

# ***New Beginnings (Matthew 1:1-18)***

**Passage:** Matthew 1:1-18

**Title:** New Beginnings

**Summary:** For 400 years..... silence! From the end of the Old Testament (Book of Malachi), to the event we read in the first Book of the New Testament (Matthew), the birth of Christ. The silence is broken through by the birth of a child, our Savior (verse 16). We know new life and new beginnings through Jesus, but God sends an amazing message of new beginnings through the lineage and genealogy of Jesus, we would never think that, but join us and see, and claim your new beginning this Christmas.

**Matthew 1:1–17 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. <sup>3</sup> Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. <sup>4</sup> Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. <sup>5</sup> Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, <sup>6</sup> and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. <sup>7</sup> Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. <sup>8</sup> Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. <sup>9</sup> Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. <sup>11</sup> Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. <sup>12</sup> And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. <sup>14</sup> Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. <sup>15</sup> Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. <sup>16</sup> And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. <sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.*

**Matthew 1:18 (NKJV)** <sup>18</sup> *Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.*

## **Introduction:**

### **Skip first 15 / Birth of Jesus – Good Stuff / Miss Out**

When we turn to the Book of Matthew how often do we quickly skip over the first 15 verses, these genealogies, so we can get to Matthew chapter 1:18, *Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows.* Verse 16&18, the good stuff, our savior is born. However, by doing so, we miss out on an important message from God:

**Matthew 1:16 (NKJV)** <sup>16</sup> *And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.*

**(Matthew 1:18 NKJV) Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.**

### **Bridge OT to NT / Old Covenant to New Covenant / Man's Ability – God's Ability**

For you see the book of Matthew is the bridge from the Old Testament, to the New Testament. If you recall the word testament means covenant. The Old covenant to the New covenant. The Old Covenant was based on man's ability to be perfect before the Holy and pure God, we failed. The New Covenant is based on God's ability to make us perfect before Him, which He did through Jesus Christ for all who will receive Him.

### **400 Years**

May we be reminded, how the Old Testament ended:

**Malachi 4:1–6 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> *"For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, And all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But to you who fear My name The Sun of Righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings; And you shall go out And grow fat like stall-fed calves. <sup>3</sup> You shall trample the wicked, For they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet On the day that I do this," Says the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup> "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments. <sup>5</sup> Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."*

Man had gone 400 years without hearing from God. 400 years from Malachi to John the Baptist.

Consider this, in the beginning:

- Adam walked with God in the garden,
- Enoch walked with God and had sons and daughters,

- Noah walked with God, and foretold Gods judgment to come,
- Abraham, Isaac and Jacob proclaimed his promises to the people,
- Moses went into Pharaoh's court and said the Great I Am" has sent me for His people,
- God gave them judges, then kings, and prophets for years and years, and years.....

And Then God gave them silence – for 400 years, Malachi to Matthew. As years turned into decades, and decades into centuries, Hope turned into hopelessness, they had not heard from God; then God spoke again through His messenger

*Luke 2:8-16 (NKJV)* <sup>8</sup> Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" <sup>15</sup> So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

### **God Writes / From the Beginning / Old Passed Away – I'm Doing Something New**

And as God writes this book to us, right from the beginning He is saying, the old things have passed away, behold all things are made new:

*(2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)* Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; **behold, all things have become new.**

### **Starting New Work / Trust In – Excuses – Misconceptions / Wiped Out**

In these 17 verses, He is saying, I'm starting a New Work,

- Trust - all the things you trusted in before I am going to wipe out,
- Excuses - any and every excuse you may have for not following me, wiped out.
- Misconceptions - your misconceptions I can't and won't use you, wiped out,

### **We All Fall in 1 of 3 Areas**

I believe each and every person here at one time or another falls into one of these three groups.

### **5 woman Mentioned / Major No-No – Especially Gentile / God – Starting New Work**

There are 5 women mentioned in this genealogy, the first 4 all gentiles. This would be a major no-no for Jewish genealogy; you just didn't mention a woman, or a gentile. But God does, and He does it for a reason, to make a clear and defined statement....I am starting a New Work here, and here's proof, by the first 4 women mentioned in these passages. Let me show you something here He says to us today.

