



December 11, 2016
Elevation · 11:00 am
Pastor Matt Doan

Jesus Over History

Matthew 1, Ephesians 1, Hebrews 9

Jesus Reigns over Biblical History

"The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham." Matthew 1:1

- **"The Son of Abraham"**
"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." Genesis 12:3
 - 14+ generations of spiritual warfare against the "Abrahamic Covenant"
 - God's graceful protection of the "Abrahamic Covenant" (Matthew 1:2-5)
- **"The Son of David"**
"He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever" 2 Samuel 7:13
 - 28+ generations of spiritual warfare against the "Davidic Covenant" and "Babylonian Exile"
 - God's graceful protection of the "Davidic Covenant" thru the "Babylonian Exile" Matthew 1:6-17

Jesus Reigns over Your History

"He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." Ephesians 1:17

- **Jesus Reigns over Your Past Sin**
"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace" (Ephesians 1:7)
 - The great exchange - My sin traded for Jesus righteousness
 - Complete forgiveness once and for all
- **Jesus Reigns over Your Present Life**
"far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all in things in subjection under his feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:21-23
 - Jesus reigns over all aspects of my life
 - Jesus reigns over the Church

Jesus Reigns over the Future

"So Christ, also having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him." Hebrews 9:28

- **We eagerly await the return of Jesus - the 2nd Advent!**
"...will appear a second time..." Hebrews 9:28b
- **We eagerly await the complete reign of Jesus as King**
*"For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus **every knee will bow**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father"* Philippians 2:9-11

Digging Deeper: The Genealogy of Jesus

Both Matthew (Matthew 1:17-17) and Luke (Luke 3:23-3) record details of Jesus' genealogy. It is important to note that the two genealogies approach Jesus' family tree from different perspectives and for different purposes. Neither of the genealogies contain the names of every ancestor of Jesus. Both biblical authors picked and chose names to make the points they wanted to make. Luke recorded his genealogy to show the biological lineage of Jesus, going through his mother, Mary. Joseph recorded his genealogy to display the legal line of Jesus, going through his adoptive father, Joseph. Notice carefully that Joseph was a direct-line, blood descendant of David and, therefore, of David's throne. Here is the precise purpose of Matthew's genealogy: it demonstrated Jesus' legal right to inherit the throne of David—a necessary prerequisite to authenticating His Messianic claim. However, an equally critical credential was His blood/physical descent from David—a point that could not be established through Joseph since “after His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 1:18, emphasis added). This feature of Christ's Messiahship was established through His mother Mary, who was also a blood descendant of David (Luke 1:30-32). Both the blood of David and the throne of David were necessary variables to qualify and authenticate Jesus as the Messiah. (adapted from Dr. David Miller).

Reflection + Discussion Questions

1. **Read Matthew 1:1-17.** As we examine biblical history, we see that God protected and preserved the family bloodline of Jesus despite Satan's attacks and people's sinful failures. Talk about God's grace (“undeserved favor”) over the names you see listed in Jesus' family genealogy. What does this reveal to us about God's character?
2. **Read Ephesians 1:1-23.** This first chapter of Ephesians should give you confidence that God forgives your past sin and is in control of your present life. Why are we constantly tempted to question our forgiveness from sin and God's reign over our present life? What would help remind you of God's forgiveness and reign over your life during this Christmas season?
3. **Read Hebrews 9:28.** Are you eagerly awaiting Jesus' 2nd advent (return)? What needs to change in your life for you to become more eager for Jesus return?

Next Steps

1. **Place your faith this morning in Jesus Christ as your Savior (forgiver of your sins) and Lord (leader of your life).** Will you invite Jesus to reign in your life? Learn more about who Jesus is at calvarylife.org/jesus
2. **Attend 'The Longest Night' on Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 pm in the Chapel.** Come for a peaceful and reflective service for those in the midst of any pain, grief or loss on this, the longest night of the year, as we will look to the light of Christ together. calvarylife.org/longestnight
3. **Join a LifeGroup in 2017.** LifeGroups are the primary place, beyond Sunday worship, where we actively engage in the life and purpose of our church: to connect, grow, and reach. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. calvarylife.org/lifegroups