The Christmas You Never Knew—Jesus in Genesis (CIC/FBCY) Dr. Rick Griffith

7 Dec 2014/ 13 Dec 2015 Single Message

NLT with 85 slides 30 Minutes

**Our Christmas King**

Title

***Genesis 1; John 1; Matthew 1***

**Topic:** Christmas

**Subject:** Why should we worship Jesus as king?

**Complement:** Jesus deserves our worship because he is Creator God.

**Purpose:** The listeners will worship Christ by giving him full reign over their lives.

**Meditation:** Matthew 2:1-2

**Reading:** Psalm 145

**Song:** We Fall Down

*Note that each slide has a new box but an animation in a slide is shown with a dot • before the word*

# Introduction

### Interest: [Too often we jump to Christmas without the OT background.]

#### What a joy to be with you all again. This is our first time to see you twice in a year as we returned in May to conduct the wedding of our second son Stephen. Now both he and our oldest, Kurt, are married.

Family

#### But we’re back again for the Christmas season to see our youngest, John. On Friday John will graduate from Biola and plans either to serve as a graphic designer at Compassion International in Colorado Springs or at ESRI in Redlands, CA.

Tidings of Joy

John

#### Alas, the Christmas season is upon us once again.

Child

#### This is a favorite time of the year for kids—me too!

Stress

#### Christmas, of course, has its stresses…

#### But the story of the Babe in a manger and all the events surrounding is an amazing story. Unfortunately, it is so familiar story that it’s easy to think we really know it well.

Manger Light

#### Normally we address only the New Testament (NT) aspects.

#### However, the NT covers less than a quarter of our Bible—the first three quarters lay the OT foundation that we often assume that we know well—but we don’t.

NT/OT  
pie chart

### Need: We need to know the foundations of Christmas story.

#### Therefore, my Christmas message focuses on “The Christmas You Never Knew.”

Never Knew

#### How is this? Three important titles of Christ are seen in the three gifts the magi gave at Christ’s birth—gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Magi Gifts

#### Each gift points to a different aspect of the person of Christ—and all three begin in Genesis! I suspect that you haven’t heard of Christmas in Genesis, right?

Gold

#### We will start first with the gift of gold that is fit for a king. These magi clearly *identified Jesus as king* since they asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him” (Matt. 2:2). Now it’s right to give *respect* to a king, but *worship*? Isn’t that a bit much?

Matt.   
1:1-2

### Thought Question: Why did the magi worship Jesus as king?

Thought Question

### Background: Monarchies are dying out today, but the ancient world was one of kings.

ANE Kings

#### Life focused on the question of who was the greatest king.

#### The ideas of a republic and a democracy didn’t begin until about 500-300 BC—and they were far away in Rome and Greece so they still hadn’t been accepted in the East.

Roman Republic

#### In fact, contrary to what many want to believe, the Bible has far greater support for monarchies than other governments.

Wise Men

Monarchy

#### In other words, the magi were right to worship Christ as king.

### Subject: Why should we worship Jesus as king?

Subject

### Preview: So today we will see three passages to unpack why we should worship Jesus as the rightful ruler of the world. We will start in Genesis, then move to John and Matthew to answer why worship of Christ is the appropriate response.

### Text: Our first text about kings brings us right to the beginning of the Bible…

(Really? The creation account in Genesis 1 teaches about kings? How do we see the concept of kingship in Genesis 1? Here we see that…)

# I. The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

MP

[Genesis 1 shows God not only as Creator but as Sovereign Ruler over everything.]

## The creation account portrays God as the Creator so Israel might see their God as sovereign LORD of the universe (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

### The introduction shows God’s creative ability as King in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

Lord

Gen. 1:1

### Israel was finishing the 40 years of wilderness wanderings and about to cross the Jordan to Jericho. Here they would face giants in Canaan.

Giants  
big dudes

Jericho

### Moses wanted them to see that they would actually face big people with little gods!

## Genesis 1 shows God as King in many ways.

God as King

### Since he was not created, then he must be the highest of all beings!

• Uncreated  
• Spoke

### Kings back then spoke laws into existence. Few monarchs had written law codes that guided them. No, their *word* was law. *In kingly manner, God spoke not just laws into existence, but everything that exists into existence!*

• Ease

Law Code

### Creation was also with ease—something only the highest King could do.

### Also, the names of the sun and moon were not given—*Ra* and *Sin*—as these also were the names of pagan gods. Referring to them as “the greater light” and “the lesser light” cleverly shows that God made these objects but he didn’t create any lesser gods! Why? Because he is the only King of all.

