

## **Who begat who?**

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**Purpose:** Study of God's Word to understand every sentence serves a purpose. To understand that even when our minds cannot understand how God will fulfill His purpose or how God will keep His word that He has a plan that can never fail. To understand God's promise is true, God is faithful, we can trust in Him and know that He alone knows the future.

### **Focal Scripture:**

<http://biblehub.com/esv/matthew/1.htm>

[Jeremiah 36:30-31](#)

[2 Samuel 7:12-13](#)

[Luke 3:23-38](#)

[John 3:16-17](#)

Begat is actually the “archaic” of the word “beget” which is defined as bringing a child in to existence by the process of reproduction. In Matthew Chapter 1 we see perhaps one of the most skipped over chapters in all of the New Testament, after all we all know Jesus was the Son of David, the Son of Abraham, the Son of Adam... do all those “begats” really matter? In the perfection of God's Word this is perhaps one of the most incredible pieces of Scripture in which we can see the sovereign mind of God at work always fulfilling His Word. I pray this Bible study would both glorify Christ and bring joy in to your heart, may the Holy Spirit move with-in your heart as you begin to understand the awesome perfection of God's Word, the faithfulness in which He fulfills His Word, and the truth that Jesus Christ alone is the promised way to salvation.

First lets take a look at Matthew Chapter 1 in the ESV version which will be much easier for most to read and understand and unlike the King James Version does not contain the word “begat”:

**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. (Matthew Chapter 1**

## verse 1-16 ESV)

Now if you are anything like I have been in the past you have quickly passed over verses 2 through 16 because you can't pronounce most of the names listed and the understanding of why God mentions all of these men only partially sinks in to our minds. Out of all the descendants only a few will stick out to the mind of most Christians: Abraham, David, Boaz, Jesse, Joseph, and perhaps one or two more. God gives us the genealogy for a very specific reason and tonight we are going to focus on one name that is perhaps unfamiliar: Jechoniah, the son of Jehoiakim. Jechoniah, the last king of Judah and the last descendant of Solomon to sit on the throne. **Therefore thus says the LORD concerning Jehoiakim king of Judah: He shall have none to sit on the throne of David, and his dead body shall be cast out to the heat by day and the frost by night. And I will punish him and his offspring and his servants for their iniquity. I will bring upon them and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem and upon the people of Judah all the disaster that I have pronounced against them, but they would not hear."** (Jeremiah Chapter 36:30-31 ESV) – Jehoiakim who is not mentioned in the genealogy of Jesus because we see God's utter disgust with the descendants that came after David who were not faithful to the Lord and who bit by bit brought God's hand of correction down upon all of Israel and Judah. One critical component must not be missed in God's judgment on the bloodline of David through Solomon "He shall have none to sit on the throne of David"... but how can this be? Jesus is a descendant of David, through the bloodline of Solomon which contains Jechoniah who is the son of Jehoiakim... how can Jesus fulfill the promise made to David?

Its important for us to stop for a brief moment and review. God promised His servant David: **When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. (2 Samuel 7:12-13 ESV)** – clearly we have a problem, Jesus was a descendant of David, through the bloodline of Solomon, through Jechoniah who was the son of Jehoiakim who was promised that his descendants would never sit on the throne of their father David... something amazing is about to happen. God's plan cannot and will not ever be stopped, God is not ever caught off guard, He is sovereign and almighty, He knows every moment of forever and His Word proves to both Jew and Gentile that Jesus alone can be Messiah. Are you ready for it? How can Jesus the son of Joseph a descendant of Jechoniah the son of Jehoiakim sit on the throne of His father David as God promised and also keep the promise that no descendant of Jehoiakim shall sit on the throne of David? To understand this we must look at the genealogy of Jesus as given by the Gospel of Luke:

**Jesus, when he began his ministry, was about thirty years of age, being the son (as was supposed) of Joseph, the son of Heli, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Melchi, the son of Jannai, the son of Joseph, the son of Mattathias, the son of Amos, the son of Nahum, the son of Esli, the son of Naggai, the son of Maath, the son of Mattathias, the son of Semein, the son of Josech, the son of Joda, the son of Joanan, the son of Rhesa, the son of Zerubbabel, the son of Shealtiel, the son of Neri, the son of Melchi, the son of Addi, the son of Cosam, the son of Elmadam, the son of Er, the son of Joshua, the son of Eliezer, the son of Jorim, the son of Matthat, the son of Levi, the son of Simeon, the son of Judah, the son of Joseph, the son of Jonam, the son of Eliakim, the son of Melea, the son of Menna, the son of Mattatha, the son of Nathan, the son of David, the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, the son of Sala, the son of Nahshon, the son of Amminadab, the son of Admin, the son of Arni, the son of Hezron, the son of Perez, the son of**

**Judah, the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah, the son of Nahor, the son of Serug, the son of Reu, the son of Peleg, the son of Eber, the son of Shelah, the son of Cainan, the son of Arphaxad, the son of Shem, the son of Noah, the son of Lamech, the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalaleel, the son of Cainan, the son of Enos, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God. (Luke 3:23-38 ESV)**

Again after reading over the descendants of Jesus we will recognize a few names: Adam, Noah, David, Nathan, and perhaps a few others but let us focus our attention for one moment on the name Heli. Heli was not the father of Joseph as it would be impossible for Joseph to both have Jacob and Heli as his father, what has happened here? Heli is not the father of Joseph, Heli is the father of Mary! Mary a direct descendant of David through not the blood line of Solomon or the cursed Jechoniah but through the bloodline of Nathan the older son of David who peacefully ceded his throne to Solomon by God's desire! Has God began to speak the truth of the perfectness of Jesus to your heart? Legally the son of David through his legal father Jacob, physically the son of David through the bloodline of David through his son Nathan, Jesus was legally and physically the descendant of David as promised by the Almighty Father!

What does it all mean? Several critical truths that I pray would cause your heart to rejoice in the perfect will of God. First, no matter how hard Satan tries he cannot destroy God's Word. Satan cannot disprove or dissolve God's Word and no matter how hard the father of lies tries he cannot cause God to err in His Word. Though Satan tempted and destroyed the descendants of Solomon he never considered God's truth would be confirmed not through Solomon as was supposed by both man and the forces of darkness but through Nathan. Secondly, if God spent what one may consider so much thought and power on ensuring that Jesus was the perfect fulfillment of His promises in the Old Testament how can we ever doubt His perfect Truth of all of His Word? God has promised that all who come to Christ and confess Him in their hearts in with their mouths shall be saved... God's perfect peace comfort your weary heart! You can be saved! God loves you and you can trust in His Word!

God has left nothing up to chance, your life is important to Him, your prayers are precious to Him, and every cry He hears. God's love for you is so great that He sent His son Jesus Christ to die on the cross at Calvary so that you could be saved... just as true as God's Word concerning Jesus is His Word concerning why Jesus came in the first place: **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."** (John 3:16-17 ESV).