

Sermon Notes - December 4, 2016

“Just a List of Names?”

Matthew 1:1-17

Pastor Bill Hoffman

What does verse 1 tell us about Jesus, the subject of Matthew's Gospel, and how would what he says have been important to his original hearers?

For many today, a lengthy genealogy is a strange way to begin a book. What is the value of knowing someone's extended family background?

Notice that Jesus' genealogy includes both men and women, Jews and Gentiles, morally upright and notoriously wicked people. What does this imply about the ways of God vis-a-vis the expectations of people?

- If Jesus is, indeed, the promised Messiah as Matthew and the other New Testament writers claim, what does his family background imply about the intended recipients of the grace of God found in him?