

Matthew . Lesson 3 . 1/23/21

Matthew, the Jewish tax collector, who has become a disciple of Rabbi Yeshua, has proclaimed that Yeshua is the King and long-awaited Messiah of the Jewish people. We have looked at how critical it is to know the blessing of being grafted in, and that we are grafted into an already existing tree - the roots being our fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We saw last week that Yeshua is a shepherd king like David who was pulled out of a shepherd's field to become king, and that even the gematria of David's name - 14 - gives us clues as to the generation in which Messiah would appear! Woven into the genealogy of Yeshua is Poretz and Zerach, telling us that Messiah would burst onto the scene of the world bringing light! If we weave together the amazing clues, names, gematria the chaotic circumstances that existed in history when Yeshua came, and how they relate to our day, the proof of the Messiah King Yeshua is apparent.

Today we will finish looking at the incredible genealogy of the King Messiah.



Matthew 1:6 and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah.

1. What jumps out at you about this woman?
2. Can you name the women in Yeshua's genealogy?
3. What is one (or more) important things to note about these women?

Proverbs 31:1 The words of King Lemuel, the utterance which his mother taught him.

Jewish history tells us that King Lemuel is another name for King Solomon.

Who is the mother of King Solomon? The same woman whose name is also not used in Matthew 1:6,7!

Three out of these four women, Ruth being the exception, had less than "ideal" backgrounds.

4. What do you think the point is of mentioning these four women?

*****If your family is not perfect, how might knowing that Yeshua's family is not perfect help you?*****

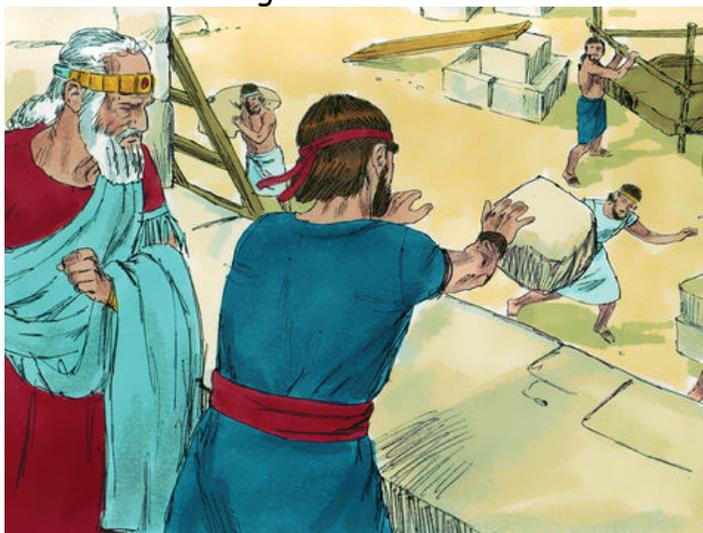
Matthew 1:7-15 Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa.

We remember at the time when Rehoboam was about to take the throne of his father, he said:

I Kings 12:11 Not only that, but since my father loaded you down heavily, I'm going to add to that burden. My father disciplined you with whips, but I'm going to discipline you with scorpions!

This is Rehoboam's idea of good leadership. He also worshipped idols, and it was under his rule the ten tribes revolted and formed Northern Israel, splitting the nation in two.

4. What do you think Rehoboam's real goal was?



I Kings 15:3 Abijah walked in all the sins of his father Rehoboam which he had committed before him, and his heart was not fully committed to the Lord his G-d like the heart of his father David.

Of Asa (Abijah's son) we are told: **I Kings 15:4** Nevertheless the Lord his G-d gave him a lamp in Jerusalem by setting up his son after him.

Asa did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, removed idolatry from the land and many other good things.

5. What kind of rulers had his father and grandfather been? What do we learn about G-d from this?

I Kings 15:11 tells us: And Asa did what was right in the eyes of the Lord as David his father had done.

6. How was Asa David's son?

Matthew 1:8 Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah.

Jehoshaphat was basically a good king. **2 Chronicles 7:9** says that the Word of G-d was taught throughout the land and verse 6 tells us places of idolatry were removed under his leadership.

7. What does idolatry look like in our world today?

8. How do we keep idolatry out of our lives?

9. What should leaders today do to be good leaders in the sight of the Lord?



2 Chronicles 26:: And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was 16 years old and made him king instead of his father Amaziah.

Uzziah did what was right in the eyes of the Lord (2 Chronicles 26:4-5) But Uzziah became powerful and pride led to his downfall. He entered the temple to burn incense at the alter which only priests could do, and he was stricken with leprosy!

10. How do we avoid Uzziah's path of pride? What keeps you humble?

Matthew 1:9-12 Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.

2 Chronicles 27:2 He (Jotham) did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father Uzziah had done, but unlike him he did not enter the temple of the Lord. The people, however, continued their corrupt practices.....

11. Once started, why is it so difficult to get corrupt practices out of the lives of people? What is the first step in changing corrupt practices?

