

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

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SERIES: Matthew (The King, His Kingdom And Me)

TITLE: Program 1 – Jesus The Messiah

MONDAY

OPEN

Come with me, Beloved, to Nazareth the village where Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man. Come with me, and learn the Gospel of Matthew right on sight here in the land of the book where it all began. Come with me, Beloved, and discover truth, discover the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life and remember that no man comes to the Father except by Him.

PART ONE

I want to welcome you to the village of Nazareth. I'm outside a home that is much like the home where Mary lived. We're about to study the Gospel of Matthew. We're going to study it in the land of the book where it all happened. And as we open the Gospel of Matthew, Matthew begins right from the beginning with stating that Jesus is the Messiah; that He is the son of David, that He is the son of Abraham. Matthew is about the kingdom of



God, the kingdom of heaven. Matthew is about the King who has the right to rule. It opens with, "The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham." (Matthew 1:1) It's so important that the reader understand in this gospel that Jesus has the credentials that certify him as the King of the Jews. I want us to take just that first verse, "...The son of David, the son of Abraham," (Matthew 1:1) and I want us to see what he is telling us. I want us to go back to 2 Samuel, chapter 7. Remember David wants to build a house for God. And God says, "No David, you're not going to build a house for me. [I'm going to build a house for you.]" (PARAPHRASE, 2 Samuel 7:27) He says in verse 8 of 2 Samuel 7, "Now therefore, thus you shall say to My servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be [the] ruler over My people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone and [I] have cut off all your enemies ...before you; ... I will make you a great name, like the name...of...great men who are on the earth. I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again....' " (2 Samuel 7:8-10) That place the He's going to appoint for His people, Israel, is the holy city of Jerusalem. It's the earthly Zion. It says, "'...nor will the wicked afflict them any more as formerly, even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; ... I will give you rest from all your enemies. The Lord also declares to you that the Lord will make a house for you." (2 Samuel 7:10-11) The house that He's going to make is not a building, rather it is a family and the son of David is going to sit upon the throne. He says in verse 16, "'Your house and your kingdom [will] endure before Me forever; your throne [will] be established forever." (2 Samuel 7:16) What we see as we open the Gospel of Matthew is we see that the time has come. The descendant of David, the Messiah is here; Yeshua, the one who saves is here. When we go from there to 2 Chronicles, we see that this is called a covenant. And I want you to look at 2 Chronicles chapter 13, in verse 5 it



says, "Do you not know that the Lord God of Israel gave the rule over Israel forever to David and his sons by a covenant of salt?" (2 **Chronicles 13:5**) This is what we call the Davidic Covenant. And so anyone who was going to be the Messiah was going to have to be from the house of David. And I want you to see this one phrase when he says, "...The Lord God of Israel gave the rule over Israel forever to David and his sons by a covenant...." (2 Chronicles 13:5) So when you trace the genealogy of Jesus back in time you have to come to David. Well there's one other verse that I want you to see; well they're two other verses I want you to see, because I want you to understand this, because everything hinges on this genealogy. In Psalm 89, in verse 20 it says, "I have found David My servant; with My holy oil I have anointed him." (Psalm 89:20) Verse 29, "So I will establish his descendants forever...." It's important to mark that time phrase: I will establish his descendants "forever," "...And his throne as the days of heaven." (Psalm 89:29) In other words it's going to be a kingdom that will not end. And what Matthew is doing is Matthew is introducing to us Jesus who is the son of God, born of Mary and raised in this village in Nazareth. I want us to go one more place and that's Acts chapter 13. And in Acts chapter 13 I want us to see what happens when the gospel is being presented so that they understand who Jesus Christ is. And this is Paul speaking. And as he speaks he says to "...Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen: The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out...." It says, "For a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. When He...destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance—all of which took about four hundred and fifty years. After these things He gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king,