- 1.) Tamar: Dispels Your Families Past
- 2.) Rahab: Dispels Your Past Reputation
- 3.) Ruth: Dispels Your Religious Background
- 4.) Bathsheba Dispels Your Past Sins

### **Matthew:**

Now speaking of being used by God, before we study these 4 women it is import to note, who wrote this book.....Matthew.

### **Matt – Tax Collector / Quota – Backed by Army / Greedy – Corrupted - Hated**

Matthew was a tax collector...Rome would set quotas then the tax collector would levy additional tax on top of that for his share. If Rome wanted 10% then the tax collector would add another 10 for himself. They were backed by the roman army, tax collectors were rich, greedy, corrupted, and they were hated.

### **But Met Jesus – Follow Me / Opened Heart – Then Home – then Hand / Write New Record**

But Matthew met Jesus. Jesus said follow me, and he did, Matthew opened his heart, then he opened his home and invited the other tax collectors to meet Jesus, after this he opened his hand. Matthew was a record keeper, the records of who paid taxes, it was only natural for him to grab a pen and start writing down a new record, the teachings and deeds of Jesus Christ.

### **Be Encouraged / God Uses what in Hand / Moses – David – Peter & James -Matthew**

This encourages me, cause I see the Lord will use whatever is in our hands presently to do His work in the ministry. Whatever your thing is, that's what he will use.

- As God called *Moses* in the wilderness, He said, Moses what's that in your hand...a rod...great I'll use that.....lets go talk to pharaoh.
- *David* what's that in your hand...a rock and a sling...great I'll use that...lets go kill a giant
- *Peter, James, John* what's that in your...a net...great I'll use that...lets go catch some men
- *Matthew* what's that in your hand....a pen...great I'll use that...write this down

### **God Uses anyone Willing / Doesn't Matter Opinion of World – Matthew Hated**

God uses anyone that is willing...doesn't matter what the opinion was of the world around them, Matthew was a tax collector, he was hated, yet he got to write down the greatest events to happen in this world

### **Jesus Asks Us – What is in Your Hand / hammer – Guitar – Keys**

Jesus says to you and me today, what's that in your hand. This? It is a hammer, I'm a carpenter...God says great I'll use that. What's that in your hand, a guitar...great I'll use that...what that in your hand, car keys...great I'll use that...

### **Think Can't Be Used – Past or Present / Wrong – Proves it with 4 Woman**

If you think you can't be used because of your past or present....God says wrong....I'll use that. And He proves it with these 4 women.

### **(Matthew 1:1 NKJV) The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:**

#### **Every Jew Knew Messiah through David / Proud of Lineage from Abraham**

Every Jew knew the Messiah would come through David; and every Jew proudly boasted of their lineage from Abraham.

#### **Glorious Bridge OT to NT / Gen 5 – He Died / Birth of Jesus / Romans 6:23 / New Work**

And here we see the glorious bridge from the Old Covenant to the New Covenant.

- The first genealogy in the Old Testament is Genesis 5, it starts with *"This is the book of the genealogy of Adam"*. In Genesis 5 it reads so and so begot so and so, and he died, and so and so begot so and so, and he died.
- But here in Matthew 1, so and so begot so and so, all the way up to verse 18...*"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows"*.

