

A GRIPPING GENEALOGY
Matthew 1:1-17 // November 20, 2022 PM

I. As the greater than Adam, Christ begins a new creation.

II. As the greater than Abraham, Christ blesses a new Israel.

III. As the greater than David, Christ builds a new kingdom.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. We are beginning a short series on advent. What does the word advent mean?
2. What is a genealogy, and why would Matthew begin with one? Isn't there a more engaging way that he could start his book?
3. When Jews read Matthew's opening words, "The book of the genealogy..." where would their minds have gone? What is Matthew tells us by using this phrase with reference to Jesus?
4. In v. 1 who are the two figures from history that Matthew tells us that Jesus descended from? Why? What promises did God make to Abraham and David?
5. What are some lessons we learn from the mothers who are referenced in this genealogy?
6. Why doesn't Matthew follow his typical pattern and tell us in v. 16, "Joseph the father of Jesus"? In what sense was Joseph Jesus's father, and in what sense was he not? Why does that matter?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Do I tend to skim through or skip genealogies when I encounter them in my Bible reading? Why mustn't I do this?
2. What are the connections between Matthew's introductory genealogy and his conclusion at the end of chapter 28? How does this bring together the whole book, and ultimately the whole Bible?
3. Has this genealogy gripped me? Or better, has the Christ set forth in this genealogy gripped me so that I must keep reading Matthew's book and cannot help but commend it to others?