

**The Gospel of Matthew #1**

**WHY BOTHER WITH THE GENEALOGIES?**

**Matthew 1:1-17**

I. The **Problems** with his genealogy

A. Can't Matthew count?!

- 1. Each group was actually *more* than 14 generations

Solution:

- 2. The 3 groups that are listed are 14 – 14 – **13!**

Solution:

B. Conflicts with Luke's genealogy (Lk 3:23-37)

Why can't Matthew and Luke get their act together?!

Matt moves \_\_\_\_\_ from Abraham to Joseph

Luke “ \_\_\_\_\_ “ Joseph to Adam

No problems down to David. But

Matt traces David → **Solomon** →

Luke traces David → **Nathan** →

Solution: Matt traces \_\_\_\_\_ line: royal legal right

Luke traces \_\_\_\_\_ line: biological spiritual right

Clue to this: **Jeconiah** (v11-12)

In Jer 22:30 he is cursed. So the Messiah must *legally* descend from him, but spiritually from another line

II. The **Purpose** of his genealogy

Fits two expectations; challenges two others

A. **Right ancestry:** Son of David legally and spiritually

B. **New Age:** Jesus inaugurates the Messianic Age

3 X 14 = 42: 6 sevens

Jesus is the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> seven: He inaugurates a New Age in history

BUT

C. For \_\_\_\_\_, not just “us Jews”

5 women mentioned: v3, 5, 6, 16 (that's unusual)

First 4 are Gentiles grafted into Messiah's line

So **WE** need remember that the Gospel of Jesus is for ALL the world, not just for us

D. For \_\_\_\_\_, not just “good” people

Of the 5 women:

1. **2 immoral & unclean:**

v3: Tamar: Genesis 38

v5: Rahab: Joshua 2

v16: Mary *thought* to be immoral

2. **2 hopeless & abused:**

v5: Ruth: Bk of Ruth

v6: Bathsheba: II Samuel 11-12

v16: Mary's soul *pierced* by seeing her Son die

The Good News (Gospel) is that Jesus came for just such people. Only when we are honest about our hearts does the One Matthew will tell us about have something to offer us.