



Does Jesus Have The Proper Pedigree?

Matthew 1:1-17

For Matthew's original readers,
the right way to begin the story of Jesus
wasn't with his birth—but with his family tree!

If Jesus is the long-expected Messiah,
he must be legitimately Jewish (*the son of Abraham*),
and a member of the royal bloodline (*the son of David*).

And Now...The Birth Of Jesus?

Actually, Matthew's main focus is explaining
why Joseph was not the father of the Christ-child!

Matthew 1:15-16 & 18, NIV

...Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph,
the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus, who
is called the Messiah...This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah
came about...

More Than Engaged!

Although they were not yet living together and not yet sexually active, Joseph was already considered Mary's husband.

Matthew 1:18, NIV

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph...his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph (ESV)

Scandal!

This faithful carpenter is torn when he learns that Mary is pregnant, because he naturally assumes that Mary has been unfaithful to him.

Matthew 1:18-19, NIV

...but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

Enter An Angel!

God quickly changed Joseph's plans!

Matthew 1:20 & 24-25, NIV

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...When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son.

Whose Child Is This?

The Holy Spirit miraculously caused a non-sexual pregnancy!

Matthew 1:18, 20 & 22-23, NIV

...before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit...what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit...All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

Jesus is the Son of God!

God With Us!

Since Jesus is the Son of God and the child of Mary, he is fully divine and fully human.

Matthew 1:23 & Colossians 2:9, NIV

"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us")...For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.

John 14:9, NIV

Jesus answered, "Any one who has seen me has seen the Father."

His Name Is His Mission!

**God himself picked out the name for his Son!
It means "The Lord Saves" or "God To The Rescue"!**

Matthew 1:21 & 25, NIV

...an angel of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream and said..."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"

...And [Joseph] gave him the name Jesus.

Jesus: The Only Bridge!

**Only Jesus can get sinners back to God
because he alone is firmly anchored on both sides!**

1 Timothy 2:5, The Living Bible

God is on one side and all the people on the other side, and
Christ Jesus, himself man, is between them to bring them together.
