

### **Matthew 1:1-4**

(1) The record of the genealogy of Jesus [the Christ] the Messiah [the anointed One], the son of David (establishes the legal right for Christ on the throne), the son of Abraham:

- Matthew presents Jesus as Israel's king who came to fulfill the both the Abrahamic and Davidic Covenants (Gen. 12:3b; 22:18; 2 Sam. 12:12-13).
- God promised a future king from the line of David to deliver His people and to reign over them.
- Therefore, when this Kingdom comes "all the families of the earth will be blessed".
- Matthew sets out to prove the lineage that Jesus Christ has a right to the throne.

This lineage is grouped into three periods each consisting of 14 generations (Matt. 1:17):

1. From Abraham to David 14 men - (vs. 2-6).
2. From David to the Babylonian exile – (vs. 6-11).
3. From the Babylonian exile to Christ (vs. 12-16).

(2) Abraham was the father of **Isaac**, Isaac the father of **Jacob**, and Jacob the father of **Judah** and his brothers.

(3) Judah was the father of **Perez** and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of **Hezron**, and Hezron the father of **Ram**.

(4) Ram was the father of **Amminadab**, Amminadab the father of **Nahshon**, and Nahshon the father of **Salmon**.

### **Genesis 12:1-4 Abrahamic Covenant**

(1) Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you;

(2) And I will make you a **great nation**, and I will bless you, and make your **name great**; and so you shall be a **blessing**;

(3) And 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."

- Blessed in that salvation will be provided for ALL who believe in Christ.
- Blessed in that Jesus Christ Himself will establish a righteous and just reign on earth when He sits on David's throne.

(4) So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

### **ABRAHAM:**

- Abraham stepped out in faith as God had directed from Ur of the Chaldees.
- Abraham trusted God for the promise of land, seed and blessing.
- Abraham was told to separate from his family and he did not completely obey this command until his father died in Haran.
- Abraham went to Egypt due to a famine in the land – a lack of faith. A test for Abraham to apply his faith that God would sustain him despite the circumstances. Application: If God leads you to where He wants you to be, God will sustain you in that place. Faith must be applied. "The leading which takes one to his particular field of service must be of such a definite nature that suffering

and hardship can be endured without any questioning of the step by which one reached the place of testing” (Chafer, Systematic Theology, Vol. VI, 227-228).

- Abraham’s failure to trust completely in the Lord to provide for him in the Land despite a famine resulted in his departure to Egypt.
- Abraham then lies to Pharaoh about his wife because fear as opposed to faith overran his soul.  
*Note that once Abraham starts down the road of not trusting God there is a spiral downward to self-deception and self-justification! God in His faithfulness protects them in grace!*
- God promised Abraham a son –
  - Due to Abraham & Sarai’s lack of faith, they took measures into their own hands and resolved the problem of Sarai’s inability to conceive with human viewpoint (Hagar).

**POD** – The world’s solutions are no solutions in this life as a born-again believer. The only solution for the believer is faith in God’s plan.

**ISAAC:**

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- Isaac went to Egypt because of a famine, just like his father.
- The Lord told him not to go.
- Isaac told the King of the Philistines that his wife was his sister, just like his father.

**JACOB:**

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- Deceived his father and stole his brother’s birthright.

**JUDAH:**

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- Made the suggestion to sell his brother to the Ishmaelites.
- Then he moved away to Adullam and married a Canaanite named Shua.
- Note that he had kids with Tamar also (One of four females listed in Matthew’s genealogy).

**Interracial marriage** was forbidden by the Lord because it was a means by which Israel would become defiled. A precaution against cultural assimilation by means of marriage. The Lord did not want the Israelites to be stained by the abhorrent practices of the Canaanites or any of those who dwelled in the land. Note the commands of God to destroy all the inhabitants in the Land (Deut 20:16-18).

- Judah has three sons by Shua – Er, Onan and Shelah.

**ER, ONAN AND SHELAH:**

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- Er married Tamar but had no son. The Lord removed Er because he was evil.
- Onan was then supposed to perform the responsibility of a levirate.
- Onan refused, so the Lord removed him.
- Shelah was too young to be married.

**Levirate** – the responsibility that a brother had to perpetuate the line of his firstborn brother in the event that the firstborn [brother] died before producing a male to carry on the family line.

- In this case, Er and Tamar produced no son before Er died therefore Onan was to assume the levirate responsibility and copulate with Tamar to produce a son who would be considered Er’s firstborn. This son (at proper age) would receive transfer of property and inheritance.
- Onan refused to help produce this son and he was removed.

## Genesis 38:6-26

(6) Now Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar.

(7) But Er, Judah's firstborn, was evil in the sight of the LORD, so the LORD took his life.

(8) Then Judah said to Onan, "Go in to your brother's wife, and perform your duty (levirate responsibilities) as a brother-in-law to her, and raise up offspring for your brother."

(9) Onan knew that the offspring would not be his (because he was interested in physical gratification as opposed to responsibility); so when he went in to his brother's wife, he wasted his seed (sperm) on the ground in order not to give offspring to his brother.