concerning whom He also testified and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after my [own] heart, who will do all My will.' From the descendants of this man...," this is so key, "...according to the promise...," according to the covenant that we read about, "...God has brought to Israel a Savior...," God has brought to Israel a Savior and then he names him. "...Jesus, after John had proclaimed before His coming a baptism of repentance to all...Israel. And while John was completing his course, he kept saying, '[And] what do you suppose that I am? I am not He. But behold, one [who] is coming after me the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' Brethren, sons of Abraham's family, and those among you who fear God, to us the message of...salvation has been sent." (Acts 13:16-26) This message of salvation really, in essence, began here in Nazareth. It began here in Nazareth when an angel appeared to Mary to tell her that she was going to bear the Messiah. But I'm getting ahead of myself. Let's go back to Matthew chapter 1. It says, "The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah...." (Matthew 1:1) I would take that word "Messiah" and draw a star of David over it. And then I would color it yellow. Then I would underline "the son of David, the son of Abraham." Now it's very important the he is a descendant of Abraham also. And I want to show you why. I'd like you to go to Genesis chapter 12. And maybe you're familiar with this very, very key passage. But in Genesis chapter 12 Abram is just another gentile but then the Lord speaks and he calls him. He tells him to "...Go forth from [his] country...." (Genesis 12:1b) And then he makes this statement in verse 2, "...I will make 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 the one who curses you I will curse and in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." (Genesis 12:2-3) Paul tells us in Galatians that when he said, ["...In you all the families of the earth will be blessed."] (Genesis 12:3) he was preaching the gospel and he was preaching the good news to the gentiles. Salvation begins from the Jews but then it spreads to the gentiles.



Matthew is going to show us what happens when the son of David, the son of Abraham, finally comes, when the fullness of time God causes his son to be born of a woman, to be born under the law. And who is this son? This son is the son of David. This son is the son of Abraham. In Genesis chapter 15 and it's a very important passage. He has waited now for a number of years and his wife, Sarai, has still not had a child. And he's wondering, he's wondering, God, how are you going to give me a child? How can I be the father of a nation and all the nations of the earth be blessed in me if I have no child? How can that happen? He says in verse 2 of Genesis 15, "...O Lord God, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" (Genesis 15:2) Could it be my servant, is that the way that you're going to do it? And then it says in verse 4, "Then behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'This man [shall] not be your heir; but one who [shall] come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.' And He took him outside and said, 'Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your [seed] be.'" (Genesis 15:4-5) And then verse 6 tells us of Abraham's salvation. "Then [Abraham] believed in the Lord; and He [God] reckoned it to him as righteousness." (Genesis 15:6) God gave him the promise that a seed would come from his body, and Abraham believed God, and Abraham knew that it was the Messiah, and God reckoned him as righteous simply by faith. There's so much more for you and I to glean from these verses, and we'll do it in just a minute.

PART TWO

As Matthew opens his gospel he gives us the essence, the crux, of the genealogy of Jesus Christ. It's the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham. We looked at Genesis chapter 15 and in Genesis chapter 15 we saw that God took Abraham out and showed him the stars of the sky and said, "...So shall your [seed] be." (Genesis 15:5)



