

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

THE LINEAGE OF JESUS

MATT. 1:1-17; LUKE 3:23-38; JOHN 1:1-2, 14

DECEMBER 10, 2023

- I. Jesus is the Son of Israel (Matt. 1:1-17)
- II. Jesus is the Son of Man (Luke 3:23-38)
- III. Jesus is the Son of God (John 1:1-2, 14)

Questions:

1. The differences between Matthew and Luke's genealogies remind us that the historical accuracy of the Bible is important even though it may primarily serve as a theological piece of literature. What might happen if we view the Bible as only a history book or only a theology book rather than a historical work of theology that's meant to reveal the character and plan of God?*
2. Matthew includes several individuals, most often women, in his genealogy who have darker pasts such as Tamar (Gen. 38) and Rahab (Josh. 2). What do you think Matthew is trying to communicate in including these individuals in the lineage of Jesus?
3. Across Matthew, Luke, and John, we see Jesus portrayed as the Son of Israel, Son of Man, and Son of God. How do each of these portraits help us better understand the gospel and worship God more wholly?
4. Christmas can often be a mixture of joy and sadness. We might struggle with loneliness, be reminded of the fact that some loved ones are no longer with us, or have to deal with complex family dynamics. What burdens and struggles are you dealing with in this season where you need to be reminded that Christ is Immanuel, God with us?
5. Meditate on the 3 theological implications we discussed on Sunday: God is faithful, Savior, and with us. Which of these do you need to be reminded of the most right now, and why?

*To learn more about potential solutions to the differences between Matthew and Luke's genealogies, visit zondervanacademic.com/blog/why-are-jesus-genealogies-in-matthew-and-luke-different