



The DAILY JESUS NEWS #028

Jesus' Early Judean Ministry

Jesus' Legal Qualification to be the Messiah: His Genealogy

MT 1.1-7; LK 3.23B-38

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^{MT}This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham:

Jesus' Lineage from Abraham to Adam (LK 3.34B-38)

34B ^LAbraham [was] the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, 35 the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shellac, 36 the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, 37 the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Kenan, 38 the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

Jesus' Lineage from Joseph to Abraham through David (MT 1.2-17)

2 ^{MT}Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 4 Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, 7 Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, 8 Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, 9 Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

12 After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud, 15 Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

17 Thus, there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

Mary's Lineage to King David

LK 3.23B-31

23B ^LIt was commonly thought that Jesus was the son of Joseph [but actually he was the Son of God, as his lineage shows].

24 Mary's father was Heli, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melki, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, 25 the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, 26 the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josek, the son of Joda, 27 the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, 28 the son of Melki, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, 29 the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, 30 the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, 31 the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David.

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NOTE: We use superscript identification of the source gospel in "blended texts" as follows: Matthew = ^{MT}, Mark = ^M, Luke = ^L, John = ^J, Acts = ^A. This "superscript ID" is inserted at the beginning of the quoted text, identifying that Bible book until a different superscript appears. In addition, *red italics identify the words of Jesus*.

	CONTEXT DIGEST
Location	Not Applicable
Time	Not Applicable
Stage of Jesus' Life	Stage III: His Early Judean Ministry
Chapter 6	The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry
Section #028	Jesus' Legal Qualification to be the Messiah: His Genealogy

As the Savior born under the Law, with the mission redeeming those born under the Law and gentiles born apart from the Law, it was important that Jesus have the legal qualification necessary to assume the throne of David, and fulfill the covenant promises made to Abraham. Thus his human genealogy is a crucial aspect of his identity as the God-man. It is essential to his title of: **"King of Kings, and LORD of Lords."**

Genealogies may appear boring, but in Jesus' case they are anything but! When we combine the records of both Joseph and Mary, we see that his blood line ran through all the Kings of Israel, to Abraham, and then ultimately to Adam, our common human father. Like everything else recorded by the multiple witnesses to Jesus' life, the two lineages match up perfectly, in a complementary way, as we shall try to show you here. Both genealogies emphasize God's grace in different ways, as well as the history of God's covenant promises regarding the coming of His Son.

Matthew was writing primarily to Jews. Therefore he began his lineage with Abraham, the spiritual father of the nation. God had promised Abraham that all the people of the world be blessed through one of his descendants (Gen. 22.18). Matthew therefore traced Jesus' ancestors from Abraham through King David and Solomon, down to Joseph, the human head of Jesus' earthly household. Through Joseph's guardianship, this record establishes Jesus' legal claim to the throne of David, as well as his fulfillment of the covenant promise to Abraham.

Along the way Matthew highlighted the grace of God by mentioning Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathshebah (Solomon's mother). These women include gentiles (Rehab, Ruth) prostitutes (Rehab), or

victims of rape (Tamar), or they were involved in adultery or swept up in death plots (Bathsheba). By including people such as these in Jesus' lineage, God was showing that he works through sinful people and circumstances to forgive and transform failure into the revelation of his grace and glory. This is why Jesus came as "God Who Saves."

Luke gave us Mary's Davidic lineage. He was a gentile writing primarily for gentiles, so he took the lineage of Jesus all the way back to Adam, to show we are all related to Jesus! Her roots went up to David through Nathan, not Solomon (like Joseph). In this way Matthew and Luke show us that both of Jesus' parents were descendants of King David and Abraham. His Messianic credentials were therefore impeccable.

In addition, Mary's lineage through David and Abraham back to Eve is important. The very first promise in the Scriptures regarding the Messiah was given to Eve. In Genesis 3.15 God said to Satan:

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed, and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

This is the only Messianic Scripture in the Old Testament that speaks of the "seed" of a woman. This term was used for men. Mary was "the woman" whom God chose to use to give birth to His Son, who was her "seed," because Jesus not the biological son of Joseph. Jesus was wounded by Satan, who "struck his heel" with the death-plot and the suffering of the cross. However, Jesus used that wound to ultimately crush Satan's head (his power and life-source) forever through his resurrection, which sealed the atoning efficacy of his death forever.

Jesus destroyed death and the power of sin--Satan's greatest power--through the cross and empty grave. So Mary's lineage back to Eve matters a great deal for Jesus' Messianic fulfillment of Scripture.

Finally, we note that these two genealogies include four great covenant promises concerning the Messiah, and the human race. We have seen (1) the promise given to Eve at the Fall in Gen. 3.15. (2) Noah is also part of the lineage, through whom God's promise to never destroy the earth again by a flood, memorialized by the rainbow, was given. We have also noted the covenants with (3) Abraham and (4) David are primary in these genealogies.

Jesus was the fulfillment of all four of the covenants, even as he created a New Covenant in his blood that wrapped up and superseded all four of the earlier covenants.

Grace abounds in these priceless genealogies, proving that Jesus has the legal right to be the Messiah, and is therefore qualified for the Messianic ministry he was beginning at age thirty.

APPLICATION:

God keeps all his promises. Covenants made by God are the most powerful kind of promises in the universe. Jesus' family lineage in the flesh through Joseph and Mary are proof that God keeps ALL his promises in his Son. As Paul wrote:

"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him, we speak the 'amen' to the glory of God." II Cor 1.20

The genealogy of Jesus is a testament to God's faithfulness and grace in keeping his promises. He has been working faithfully since the creation of the human race to sovereignly direct all things to prepare for the coming of his Son, who would fulfill every command and requirement of God in our behalf in his ministry and death, so that we could become heirs to the very fullness of God through faith in him.

God is faithful. We will see this characteristic in the perfect life of Jesus over and over again.

How has God shown you his faithfulness in the past?

Have you given him the appropriate praise and thanks for his faithfulness to you?

How does God's faithfulness in Jesus' life prove his faithfulness in your life? How can you rest in God's faithfulness more?