### Introduction

- **Gospel** 'good news' about Jesus
  - not a biography in modern sense
  - historically accurate and material arranged to communicate theological truth about Jesus and His mission

- Synoptic 'see together; ' Matt, Mark and Luke cover much of the same material
  - 90% of Mark in Matt; 50% of Mark in Luke
  - Matt/Luke have about 2/3 of their material in common



## Introduction

- Author Matthew; one of 12 disciples; tax collector
- Audience Jewish Christian congregation
- **Date** 60's
- Purpose
  - Discipleship to strengthen congregation in their relationship with Jesus; Jesus as Teacher; 5 major sermons
  - Apologetic to help congregation show their fellow Jews that Jesus is the Messiah



# Genealogy

**Messiah** – Anointed One; Greek - Christ

### Two common themes:

- Son of Abraham Messiah would be Jewish; Abraham - father of Israel
- Son of David commonly thought that Messiah would be descendant of David; a Warrior-king who would deliver Israel from foreign (Roman) rule



## **Brothers**

- Symmetry
- Book end history of Israel as a nation
  - Judah and his brothers each brother becomes a tribe; 12 tribes become nation of Israel; beginning
  - Jeconiah and his brothers last true king of Judah (Israel); nation never same after this; end



### Three options:

- To demonstrate women are included in Jesus – true, but there are other women who probably communicate this more clearly
- To demonstrate God uses saints and sinners – true, but don't need the women to show this; David is adulterer and murderer
- To demonstrate that Jesus is
  Messiah for Jews and Gentiles –
  true; all 4 women are Gentiles



- Tamar Genesis 38; Messiah was to come through line of Judah, but no grandsons until Tamar (righteously)
   Judah into sleeping w/her
- God's will finds a way
  - Gen 38.26 Judah recognized them and said, "She is more righteous than I, since I wouldn't give her to my son Shelah."
- In Jesus God accomplishes His will even through sinful choices of people; see most clearly in crucifixion



- Rahab Joshua 2; demonstrates great faith in God when she takes huge risk in hiding spies
- God honors those who trust Him
  - Heb 11.31- By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.
  - James 2.25 In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?
- In Jesus faith in Him is key to relationship with the Father



 Ruth – Book of Ruth; willingness to stay w/Naomi even though Naomi had nothing to offer

#### God is love

- Ruth 1.16-17 But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."
- In Jesus God's love is most clearly communicated through the Cross



- Bathsheba 2Samuel 11-12; an adulteress who became mother of arguably 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest king in Israel's history
- God brings beauty from ashes
  - 2Sam 12.24-25- She gave birth to a son and they named him Solomon. The Lord loved him and because the Lord loved him, he sent word through Nathan the prophet to name him Jedidiah (which means loved by the Lord.)
- In Jesus our sins are fully forgiven and we are restored

