

“Jesus Christ, the King”

Matthew 1:1-17; Jeremiah 22:30

East Berlin Community Church

Pastor Keith A. Mosebrook

May 30, 2023

Introduction

- Personal musings of the coronation of King Charles III and Queen Camilla
- Jesus Christ will one day rule by virtue of ...
 - Being the Conquering King
 - By Fulfilling the Promises and Prophecies of the Old Testament
 - As the “Lion of Judah”, He will be the ultimate ruler who will reign over all nations during a time of unparalleled prosperity.
 - As the “Son of David”, He will sit on the throne of David over the kingdom of David in fulfillment of the promise made to David.
 - 2 Samuel 7:11b-16-- *“the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will 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 his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.” ’ ’*
 - All the prophetic promises and predictions concerning the Messiah of Israel converge in the person of Jesus Christ.
 - By having the right blood, being from the right lineage.

Jesus Christ, the King!

- Matthew 1:1-16-- *“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 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. 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. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. Zerubbabel begot 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.”*

A. Does Jesus Christ have a legitimate blood claim to the throne?

1. **There is nothing in Jesus’ family upbringing that alludes to royalty.**
 - Matthew 13:54-57-- *“Where did this Man get this wisdom and these mighty works? Is this not the carpenter’s son? Is not His mother called Mary? And His brothers James, Joses, Simon, and Judas? And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this Man get all these things?” So they were offended at Him.”*

2. **The “family tree” of Jesus is recorded twice in the gospels, in Matthew 1 and in Luke 3**
 - a. Matthew presents an ascending line from Abraham through David to Christ, whereas Luke presents an descending line from Christ through David then Abraham all the way back to Adam.
 - b. Luke’s family tree is that of Mary’s side of the family with Eli of Luke 3:23 probably Joseph’s father-in-law, Mary’s father.
 - c. Matthew traces the royal line through David and Solomon. Luke traces the royal line through Nathan, another of David’s sons.
 - d. Matthew’s intent is to show Jesus’ legal claim to the throne; Luke’s intent is to show Jesus’ actual blood ancestry through His mother, Mary.

3. **There is a problem in the “family tree”**
 - Matthew 1:11-- *“Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.”*

 - a. **God’s punishment of Jeconiah. None of his blood relatives will ever serve as king.**
 - Jeremiah 22:30-- *“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.”*

 - b. **How does God solve the problem?**
 - 1) In Matthew account, the Spirit of God makes sure that we understand that Jesus Christ was not the blood relative of Jeconiah.
 - Matthew 1:16-- *“And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.”*
 - a) “of whom” is a feminine, relative pronoun referring to Mary, not Joseph
 - b) The legal right to rule comes through Joseph’s line (Matthew); whereas the human right to rule, the blood line, comes through Mary (Luke)

 - 2) The problem is solved through the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.
 - Matthew 1:18-25-- *“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. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 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, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us.’ 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.”*
 - John 1:1-2, 14-- *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”*
 - Philippians 2:6-7-- *“who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.”*
 - Colossians 2:9-- *“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.”*
 - Hebrews 1:3-- *“Son, who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power.”*

4. Jesus Christ is the last, verifiable claimant to the throne of David!

B. What can we learn about the character of the King from His genealogy?

1. **God's grace revealed in the History of the Nation of Israel**
 - Matthew 1:14-- *"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."*

2. **God's grace seen in the lives of individuals in Christ's lineage.**
 - a. David
 - Matthew 1:1-- *"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham."*
 - b. Abraham
 - c. The women in Christ's family tree
 - 1) Tamar
 - Matthew 1:3-- *"Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram."*
 - 2) Rahab
 - Matthew 1:5-- *"Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse."*
 - 3) Ruth
 - 4) Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah
 - Matthew 1:6-- *"and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah."*

3. **God's grace experienced by you and I whose names are written in the "Book of Life"**
 - Ephesians 2:8-9-- *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."*
 - Revelation 20:15-- *"anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."*