Share rule

1:15-16   
(4 slides)

Sun & moon

### Only kings can share their rule. Kings also put images of themselves throughout their realm as if to say, “Hey, you may not see me, but when you see this image, remember that I rule this area too!” *As king, God placed his image throughout his realm—in you and me, made in the image of God!*

Nebuchad. & Image

YHW & Adam/Eve

5

MPI

(So Genesis 1 gives us at least 5 reasons that the Creator is King. But which person of the godhead created the world? We know that the one God exists as three persons: Father, Son and Spirit. Genesis 1 even hints at the Trinity by saying, “Let us make…” but *which person* was this specifically who made all we see? John 1 says that…)

F-S-S

# II. The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

MPII

Diagram

[Genesis 1 is unclear *which* person of the Trinity made everything—but the NT says it was Christ!]

## John presents Jesus as God to show he is the same creator of the world as God in Genesis 1 (John 1:1-3).

Exact

John 1:1

1:3

### Jesus is the Word who spoke to create the world in Genesis 1 since he has eternally been God himself (John 1:1-2).

### Jesus proved his deity by creating everything in the world (1:3).

### This means John is equating Jesus with God at creation.

#### The “God” who created light was none other than Jesus (Gen. 1:3-4).

Jesus  
(light)

God  
(light)

#### The “God” who created great sea monsters was none other than Jesus (Gen. 1:21).

God  
(whale)

Jesus  
(whale)

Woman by Jesus

Man by Jesus

#### The “God” who made Adam from dust was none other than Jesus (Gen. 2:7).

#### The “God” who made Eve for Adam was none other than Jesus (Gen. 1:21-23).

## Other NT texts also reveal Bethlehem’s baby boy as Creator!

Other NT texts

### Hebrews 1:1-2 also shows Jesus as Creator.

Heb. 1:1-2

### Colossians 1:15-17 notes that he not only created everything but continues to sustain it.

Col. 1 (2 slides)

T

(Now if Jesus actually made the world, then what authority does he have?)

# III. Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

MPIII

Title

Title

Title

[Christ stems from David as Ruler not just of Israel but of all creation.]

## The reason Matthew presents the geneaology of Jesus is to show that his lineage back to David qualifies him as the rightful King of the Jews.

Matt = Jesus King

Matt. 1:1

### The introduction reverses the typical order to present Christ as the Davidic ruler even before showing his Jewish heritage (Matt. 1:1).

Kingly Line  
• Many

#### But Matthew puts David *before* Abraham, even though David came 1000 years later!

#### This narrows the kingly line to David and his son Solomon all the way to Jesus.

### Christ’s lineage from Abraham to Joseph shows his lineage through David to prove his legal right to the throne of Israel (1:2-17).

Kingdom in Matt. 1

#### God said the world’s king would come from Judah (Gen. 49:6; 1828 BC).

Judah

##### Jacob blessed all his sons before his death (Gen. 49).

Jacob Blessing

##### After prophecies for Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Jacob predicted about Judah an amazing promise…

Southern Sons

Diagram

##### The scepter will not depart from Judah!

Gen. 49:10 scepter

#### God said the world’s king would come from David (2 Sam. 7:14; 1000 BC).

David Lineage

##### David wanted to build a house for God.

House for God

##### Instead, God said he would build a house for David!

House for you

##### So the Davidic covenant promised an eternal throne for David (2 Sam. 7:13).

Key Verse

##### In other words, David met the lineage requirement of Judah’s line.

Promised Seed

##### But how does the Davidic covenant relate to Jesus?

How relate to Jesus?

Bethlehem

##### Jesus is the promised son of David.

Promised Son

##### In fact, Jesus was born in David’s city only 8 kilometers south of Jerusalem!

##### God preserved the kingly line to just a few descendants of David to establish the eternal kingdom!

Kingdom line

## Gentiles worshipped Christ as King (Matt. 2).

Pagan scholars

Jesus is King!

### They correctly saw him as king of the Jews.

Gen. 49:10

### But the OT says that this king will rule all nations.

### So the magi must have seen that Jesus was more than a Jewish ruler—they saw Him as John saw Him—that he was God made man.

