



#### TIMOTHY KELLER



## HIDDEN CHRISTMAS

The Surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ

"Matthew 1 might look like a genealogy, and it is, but it is also a résumé. In those times it was your family, pedigree, and clan—the people you were connected to—that constituted your résumé. So a genealogy was a way of saying to the world, 'This is who I am.' ... The purpose of a genealogical résumé was to impress onlookers with the high quality and respectability of one's roots. Jesus does the complete opposite."

THE FAMILY OF GOD IS

## Umusual

# There's room for everyone in the family of God!

'This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham: 'Abraham was the father of Isaac, Matthew 1:1-17 (NIV)

# Abraham A man of many idols

Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods."

Joshua 24:2 (NIV)

Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was **Rahab**,

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was **Ruth**,

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

#### Ruth

A woman of many losses

Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of **King David**. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife,

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

#### Ruth

A woman of many losses

#### David

A man of many scandals

For though the righteous fall seven times, **they rise again**. Proverbs 24:16 (NIV)

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, 'Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, 'Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, 'Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, 'Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

#### Ruth

A woman of many losses

#### David

A man of many scandals

#### Manasseh

A man of many evils

[Manasseh] sacrificed his children in the fire in the Valley of Ben Hinnom, practiced divination and witchcraft, sought omens, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did **much evil** in the eyes of the LORD, arousing his anger.

2 Chronicles 33:6 (NIV)

In his distress [Manasseh] sought the favor of the LORD his God and **humbled himself** greatly before the God of his ancestors. And when he prayed to him, the LORD was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD is God.

2 Chronicles 33:12-13 (NIV)

Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, "and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon." After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, "Zerubbabel the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, "Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Elihud,

"Elihud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, "and Jacob the father of **Joseph**, the husband of **Mary**,

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

#### Ruth

A woman of many losses

#### David

A man of **many scandals** 

#### Manasseh

A man of many evils

#### Joseph & Mary

People of many questions

and Mary was the mother of **Jesus** who is called the Messiah. Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Messiah.

A man of many idols

#### Rahab

A woman of many men

#### Ruth

A woman of many losses

#### David

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A man of many evils

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People of many questions

### **esus**

The **Messiah** 

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