

THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS

Class #12 - Sun AM1, MARCH 5, 2006

Matthew 1:1

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

Matthew divides his genealogy into 3 groupings of 14 generations:

- 1st: Abraham to David (vv. 2-6)
- 2nd: David to Babylonian Captivity (vv. 6-11)
- 3rd: Babylon Captivity to Jesus the Christ (vv. 12-16)

We noted that there were some sinful failures in the life of those in the line of the Messiah including Abraham.

There is no sin that is too great for the grace of God.

God does not remove the believer from the Royal Family of God once he has been placed there by faith alone in Christ alone.

Why did God permit Judah to be taken into captivity?

Matthew 1:7

(7) Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa.

1 Kings 3:3

(3) Now Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of his father David, **except he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.**

- **“High places” a recurrent theme**
- Began with Solomon
- It perpetuated itself
- It developed momentum in Judah

1 Kings 11:4-10

(4) For when Solomon was old, **his wives turned his heart** away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been.

- The woman is a great influencer – on her children and on her husband.
- In fact, if the man does not exhibit Biblical leadership standards in the household the mother is the only hope to positively influence the children.
- What happens if both father and mother are not doing their jobs in exemplifying Biblical leadership in the household? Where is the hope?
- Other family members (grandparents, aunts or uncles) have opportunities to positively influence the young ones.
- As long as there is a positive influence somewhere in the family line there is hope for the children!

(5) For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians and after Milcom the detestable idol of the Ammonites.

(6) Solomon did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and did not follow the LORD fully, as David his father had done.

As a believer you need to be patient with those around you who sin! None of us are perfect – maintain grace orientation and benevolent regard.

- Sin has been noted in the lives of those in the line of Jesus Christ.
- Sin [nature] is perpetuated from generation to generation, along with trends of the OSN.
- Even if you are devoted to the Lord you will still sin.
- David was a “man after God’s own heart” yet he sinned.
- What made David different is that he did not stray to “other gods” – he remained faithful to the one true God. Solomon did stray!

- In sin we often feel that we must pay for our sins.
- We may want other people to have to pay for their sins.
- **Remember** – Christ paid for all sin on the cross! We can do nothing to pay for sin.
- It is only through 1 John 1:9 that we can resume our spiritual advance after we sin.
- David made the required sacrifices after his sinned so that he could resume his walk with the Lord.

(7) Then Solomon **built a high place** for Chemosh the detestable idol of Moab, on the mountain which is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the detestable idol of the sons of Ammon.

(8) Thus also he did for all his foreign wives (influence), who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods.

(9) Now the LORD was angry with Solomon because his heart was turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice,

(10) and had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods; but he did not observe what the LORD had commanded.

*Remember **Solomon** was the father of **Rehoboam***

1 Kings 14:21-24

(21) Now **Rehoboam** the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty-one years old when he became king, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen from all the tribes of Israel to put His name there. And his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess (Rehoboam was negatively influenced by his mother – a wife of Solomon who turned his heart away from the Lord).

(22) Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy more than all that their fathers had done, with the sins which they committed.

(23) For they also **built for themselves high places** and sacred pillars and Asherim on every high hill and beneath every luxuriant tree.

(24) There were also male cult prostitutes in the land. They did according to all the abominations of the nations which the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel.

***Rehoboam** the father of **Abijah** . . .*

1 Kings 15:3, 11-12, 14

(3) He [Abijah] walked in all the sins of his father which he had committed before him; and his heart was not wholly devoted to the LORD his God, like the heart of his father David.

Abijah** was the father of **Asa

(11) **Asa** did what was right in the sight of the LORD, like David his father.

(12) He also put away the male cult prostitutes from the land and removed all the idols which his fathers had made.

(14) But the **high places were not taken away**; nevertheless the heart of Asa was wholly devoted to the LORD all his days.

Asa** was the father of **Jehoshaphat

1 Kings 22:43

(43) He [Jehoshaphat] walked in all the way of Asa his father; he did not turn aside from it, doing right in the sight of the LORD. However, the **high places were not taken away**; the people still sacrificed and burnt incense on the high places.

Jehoshaphat was the father of Joram (Jehoram)

2 Kings 8:18

(18) He [Jehoram] walked in the way of the kings of Israel, just as the house of Ahab had done, for the daughter of Ahab became his wife (note once again the negative influence!); and he did evil in the sight of the LORD.

In Matthew's Gospel the genealogy progresses from Joram to Uzziah.

- Remember the four people who ruled in between Joram and Uzziah
 - Ahaziah
 - Athaliah (Queen)
 - Joash
 - Amaziah

- Remember that under the reign of Rehoboam the monarchy was divided.
- **Northern Kingdom** – Israel (capitol was Samaria).
- **Southern Kingdom** – Judah (capitol was Jerusalem).

2 Kings 8:27

(27) He [Ahaziah] walked in the way of the house of Ahab and did evil in the sight of the LORD, like the house of Ahab had done, because he was a son-in-law of the house of Ahab.

Athaliah (Queen)

- The wicked queen who murders the royal offspring.
- She does evil in the sight of the Lord.

Remember that if Satan could wipe out the line of David it would void God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7:12-13.

Remember David's name in Hebrew:

- דָּוִד DVD
- The Hebrews ascribed a number to each of their letters because they used their alphabet to count
- D = 4
- V = 6
- D = 4

That equals 14 – Mathew's exclamation point to the Jew that Jesus is the promised seed- *the Anointed One!*

Masterful writing on the part of Matthew.

First division - 14 generations (David).

Second division - 14 generations (David).

Third division - 14 generations (David).

