having seen a sign in the stars. Herod is filled with jealousy and hatred for this child he had not heard of – and orders the 3 wise men to find him and return to Jerusalem to let him know where he was. After they find and worship the toddler, they are warned of God in a dream not to return to Herod. They flee secretly another way.

Matthew 2:1-12

19. Joseph is warned of an angel in a dream to take Jesus and Mary away to Egypt until it is safe to return. He obeys.

Matthew 2:13-15

20. Herod, furious that he had not been obeyed, orders that all the male children 2 years old and under in the Bethlehem area, be slain. They are.

Matthew 2:16-18

21. Once Herod has died, Joseph and Mary return to Israel, choosing to live far from Jerusalem, in the Galilee area, in Nazareth. This is where Jesus grew up.


Now – let’s just look at the end of Matthew chapter 1, and learn a few things from Joseph and Mary....
Matthew 1:18 “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.”

When did Mary get pregnant with Jesus?

This verse says it was before she “came together” with Joseph. In other words, before Mary and Joseph had sex. Jesus was not the result of a sexual union between Mary and Joseph. Mary is the only woman in history who got pregnant without having sex. She was pregnant from a union of her egg with the Holy Spirit. Unheard of? Yes….but promised. Isaiah 7:14

Matthew 1:19 “Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.”

The woman he was engaged to marry was pregnant…and Joseph knew for sure he wasn’t the father. What was Joseph going to do about this humiliating tragedy?

He was a good man. He was hurt, but not wanting to hurt back. He actually had the right, from Old Testament law, to stone her to death. But he just wanted to quietly put her aside and put an end to their engagement.

Matthew 1:20-23 “But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold a virgin shall be with child, and ear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel', which is translated ‘God With Us'. ”
What proof did Joseph have that Mary had not done anything wrong?

The angel’s words….and The scriptures. It had already been promised that this would happen someday. Joseph was a man of faith. He believed God’s Word. Probably he hadn’t really thought it would ever happen to him, but it had, so he reacted in faith – he trusted that God knew what He was doing.

Where else in the Old Testament had God given promises of this coming King? Check out the chart at the end of this chapter.

*Matthew 1:24* "Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus."

What do you think of Joseph’s immediate obedience? What does that tell you about him?

He was a man of faith. He wasn’t the physical father of Jesus. But definitely he had a place in the Geneology of Faith.
From All of our Lessons in Matthew Chapter 1:

Questions for Personal Study or Discussion:

1. (:1) Who are two major people in history who are in the genealogy of Jesus?

2. (:2-6) Two questions:
   a. Which names do you recognize from these verses?
   b. How many women are mentioned?

3. (:7-11) These verses cover Jewish history from the time of __________ the first King of Israel, to the time when the ________________ ____________ captured the Israelites and carried them away to Babylon.

4. (:12-16) These verses cover Jewish history from the time the Israelites were taken captive to ________________ to the time when ________________, the son of Mary, was born.

5. (:16) What does “the Christ” mean?

6. (:17) Why did Matthew “telescope” the generations of Jesus?

7. (:18) When did Mary get pregnant with Jesus?

8. (:19) What was Joseph going to do about this humiliating tragedy?

9. (:20-23) What proof did Joseph have that Mary had not done anything wrong?

10. Where else in the Old Testament had God given promises of this coming King?

11. (:24) What do you think of Joseph’s immediate obedience? What does that tell you about him?
Apply This To My Life:

12. Do you think there is absolute proof that Jesus was the King God had promised? We didn’t have to see Him born, or see Him perform miracles, or hear Him teach, or grieve as we watched Him bleed on the cross, in order to believe He was the promised Messiah/King. We have the Word of God. Just like Joseph did.

13. How could the perfect Son of God be part of the family tree of such imperfect, sinful men? His physical heritage was full of sinful men. But He got His DNA from the Holy Spirit. He was perfect. He didn’t inherit a sin nature from the sinners who were his grandparents and great-grandparents. He was born completely and utterly perfect, and lived His whole life never committing one sin.

14. How hard is it to obey God – like Joseph did? It’s actually impossible to obey like that – at least it’s impossible in our own strength. But when we read the Word of God, we are given a gift from God – the ability to respond in faith. Romans 10:17.

15. Can you remember a time when you struggled with trusting and obeying God?

16. Why do you think Jesus waited so long to come to earth to save the world He made? He made His first promise to come at the time Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. He kept promising over and over through the next 4,000 years. Why wait so long?
17. Our title for this Matthew study is “Go!”. Who was willing to “Go!” in this Chapter?

