

18 December

Advent 2016



“In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.”

—Isaiah 11:10

—THE GENESIS OF CHRISTMAS—

“JOSEPH & THE PROMISE OF GENESIS 49:8-10”

Background

Kingship in the Garden (Gen. 1:28; 2:15-17)

⇒ The sin of Adam can be understood as a failure of kingship.

“The Rescuer” of Gen. 3:15 as King

⇒ The Offspring of the woman will act _____ on behalf of God’s people, defeating Satan and thereby delivering them from their enemies.

Kingship and the Blessing of Judah in Genesis 49:8-10

- While there is never a specific king of God’s people designated in Genesis, there are multiple individuals raised up by God who lead, deliver, and shepherd His people (Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph).

The Blessing of Judah

8 *“Judah, your brothers shall praise you;
your hand shall be on the neck of your
enemies; your father's sons shall bow
down before you.*

9 *Judah is a lion's cub;
from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
He stooped down; he crouched as a lion
and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?*

10 *The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until tribute comes to him; [Until Shiloh comes,]
and to him shall be the obedience of
the peoples.*

Notice the imagery of “kingship” in relation to

1. The _____ of Jacob (Israel):

⇒ **This ruler will come from the line of Judah**

2. The _____ of God’s People:

⇒ **Related thematically to Gen. 3:15**

3. The other _____:

⇒ **His rule will be over more than just Israel**

Kingship Fully Developed: The Davidic Covenant of 2 Sam. 7

- David stands out in Scripture as the ultimate example of what God intended for the king of His People. God made a covenant with him, promising that the kingship of the people would be established through his house forever.

“I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom...And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.” —2 Sam. 7:12b,16

- In spite of these promises, Israel rebelled against God and the kingdom was destroyed. The line of Davidic kings was also broken, leading to a theological crisis:

The Prophetic Assurance

- The prophets assured Israel that God would keep His promises to them and that a descendant of David would deliver them from their enemies and rule over them in righteousness.

Isaiah 11:1—*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.*

Joseph of Nazareth in the Light of Genesis 49:8-10

The Genealogy of Matthew 1:1-17

⇒ Why Abraham?

⇒ Why David?

Joseph's Predicament—Matt. 1:18-19

- As members of an Honor-Shame culture his actions in this situation would have significant consequences for himself as well as for Mary.

Joseph as King

Joseph as Shepherd

Joseph's Vision—Matt. 1:20-23

- The goal of the vision was to give assurance to Joseph and to inform him about the true nature of Mary's pregnancy.

"Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

"Jesus" (Jehoshua or Jeshua = Joshua)— "Yahweh is Salvation"

Joseph's Response—Matt. 1:24-25

- Joseph's obedience to the Word of the Lord meant that he would bear the _____ and _____ associated with her pregnancy because he would be considered the father of the child.
- Consider how the actions of Joseph contrast with the following:

***Adam* →**

***Abraham* →**

***David* →**

What do we learn about Jesus?

What do we learn as Christians?

What do we learn about the role of men?