



## **Matt 1:1-17**

### God Keeps His Promises

**III. Introduction:** The story of Christmas is the story of how God fulfilled all of His promises to the Jews and brought about salvation to the world through Jesus Christ.

**IV. God Keeps His Promises (Matt 1:1-17).**

A. His Promises to the Patriarchs (vv. 1-6a).

1. Despite the sinful behavior of Israel's patriarchs, God preserved the line of Abraham and brought about the fulfillment of His plan through David.

B. His Promises to the Kings (vv. 6b-11).

1. Even though David sinned, the Lord continued to work through his royal line, demonstrating that human sin cannot cancel His promises.

C. His Promises to the Exiles (vv. 12-17).

1. Although God appeared silent, He was still sovereignly working to bring about the birth of the Messiah, and accomplish the work of redemption.

**V. Conclusion:** Christmas assures us that God will finish what He has started, and this is true not only of what He has done in the past, but also of what He will do in the future.



## **Questions About: God Keeps His Promises**

1. Why do people usually skip over genealogies in the Bible? How do genealogies demonstrate God's faithfulness? What was the first promise that God made to humanity? (**Gen 3:15**)
2. Why did Matthew start his gospel with a genealogy? (**Matt 1:1-17**) What was Matthew's purpose for writing his account? Why did Matthew need to prove Jesus' royal pedigree?
3. How did God fulfill His promises to the Patriarchs? (**Matt 1:1-6**) Why did Matthew start with Abraham rather than Adam? (**v. 2**) What was God's promise to Abraham? (**Gen 12:1-3**)
4. What did God promise regarding Judah? (**Gen 49:10; Num 24:17**) Why is it unusual that Matthew mentions four women? (**Matt 1:1-6**) What does this indicate about God's plan?
5. How did God fulfill His promises to the kings of Israel? (**Matt 1:6b-11**) Why did Matthew mention Bathsheba? (**v. 7**) How did Solomon follow in his father's sin? (**1 Kings 11:3**)
6. What promises did God make to Israel's kings? (**Isa 7:14; 9:6; 11:1; Psa 2:6-7**) What did God promise David about his descendants? (**2 Sam 7:9-17**) Can human sin cancel God's promises?
7. How did God fulfill His promises to the Jewish exiles? (**Matt 1:12-17**) What is the significance of Jeconiah being listed in Jesus' genealogy? (**Jer 22:24-30**) Why was this a problem?
8. What promises did God give to those returning to Israel? (**Jer 23:5-6; 33:14-17; Micah 5:2**) Why is Joseph listed in Jesus' genealogy if he wasn't Jesus' biological father? (**v. 16**)

### **Prayer**

1. Pray that God would give you an appreciation for His faithfulness to His promises.
2. Ask God to grant family and friends salvation so that they might be born into Jesus' family.