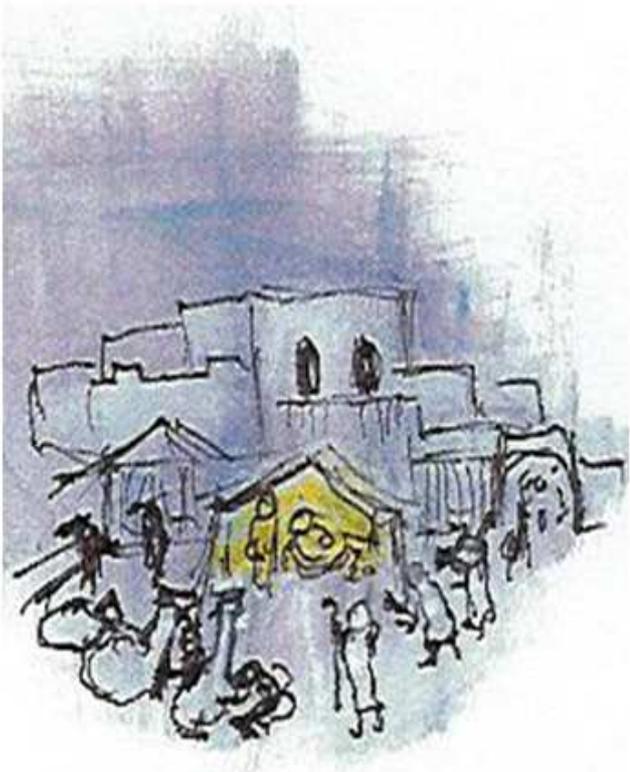


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JESUS



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IMMANUEL

MATTHEW 1:1-17

Matthew 1:1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac,
Isaac the father of Jacob,
Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,
3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar,
Perez the father of Hezron,
Hezron the father of Ram,
4 Ram the father of Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab,
Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth,
Obed the father of Jesse,
6 and Jesse the father of King David.

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,
7 Solomon the father of Rehoboam,
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asa,
8 Asa the father of Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,
Jehoram the father of Uzziah,
9 Uzziah the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
10 Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah,
11 and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

12 After the exile to Babylon:
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
13 Zerubbabel the father of Abiud,
Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
14 Azor the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Akim,
Akim the father of Eliud,
15 Eliud the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,

16 and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

17 Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.

Study 1 '**SON OF DAVID, SON OF ABRAHAM**'

What does it Say?

1. What does verse one say this list is?
2. What 'name' is given to Jesus.
3. Who are his important ancestors?
4. What is the focus of this passage?

What does it Mean?

1. Why pick out David and Abraham in the heading.
2. Note the women who are named in the list. Is there anything they have in common? Why do you think these women (and no others) are mentioned?

What should I Do?

1. What does this list contribute to our understanding as we consider how we think about Jesus?

What others have said:

"Matthew goes out of his way to show that the barriers between men and women are broken down: women share in the official genealogy of the Messiah alongside men. The barriers between Gentiles and Jews are broken down too: Ruth plays her part in the coming of one who was to be not only Messiah of Israel but Saviour of the whole world. And the juxtaposition of sinful women like Bathsheba and Tamar with Mary, the gentle mother of Jesus, shows that the barriers between good people and bad people have also come crashing down ... At the very beginning of the Gospel the all-embracing love of God is emphasized. Nothing can stand in its path. There is nobody who does not need it. Maybe the genealogy is not so dry after all!"

Michael Green, The Message of Matthew (Bible Speaks Today) (Leicester, IVP, 2000) p60

MATTHEW 1:18-21

Matthew 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Study 2 '**JESUS**'

What does it Say?

1. Which characters are introduced here?
2. What was the origin of the child in Mary's womb?
What 'conflict of interest' did this raise for Joseph?
3. What are the angel's instructions to Joseph?
4. What do we learn of Joseph here?

What does it Mean?

