Matthew's Witness to the First Advent

Scripture: Matthew 1:1-17

Series: Advent 2018

Sunday, December 2, 2018



Overview

The coming of Christ comforts and confronts the sinner.

In building toward his account of the birth of Christ, Matthew begins his gospel with a genealogy stretching from Abraham to Christ himself. Matthew uses his genealogy to prove that—through redemptive history—God kept and completed His promise to save His people and bless the nations through Christ. In unflinching honesty, Matthew makes abundantly clear that God uses sinners sovereignly for His glory.

Corroborating Texts

Genesis 3:15, Genesis 38, Matthew 1:21-23

Discussion Questions

- 1. Besides Overboard, what is your favorite Kurt Russell movie and why?
- 2. What is your typical mindset when it comes to reading genealogies?
- 3. At first reading, what stands out to you about Matthew's genealogy?
- 4. Does seeing Matthew's genealogy as proof of God's grace and faithfulness instead of seeing it as simply a "lists of ancestors" change your perspective? If so, how?
- 5. Of the people listed, who stands out to you as proving God's "ridiculous grace?"
- 6. Do any of the stories of people used by God connect to your own story of redemption?
- 7. Of the four ways we can respond to the Jesus (*don't need, don't want, don't believe, and don't feel*), which do you find yourself struggling with the most recently or currently?