

In the Fullness of Time - The Story of Advent

11/4/18 — Week 1: *Introduction to the Hinge of Redemptive History*

Q: Why does the earthly birth and background information of Jesus' life prior to his public ministry matter?

Q: How would you describe the main focus of each of the four gospels? Said differently, what aspect(s) of Jesus' life and/or ministry is emphasized in each of the four?

Q: Why is studying the about the birth of Jesus helpful or even necessary?

Teachers: Jon Levy, Craig Paddock, Derek Rogers

Class Schedule.

Week	Topic	Teacher
11/4	Introduction; Incarnation; Long-awaited Messiah	Derek
11/11	Matthew: The Messiah, Born of a Virgin	Craig
11/18	Matthew: Kings, Kingdoms, Exile: Prophecies Fulfilled	Jon
11/25	Luke: Miraculous Conceptions & God at Work in Deliverance	Derek
12/2	Luke: Two Births & Humble King Born in a Manger	Craig
12/9	Luke: Witnesses, Present and to Come	Jon
12/16	John: The Word Was God, Announced, & Became Flesh	Jon
12/23	<i>No class</i>	
12/30	John: A Heavenly Birth Announcement	Craig

Resources:

- ***The First Days of Jesus*** - Andreas Köstenberger & Alexander Stewart, 2015. By Crossway.
- ***The Final Days of Jesus*** - Andreas Köstenberger & Justin Taylor, with Alexander Stewart, 2014. By Crossway.
- Advent Reading Plan — attached (from Appendix of *First Days...*)
- Gospel books of Matthew, Luke, and John

What have we been waiting for??

- Where did the major and minor prophets leave off?
- What's been happening for the prior 400 years?

Let's start with.... Genealogy?

Matthew 1 (ESV)

1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, 3 and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram,[a] 4 and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, 5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, 6 and Jesse the father of David the king.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, 7 and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph,[b] 8 and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, 9 and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 10 and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos,[c] and Amos the father of Josiah, 11 and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

12 And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of Shealtiel,[d] and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, 13 and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, 14 and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, 15 and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

Why start with a genealogy?

- Ancient genealogies were focused more on _____ or _____
- while modern genealogies tend to focus more on _____.

So what is the _____ of Matthew's genealogy?

- To show Jesus' _____ and _____ connection to _____, as
- well as to underscore God's _____ with _____

Why would a genealogy matter particularly in a Second Temple Jewish society (that is, post-exile; between 516 BC and 70 AD)?

Why should we be surprised? The declarations of OT prophecies...

- Abraham - the Messiah would be a descendant of Abraham, the father of all nations (Genesis 12:3)
- Jacob - the Messiah would be a start coming out of Jacob (Numbers 24:17)
- Judah - the scepter would come through Judah (Genesis 49:10)
- David - the Messiah would be a descendant of David (2 Samuel 7:12-16)
- He would be a Nazarene (Isaiah 11:1)

Advent Reading Plan

The following **Advent Reading Plan**, reproduced from *The First Days of Jesus: The Story of the Incarnation* by Andreas J. Köstenberger and Alexander E. Stewart (foreword by Justin Taylor; Wheaton: Crossway, 2015) includes six readings from the Old Testament, six from Matthew, nine from Luke, and four from John.

The readings, keyed to *The First Days of Jesus*, move from some of the major Old Testaments texts expressing messianic expectations to the infancy narratives in Matthew and Luke to John's prologue. Ideally, these Scripture passages should be read in conjunction with the respective chapter in this volume.

The Advent Reading Plan starts on **December 1** and ends on **December 25**. This will make a wonderful set of readings for individual study, families, and small groups in local churches. May Christ be exalted and God be glorified! The authors wish everyone a merry, Christ-centered Christmas!

