

Theme: Jesus' family tree is full of glory and shame, but He came to save His people from their sins.

I. Family Tree – The Quest for Our Roots

- A. The family Christmas tree
- B. A different kind of family tree
- C. Who is in our past?
- D. We hope to be proud of our past
- E. My own roots – a real mixed bag!
- F. The Genealogy – The Roots of Christ

II. The Family Tree of Jesus

- A. Fruitful branches of the family tree
 - 1. Abraham – the father of many nations
 - 2. Ruth – the godly, devoted woman
 - 3. King David – glorious leader of Israel
 - 4. Joseph and Mary (Mt 1:19)
- B. The rotten branches of the family tree
 - 1. Abraham – Sarah is my sister (twice)!
 - 2. Isaac – following his father!
 - 3. Jacob – the deceiver (Esau, Isaac, Laban)

- 4. Judah – the situation with Tamar
- 5. Rahab – the famous prostitute
- 6. David – adultery, deceit, murder
- 7. Manasseh – shed blood (2 Kings 21:16)

C. Branches both fruitful & rotten!

III. Considering Our Own Family Tree

- A. Our roots are full of honor and sin as well
 - 1. Our genealogies have people like Christ's
 - 2. The human condition
- B. We ourselves are full of honor and sin
 - 1. We are no different: we all sin
 - 2. We can not escape this fact
- C. Sons of Adam: honor and shame

IV. Christmas – Jesus Came to Save His People

- A. Christ came to save His people from their sins
 - 1. This is why He came – to save from sin
 - a. He did not come to teach
 - b. He didn't come to tell us all is ok – tree is fine

- c. He did not come to set a good example
 - d. He did not come to start a new religion
 - e. He came to save us from sin
2. He can save because He is God with us
- a. He is conceived from the Spirit (v20)
 - b. He is Immanuel – God with us (v22-23)
 - c. He is starting a new family tree!
- B. Christmas - God is a God of redemption
- 1. Only a redeeming God would send His Son
 - 2. God can redeem anything in your past
 - 3. No matter how bad the tree (or your branch)
 - 4. God has planted a new tree!
- C. Are you one of Christ's people?
- 1. Christ does not save everyone from sin
 - 2. He saves His people from sin
 - 3. Are you one of His people?
 - 4. Have you been grafted into His new tree?