

THE BOOK OF MATTHEW
"Women in the Geneology of Christ"
Matthew 1:1-17

Introduction

1. It is a remarkable matter that our God is no respecter of persons. He moves in one orbit as well as another.

2. The women mentioned in His line add no legal value to His lineage. There is no connection to His title to the Throne of David thru these women. But they are important!

3. These women represent an abrupt break in the straight descent and also an obnoxious moral character in the royal line. What amazing grace in God's movement in the performance of His holy and eternal purpose.

4. Note the women mentioned and the lessons which they teach:

1. TAMAR. v. 3.

This takes one's thoughts right back to Genesis 38. The sad story of Judah and Tamar is recorded with boldness. The two sons: Pharez (breach) and Zarah (rising light) speak of a broken covenant and a rising light. Through brazen sin, a woman is drawn into the line of the Lord.

Don't forget: Christ saves sinners!

2. RAHAB. v. 5.

This woman comes on the scene in Joshua 2. Her sin is more openly shameless and she is lost to virtue. BUT God's mercy lifts to a place of honor. 1 Sam. 2:8 is true of her.

Don't forget: Christ saves through faith!

3. RUTH. v. 5.

The lovely story of Ruth is given in the book by her name. She bears no trace of problems as the previous two mentioned women. Her whole story is epitomized in the words of Ruth 2:12: she had come to the Lord!

Deut. 23:3 notes that she should have been excluded, but she wasn't--why? Because God deals in grace!

Don't forget: Christ saves apart from works (law or ritual).

4. BATHSHEBA. v. 6.

Her name does not appear in the text; she is mentioned obliquely. Her sin is uncovered by this terse statement. How David wept over this sin and wailed in contrition (Psa. 32; 51). From the dark history of 2 Sam. 11, God brings out wonderful grace!

Don't forget: Christ saves eternally.

5. MARY. v. 16.

The last in the list gives no sign of defilement like the others. Yet, she maintains her sinnerhood (Luke 1:47). But she performs a good work in being the vehicle of God's undefiled One.

Don't forget: Christ saves unto good works.

Conclusion: Herein is recorded the testimony of God. Women played a part in the royal line of our blessed God and Saviour. How they could have been involved will ever stand as a testimony to the infinite and eternal grace of the God Whom we adore. Hallelujah --what a Saviour is born!