Date	Scripture Passage	Topic	First Days
December 1	<u>Luke 1:1–4</u> ^(C)	An account from eyewitnesses	Introduction
December 2	<u>Genesis 49:8–12</u> ^(C)	The scepter of Judah	Chapter 1
December 3	<u>Isaiah 9:6–7</u> ^(C) ; <u>11:1–5</u> ^(C)	A child is born; a branch of Jesse	Chapter 1
December 4	<u>Micah 5:2–4</u> ^(C)	A ruler born in Bethlehem	Chapter 1
December 5	<u>Matthew 1:1–17</u> ^(C)	Jesus's ancestry	Chapter 1
December 6	<u>Matthew 1:18–25</u> ^(C)	The virgin birth	Chapter 2
December 7	<u>Matthew 2:1–12</u> ^(C)	The visit of the magoi	Chapter 3
December 8	<u>Matthew 2:13–15</u> ^(C)	Escape to Egypt	Chapter 4
December 9	<u>Matthew 2:16–18</u> ^(C)	Herod's order	Chapter 4
December 10	<u>Matthew 2:19–23</u> ^(C)	Return to Nazareth	Chapter 4
December 11	<u>Luke 1:5–25</u> ^(C)	John the Baptist's birth foretold	Chapter 5
December 12	<u>Luke 1:26–38</u> ^(C)	Jesus's birth foretold	Chapter 5
December 13	<u>Luke 1:39–45</u> ^(C)	Mary's visit to Elizabeth	Chapter 6
December 14	<u>Luke 1:46–56</u> ^(C)	Mary's song (Magnificat)	Chapter 6
December 15	<u>Luke 1:57–66</u> ^(C)	Birth of John the Baptist	Chapter 7
December 16	<u>Luke 1:67–80</u> ^(C)	Zechariah's song (Benedictus)	Chapter 7
December 17	<u>Luke 2:1–7</u> ^(C)	Birth of Jesus Christ	Chapter 8
December 18	<u>Luke 2:8–21</u> ^(C)	The angelic announcement	Chapter 9
December 19	<u>Luke 2:22–40</u> ^(C)	Simeon's and Anna's prophecies	Chapter 10
December 20	<u>John 1:1–5</u> ^(C) , <u>18</u> ^(C)	The preexistent Word	Chapter 11
December 21	<u>John 1:6–8</u> ^(C) , <u>15</u> ^(C)	John the Baptist's witness	Chapter 12
December 22	<u>John 1:9–14</u> ^(C)	The Word-become-flesh	Chapter 13
December 23	<u>John 1:16–17</u> ^(C)	The law, grace, and truth	Chapter 14
December 24	<u>Isaiah 52:13–53:12</u> ^(C)	The suffering servant	Chapter 15
December 25	<u>Revelation 21:1–8</u> ^(C)	A new heaven and a new earth	Epilogue

The First Days of Jesus According to Matthew, Luke, and John

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE	EVENTS RECORDED
Matthew 1:1-17	Jesus's ancestry
Matthew 1:18-25	The virgin birth
Matthew 2:1-12	The visit of the <i>magoi</i>
Matthew 2:13-15	Escape to Egypt
Matthew 2:16-18	Herod's order to kill boys under two years of age
Matthew 2:19-23	Return of Jesus's family to Nazareth
Luke 1:5-25	The foretelling of John the Baptist's birth
Luke 1:26-38	The foretelling of Jesus's birth
Luke 1:39-45	Mary's visit to Elizabeth
Luke 1:46-56	Mary's song (<i>Magnificat</i>)
Luke 1:57-66	The birth of John the Baptist
Luke 1:67-80	Zachariah's prophecy (<i>Benedictus</i>)
Luke 2:1-7	The birth of Jesus Christ
Luke 2:8-21	The angelic announcement to the shepherds
Luke 2:22-38	Jesus's presentation at the temple; the prophecies of Simeon (<i>Nunc Dimittis</i>) & Anna
Luke 2:39-40	Return of Jesus's family to Nazareth
John 1:1-5, 18	The Word's preexistence and agency in creation
John 1:6-8, 15	The witness of John the Baptist
John 1:9-14	The Word's assumption of flesh
John 1:16-17	Culmination of the law, grace, and truth

The First Days of Jesus - Table of Contents:

Introduction: Separating Fact from Fiction

Part 1: Virgin-Born Messiah (Matthew)

1. The Long-Awaited Messiah: Son of Abraham, Son of David
2. God with Us, Born of a Virgin
3. Conflict between Two Kings and Two Kingdoms
4. Exile, Holocaust, and Nazareth: Prophecies Fulfilled

Part 2: Light of the Nations (Luke)

5. Two Miraculous Conceptions
6. God at Work Again at Last! Deliverance for Israel
7. Israel's Restoration
8. The Humble King Is Laid in a Manger
9. The First Witnesses: Shepherds
10. Light of Revelation for the Gentiles: Further Witnesses

Part 3: Incarnate Word (John)

11. Preexistence: The Word Was God
 12. Witness: A Man Named John
 13. Incarnation: The Word Became Flesh
 14. Culmination: The Law, Grace, and Truth
 15. The King's Rejection and Return
- Epilogue

Appendix: Messiah Is Coming! Second Temple Jewish Messianic Expectations

Advent Reading Plan

Free sample (All of Introduction and Chapter 1) at:
https://static.crossway.org/excerpt/_first-days-of-jesus.pdf