(10) But what he did was displeasing in the sight of the LORD; so He took his life also.

(11) Then Judah said to his daughter-in-law Tamar, "Remain a widow in **your** father's house until my son Shelah grows up" (in other words – get out of my house!); for he thought, "I am afraid that he (Er) too may die like his brothers." So Tamar went and lived in her father's house.

*All these problems were created in the first place by interracial marriage which was forbidden by God.*

(12) Now after a considerable time Shua's daughter, the wife of Judah, died; and when the time of mourning was ended, Judah went up to his sheepshearers at Timnah, he and his friend Hirah the Adullamite.

(13) It was told to Tamar, "Behold, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep."

(14) So she removed her widow's garments and covered herself with a veil, and wrapped herself, and sat in the gateway of Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah; for she saw that Shelah had grown up, and she had not been given to him as a wife.

*Note: Tamar did not set out to seduce Judah. Her intent was to catch Shelah's attention so that they could be married.*

(15) When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot, for she had covered her face.

(16) So he turned aside to her by the road, and said, "Here now, let me come in to you" (Judah, ignorant of who Tamar was, propositioned her as a prostitute); for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?"

(17) He said, therefore, "I will send you a young goat from the flock." She said, moreover, "Will you give a pledge until you send it?"

(18) He said, "What pledge shall I give you?" And she said, "**Your seal and your cord, and your staff that is in your hand.**" (In the ancient world these things - the seal, the cord and staff, were personal and they identified a person. The signet ring enabled him to do business and to identify his family.) So he gave them to her and went in to her, and she conceived by him.

(19) Then she arose and departed, and removed her veil and put on her widow's garments.

(20) When Judah sent the young goat by his friend the Adullamite, to receive the pledge from the woman's hand, he did not find her.

(21) He asked the men of her place, saying, "Where is the temple prostitute who was by the road at Enaim?" But they said, "There has been no temple prostitute here."

(22) So he returned to Judah, and said, "I did not find her; and furthermore, the men of the place said, 'There has been no temple prostitute here.'"

(23) Then Judah said, "Let her keep them, otherwise we will become a laughingstock. After all, I sent this young goat, but you did not find her."

(24) Now it was about three months later that Judah was informed, "Your daughter-in-law Tamar has played the harlot, and behold, she is also with child by harlotry"...

*Note: It was Judah's responsibility to make sure that Tamar was preserved for Shelah and she could not be with any other man until Shelah was ready to take a wife. The line was to be perpetuated through Shelah. In sending Tamar away, Judah is being disobedient to God.*

...Then Judah said, "Bring her out and let her be burned!" (Self-righteousness)

(25) It was while she was being brought out that she sent to her father-in-law, saying, "I am with child by the man to whom these things belong." And she said, "Please examine and see, whose **signet ring and cords and staff** are these?"

(26) Judah recognized them, and said, "She is more righteous than I, inasmuch as I did not give her to my son Shelah." And he did not have relations with her again.

- Note: Those in the Royal Line of Christ are not without sin! This exemplifies the grace of God.
- Important lesson to be learned – It is important to recognize that you are a sinner and despite your sin, God uses you with all you with your flaws when you adjust to Him in grace (1 Jn. 1:9).

**POD** – No sin is too great to prevent the sinner from becoming part of God's Royal Family by grace though faith alone in Christ alone (Eph. 2:8-9 cf. Acts 16:31). Christ paid for all sin on the cross.

### **Galatians 3:26-28**

For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

- Did God remove Abraham, Jacob, Judah or Joseph? NO! All were sinners – yet they were all believers. No one gets to heaven by being good.
- Sinners get to heaven on the work of another – Jesus Christ.
- To be rightly related to God you must understand **grace**.
- Sin does not remove the sinner from the plan of God.
- Lack of faith removes the sinner from the plan of God.

**POD** – No sin is too great to remove the believer from God's Royal Family once he has been placed there.

SOLUTION: Forgiveness & Purification from sin for the Christian (1 Jn. 1:9).

***Promises made by God to Abraham and David were conditioned only on the integrity of God not on the obedience of man.***

***Promises made by God are based on God's faithfulness.***

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(1) The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah [lit. **the Christ** = *the anointed One*], the son of David, the son of Abraham:

(2) **Abraham** was the father of **Isaac**, Isaac the father of **Jacob**, and Jacob the father of **Judah** and his brothers.

(3) Judah was the father of **Perez** and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of **Hezron**, and Hezron the father of **Ram**.

(4) Ram was the father of **Amminadab** (part of the Exodus generation – strewn throughout the desert due to lack of faith), Amminadab the father of **Nahshon**, and Nahshon the father of **Salmon**.

**NAHSHON:**

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- Led the tribe of Judah after the Law was given to Moses on Mt. Sinai.
- Nahshon helped Moses in conducting a census.
- His sister's name was Elisheda who married Aaron (priestly line of Christ) – this linked the line of David (a Royal house) with the House of Aaron (Priestly line) = Royal-Priesthood.

**Jesus is the anointed royal priest!**

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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*