

The References of the Christ Resume
Matthew 1:1-17
December 19, 2021

I. Overcoming Darkness from Abraham to David (V. 1-6)

- A. Jesus references His ability to overcome darkness in His calling of Abraham.

- B. Jesus references His ability to overcome darkness in His care of Perez and Zerah.

- C. Jesus references His ability to overcome darkness in His rescue of Rahab.

- D. Jesus references His ability to overcome darkness in His protection of Ruth.

- E. Jesus references His ability to overcome darkness in His forgiving David and exalting Bathsheba.

II. Saving Those Who Believe from David to Deportation (V. 6-11)

- A. Jesus references His heart to save those who believe in His blessing of good kings.

- B. Jesus references His heart to save those who believe in His punishing of evil kings.

III. Faithfulness to His Promises from the Deportation to Christ (V. 12-17)

- A. Jesus references His faithfulness to keep His promises in His remembering the outcasts.

Group Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 1:1-17.
2. Why do you think Matthew wanted to start the story of Jesus with a long genealogy? How could it possibly contribute to the story of Jesus' birth or ministry?
3. Are there any names on this list that you never thought of as ancestors of Jesus Christ? Why?
4. What are some names on this list you remember from other books of the Bible? What are some names that are unfamiliar to you?
5. What does this genealogy say about Jesus' family history? Does He come from good or bad stock? Why?
6. Who are the four women in this genealogy? Since including women in a Hebrew family tree is unusual, why do you think Matthew chose to put these women in it?
7. Pray for our church, that our members would be on mission among lost family and friends this holiday season. Consider coming to tonight's online church prayer meeting at 7 pm (register from the church website on the homepage).

Church Bible Reading Plan

Bible Reading Plan: Jeremiah 49-51

December Memory Verses: Jeremiah 48:29-31

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (ESV)

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. 25 Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. 26 So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. 27 But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

BEFORE Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

If you have not done so already, register from the www.apollobaptist.org home page by clicking the image for the Prayer Meeting. The registration will last through 12/26/2021.

Register with your name and email address.

Click on the emailed Zoom link at the time of the Prayer Meeting.

Sunday Night Prayer Meeting:

- PRAYING for spiritual disciplines in the New Year.

Pray for Our Church Family Needs:

- PRAY for missions and missionaries:
Andy & Lindsay M. in Spain, Steve & Joy V. in Turkey, David & Comfort J. in Nigeria, Luke P. in Maricopa, Arizona, Nathan & Becky F. in Indonesia, Sylvia M. at ASU West, Arizona, John T. in California, Doug & Cheryl D. in Thailand, and Jules S. in Thailand
- PRAY for all our students: elementary, middle school, high school, and college. No matter whether they are in the classroom, an on-line setting, or a home school setting our students are forming minds that need to focus on Christ.
- Family & friends of church members who need salvation or to renew their relationship with Jesus
- Families who are grieving the recent loss of loved ones:
Anita O., Alea O., Andi P. (son and brother), Reginald G. (sister), Monica M. (mother, JoAnn T.), Jeanette C., Ruthie C., Floyd and Karen C. (daughter, niece, Mary E.), Cordero C. (grandfather), Marge D. (brother), Ida S. (two sisters-in-law), Frances P. (brother-in-law), Dorothy C. (sister-in-law), Rita H. (daughter-in-law), Kelly J., Rick S., & Andrew R. and other family members (sister, aunt, & mother, Julie R.)
- Those struggling with on-going health and other issues:
Michelle L. (unexplained health issues), Gaylon K. (recovering from surgery), Mary R. (awaiting kidney transplant), Debbie B. (blood clots in legs, hip pain), Leon V. (chemotherapy), Ann C.-W. (serious health issues), John E. (falling), and Raul O. (having bypass surgery)
- Those struggling with COVID
- Others that you are aware of