(So let’s return to our question: Why should we worship Jesus as king? What’s the Bible’s answer?)

Subj.

# Conclusion

### Jesus deserves our worship because he is Creator God (MI).

MI

### Main Points

MPI

#### The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

MPII

#### The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

MPIII

#### Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

How worship?

### How should we worship Christ as king of the world?

#### Make him King of your own life first. This is taught in our hymn, “Joy to the World!”

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

Let ev’ry heart

let earth receive her King;

let ev’ry heart prepare Him room

and heav’n and nature sing

#### Give him first place in your Christmas celebrations.

Throne

Prayer

#### Prayer

The Christmas You Never Knew—Jesus in Genesis (CIC) Dr. Rick Griffith

7 Dec 2014 Message 1 of 3

NLT with 117 slides 45 Minutes

**Our Christmas King**

Title

***Genesis 1; John 1; Matthew 1***

**Topic:** Christmas

**Subject:** Why should we worship Jesus as king?

**Complement:** Jesus deserves our worship because he is Creator God.

**Purpose:** The listeners will worship Christ by giving him full reign over their lives.

**Meditation:** Matthew 2:1-2

**Video:** http://www.worshiphousemedia.com/mini-movies/48523/King-Of-Kings-Christmas

**Reading:** Psalm 145

**Song:** We Fall Down

# Introduction

### Interest: [Too often we jump to Christmas without the OT background.]

Tidings of Joy

#### Alas, the Christmas season is upon us once again.

#### This is a favorite time of the year for kids—me too!

#### I remember as a boy that my Mom taught us kids how to make Christmas stars and we sold them door-to-door.

Child

Star

Stress

#### Christmas, of course, has its stresses…

#### But the story of the Babe in a manger and all the events surrounding is an amazing story. Unfortunately, it is so familiar story that it’s easy to think we really know it well.

Manger

#### Normally we address only the New Testament (NT) aspects.

#### However, the NT covers less than a quarter of our Bible—the first three quarters lay the OT foundation that we often assume that we know well—but we don’t.

NT/OT

• NT

• OT

### Need: We need to know the foundations of Christmas story.

#### Therefore, my Christmas messages this month focus on “The Christmas You Never Knew.”

Series

#### How is this? This short series will address three important titles of Christ as seen in the three gifts the magi gave at Christ’s birth—gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Magi Gifts

#### Each gift points to a different aspect of the person of Christ—and all three begin in Genesis! I suspect that you haven’t heard of Christmas in Genesis, right?

• Jesus

Gold

#### We will start first with the gift of gold that is fit for a king. These magi clearly *identified Jesus as king* since they asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him” (Matt. 2:2 NLT). Now it’s right to give *respect* to a king, but *worship*? Isn’t that a bit much?

Matt.   
1: 1-2

ANE Kings

### Thought Question: Why did the magi worship Jesus as king?

Thought Question

### Background: Monarchies are dying out today, but the ancient world was one of kings.

#### Life focused on the question of who was the greatest king.

#### The ideas of a republic and a democracy didn’t begin until about 500-300 BC—and they were far away in Rome and Greece so they still hadn’t been accepted in the East.

Roman Republic

#### In fact, contrary to what many want to believe, the Bible has far greater support for monarchies than other governments.

Monarchy

Wise Men

Subject

#### In other words, the magi were right to worship Christ as king.

### Subject: Why should we worship Jesus as king?

### Preview: So today we will see three passages to unpack why we should worship Jesus as the rightful ruler of the world. We will start in Genesis, then move to John and Matthew to answer why worship of Christ is the appropriate response.

• Genesis to John to Matthew

### Text: Our first text about kings brings us right to the beginning of the Bible…

(Really? The creation account in Genesis 1 teaches about kings? How do we see the concept of kingship in Genesis 1? Here we see that…)

# I. The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

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[Genesis 1 shows God not only as Creator but as Sovereign Ruler over everything.]

## The creation account portrays God as the Creator so Israel might see their God as sovereign LORD of the universe (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

### The introduction shows God’s creative ability as King in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

Lord

Gen. 1:1

1:3–2:3  
(32 slides)

#### Israel was finishing the 40 years of wilderness wanderings and about to cross the Jordan. Here they would face giants in Canaan. Moses wanted them to see that they would actually face big people with little gods!

Giants  
big dudes

Giants  
skeleton 1

#### The title of the creation account portrays God as the Founder and Creator of everything at the beginning of the universe (1:1).

