

## Sermon Notes

“The Surprising Genealogy of Jesus”

Pastor Kurt Tomlinson

November 30, 2025

Isaiah 2:1-5

Matthew 1:1-6 (7-17)

- It's New Year's Day – The first Sunday of Advent!
  - o It's a busy time of year!
  - o It's time to tell the birth of Jesus story.
  - o Most years, we tell Luke's version – it's the fun one.
  - o This year, we will tell Matthew's version.
- We start with a genealogy!
  - o In the Bible there are 25 genealogies.
  - o Most of the time they discourage us – because they are so boring!
  - o But genealogies are transformed when you know the stories.
  - o Genealogies are exciting when they remind you of who you are and where you come from.
- Matthew's Gospel:
  - o Written around 80 CE – 80 years after Jesus' birth.
  - o Written after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.
  - o Matthew has 2 focuses:
    - Jesus is the fulfillment of the entire Old Testament.
      - Genesis 12:2-3
    - Jesus is the Savior of the entire world.

## Sermon Notes Cont...

- The Genealogy:
  - o Matthew 1:1 – Jesus comes from David and Abraham.
    - David is the prototypical, idealistic king.
    - Matthew goes back 1800 years to the beginning – Abraham.
  - o Matthew 1:2:
    - Matthew connects Jesus to the very beginning of the nation.
    - To the “patriarchs” – Abraham Isaac, Jacob (Israel), and Judah.
  - o The characters of the Genealogy:
    - Some great Kings – Hezekiah and Josiah.
    - Some scoundrels who repented – Manasseh – 2 Chronicles 33:13
    - 4 women:
      - Tamar – Genesis 38 – mistreated and becomes the hero.
      - Rahab – Joshua 2 – prostitute who hides the spies.
      - Ruth – book of Ruth – story of courage and loyalty in tragedy.
      - Bathsheba – 2 Samuel 11 – young military wife who was taken advantage of by a powerful man.
  - o Shows God is the God of mercy and love.
  - o Genealogies are fun!