The comparison of the 2 genealogies is simply Romans 6:23. The wages of sin is death...Old covenant, but the gift of God is eternal life, New Covenant. Matthew chapter 1, God is starting something New here: [Genesis 5:5 \(NKJV\)](#) <sup>5</sup> *So all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.*

#### **(Romans 6:23 NKJV) For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

#### **Written so Knew Jesus is King**

This book was written so we/Jews/everybody will know Jesus is the King of kings. That is why he starts with genealogies. It proves that Jesus had the right to the throne because his lineage came through David-a king forever:

[\(Matthew 27:11 NKJV\)](#) *Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?" So Jesus said to him, "It is as you say."*

#### **God Starts Tearing Down Walls**

But as soon as God gets into it, he starts tearing down the walls:

- *Trust* - all the things you trusted in before I am going to wipe out,

- Excuses - any and every excuse you may have for not following me, wiped out.
- Misconceptions - your misconceptions I can't and won't use you, wiped out,

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wall

Matthew 1:3 Here goes the first wall

### 1.) Tamar: Dispels Your Families Past

**(Matthew 1:2 NKJV) Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers.**

**(Matthew 1:3 NKJV) Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram.**

### **Tamar – Sons of Judah – Custom / Black Widow / Withholds 3<sup>rd</sup> Son / Prostitute - Perez**

The story of Tamar is told in Genesis 38. If you recall Judah's firstborn son married Tamar, but he died. So the custom was the next brother would marry her to carry on the other brothers name, so the 2<sup>nd</sup> son married her and he died. So now Judah is a little concerned thinking there is something wrong with the girl, the black widow story or something. So he says my 3<sup>rd</sup> son is still a youth, wait until he matures, and then he will marry you, but Judah had no intention of ever giving his last son to her. Tamar waited, but finally figured it out herself. So she heard Judah was on his way to town one day, she dressed like a prostitute, covered her face with a veil, and stood by the way waiting for him. Judah sees her, has relations, Tamar becomes pregnant with child – **Perez, who is King David's great times 8 grandfather.**

### **Bible Reports the Truth / Be Real with Him!**

This is a strange story, but I appreciate this about the Bible, it tells the story in its entirety, in full truth, not trying to hide or cover anything. These are real stories about real people, and we read about them and can relate to them. We see that if God forgives them, then He will forgive us. Beloved you can be real with Him, you can be honest with Him..... there is no need to hide anything from Him, and when you come and just fully "be real – be honest" with Him, then you are on your way to Him doing something about it.

### **Proud of Family Purity Lineage / Blemish to Skip Over / God Lists Her**

The Jews were proud, trusted in "Family Purity", the ability to trace their family purity, and tell who is in their lineage. Tamar takes care of that, they can't say they are perfect now, Tamar is a blemish everyone would rather skip over...but God lists her in the genealogy of the Messiah.....and God says to you.

### **Let These Words Never / Family Messed Up**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because.....

- my family's past is so messed up

### **All Believers / Family Messed Up / God Can't Use Me**

For all you who are believers, you may say I'm a little embarrassed with my families past, stuff went on that wasn't normal. God can't use me; He can't restore me because of my families past.

### **Past Marriage – Relationships – Ashamed / No One Want Me /**

Some of you who are from divorced families or divorced yourself, may say I will never be able to have another relationship, things happened in my past marriage that I am ashamed of...no one will ever want me. I've talked to so many people who said they were in abusive marriages, now have kids, they think no one would want to be with them, ...God says wrong...he proves it here with Tamar...messed up family past and everything, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah.

### **God Will Use You – Godly Marriage / Can Have Godly Relationship / Don't Settle for Less**

God can and will use you to be that godly husband or wife that has a marriage that brings glory to God, and children who grow up knowing and loving him. So many people are deceived into believing that they

can never have a godly relationship because their past family was messed up. And sadly, they settle for 2<sup>nd</sup> best, robbing themselves of all that God would have for them.

### **Let these Words Never**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because.....my family's past is so messed up.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Wall**

Matthew 1:5 Here goes the second wall

## **2.) Rahab: Dispels Your Past Reputation**

**(Matthew 1:4 NKJV) Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon.**

**(Matthew 1:5 NKJV) Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse,**

## **Rahab – Card Carrying Prostitute / Joshua 2 / People Spoke about Her**

Rahab was a prostitute a card carrying prostitute, everybody knew her. Her story is in Joshua chapter 2. If you recall she was the woman who hid the 2 spies as they scoped out Jericho for invasion and destruction. I need not go into the details of prostitution, but simply to say with every experience she would lose a piece of herself, become void and empty inside, and everywhere she went she knew what people where saying about her.

