

## **No Shame** **Matthew 1**

When I was a kid I felt ashamed of my step-father. Reason was he was ashamed himself. Embarrassed to take off his shirt at the beach or at a public pool because he had—medical term **Pectus Excavatum** or a sunken chest where sternum caves in. I was ashamed because he was ashamed. I determined that I'd never have my kids ashamed of me. **Hide & seek in store, football in market, riding shopping cart**

The bible tells us **God is not ashamed to call us brethren Heb 2:11 and** He is **not ashamed to be called our God Heb 11:16**. He's not embarrassed to be associated w/ you & you w/ Him. He is my God & I am His child. In Jn 15 He calls us **friends**. **No** **disclaimers** on our friendship no matter how unworthy you might feel you are.

The genealogy of Jesus birth proves the love and grace God has for those who call upon Him. God includes those in His ancestry you'd want to hide if you were looking to impress people w/ your family tree. Especially if you are starting a religious movement to change the world. You'd want nobility, dignity, prominence, moral virtue.

I'm always amused w/ psychics, clairvoyants or channelers, Shirley McLain types who claim to have had a past life—Princess, queen, goddess of some ancient land that never really existed. But **never** peasant, laundry lady, bar maid, a nobody.

The genealogy of Jesus testifies to the fact that He is Messiah. It also tells us what He thinks about the fringe people of society—marginal persons, misfits of the world. Maybe you feel like one. God **specializes** in the down and outers, those who have made a mess of things, trapped in sin by wrong choices, feeling helpless & hopeless who see no way out. Then God makes a way, gives new direction, changes lives, bring new purpose.

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Reading the genealogy might be to you like reading the **phone book** but to that culture it a high priority; to verify Jewish family tree for land inheritance, for ministry in priesthood, and ultimately lineage of Messiah

**Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary – When superficial readers ask what can be the use of those long, dry catalogues of names which fill whole chapters of the OT, they may be referred to the corresponding genealogies in the gospels for one very sufficient answer. They enable us, in some measure, to trace the golden thread which connects our Lord w/ David, Abraham, and Adam, according to the flesh, and so make good, one of His claims to the Messiah-ship. The links in the chain of Matt & Lk genealogies which we can test by the corresponding tables of the OT, serve to verify those which must be received on their own sole authority. And that this is thoroughly reliable, is manifest, both because these catalogues would not have been published at a time when, if inaccurate, they could easily have been refuted by reference to the well known family & public registers; and because there is not a particle of evidence that they were ever questioned, much less invalidated.**

***Matt 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.***

Son of David--a reference to Messiah who was to come & reign in the kingly line of David. Throughout the NT we read, '***can this be the Son of David***' or Messiah.

David's is the **Royal line** having the legal right to the throne thru Solomon, David's son, all the way to Joseph (Jesus step-father). Not natural father but legal/royal line in the genealogy.

David's is also the **Blood line** - natural birth, thru Nathan, another son of David all the way thru to the virgin Mary. So Jesus is both God & Man – Conceived of the Holy Spirit (deity) and born of a virgin (perfect humanity).

Son of Abraham. God said '***in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed***' Galatians 'Seed singular, referring to Christ. It was necessary for Messiah to prove family tree—son of David; son of Abraham. If no proof-**disqualified**. Jews were meticulous w/ records. In 70 AD w/ destruction of temple & ruin of Jerusalem all records lost. No Jew can prove their genealogy today. Only word of mouth no written records.

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Within the genealogy we see 5 prominent women. Some w/ checkered pasts. It is not normal to include women in the genealogy. They had no legal rights; regarded as non-persons; possession or property of the father or husband; morning prayer *'thank you God you not made me a gentile, a slave or a woman'*. And yet God not respecter.....

:3 **Tamar** – Genesis 38 Troubling picture of how Perez in genealogy was conceived.

:5 **Rahab** – Joshua 2,6 ***By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along w/ those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace. Heb 11:31***

Not Rahab the homemaker, or seamstress or shepherdess but harlot. Stigma badge of salvation she carried.

**Ruth** – ***No Moabite shall enter the assembly of the LORD; none of their descendants, even to the 10<sup>th</sup> generation....Deut 23:3*** Against all odd in the same generation Ruth the Moab entered not only the assembly but the genealogy of Messiah. Gods great grace.

:6 **Bathsheba** – 2 Sam 11 Adulteress who was forgiven

:16 **Mary** – accused of conceiving out of wedlock *'we were not born of fornication'*. Stigma she bore all her life.

How is it Jesus is no longer ashamed to call us bretheren and can say no longer do I call your servants but I call you friends?

***Eph 2:4-7 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love w/ which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together w/ Christ by grace you have been saved, and raised us up w/ Him, and seated us w/ Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, in order that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.***

Jesus genealogy is a testimony that God loves flawed people. **Raises** them up & **brings** them close to Himself that we are no longer ashamed of our misspent lives because God loved us & saved us by sending His son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for our sins

He rose again the third day to prove He has power over sin and death. Says all who will come unto me, believe in me as Lord & savior, in no way will I turn my back on you. But instead I call you friends and am not ashamed to call you my child. **Reason for season**