Giants  
skeleton 2

#### The world was initially in chaos before God showed himself as King over His kingdom (1:2).

Gen. 1:2

### However, as ultimate King, God spoke all earthly life into existence (1:3-31).

### God's rest and blessing of the seventh day prove his kingly power to complete his creative activity (2:1-3).

## Genesis 1 shows God as King in many ways.

God as King

### Since he was not created, then he must be the highest of all beings!

• Uncreated  
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### Kings back then spoke laws into existence. Few monarchs had written law codes that guided them. No, their *word* was law. *In kingly manner, God spoke not just laws into existence, but everything that exists into existence!*

Law Code

### Creation was also with ease—something only the highest King could do.

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### Also, the names of the sun and moon were not given—*Ra* and *Sin*—as these also were the names of pagan gods. Referring to them as “the greater light” and “the lesser light” cleverly shows that God made these objects but he didn’t create any lesser gods! Why? Because he is the only King of all.

Nebuchad. & Image

Sun & moon

### Kings also put images of themselves throughout their realm as if to say, “Hey, you may not see me, but when you see this image, remember that I rule this area too!” *As king, God placed his image throughout his realm—in you and me, made in the image of God!*

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(So Genesis 1 gives us at least 5 reasons that the Creator is King. But which person of the godhead created the world? We know that the one God exists as three persons: Father, Son and Spirit. Genesis 1 even hints at the Trinity by saying, “Let us make…” but *which person* was this specifically who made all we see? John 1 says that…)

MPI

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Diagram

F-S-S

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# II. The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

[Genesis 1 is unclear *which* person of the Trinity made everything—but the NT says it was Christ!]

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Col. 1 (2 slides)

T

(Now if Jesus actually made the world, then what authority does he have?)

# III. Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

MPIII

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Title

[Christ stems from David as Ruler not just of Israel but of all creation.]

Matt = Jesus King

## The reason Matthew presents the geneaology of Jesus is to show that his lineage back to David qualifies him as the rightful King of the Jews.

Matt. 1:1

Boring?

### The introduction reverses the typical order to present Christ as the Davidic ruler even before showing his Jewish heritage (Matt. 1:1).

“Too old”

#### Despite being “too old,” Abraham was promised kings from him in Genesis 17:6.

Abraham

#### But Matthew puts David *before* Abraham, even though David came 1000 years later!

Kingly Line  
• Many

#### This narrows the kingly line to David and his son Solomon all the way to Jesus.

### Christ’s lineage from Abraham to Joseph shows his lineage through David to prove his legal right to the throne of Israel (1:2-17).

• Abraham

Kingdom in Matt. 1

#### God said the world’s king would come from Abraham (Gen. 17:6; 2060 BC).

#### God said the world’s king would come from Judah (Gen. 49:6; 1828 BC).

Judah

##### Jacob blessed all his sons before his death (Gen. 49).

Jacob Blessing

##### After prophecies for Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Jacob predicted about Judah an amazing promise…

Southern Sons

##### The scepter will not depart from Judah!

Gen. 49:10 scepter

#### God said the world’s king would come from David (2 Sam. 7:14; 1000 BC).

David Lineage

##### David wanted to build a house for God.

House for God

##### Instead, God said he would build a house for David!

House for you

##### So the Davidic covenant promised an eternal throne for David (2 Sam. 7:13).

Key Verse

##### In other words, David met the lineage requirement of Judah’s line.

Promised Seed

##### But how does the Davidic covenant relate to Jesus?

How relate to Jesus?

Bethlehem

##### Jesus is the promised son of David.

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##### In fact, Jesus was born in David’s city only 8 kilometers south of Jerusalem!

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## Gentiles worshipped Christ as King (Matt. 2).

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Jesus is King!

### They correctly saw him as king of the Jews.

### But the OT says that this king will rule all nations.

### So the magi must have seen that Jesus was more than a Jewish ruler—they saw Him as John saw Him—that he was God made man.

(So let’s return to our question: Why should we worship Jesus as king? What’s the Bible’s answer?)

Subj.

# Conclusion

### Jesus deserves our worship because he is Creator God (MI).

MI

### Main Points

MPI

#### The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

MPII

#### The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

MPIII

#### Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

How worship?