1. Why do you think Matthew opens v18 the way he does? (Note v1 and v17)
2. Consider the name Jesus. What does it mean? (the clue is in v21.) Who else in the Bible has this name and what similarities to Jesus do you see?

What should I Do?

1. What do you learn about faith in this short passage? (Note Mary and Joseph).
2. How have you experienced God's guidance or direction? Have you ever experienced it through a dream?

What others have said:

"Joseph is immediately obedient, as he will be throughout the infancy account. Not only is Mary seen as a godly woman, but Joseph takes the lead in carrying out the angel's instructions. Matthew specifies that "he [Joseph] gave him the name Jesus" (1:25). Joseph conducts himself as an obedient leader in his marriage and family and as a godly man throughout, an emphasis surely not lost on a Jewish-Christian audience."

Michael.J. Wilkins Matthew (NIVAC) (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2004)

MATTHEW 1:18-23

Matthew 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”

Study 3 **IMMANUEL**

What does it Say?

1. What new element does Matthew introduce here?
2. What does v22 say is the reason for all this happening. (Note Isaiah 7:14)
3. What new name for Jesus is introduced here?
4. What does v22 say is the reason for all this happening?

What does it Mean?

1. How do v1-17,v18 and v23 relate to one another?
2. Why is the name 'Immanuel' so important? Is this still true of Jesus now? (Note: Compare Matthew 28:20 with John 14:3. What does this add to the 'meaning' of the name?)

What should I Do?

1. "God with Us" – What does that mean to you day by day?

What others have said:

"Thus man is not only saved but enabled, brought into the nearest relation to him that sitteth upon the throne, and can say, He is our Lord, our Shepherd, our Saviour, our Friend, Emmanuel, God with us."

John Newton

Sermon Series: Messiah, No.5 {6/6}, Isaiah 7:14

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Matthew 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Study 4 **CHRIST IS BORN**

What does it Say?

1. What does Joseph do in v24-25? What does he not do? Why is this detail included?
2. What does Joseph do when this Son is born? Why?
3. How would you react in either Joseph's or Mary's place?
4. What character trait would you use to describe Joseph and Mary.

What does it Mean?

1. The other, somewhat longer, account of these events is in Luke 1 and 2. Read this briefly. What information does this add to the account?
2. "She gave birth to a son" is also recorded in Revelation 12:5. What does this startling story (Revelation 12:1-17) tell us about the significance of Jesus birth

What should I Do?

1. Consider the names given to Jesus in Matthew 1:1-25 (Christ, Jesus, Immanuel). What do each of these mean for us in Kiama/Minnamurra in 2016?

What others have said:

*"At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
Every tongue confess him King of Glory now;
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word"*

Caroline Maria Noel (1817-1877)
English Hymn Writer, Hymn: 'The Name of Jesus' 1870

MATTHEW 1

As 2016 draws to a close and our thoughts turn to Christmas and the new year we begin this short series of devotions and sermons which lead both to the Christmas season and into our study of the Gospel of Matthew which will continue up to Easter 2017

In his first chapter Matthew introduces us, by way of a brief story of his birth, to the main character of his gospel: Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham, who is God with Us – Immanuel.

May Jesus our Lord indeed be with us as we re-contemplate the timeless story of his incarnation and birth.

“All of us as Christians are called to solidify our faith in a careful and credible understanding of the earthly ministry of our Lord Jesus Messiah. This is one of the primary purposes for our study of Matthew’s Gospel.”

Michael.J. Wilkins Matthew (NIVAC) (Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2004)

“Just a hurried line ... to tell a story which puts the contrast between our feast of the Nativity and all this ghastly “Xmas” racket at its lowest. My brother heard a woman on a ‘bus say, as the ‘bus passed a church with a Crib outside it, “Oh Lor’! They are bringing religion into everything. Look – they’re dragging it even into Christmas now!”

C.S. Lewis
Letters to an American Lady
(29 December 1958), p80.