

A New Beginning

Matthew 1:1-17

Hope in the Scriptures is not something we wish for. Hope is something we truly possess... in Christ Jesus.

Hope is God's unextinguishable light penetrating the darkness and telling us that we are not alone, and we are not abandoned, and we are not forsaken.

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord Has Risen upon you. For Behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you. And Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

Isaiah 60:1-3

I. The Hope of a New Genesis for All Humanity

Matthew 1:1

"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the son of Abraham."

Matthew 1:1

"biblos geneseos" - The book of Genesis (Genealogy).

This is Jesus Christ making a new beginning for all of humanity.

"But for them it was on the beginning of the real story. All their life in this world and all their adventures in Narnia had only been the cover and the title page: now at last they were beginning Chapter One of the Great Story, which no one on earth has read; which goes on forever; in which every chapter is better than the one before."

C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

Jesus is the Christ.

Jesus is the Son of David.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

And the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."

Isaiah 9:6,7

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord...”

Isaiah 11:1-5

“In that day, the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for all peoples – of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place will be glorious.”

Isaiah 11:10

“Matthew shows that Jesus is the expected Davidic Messiah, whose pedigree demonstrates his claim. At the same time he shows that the lineage of Jesus goes beyond Jewish heritage to embrace the Gentiles as well, thereby preparing for his theme of universal mission.”

Grant Osborne

Jesus is the Christ.

Jesus is the Son of David.

Jesus is the son of Abraham.

“I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

Genesis 12:2,3

“And he brought him outside and said, ‘Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.”

Genesis 15:5

“And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘we have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.”

Matthew 3:9

“I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 8:11

“I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 8:11

Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set they people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.”

Charles Wesley

II. The Hope of a True Belonging for the Outcast and the Unworthy.

Matthew 1:2-16

“Matthew’s genealogy has a past, a present, and future. In Jesus Christ we’re now brought into this family; **Abraham and David become our fathers. It becomes our genealogy, our family tree.** Though this world seeks historical rooting and future life in various ways, only one child establishes the new creation. Jesus is the point of this genealogy, for Jesus is the point of the Bible.”

Patrick Schreiner

“Notice the women Matthew includes. In a patriarchal society, it’s surprising to include females at all. Even so, one might expect to see the matriarchs of the faith: Eve, Sarah, Rebekah, or Leah. But instead, Matthew includes less likely females who are (1) Gentiles, (2) have rough sexual pasts, (3) but are tenacious in their loyalty to Yahweh.”

Patrick Schreiner

You and I, outsiders and unworthy, can in Christ come from the outside and receive a place in His royal lineage. You can know for sure that you belong to God and belong to His people forever.

III. The Hope of a God Who Always Keeps His Promises.

Matthew 1:17

“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 Christ fourteen generations.”

Matthew 1:17

Gematria – assigning numerical values to Hebrew letters.

D (dalet) = 4

V (waw) = 6

D (dalet) = 4

Total = 14

“God made a binding promise to David concerning one of his sons; the genealogy shows how he’s fulfilled it. Human promises are flawed, but when God promises something, we can take it to the bank. If he has pledged himself to you, he isn’t letting you go, no matter what you do.”

Patrick Schreiner