

Richmond Hill Baptist Church

November 27, 2011

Unwrapping Christmas: Lessons from the Lineage of Christ – Two Family Trees

Prelude

Call to Worship: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Welcome: Welcome to the Richmond Hill on the this 1st Sunday of Advent! Today is going to be a great day of worship and celebration. Thanks for coming. If you are a guest please fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate when it comes by. Take a moment and greet one another.

Sing: *Angels from the Realms of Glory, O Come O Come Emmanuel, All Who Are Thirsty, The First Noel*

Children's Corner: Advent Wreath – Matthew Fergel

Announcements:

1. Alyssa Baker: Thank You
2. John Jordan: Staff Love Offering
3. Grey Cup Party Today: Stotts
4. Outside Christmas Tree Lights Today at 2 pm
5. Christmas Tree Cutting, next Sunday, see bulletin

Offering:

Offertory: *O Crimson Flow*

Sermon:

**Unwrapping Christmas: Lessons from the Lineage of Christ
Two Family Trees**

Matthew 1:1-17 & Luke 3:23-38

Similarities

- **Abraham**

Matthew 1:1-2: *A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham: Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.*

Luke 3:34: *the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham*

- **David**

Matthew 1:6: *and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife.*

Luke 3:31: *the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David*

- **Joseph**

Matthew 1:16: *and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.*

Luke 3:23: *Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli*

Differences

Some people try to discredit Christ because of the differences in the genealogy. I actually think this strengthens the case for Christ. Let me show you why.

- **Order**

Matthew starts with Abraham goes to Jesus (father of)

Luke starts with Jesus and goes to Adam, the son of God (son of)

- **Divergence**

Matthew 1:6-8: *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*

Luke 3:31: *the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David*

- **Divisions**

Matthew 1:17: *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 Christ.*

It was customary among Jewish writers to arrange genealogies according to some convenient scheme, possibly for mnemonic reasons. Matthew has grouped them according to fourteens, most likely a symbolic number.

The consonants for David's name in Hebrew (a language lacking vowels) are DWD. Not having separate signs for numbers, Hebrew letters also had numerical significance, with D standing for 4 and W for 6. Thus DWD adds up to 14. (4 + 6 + 4) The arrangement of Matthew's genealogy helps us see him as a teacher seeking to develop his Gospel as a manual of instruction for the growing Christian community.

Purposes

- **Credibility**

Matthew was establishing legal claims to Abraham and the throne of David.

Luke was establishing biological claims through Mary.

Both were protecting the spiritual claim of the virgin birth.

Matthew 1:16: and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

Luke 3:23: Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli

Matthew 1:6: and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

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- **Connection** (audience)

Matthew was writing to a primarily a Jewish audience.

Luke was writing to a primarily a Gentile a audience.

This Christmas who are you trying to connect to Christ and how will you build credibility with them.

Church events: Christmas Tree Cutting, Concert, Parties, Youth Party, Family Party, Christmas Eve, New Years Eve.

Matthew & Luke are Gospels – Good News! Good News is used 96 times in the NT!

Response: *On Christmas Day*

Postlude: *Our God Saves*