

# **Ridin' High Cowboy Church**

8771 FM 35

Union Valley/Royse City, TX

**Pastor: Steve Bishop**

***“ ... I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.”***

***Luke 2:10***

***Sunday, December 25, 2016***

**Merry Christmas from the FAM O LEE!**

Matthew was beginning to write the story of the birth of Jesus and he wrote down a list of his genealogy and the people he chose to highlight were kind of R rated people and we have said every week, why would Matthew bring those things up and we said that those people are not only Part of the story, they are the POINT of the story of Jesus.

God is not as concerned with what we have done, but our response to what he has done for us.

Today we are going to talk about the one ancestry Jesus is most closely identified with in the bible.

This guy at one point told a lie that causes the death of 85 priests. He also had one of his best friends killed just to keep a secret. He ran around on his wife. His kids were such a mess that some of them went to war with him.

He had a list of embarrassing things in his life, and yet he is the most often talked about character in the family tree of Jesus.

***Matthew 1 1 This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: 2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers 3 Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, 4 Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of King David, David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,*** (Matthew why not talk about all the

great things David did, why bring up his biggest failure) that is the point of the story he is about to tell.

David's story takes place 1000 years before Jesus was born and yet the Bible never misses a beat in connecting the two.

God tells this prophet Samuel that he is going to choose a new King for Israel and that he is supposed to go to a town called Bethlehem to a man's house named Jesse who had 8 sons but he only brings in 7 to the house.

Samuel goes though the 1<sup>st</sup> seven and God keeps saying no. He asked Jesse if he has any more, so Jesse goes and gets David the dirty, young, scrawny, shepherd boy.

Years later, David is in this great Palace and God gives a message to another prophet named Nathan.

### **2 Samuel 7:8-9**

***8 "Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth.'"***

3000 years ago, God tells David that he is going to make his name great (how many of you had heard of King David before you got to church today?) It was true.

***Verse 11-16 " 'The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you. 12 When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. 15 But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.'"*** God made an unconditional promise to King David.

Four chapters later, David tests God's patience...the story of Bathsheba. David is sitting on his roof one night looking over the city. A pretty woman is taking a bath in the back yard. David asks who is that woman, the servant says she is Uriah's wife. David wants to talk with her, but they do more than talk, and months later she sends word to David that she is pregnant. David

brings Uriah back from the battle and wants him to go home and sleep with his wife, but Uriah spent the night outside the castle because his men are fighting without their wives. The next night David got him drunk and tried to send him home to his wife, but Uriah again had too much honor to spend the night in the comforts of home while his men were fighting.

At this point wouldn't you think God would say, "I know I made the promise to David but now I think Uriah should be king and have a great name, he is way better than David, but God always keeps his promises no matter what we do.

Then David sends a message to Joab the commander to put Uriah in front of the battle and everyone else step back, and Uriah has to carry the message to Joab, and he gets killed.

David then marries Bathsheba and thinks he has covered up his sin, But God knew.

**2 Samuel 11:27 27 After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.**

God had made a promise to David but at this point we wouldn't blame him if he took it back from David, God sends a prophet to David to confront him of his sin and in Psalms 51, David repents his sin.

God dragged David through hell sideways, his family was destroyed, his general killed his favorite son, his kingdom was split, the child Bathsheba was carrying died.

In spite of all that we know 1000 years later a man named Joseph walked to Bethlehem with his wife and she delivers a son, named Jesus, because God never breaks his promises.

When God makes a promise, he keeps it always. If you were Matthew, an ex-tax collector who could never face God based on his good life, Matthew knew he needed someone to save him from himself. This part of the family of Jesus makes perfect sense. David, maybe more than any other Old Testament character knew he needed the grace, mercy and forgiveness of God.

The angel said it in the book of Luke

**Luke 2:10-11 I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all (today you are part of all the people, the good, the bad, the in between, everyone, this is a promise to you and me and God always keeps his promises) the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.**

I hope for the rest of your life when you hear “the town of David” you will remember that God keeps his promises, even to people like David, an adulterer, murderer, bad parent, a liar.

**Luke 2:13-14**

***13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth, peace to those on whom his favor rests.”***

God promised us peace and the only way to have peace is to remove what is keeping peace from you sin not bargain with God about it “God, if you will, then.....”

God is not as concerned with what we have done, but our response to what he has done for us. The promise of Christmas is that God sent Jesus into the world to remove sin once and for all and God will keep his promises no matter what we do.