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

12. How do you transform your mind?



1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

13. What does it mean to glorify G-d in your body?

Going back to Matthew 1:9-12 we know that Ahaz was a bad king.

*****WHAT DO BAD KINGS TEACH US?*****

Elijah was the prophet in the days of king Ahaz. As he dealt with the prophets of Baal, he stepped forward and began haranguing the people: "How long will you be dancing between two ideas? If the L-rd is G-d, go after Him, and if the Baal—go after him!" The scene was utterly surreal. The people were quiet. They were torn. In their heart of hearts they knew who was the true G-d—the G-d of their fathers, whom they had forsaken. On the other hand, the influence and lure of the popular culture was immediate and powerful.

*****What was the lure of the popular culture?*****

When a good king comes into power or a bad king comes to repentance and sees the greatness of G-d, the first thing they do **is get rid of idolatry.**

Remember G-d's first commands to His people dealt with their relationship with Him - have no other gods - do not make any graven images or take My name lightly. The same is true for us today: Love the Lord thy G-d with all your heart, all your soul and all your might. The commandments have not changed!

Nobody here has little graven images that they bow down to, but what are idols that can take our time and our energy and our money and our hearts?

How about the following: sports, houses, career, education, hobbies, and even family - any or all of these can become idols.

15. At what point do any of these become an idol?

16. Would you say the first command is the most often broken command?

17. What do bad kings teach the people? Does everyone get the message? Why or why not?

You can live right even if the king is bad.

Then very bad Ahaz was replaced by Hezekiah, a good king. Hezekiah did a complete reversal of his father. He destroyed idols and put great effort into restoring the pure worship of God, organized the teaching of Torah throughout Israel and restored daily services in the Temple. But Hezekiah's son,

Manasseh was a very bad king, but he repented and did good at the end.

2 Chronicles 33:12 Now when he (Manasseh) was in affliction, he implored the Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before God of his fathers.

Then came Amon.....

Second Chronicles 33:22-23 says, He (Amon) did evil in the eyes of the Lord, as his father Manasseh had done. Amon worshiped and offered sacrifices to all the idols Manasseh had made. But unlike his father Manasseh, he did not humble himself before the Lord; Amon increased his guilt.

Second Kings 21:22 says, He forsook the Lord, the God of his ancestors, and did not walk in obedience to him.

18. What causes guilt?

Josiah is next in line and, the Bible describes him as a righteous king, a king who "walked in all the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left." (2 Kings 22:2; 2 Chronicles 34:2).

Jeconiah. (Coniah) We come to a true problem when Jeconiah enters the picture of Messiah's genealogy. Because of Jeconiah's behavior, G-d made a pronouncement against him, telling him to "remove your signet ring". This was an outward sign showing G-d's displeasure. Not only was this pronouncement to be on Jeconiah, but was to extend to all his descendants! The removal of the signet ring was a way to say, Your power has been removed.

Signet rings of kings indicated power. When correspondence was sealed with a signet ring, the one receiving it knew the seriousness of what they were reading. OBVIOUSLY G-D DID NOT WANT JECONIAH MAKING ANY DECREES AND SEALING THEM WITH HIS POWER.

Esther 8:7,8 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and Mordecai the Jew, "Indeed, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gallows because he tried to lay his hand on the Jews. You yourselves write a decree concerning the Jews, as you please, in the king's name, and seal it with the king's signet ring; for whatever is written in the king's name and sealed with the king's signet ring no one can revoke."



Jeremiah 22:30 Thus says the Lord, Write this man (Jechoniah) down childless, a man who will not prosper in his days; for no man of his descendants will prosper sitting the throne of David or ruling in Judah.

Jeremiah 22:24 As surely as I live, declares the LORD, even if you, Coniah son of Jehoiakim king of Judah, were a signet ring on My right hand, I would pull you off.

19. What are two consequences that the Lord gives to Jechoniah?

This is a huge problem because if Jechoniah does not have children, the line of the Messiah is ended.

But **Matthew 1:12** Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel.

What happened? Jeconiah had children!

Jeremiah 3:22 Return, ye backsliding children, I will heal your backslidings

And who is in the line of Jechoniah?

Shealtiel is Jechoniah's first son.

****The meaning of the name "Shealtiel" - I asked G-d for this child!****

20. What does this tell us?

The communication between Jehoniah and G-d had been established.

Haggai 2:23 On that day,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'I will take you, my servant Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel,' declares the LORD, 'and I will make you like my signet ring, for I have chosen you.'"

**What did God mean when He said Zerubbabel was His signet ring?

Zerubbabel was an important leader involved in the reconstruction of the Jewish temple. As God's "signet ring," Zerubbabel becomes a picture of the future Messiah, Jesus Christ, who will establish His people in the Promised Land, construct an even grander temple (Zechariah 6:12-13), and lead the righteous in never-ending worship.

G-d's mercy and forgiveness and the sureness of His Word is all powerful. His word will come to pass. No evil can prevent I, not even bad kings.

18. How are you encouraged by the above statement?

