



It All Matters

"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1).

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"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; 3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; 4 And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; 5 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; 6 And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias; 7 And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa; 8 And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; 9 And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; 10 And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; 11 And Josias begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon: 12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel; 13 And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; 14 And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; 15 And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; 16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations" (Matthew 1:1-17).

There is no useless detail in the Bible. Every detail matters and counts towards the completion and full understanding of the scriptures. So, even those portions of the Bible that appear to be 'dry' have their unique contribution to the totality of prophetic revelations and scriptural understanding that establishes the faith of all believers. There is nothing recorded in the Bible that was intended to be skipped, but it may take diligent, patient and repeated study to unravel them.

What appears to be 'hard to understand' scriptures, may actually be the essential materials for our grounding in faith. "I have written to him the great things of my law, but they

"And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ" (Matthew 1:16).

were counted as a strange thing" (Hosea 8:12). It is for this purpose that Paul admonished Timothy "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). Peter also underscored the point that failure to understand can potentially lead to self destruction. "As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction" (2 Peter 3:16).

Our text documents the genealogy of Jesus Christ all the way back to Abraham, while the record in Luke 3:24-38 traces the same genealogy right back to Adam, and serve to illustrate the following points:

- 1) The list in Matthew confirms the royal (kingly) lineage of Jesus, while the one in Luke confirms His priestly lineage, both converging to confirm Jesus as both King and Priest.
- 2) Luke's account traces Jesus back to the promised seed of the woman (Genesis 3:15), that would bruise the head of the serpent, and confirms His virgin birth.
- 3) The account in Matthew traces Jesus back to the seed of the seed of Abraham that would bless the entire world. "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ" (Galatians 3:16).
- 4) God's ability to watch over His word and fulfil them to the letter. Not even Satanic attempt to infiltrate / pollute the human race (Genesis 6:1-7), nor Herod's plot to kill Jesus (Matthew 2:12-21), could stop the plan of God.
- 5) Some of the people in these genealogies were people like you and I who yielded their lives to be used of God. And so can you!