

pastor Genivaldo Agner, IELB, Sao Paulo

Summer Camp | Denmark | July, 2023

Matthew 1:21; 20:18-28; 27:51

Jesus, Our Savior

Parents usually choose the name of their children with great affection and some meaning behind the name. Sometimes the choice is motivated by personal wishes and desires, but it's really cool, for example, when a name honors an ancestor or a good friend or a member of their family. I'm still wondering where my parents got my name from. But I want to believe that it means something very powerful and mighty, just like the meaning of the Vikings names in the past. Just let me dream about it.

In Matthew 1:18-25 we are told about a birth and a name that has a very special and powerful meaning: "you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (v. 21), said the angel to a very frightened Joseph.

The story of Christmas is well known for all of us. We are introduced to characters such as Mary and Joseph; Elizabeth and Zechariah, as well as John the Baptist; we remember the trip to Bethlehem and the stable. We remember birth in a manger. We remember the shepherds and the angels; we remember the wise men from the east who came from a far land to see and bring gifts for the "baby king of the Jews."

Looking at the book of Matthew verses, 1-17, we see the genealogy of Jesus. And this is important, because they point out the HUMAN NATURE of Jesus. He has earthly descendants. He is real. He has a family. He has a name. He has a history. He is one of us. "The Word became a human being and dwelt among us, full of love and truth. And we have seen the revelation of his divine nature, which nature he received as the only Son of the Father" (John 1:14) And if the promise made to the Jews was that the Savior would be born from the descendants of David, these makes this connection so important: Jesus is a descendant of David! He did not come from nowhere and just appeared as if by magic.

More important than that, however, is that the Gospel of Matthew begins with striking words: the book of the genealogy of Jesus. The word genealogy comes from the same root as the word GENESIS, which means beginning, principle.

Back in Genesis there is an interruption of the organization established by God with the entry of sin into the world. God had created everything

pastor Genivaldo Agner, IELB, Sao Paulo

Sommerlejr | Danmark | juli 2023

Matthæus 1:21; 20:18-28; 27:51

Jesus, vor frelser

Forældre vælger normalt navnet på deres børn med stor hengivenhed og fordi navnet betyder noget for dem. Nogle gange er valget motiveret af personlige ønsker og håb for barnet. Og det er for eksempel rigtig fedt, når et navn ærer en forfader eller en god ven eller et medlem af deres familie. Jeg spekulerer stadig på, hvor mine forældre har mit navn fra. Men jeg vil tro, at det betyder noget meget kraftfuldt og mægtigt, ligesom jeres vikingenavnene før i tiden. Lad mig bare drømme om det.

I Matthæusevangeliet 1,18-25 får vi at vide om en fødsel og et navn, der har en helt særlig og stærk betydning: "du skal kalde ham Jesus, for han skal frelse sit folk fra deres synder" (v. 21). Sådan sagde englen til en meget bange Josef.

Historien om Kristi fødsel er velkendt for os alle. Vi bliver introduceret til karakterer som Maria og Josef, Elizabeth og Zakarias samt Johannes Døber. Vi husker rejsen til Betlehem og stalden. Vi husker fødslen i en krybbe. Vi husker hyrderne og englene. Vi husker de vise mænd fra øst, som kom fra et fjerntliggende land for at se og bringe gaver til "jødernes babykonge".

Når vi ser nærmere på Matthæus-bogen vers, 1-17, ser vi Jesu slægtstavle. Og den er vigtig. For den påpeger Jesu MENNESKELIGE NATUR. Han har jordiske forældre og forfædre- og mødre. Han er ægte. Han har en familie. Han har et navn. Han har en historie. Han er en af os. "Ordet blev et menneske og boede iblandt os, fuld af kærlighed og sandhed. Og vi har set åbenbaringen af hans guddommelige natur, hvilken natur han modtog som Faderens enbårne søn" (Joh 1:14) Og fordi løftet til jøderne var, at Frelseren ville blive født af Davids efterkommere, er denne slægtstavle meget vigtig: Jesus er en efterkommer af David! Han kom ikke fra ingenting og dukkede heller ikke op som ved et trylleslag.