### **Jewish Pride – Sexual Purity / Adultery Stoned in Manure Pit / King David Great Great**

The Jews were so proud, took such trust, in their "Sexual Purity". If someone was caught in adultery or pregnant out of wedlock they would take them to the town square, put them in a pit filled with manure up to their knees and then stone them to death so they would fall into the manure. The story of Rahab takes care of that... **Her son is the great-great granddad of King David.** She was a prostitute, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah.. And God says to you today,

### **Let These Words / Past Reputation**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because.....

- my past reputation is so bad

### **God Cant Use Me / Rahab Hall of Faith / Risked Everything for God**

You may say my reputation is so low, God can't use me. Rahab is listed in the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11. A prostitute in the hall of faith, there is room for you and me. A tremendous women, not because she was a harlot, but even with her limited knowledge and understanding she risked everything, believing the God of Israel was the True and Living God.

*(Hebrews 11:31 NKJV) By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.*

### **Maybe You Say That / Promiscuous – Drugs - Alcohol**

Maybe you say, my reputation is so low God will never use me in the ministry. See I was promiscuous before I was saved, I did drugs, alcohol, an adulterer. God can give you a new reputation.

### **15 Year Class Reunion / No Preaching**

My 15 year class reunion I went. I woke that morning saying Lord I don't want to go see people I haven't seen in 15 years and say, you're going to hell. I just didn't feel like preaching. God said your testimony will be your witness. I said ok, not sure what that means, but ok. So I get up there, and they are giving out these nominations. My friend Bobby was voted most unlikely career profession. Bob was a great menace to the teachers, they hated him, and today he is a principle of a high school. I was picked greatest changed life. When I went up, I was asked to explain...I got to tell them about Jesus. God gave

me a new reputation. Rahab's new reputation is a woman of faith, she was a prostitute, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah.

### **Let These Words**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because..... my past reputation is so bad

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Wall**

Matthew 1:5 Here goes the third wall

### **3.) Ruth: Dispels Your Religious Background**

**(Matthew 1:5 NKJV) Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse,**

#### **Ruth – Gentile / Toilet bowl / Can't enter Temple**

Ruth: was a Moabite, a gentile, and Moab was God' toilet bowl. At Ruth's time there was a law which said a no Moabite or Ammonite could enter into the temple of God because they came against the children of Israel after they left Egypt.

#### **Jews Proud – Racial Purity – No Gentiles / Unclean – Burn Clothes / Ruth takes Care of that**

The Jews were so proud, took such trust in their "Racial Purity", free of pollution, gentile free. Not only would a Jew not relate to a gentile, but if they accidentally touched a gentile they would go home and burn their clothes. Jews would say look at my lineage...Jew begets Jew. Paul talks about being a Hebrew of Hebrews in Philippians 3:5. Ruth takes care of that, **her son Obed is King David's granddad**, she was from God's toilet bowl, banned from the temple, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah.... and God says to you:

#### **Let These Words / Religious Background**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because.....

- I have no religious background

#### **You May Say / Not Raised in Church – Saved Late In Life / No Formal Training**

You may say my background is terrible, I wasn't raised in the church, or I went to church but didn't understand it. God can't use me, he can only use people who were saved since they were three, or I have no Formal Training. Ruth takes care of that. She came from Moab, only thing she knew of God she learned from her mother in-law Naomi, yet it was enough to make her follow. She said your God will be my God:

*(Ruth 1:16 NKJV) But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God."*

#### **Not Lifetime of Church / Don't Let past Wipe out Future**

It is not a lifetime of church, God says now is the acceptable time, today is the day of salvation (2 Cor 6:2) Don't let your past wipe out your future:

*(2 Corinthians 6:2 NKJV) For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

#### **I Didn't Know / Job – Malachi / God still uses Me**

I didn't know anything about the bible and I went to church my whole life. Job was a job. Malachi the great Italian prophet. Never heard of Psalms pronounced. Thought Paul the apostle was the same man King Saul. Yet God chooses to use me. God used Ruth, no background, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah.... and God says to you.