Galatians chapter 3 interprets that for us. So then we understand why Abraham was declared righteous at that moment. God made him a promise and he believed that promise. He took God at His word and that's what faith is. But in Galatians 3 verse 16 it says, "Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as referring to many, but rather to one, 'And to your seed,' that is, Christ." (Galatians 3:16) Christ is another word for Messiah. It means the same thing. The Anointed One, the Promised One, the One that was promised in Genesis chapter 3, the One that would come and bruise the head of the serpent. The One that would come and overcome evil. This is Jesus Christ. And so when we look at the genealogy of Jesus Christ and what we come to the conclusion is that in verse 14, verse 16 that "Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah." (Matthew 1:16) So once again you want to mark "Messiah." Now I'm telling you to mark all these things and I want you to know that we have a free study guide for you. You can go to "preceptsforlife.com" and you can download the whole book of Matthew and a wonderful, wonderful study guide that will help you discover truth for yourself, that will help you study God's Word so that [through His precepts you get understanding. And then you hate every false way,] (PARAPHRASE, Psalm 119:104) because you've discovered truth and [it is truth that sets you free.] (PARAPHRASE, John 8:32) You know God reserves, for those who study the Word of God, an intimacy with him that you cannot know apart from spending time in the Word of God. Well as we look at this genealogy I want you to see one other thing in the genealogy. It's not a complete genealogy, it's a partial genealogy and he divides it into 14 generations and 14 generations and 14 generations. But as we read the genealogy it's a genealogy that's like no other, because it includes women. But the women that are included in the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, the Son of David, the son of Abraham, are women that show the pure grace of God. Remember now, Jesus had come to bring this new covenant. He was a mediator of a new



covenant, a new covenant that would be in his blood. It was a covenant of grace. The law could only show us our sin. But the law could not deliver us from sin. But the new covenant can give us forgiveness of sins, [remove our heart of stone and give us a heart of flesh.](PARAPHRASE, Ezekiel 36:26) It's a covenant of grace. It says in John that "...The law [came by] Moses; [but] grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17) You see that grace in his genealogy. Well let me read verse 2, "Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, ... Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers." (Matthew 1:2) Now we know from a prophecy in Genesis that Messiah would could come from the line of Judah, that the scepter would come from Judah, that it would not depart out of his hand. And so Judah had to be in the line of the Messiah. But it goes on to say, "[And] Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar...." (Matthew 1:3) Tamar is Judah's daughter-in-law. She married Judah's son. He died, she married another of Judah's sons and he died. And Judah promised, I'll give you my other son when he grows up but Judah never did it. And according to the law, if your husband died then the brother was to raise up a seed so that that family name will continue. Well when Judah wouldn't do that, Tamar dressed herself like a harlot and she went and she sat beside the road. And as she sat beside the road, Judah came by and hired her for sexual purposes. She took his staff, she took several things of his and said, "Okay, when you send me back the goat I'll send you these things." Well then Judah noticed, eventually, that Tamar was pregnant and he was about to put her to death because she had been unfaithful. And then he found out that those children in her womb and those twins were Perez and Zerah, that those twins in her womb were his seed. Oh the grace of God, that God would put this woman in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. But it also shows Tamar's faith. It shows Tamar's obedience to the law when Judah was resistant to obey. Then you come down to verse 5 and "Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab...." (Matthew 1:5) Who is Rahab? Rahab is the harlot. Rahab is a gentile, a gentile who lives in Jericho who hides the 12



spies and consequently is saved in the destruction of Jericho. She's a woman, who against all odds, believes God and God puts her in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. Have you ever felt: I'm nothing. Look at my past. How could I ever be accepted by God? Well this is what the gospel is all about. That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He came to get those who were sick, who needed the physician, who needed God to heal them of their sins. (See Matthew 9:12) And then it says, "[And] **Boaz was** the father of Obed by Ruth...." (Matthew 1:5) Ruth is another gentile. A gentile whose husband is a Jew who dies and you know the story of Ruth and how she follows Naomi, and how God gives her a new husband in Boaz. And then it says, "[And] Jesse was the father of David the king. [And] David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba...." (Matthew 1:6) Who's Bathsheba? She's the woman that David took in adultery. She's the one that he saw on the roof of the house. What do you see? You see the grace of God. And right from the beginning he wants to show them that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And so he puts the names of these sinful women, or these gentile women, and he's going to save gentiles as well in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. And then this is what it says in verse 17, "So [from] all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah...," you want to mark it again, "...fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary [who] had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together ...was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 1:17-18) A virgin is going to conceive, and the child that she is going to bring forth does not have a genealogy of a father except through the legal line of Joseph, because God is the Father of Jesus Christ. We'll look at it in our next lesson here in Nazareth.