At dette er vigtigt fremgår også af, at Matthæusevangeliet begynder med slående ord: Jesu slægtsbog. Ordet genealogi kommer fra samme rod som ordet GENESIS, som betyder begyndelse.

Tilbage i Første Mosebog fortælles, af den orden, som Gud havde etableret ved skabelsen, blev afbrudt med syndens indtog i verden. Gud havde

perfect so that human beings could enjoy perfect communion forever with Him in paradise. But sin spoiled this genesis, and God then promised a savior (Genesis 3:15), who would come at the right time, to beat sin and death once and for all.

So, knowing this, let's move to our text for this morning talk. Sin has spoiled all our relations and desires since Adam and Eva. And sin was also manifested in the gospel according to Matthew 20:18-28.

Let's take a closer look at our text. What happened? Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. During the trip, he made his 3rd prediction regarding his death on the cross and resurrection. Suddenly, without understanding what Jesus had just said, Salome, the mother of James and John, appeared with a request that manifested the total ignorance of what Jesus came to do here in the world: "Promise me that when you become King, these two sons of mine will sit on your right hand and on your left." (Matthew 20:21) That was so weird because Jesus was just talking about his death and some people were worried about other things. Jesus's mission wasn't about ranks, honors or status. The coming of Jesus was to bring us something much greater than that.

SALVATION.

How does this ignorance about Jesus's mission reveal itself today? Pride, envy, jealousy and selfishness are evils that we all bring from birth. They are implanted in our soul and are manifested daily in our life. They are products of ORIGINAL SIN.

Deep down, the symptoms we are talking about have their origin in Satan. He wanted to be equal to God and rebelled against his Creator. Afterwards, this evil passed on to Adam and Eve, who also wanted to be equal to God and distanced themselves from the Creator.

Pride, envy, jealousy and selfishness are easily seen in the unbelieving world around us. But, unfortunately, however, the same symptoms are observed among Christians as well. Satan is more than pleased when he can create a situation where he infects the church with these symptoms. He does not fail to act whenever he can separate and divide Christians.

But we have and know the solution for this evil, don't we? We have the antidote.

When Matthew declares that this is the book of the genealogy of Jesus, the idea he is conveying is that in Christ we have a new GENESIS, a new beginning, a new opportunity to start over, to have a new and better life: Jesus grants us forgiveness of sins. The

skabt alt perfekt, så mennesker kunne nyde det fuldkomne fællesskab for evigt med ham i paradiset. Men synden spolerede denne begyndelse, og Gud lovede da en frelser (1. Mosebog 3:15), som ville komme på det rette tidspunkt, for at overvinde synden og døden én gang for alle.

Med dette som en vigtig baggrund vil vi se nærmere på den tekst, vi har foran os denne morgen. Synden har spoleret alle vores relationer og ønsker siden Adam og Eva. Og synden blev også meget tydelig i evangeliet, som vi læser i Matthæus 20:18-28.

Lad os se nærmere på vores tekst. Hvad skete der? Jesus var på vej til Jerusalem. Under turen kom han med sin 3. forudsigtelse angående hans død på korset og opstandelsen. Pludselig, uden at forstå, hvad Jesus lige havde sagt, dukkede Salome, Jakobs og Johannes' mor, op med en anmodning, der afslørede, at hun og hendes sønner var totalt uvidende om, hvad Jesus kom for at gøre her i verden: "Lov mig, at når du bliver konge, da vil du lade disse mine to sønner sidde ved din højre og venstre hånd." (Matthæus 20:21)

Det var så mærkeligt, fordi Jesus jo lige havde talt om sin død, og så var hans nærmeste optaget af noget helt andet. Jesu mission handlede ikke om rang, hæder eller status. Jesu komme skulle bringe os noget meget større end det: FRELSE.

