



# THE CROWN

Christmas is a story of Grace!  
Jesus was God's gift of grace to this Earth!

Jesus came from the Bloodline of the Great Patriarchs of Faith!

-Abraham, Isaac & Jacob  
.....down through the line of King David!

-42 Generations are recorded in Matt 1  
.....with a lot of HISTORY!

-HISTORY IS OFTEN FILLED WITH "STORIES"

-SOME GOOD.....SOME BAD!  
-Most have some stories they like to forget!

-Matthew seems to actually point them out!  
Last 3 weeks:  
Tamar, Rahab, David and Bathsheba

THERE IS A LOT OF SIN AND DYSFUNCTION IN THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS!

STORIES NO FAMILY WOULD BE PROUD OF!

-YET....Matthew doesn't bury them

.....they are the START of the Christmas story!

WHY??? BECAUSE THE STORY OF JESUS IS A STORY OF GRACE!

-OPPOSITE of what we would think should be a story of a King!

-Born in a manger in a stable/cave

.....not in a palace

-Birth announced to Shepherds

-Came to SERVE, not to be served

**Philippians 2:6-7 “[Jesus] Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness”**

**-King Jesus LEFT his throne in heaven.....**

**-To humbly come to this earth!**

Sucked in by the ROYALS!

-Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s Royal bloodline is  
traced back 37 Generations to 1209

-The Royalty, Responsibilities, Respect, Traditions, Pomp & Circumstance, formality

.....And the COVER UPS!

-THE ROYAL FAMILY HAS ISSUES!!!!

-HIDDEN AND BURIED!

**-EXACT OPPOSITE OF KING JESUS!**

-HIS FAMILY LINE HAD ISSUES

-Instead of burying these stories:

-Matthew HIGHLIGHTS them!

-THOSE STORIES LEAD THE WAY OF GRACE!

-Tamar, Rahab, David & Bathsheba

-TALK ABOUT A BROKEN HUMANITY!

**OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICE THEME IS:**

**Majesty (Dictionary.com)**

-regal, lofty, or stately dignity; imposing character; grandeur.

-supreme greatness or authority; sovereignty.

-a title used when speaking of or to a sovereign

-**Christ in Majesty**, a representation of Christ as ruler of the universe.

**WE CELEBRATE THE GRACE OF GOD GIVEN TO US THROUGH JESUS!**

**Matthew 1:23** “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Christmas is a story of RELATIONSHIP!

**Isaiah 9:6-7** For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of

**Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

**-OUR KING DIDN'T COME TO BE A ROYAL!!!**

**-HE CAME TO BE A SERVANT!**

**-He left his throne.....to come to this earth!**

**2 Corinthians 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.**

-We come into this relationship of grace  
.....with not much to offer!!!!

**THAT'S WHAT GRACE IS: UNDESERVED FAVOR!**

**I TOLD YOU.....THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS IS PRETTY MESSY!**

2000 YEARS AGO.....THE ROYAL QUESTION WAS: IS JESUS THE MESSIAH???

-Many people claimed to be the Messiah!

-WAS IT JESUS?

LOOK AT SOME POWERFUL PROCLAMATIONS

-SUPER NATURAL

....STRAIGHT FROM HEAVEN:

## **FIRST MARY:**

**Luke 1:26-33** In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,<sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

## **SECOND JOSEPH:**

**Matthew 1:18-21** This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

## **THIRD: SHEPHERDS**

**Luke 2:8-14** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for

all the people.<sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

#### **THEN HIS BAPTISM:**

Matthew 3:13-17 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. <sup>14</sup> But John tried to deter him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

<sup>15</sup> Jesus replied, “Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

<sup>16</sup> As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

#### **THEN HIS TRANSFIGURATION:**

Matthew 17:1-5 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

<sup>4</sup> Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

## **RIGHT BEFORE THAT:**

MATTHEW 16.....The Pharisees and Sadducees demanded a sign!  
-Jesus gave them nothing!

Later, Jesus is with his disciples:

**Matthew 16:13-19** When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

**14** They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

**15** “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

**16** Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

**17** Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. **18** And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. **19** I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

**NOT A BAD PRIZE FOR ANSWERING CORRECTLY!**

**THE CORRECT ANSWER:**

**“You are the Christ, the son of the living God”**

He was not just a good man  
Not just a good teacher.....

He was the Son of God.....



our Savior.....our Messiah!

THE CHRIST.....THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD!

**Matthew 1:23** “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Christmas is a story of RELATIONSHIP!

**GET THIS: THERE IS NO WAY YOU COULD APPROACH OR GET TO A ROYAL!**

-The story of King Jesus is the opposite of any other royal story!

**John 1:9-14** The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**John 3:16** “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

In all other major world religions.....It is about what we need to do to get to our God!

-Christianity is the only one where our God reaches down from heaven towards us!

**1 John 4:9-10 This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Just like the question to Peter!

-Who do you say I am??

**YOU ARE THE CHRIST.....THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD!**

**You can put your faith in Jesus!**

**We don't have much to bring:**

**-our problems, sins, guilt and shame**

**EXCHANGED FOR:**

**-healing, wholeness, forgiveness, freedom**

**-purpose, relationship, joy, peace, made new**

**-Text FOLLOWJESUS to 21000**