

Remnant Life Church  
Sunday, December 23, 2012

## The Great Unsung Hero Luke 2:1-19

The two lineages given in Matthew and Luke trace different lines

- Matthew begins at Abraham and comes down to Jesus through David's son Solomon
  - 3 groups of 14 generations
  - Total of 41 names
  - May have grouped the names in 14's because the numeric value of David's name is 14
- Luke traces through Heli the father of Mary back to Adam through David's son Nathan
  - Luke presents 77 names back to Adam
  - The importance of both Joseph and Mary being of the Davidic line is to defend the prophesy of Jesus as the heir of David (Jer. 23:5 – 600 years before the birth of Jesus)

Joseph: A man of fairly early age – very likely late 20's or early 30's

- Honorable
- Kind
- Of the line of David

Betrothal in the first century Jewish culture –

1. Not engagement as we know it today although the concept of saved for marriage is similar
2. Not a halfway point from engagement to marriage with additional elements added
3. At that time betrothal was marriage
  - a. Once the amount of money was agreed upon by the bridegroom and father of the bride the betrothal period began
  - b. They would reside in their own separate homes without physical union
  - c. This time was for each to prepare themselves for the wedding
  - d. Time was usually from 1 month to a year depending on the age of the girl

- e. The groom would not announce his intended time to come for the bride; rather he would come at a time of his choosing so the bride always had to be ready

Joseph encountered God's will in 3 separate dreams

1. **Confronted with the impossible** – his wife is pregnant but it is not through a man but through the Holy Spirit (Mathew 1:20-21)
2. **Deal with the difficult** – flee to Egypt with your pregnant wife (Matthew 2:13-15)
3. **Given the restoration** – return home in safety (Matthew 2:19-21)