### How should we worship Christ as king of the world?

#### Make him King of your own life first. This is taught in our hymn, Joy to the World!”

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

Let ev’ry heart

let earth receive her King;

let ev’ry heart prepare Him room

and heav’n and nature sing

#### Give him first place in your Christmas celebrations.

Throne

Prayer

#### Prayer

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

### Genesis 1 begins the Bible with the most important teaching that we need to know before anything else is taught in the Bible.

### The Bible wisely starts with the origin of the universe—but more important than that, it begins by showing *who* began it all and *why* he made the world.

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

### As selfish humans, we are predisposed to think that it’s about us. God says otherwise that it is about him!

### The foundation of all biblical teaching is that God is the King who placed humans on his creation to co-rule with Him.

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

### Other Ancient Near East civilizations also gave their take” on how the world began—some which even predate Genesis.

### Genesis provides God’s rebuttal to these other views.

# Questions

### What is the focus of this chapter?

#### God as Creator

#### Man as the climax of creation

#### God as King

### Is Genesis 1 compatible with science?

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

Text

# Possible Illustrations

#### Creation stories of the Ancient Near East came about to solidify the rule of their king. Is this true?

# Possible Applications

### Text

# I. (1:1–11:26) Primeval History: The deterioration and narrowing of the lineage of Israel in the generations from Creation to Terah teaches Israel that God elected a seed with which He can fellowship in contrast to Canaan’s powerless deities.

## The Creation portrays God as the Creator of all life so that Israel might know that, as the sovereign LORD of the universe in contrast to Canaan’s impotent deities, the God who elected Israel can elect whom He chooses and to show the importance of the Sabbath (1:1–2:3).

### The introduction to the Creation account portrays God as the Creator of everything and describes the chaotic condition of the earth when God began the first day of His creative work so Israel may see God’s power in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

#### The title of the Creation account portrays God as the Founder and Creator of everything at the beginning of the universe (1:1).

#### At the start of God's creative activity the world is described as in a chaotic state to provide an outline for God's activity of bringing form and fullness to His creation (1:2).

### The six days of creation recount the origin of all living things (except angels and God) by God's spoken word alone to show Israelites that their God is LORD (sovereign king) of the universe in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:3-31).

### God's rest and blessing on the seventh day set an example of the Sabbath instituted under the Law (2:1-3).

**Our Christmas King**

***Genesis 1; John 1; Matthew 1***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*: The reason believers should worship Jesus as king is because he created the world in the past and will rule as David’s heir in the future.

# I. The reason the creation account portrays God as the Creator of all life is so that Israel might know see their God as sovereign LORD of the universe in contrast to Canaan’s impotent deities (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

## The introduction to the creation account portrays God as Creator and King in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

### The title of the creation account portrays God as the Founder and Creator of everything at the beginning of the universe (1:1).

### Before the world begins, the world exists in a chaotic state to show God's kingly nature before he speaks form and fullness to His kingdom (1:2).

## The six days of creation recount the origin of all earthly life by God's spoken word alone to show Israelites that their God is sovereign king of the universe in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:3-31).

## God's rest and blessing of the seventh day prove his kingly power to complete his creative activity (2:1-3).

# II. The way John presents Jesus as God is to identify him as creator of the world in Genesis 1 (John 1:1-3).

## Jesus is the Word spoken to create the world in Genesis 1 since he has eternally been God himself (John 1:1-2).

## Jesus proved his deity by creating everything in the world (1:3).

# III. The reason Matthew presents the geneaology of Jesus is to show that his lineage back to David qualifies him as the rightful King of the Jews.

## The introduction reverses the typical order to present Christ as the Davidic ruler even before showing his Jewish heritage (Matt. 1:1).

## Christ’s lineage from Abraham to Joseph shows his lineage through David to prove his legal right to the throne of Israel (1:2-17).

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will worship Christ by giving him full reign over their lives.

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: Too often we jump to Christmas without the OT background.

### Need: We need to know the foundations of Christmas story in Genesis.

### Thought Question: Why did the magi worship Jesus as king?

### Background: Monarchies are dying out today, but the ancient world was one of kings.

### Subject: Why should we worship Jesus as king?

### Preview: So today we will see three passages to unpack why we should worship Jesus as the rightful ruler of the world.

