

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 24, 2002

MATTHEW CHAPTER 1:1-23

SERMON SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED KEYWORD:
CHRISTMAS, REASONS TO BELIEVE, APOLOGETICS

INTRODUCTION

to the text

Matt. 1:1-23

Matthew 1:1-21

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: 2 Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. 4 Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. 5 Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. 8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. 9 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. 10 Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. 11 Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. 12 And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. 13 Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. 14 Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud 15 Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. 16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. 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. 18 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. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

The genealogies of the bible

Often appear to us to be hard to pronounce, long, & unnecessary

It's those genealogical records of old
that are yet another proof positive that Jesus of Nazareth is in
fact the Christ, Israel's messiah, savior of the world!

First Thought is:
Historical Observation

It's interesting to note after Jesus' death and resurrection, the genealogy having
been established - - that Temple was destroyed completely in 70 A.D.
And so the genealogical records of Israel's kingdom lineage!

That King Had Come!!!

This Biblical Record That You Hold in Your Hand,
Will become more important as God's Prophetic Sense Unfolds
Israel will Read Then What You Hold Now

Acts 2:36

"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this
Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

This Book, The Bible is the Inerrant Record of...

**The Life, The Earthly Coming, The Ministry, The Words, The Actions,
The Hours, The Death, The Resurrection, The Ascension
Of Jesus Christ was All Written in Advance – in the Bible**

AND JUST FOR THE RECORD

There is no advance mention of Hammerobbie in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Confusus in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Buddha in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Mohammad in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Carl Marx in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Charles Russell in ancient writings

There is no advance mention of Joseph Smith in ancient writings

**But The Bible Is Volume Writing About
One Man. The Man Christ Jesus!!!**

Ps 40:7

"Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

Second Thought is:

Physical Evidence

Gen. 3:15

And I will put warfare between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her seed; (offspring) He shall crush your head, and you shall scratch his heel.

Isa. 7:14

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given;

Third Thought is:

A Question

Prov 30:4

Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth?

What is His name, and what is His Son's name, if you know?

Mark 8:27-29

Now Jesus and His disciples went out to the towns of Caesarea Philippi; and on the road He asked His disciples, saying to them, "Who do men say that I am?" 28 So they answered, "John the Baptist; but some say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." 29 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to Him, "You are the Christ."

Have You Come to Learn "the Name" of the Son of God?

He Has a Name – Say's God

**God is Asking You Tonite
What is His Name?**

Fourth Thought is:
The Challenge

Micah 5:2

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands villages of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, even from everlasting."

He's got to be eternal

His Birth Impressed Angels

1 Tim 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, SEEN by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory.

Zech 9:9

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; he is just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey."

**This Man's Birth, Life and Death....
And Resurrection Changed the World Forever**

(who can say such things?)

Fifth Thought is:
Eyewitness Accounts

**The Account of the Roman Empire – They Witnessed Him
The Account of the Religious Leaders – They Witnessed Him
The Account of the Shepherds – They Witnessed Him**

**The Account of the People – They Witnessed Him
The Account of the Historians – They Witnessed Him**

John 12:19

The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. **Look, the world has gone after Him!**"

Acts 17:6

The Christians had offended their communities by proclaiming that God had sent His saviour to Mankind...
"These who have turned the world upside down have come here too.

I Jn 1:1-4

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life-- 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us- 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

Thought Six is:

The Sociological Impact

Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

**The Sociological Arguments for Jesus'
Impact is Undeniable
The Greatest Civilizations**

The Greatest Improvements

The Greatest Liberties

The Greatest Reform

The Greatest Benefits

The Greatest Educational Systems

The Greatest Religious Freedoms

Matt 28:19

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...

are we to ~~-do it by peace or by sword?~~—no!

Seventh Thought is:

Practical Reason

**The Existence of
Good and Evil in the World**

**The Existence of
Sin and Righteousness**

**The Existence of
War and Peace**

What is Scientific and Factual?

Gal 1:3-4

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

Eighth Thought is:
Internal Witness / Conviction

A Man or Woman Knowing Right from Wrong

Knowing that God exists –
and you're troubled about that!

You Have Your Standard(s) for Life – a Morality

**Why do you Think Good
is Something that should be rewarded?**

Rom 1:20

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

Rom 1:20

Since earliest times men have seen the earth and sky and all God made, and have known of his existence and great eternal power. So they will have no excuse [when they stand before God at Judgment Day].

Ninth Thought is:

Personal Influence

John 10:10

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.
(excessively abundant, abundant, abundant, overflowing amounts, more than enough, life that is bigger than life...)

Internal Thoughts / Thinking / Wonderings /

Ezek 11:19-20

"Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, 20 "that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

Thought Ten is

A Decision

**All of These Things Written and Done to
accomplish this one thing**

To Convince Us That...

The Almighty God of Heaven and Earth is Here

That God Loves Us

To Bring Us to the Place of

Belief and Faith in Him

Are you well this Christmas with Almighty God?

- Would You Have Been at the Manger Scene 2000 years Ago?
- Would You Have Been Listening to His Teaching 2000 years Ago?
 - Would You Have Walked Him 2000 years Ago?
 - Would You Have Followed Him 2000 years Ago?

Would You Have Presented Yourself a Present to Him 2000 years Ago?

Have You Ever Done That?