On the Following Pages are 2 Resources you may find helpful:

1. A Few Prophecies of the Savior-to-Come

2. Brief Timeline of Jewish History
Where else in the Old Testament had God given promises of this coming King? Here are a few:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prophecy</th>
<th>Where It’s Found in the Old Testament</th>
<th>Where it Came True in the New Testament</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He would be a man</td>
<td>Genesis 3:15</td>
<td>Galatians 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be of the tribe of Judah</td>
<td>Genesis 49:10</td>
<td>Luke 3:33, Matthew 1:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be a King (of the seed of David)</td>
<td>Psalms 132:11,12, Jeremiah 23:5,6, Psalms 2:6-9</td>
<td>Matthew 1:6, Romans 1:3, Acts 2:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be a prophet like Moses</td>
<td>Deuteronomy 18:15, 19</td>
<td>Matt. 21:11, John 1:45, John 6:14, Acts 3:22-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be the Son of God</td>
<td>Psalms 2:7, Proverbs 30:4</td>
<td>Luke 1:32, Matthew 3:17</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would be God</td>
<td>Jeremiah 23:5,6</td>
<td>Acts 2:36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homage would be given Him by great Kings</td>
<td>Psalms 72:10,11</td>
<td>Matt. 2:1-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be born in Bethlehem</td>
<td>Micah 5:1</td>
<td>Matt 2:1, 5, 6, Luke 2:4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prophecy</td>
<td>Where It’s Found in the Old Testament</td>
<td>Where it Came True in the New Testament</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would perform miracles</td>
<td>Isaiah 35:5,6</td>
<td>John 11:47</td>
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<td>Matthew 11:3-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would come before the 2(^{nd}) temple in Jerusalem was destroyed (70 A.D.)</td>
<td>Daniel 9:24-26</td>
<td>Historical fact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be betrayed by a friend</td>
<td>Psalms 41:9</td>
<td>John 13:18,21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be meek &amp; mild</td>
<td>Isaiah 42:2,3, Isaiah 53:7</td>
<td>Matt. 12:18-20, Matt 26:62,63</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would minister to Gentiles</td>
<td>Isaiah 42:1, Isaiah 49:1,8</td>
<td>Matt. 12:21</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would be smitten</td>
<td>Isaiah 50:6</td>
<td>Matt. 26:67, Matt 27:26,30</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would suffer &amp; bring salvation</td>
<td>Isaiah 53</td>
<td>The 4 Gospels</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would be pierced</td>
<td>Zechariah 12:10, Psalm 22:16</td>
<td>John 19:34,37</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would be forsaken by His disciples</td>
<td>Zechariah 13:7</td>
<td>Matthew 26:31,56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would be crucified</td>
<td>Psalm 22, Psalm 69:21</td>
<td>Matthew 27:34-50, John 19:28-30</td>
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</table>
### Chapter 1 of Matthew
#### Proof That a Geneology is Awesome!

[www.kathleendalton.com](http://www.kathleendalton.com)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prophecy</th>
<th>Where It’s Found in the Old Testament</th>
<th>Where it Came True in the New Testament</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He would have his garments parted &amp; cast lots for</td>
<td>Psalm 22:19</td>
<td>Luke 23:34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He would ascend to heaven</td>
<td>Psalm 68:18</td>
<td>Luke 24:51</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Acts 1:9</td>
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<tr>
<td>He would have victory over death</td>
<td>Isaiah 25:8</td>
<td>John 20:1-10, 19-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentiles shall seek the Messiah of Israel</td>
<td>Isaiah 11:10</td>
<td>Romans 11:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Died for the sins of the Jewish people and the whole world</td>
<td>Isaiah 53:8</td>
<td>John 3:16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Brief Timeline of Jewish History

1. God chooses Israel to be His chosen people
   Abraham 2,000 bc*

2. God rescues them from slavery in Egypt
   Moses 1,500 bc*

3. God unites them as a Kingdom in the land of Israel
   David 1,000 bc*

4. God allows them to divide into two kingdoms –
   The Northern Kingdom & The Southern Kingdom 900 bc*

5. God scatters the Northern Kingdom (called Israel, or Ephraim) by allowing Assyria to conquer it 700 bc*

6. God sends the Southern Kingdom (called Judah) into captivity from the Babylonians 550 bc*

7. God frees Judah to return to their homeland –
   But not a world power anymore 500 bc*
   Ruled by: Babylonians
   Persians
   Greeks
   Romans

8. Jesus comes to be their Messiah 0-33 AD

9. The Romans destroy Jerusalem & the temple 70 AD
   The Jews are scattered throughout the world

10. Israel is a nation again...but in unbelief 1948 AD

*Old Testament dates are approximate.