“The King and His Kingdom: A Genealogy of Grace”

Matthew 1:1-17

(notes based on the sermon by Pastor Steve Massey, Hayden Bible Church, 5/15/22)

 Matthew’s gospel is all about our King and His kingdom. He has come to rule His people in righteousness. He has come to rid His people from the scourge of sin. Matthew, a former tax collector and an eyewitness to Jesus’ ministry, begins his gospel account with a lengthy genealogy. 39 times somebody “begot” somebody. Why do we need to know this? Why in the world did the Spirit of God include this list in our Bible?!

 We live in a world tarnished by sin. People, on their own, can’t remove that tarnish, try as they might. The King’s arrival marks a new beginning for God’s creation and for God’s people. Through Jesus’ death and resurrection, God rescues His people and His world from sin’s curse. Even now Jesus is ushering in a new age of righteousness for His people. (Q1)

 The Jews looked for the Anointed One to come from the lineage of David (Matt. 1:1;

2 Sam. 7:12-13). Joseph is recorded here as Jesus’ legal father. Jesus is the promised Davidic King and also the “Son of Abraham” (Matt. 1:1). Speaking of Abraham, one of the most hopeful verses in the Old Testament is recorded in Gen. 12:3b, where it says that “ALL families of the earth will be blessed” through this descendent of Abraham. (Q2) There is one gospel for ALL, with one King for ALL. ALL who repent and come to allegiance to King Jesus will become His children. Jesus is the eternal King. His title is Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One. At His baptism (Matt. 3:17), the Father declares that Jesus is His Son. Jesus has been given all authority (Matt. 28:18). “How blessed are all who take refuge in Him.” (Ps. 2:12) How blessed are all who change direction, repent, and live in allegiance to our King. How does one get into this kingdom? Take a look at Matt. 4:17 and Matt. 7:13-14. Entrance to the kingdom is through repentance from sin and allegiance to the King. (Q3)

 This genealogy contains the kind of people with whom the King identifies. Abraham, like us, was kind of a mixed bag. He followed God, but he also lied. He sometimes tried to do God’s work by man’s way. There are 5 women included in this genealogy. 4 of the 5 are Gentiles, one is a prostitute, and at least one is an adulteress. Matt. 1:1-17 includes a long list of sinners. This is a genealogy of God’s grace! Are you in need of this grace? If you are still clinging to anything you have done, you don’t understand grace. Do you have any crooked branches on your family tree? Are YOU a crooked branch on your family tree? Jesus came not to make people look holy, but to BE holy. Going forward, is your name on Jesus’ family tree? God is not ashamed or embarrassed to draw near to sinners like you and me. (Q4)

 Jesus is the only Spotless Lamb whose life can atone for His people (Matt. 1:16). Endless life is given to His people by grace through faith in Him. He has come to restore the image of God in His people. If you are aware of your great need (Matt. 5:3), you can be part of this new kingdom. How? Repent, believe, and follow Jesus. (Q5)

 Matt. 1:1-17 is a genealogy of grace. The King is coming again. He is reigning now at the right hand of God. He is calling us to action (Matt. 28:18-20). He is the Davidic King, and He is our Eternal King. Won’t you bow and worship Him now?

**QUESTIONS**:

1. What did Pastor Steve mean by this statement? (Hint: Heb. 10:14 may help you.)
2. How would you explain Gen. 12:3b to a non-believer?
3. Pastor Steve said, “The gospel is good news because it’s got skin on it.” Explain.
4. Read Job 14:4. Who can make the clean out of the unclean? How?
5. What is the preoccupation of God’s people? What is the hope of God’s people? (Hint: look at Matt. 24:14.)

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (Bridges)

1. Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul and sing Of Him
Who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

3. Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died, and rose on high
, Who died eternal life to bring,
And lives that death may die.

4. Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,
One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit through Him giv'n
From yonder glorious throne,
To Thee be endless praise
For Thou for us hast died;
Be Thou, O Lord, through endless days
Adored and magnified.