Matthew is speaking of the promised descendent of David!

Joash aka Jehoash

2 Kings 12:2-3

(2) Jehoash did right in the sight of the LORD all his days in which Jehoiada the priest instructed him.
(3) Only the **high places were not taken away**; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

Amaziah

2 Kings 14:3-4

(3) He did right in the sight of the LORD, yet not like David his father; he did according to all that Joash his father had done.

(4) Only the **high places were not taken away**; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

Note the recurrent theme

Uzziah

2 Kings 15:4

(4) Only the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.

Uzziah was the father of Jotham

2 Kings 15:34-35

(34) He did what was right in the sight of the LORD; he did according to all that his father Uzziah had done.

(35) Only the high places were not taken away; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. He built the upper gate of the house of the LORD [a good thing done during his reign].

Jotham the father of Ahaz

2 Kings 16:3-4

(3) But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and even made his son pass through the fire [child sacrifice], according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD had driven out from before the sons of Israel [reference to Joshua's conquest of the land].

(4) He sacrificed and burned incense on the high places and on the hills and under every green tree.

Ahaz the father of Hezekiah

Hezekiah institutes major reform and has all the high places destroyed.

Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh

2 Kings 21:2-4

(2) He did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to the abominations of the nations whom the LORD dispossessed before the sons of Israel.

(3) For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them.

(4) He built altars in the house of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name."

Manasseh the father of Amon

2 Kings 21:20-21

(20) He did evil in the sight of the LORD, as Manasseh his father had done.

(21) For he walked in all the way that his father had walked, and served the idols that his father had served and worshiped them.

Amon the father of Josiah

- Under Josiah's reign the Law is discovered.
- He grieves.
- Josiah destroys the high places.

- Josiah's father and grandfather were evil – the Law [books of Moses] had been lost. The people were uncertain of how to relate to the Lord.
- Josiah grieves - in view of the evil trend of Judah.
- He knows that judgment is pending! The 5th cycle of discipline.

Josiah has four sons (1 Chron 3:15)

- Johanan
- Jehoiakim
- **Zedekiah**
- Shallum *aka* Jehoahaz *aka* Jehoaz

Jehoaz takes the throne first & does evil in the sight of the Lord.

Jehoiakim then takes the throne and he does evil in the sight of the Lord.

Jehoiakim was the Father of **Jeconiah**

Jeconiah takes the throne and he does evil in the sight of the Lord

- Then Nebuchadnezzar places Jeconiah's uncle [**Zedekiah**] on the throne.
- Zedekiah also does evil in the sight of the Lord.
- So, Nebuchadnezzar attacks a 3rd time in 586BC and Judah is destroyed.

That's where Matthew concludes his 2nd division.

Why were they taken into Babylonian captivity?

The theme kept repeating itself...

“...the **high places were not taken away**; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.”

Fall of the Northern Kingdom

2 Kings 17:7-23

(7) Now this came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods

(8) and walked in the customs of the nations whom the LORD had driven out before the sons of Israel, and in the customs of the kings of Israel which they had introduced.

(9) The sons of Israel did things secretly which were not right against the LORD their God. Moreover, they built for themselves **high places** in all their towns, from watchtower to fortified city.

*The destruction of the Northern Kingdom should have served as an example for the Southern Kingdom to change their trend . . . “**but the high places still remained**”.*

(10) They set for themselves sacred pillars and Asherim on every high hill and under every green tree,
(11) and there they burned incense on all the high places as the nations did which the LORD had carried away to exile before them; and they did evil things provoking the LORD.

(12) They served idols, concerning which the LORD had said to them, "You shall not do this thing."

(13) Yet the LORD warned Israel and Judah through all His prophets and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep My commandments, My statutes according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you through My servants the prophets."

POD: God always provides a period of grace designed to afford the believer an opportunity to return to Him before discipline is executed.

(14) However, they did not listen, but stiffened their neck like their fathers, who did not believe in the LORD their God.

(15) They rejected His statutes and His covenant which He made with their fathers and His warnings with which He warned them. And they followed **vanity**...

- Vanity **הֶבֶל** HEBEL - *Vapor*
 - Things that dissipate
 - The steam that rolls off boiling water

...and **became vain**, and went after the nations which surrounded them, concerning which the LORD had commanded them not to do like them.

(16) They forsook all the commandments of the LORD their God [the result of pursuing vanity] and made for themselves molten images, even two calves, and made an Asherah and worshiped all the host of heaven and served Baal.

(17) Then they made their sons and their daughters pass through the fire, and practiced divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him.

(18) So the LORD was very angry with Israel and removed them from His sight; none was left except the tribe of Judah.

(19) Also Judah did not keep the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the customs which Israel had introduced.

(20) The LORD rejected all the descendants of Israel and afflicted them and gave them into the hand of plunderers, until He had cast them out of His sight.

*When you pursue VANITY
you will slowly become
unfulfilled with those objects
of your pursuit.*

*A frantic search for
happiness!*

POD: Unchecked disobedience eventually results in divine discipline.

(21) When He had torn Israel from the house of David [Kingdoms divided], they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king. Then Jeroboam drove Israel away from following the LORD and made them commit a great sin.

(22) The sons of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam which he did; they did not depart from them

(23) until the LORD removed Israel from His sight, as He spoke through all His servants the prophets. So Israel was carried away into exile from their own land to Assyria until this day.

That is why Judah was carried away into exile Despite this discipline God made a promise to Abraham and David and He would still fulfill that promise despite Judah's sin and exile.

He said to Abraham "... And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed." Gen. 12:3

Class Slides



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