### Text: Our first text brings us right to the beginning of the Bible…

# I. The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

## The creation account portrays God as the Creator so Israel might see their God as sovereign LORD of the universe (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

### The introduction shows God’s creative ability as King in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

### However, as ultimate King, God spoke all earthly life into existence (1:3-31).

### God's rest and blessing of the seventh day prove his kingly power to complete his creative activity (2:1-3).

## Genesis 1 shows God as King in many ways.

# II. The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

## John presents Jesus as God to show he is the same creator of the world as God in Genesis 1 (John 1:1-3).

## Other NT texts also reveal Bethlehem’s baby boy as Creator!

### Colossians 1:15-17 declares, “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. 17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together” (NIV).

### Hebrews 1:1-2 also shows Jesus as Creator: “In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe” (NIV).

# III. Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

## The reason Matthew presents the geneaology of Jesus is to show that his lineage back to David qualifies him as the rightful King of the Jews.

### The introduction reverses the typical order to present Christ as the Davidic ruler even before showing his Jewish heritage (Matt. 1:1).

### Christ’s lineage from Abraham to Joseph shows his lineage through David to prove his legal right to the throne of Israel (1:2-17).

#### God said the world’s king would come from Abraham (Gen. 17:6; 2060 BC).

#### God said the world’s king would come from Judah (Gen. 49:6; 1828 BC).

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## Gentiles worshipped Christ as King (Matt. 2).

### They correctly saw him as king of the Jews.

### But the OT says that this king will rule all nations.

### So the magi must have seen that Jesus was more than a Jewish ruler—they saw Him as John saw Him—that he was God made man.

# Conclusion

### Jesus deserves our worship because he is Creator God (MI).

### Main Points

#### The Creator is King (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

#### The Creator is Jesus (John 1:1-3).

#### Jesus is the rightful King of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

### How should we worship Christ as king of the world?

#### Make him King of your own life first.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

let earth receive her King;

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and heav’n and nature sing

#### Give him first place in your Christmas celebrations.



**Rick Griffith**

7 December 2014

Message 1 of 3

**Our Christmas King**

***Genesis 1; John 1; Matthew 1***

# Introduction

### We need to know the foundations of Christmas story in Genesis.

### Monarchies are dying out today, but the ancient world was one of kings.

### Why should we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus as king?

# I. The Creator is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

## The creation account portrays God as the Creator so Israel might see their God as sovereign LORD of the universe (Gen. 1:1–2:3).

### The introduction shows God’s creative ability as King in contrast to powerless Canaanite deities (1:1-2).

### However, as ultimate King, God spoke all earthly life into existence (1:3-31).

### God's rest and blessing of the seventh day prove his kingly power to complete his creative activity (2:1-3).

## Genesis 1 shows God as King in many ways.

# II. The Creator is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (John 1:1-3).

## John presents Jesus as God to show he is the same creator of the world as God in Genesis 1 (John 1:1-3).

## Other NT texts also reveal Bethlehem’s baby boy as Creator!

# III. Jesus is the rightful \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the world (Matt. 1:1-17).

## The reason Matthew presents the geneaology of Jesus is to show that his lineage back to David qualifies him as the rightful King of the Jews.

### The introduction reverses the typical order to present Christ as the Davidic ruler even before showing his Jewish heritage (Matt. 1:1).

### Christ’s lineage from Abraham to Joseph shows his lineage through David to prove his legal right to the throne of Israel (1:2-17).

#### God said the world’s king would come from Abraham (Gen. 17:6; 2060 BC).

#### God said the world’s king would come from Judah (Gen. 49:6; 1828 BC).

#### God said the world’s king would come from David (2 Sam. 7:14; 1000 BC).

## Gentiles worshipped Christ as King (Matt. 2).

### They correctly saw him as king of the Jews.

### But the OT says that this king will rule all nations.

### So the magi must have seen that Jesus was more than a Jewish ruler—they saw Him as John saw Him—that he was God made man.

# Conclusion

### Jesus deserves our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because he is Creator \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Main Idea).

### How should we worship Christ as king of the world?

#### Make him King of your own life first.

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;

let earth receive her King;

let ev’ry heart prepare Him room

and heav’n and nature sing

#### Give him first place in your Christmas celebrations.

**Thought Questions**

1. Read both Genesis 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3 aloud. Contrast and compare them:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Genesis 1:1-3** | **John 1:1-3** |
| Text | Text |
| Text | Text |
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1. Why is Matthew 1:1-17 such an important way to begin the New Testament?

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1. What would change in your life if you *really* grasped Christ as king of the world?

Text

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