#### **Let These Words Never**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because..... I have no religious background

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Wall**

Matthew 1:6 Here goes the fourth wall

#### **4.) Bathsheba Dispels Your Past Sins**

**(Matthew 1:6 NKJV) and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah.**

#### **Bathsheba / Adultery / Played Role of Fall of David / 10K to hiding in Caves**

Bathsheba: was Uriah the Hittites wife, and adulteress. She played a role in the bringing down of the great leader of the great nation Israel. King David the giant slayer, Saul killed his 1000 and David his 10,000. He goes from a king to a fugitive on the run, almost overnight. The enemies of God had reason to mock God:

*(2 Samuel 12:14 NKJV) "However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."*

#### **Jews Proud of Royal Purity / King David / Bathsheba takes Care of That**

The Jews were so proud, took such trust in their 'Royal Purity'. Our king is the king...King David, he is the royal lineage forever. To the Jews so proud of their history and their great King David, Bathsheba takes care of that, this reminder of his affair with Bathsheba and then the murder of her husband must have been a particularly painful one, yet she is in the lineage of the Messiah. And God says to you.

#### **Let These Words / My Past Sins Terrible**

Let these Word's never past from your lips again: God won't receive me, God can't use me because.....

- my past sins are so terrible

#### **Abortion / Drug Dealer – Addicted / Brent & Allen**

Maybe you have had an abortion, sold drugs to someone who is now addicted, or just turned them on to them. Whatever it is God says he can still use you. Me, Brent, and Allen all played HS football together, Brent turned AL onto booze, and Allen has never stopped. Brent says he still has sorrow for that, but he won't allow it to stop him from preaching the gospel. Brent told the story of how one day, while playing football for the Penn State Nittney Lions, he was in the stadium with 80,000 fans, and as he stood on the sideline he received a vision of a man on standing on a wooden platform preaching the gospel to 10's of thousands, as the vision was closing in on the platform he said Lord who is that, and then the vision faded. Although he couldn't see the face, he knew in his heart it was him, and he said Lord if that is to be me, then it will have to be all you. And one day 5 years later he shows up at my house with a videotape, of him in Africa preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ to 100,000 people.

#### **Let These Words Never**

Christian, Let these Word's never past from your lips again: the God won't receive me, God can't use me because..... my past sins are so terrible.

God shows us from the beginning, He is starting something new, He is giving us "A New Beginning".

1.) Tamar: Dispels Your Families Past

2.) Rahab: Dispels Your Past Reputation

### 3.) Ruth: Dispels Your Religious Background

### 4.) Bathsheba Dispels Your Past Sins

#### **The Author of Life has Come**

The Author of Life has come, to give us new life! Verses 7-15 are genealogies of life, the New Covenant: *(Matthew 1:16 NKJV) And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.*

(Matthew 1:7 NKJV) Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa.

(Matthew 1:8 NKJV) Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah.

(Matthew 1:9 NKJV) Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah.

(Matthew 1:10 NKJV) Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah.

(Matthew 1:11 NKJV) Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon.

(Matthew 1:12 NKJV) And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.

(Matthew 1:13 NKJV) Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor.

(Matthew 1:14 NKJV) Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud.

(Matthew 1:15 NKJV) Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob.

(Matthew 1:16 NKJV) And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.

Matthew 1:17 (NKJV) 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

Would you like a new beginning? How about today. Come receive it today.

Let seal it, by the proof and power declared in Communion.

**2 Corinthians 1:20–22 (NKJV)** <sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God in Him *are* Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. <sup>21</sup> Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us *is* God, <sup>22</sup> who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

**1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (NKJV)** <sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>25</sup> In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

**The End – But Really Just the Beginning!**