Hvordan åbenbarer denne uvidenhed om Jesu mission sig i dag? Stolthed, misundelse, jalousi og egoisme er ondt, som vi alle har med os fra fødslen. De er implanteret i vores sjæl og viser sig dagligt i vores liv. De er produkter af ARVESYNDEN, DEN OPRINDELIGE SYND.

Dybest set stammer de symptomer, vi her taler om, fra Satan. Han ønskede at være lig med Gud og gjorde oprør mod sin Skaber. Bagefter blev denne ondskab overført til Adam og Eva, som også ønskede at være lige med Gud og tog afstand fra Skaberen.

Stolthed, misundelse, jalousi og egoisme ses let i den vantro verden omkring os. Men desværre observeres de samme symptomer også blandt kristne. Satan er mere end glad, når han kan skabe en situation, hvor han inficerer kirken med disse symptomer. Han undlader ikke at handle, når han kan adskille og splitte kristne.

Men vi har og kender løsningen på dette ondt, ikke? Vi har modgiften!

Når Matthæus erklærer, at dette er Jesu slægtsbog (Matthæus-evangeliet), er betydet det, at han

order that had been established by God, which was broken with the entry of sin into the world, is restored with Jesus. The promise of a Savior is fulfilled in him. In his work, we have pardon, a new and eternal life, and salvation. And these promises are for us and for all those who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

The name Jesus comes from the same root as Joshua, and means **GOD FREES; GOD SAVES**. Back in the Old Testament, Joshua was the liberator, the one who established the people in the Promised Land, freeing the people of God from the people who previously occupied that land.

Now, in the New Testament, Jesus is the deliverer. Not a deliverer who comes to settle us down in some earthly realm, or to give us status before the world. But above all, a Deliverer who comes to deliver us from another oppression, much worse: he comes to free us from the bonds of sin, dying on the cross to give us forgiveness. Through him we enter the Promised Land, the eternity of heaven.

Through Christ, God became a **"God with us,"** Emmanuel. God takes on human nature, becomes one of us, to give us what we don't get by ourselves: forgiveness, life and salvation.

What is our greatest need? What should we seek the most? **"Therefore, put the Kingdom of God and what God wants first in your life, and he will give you all these things."** (Matthew 6:33) If our greatest need had been education, God would have sent a teacher; if our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent a scientist; if our greatest need had been money, He would have sent an economist; if pleasure were our greatest need, He would have sent an artist. But our greatest need was **FORGIVENESS**, and so he sends a Savior and a King to forgive us! In Jesus there is forgiveness. His name implies what He comes to do: **He comes to save us**. When we put the Kingdom of God in first place in our life, all the other things will be given to us.

He comes to heal us of any kind of illness. He himself became a human being so that all of us could be absolutely sure that we would be saved by the blood of Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

"Then the curtain of the Temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks split." (Matthew 27:51) When the curtain of the temple is torn, it represents to us that now we are given direct access to the Holy of Holies. It was not just a normal curtain. It was much more than that. It shows us that we now a highway is opened that

formidler, at vi i Kristus har en ny GENESIS, en ny begyndelse, en ny mulighed for at starte forfra, for at få et nyt og bedre liv: Jesus giver os syndernes forladelse. Den orden, som var blevet etableret af Gud, og som blev brudt med syndens indtog i verden, er genoprettet med Jesus. Løftet om en Frelser er opfyldt i ham. I hans arbejde har vi tilgivelse, et nyt og evigt liv og frelse. Og disse løfter er til os og til alle dem, der tror på Jesus Kristus som deres Herre og Frelser.

Navnet Jesus kommer af samme rod som Joshua, og betyder GUD BEFRIER; GUD REDDER. Tilbage i Det Gamle Testamente var Josva befrieren, den der bosatte folket i det forjættede land og befriede Guds folk fra de mennesker, der tidligere besatte det land.

Nu, i Det Nye Testamente, er Jesus befrieren. Ikke en befrier, der kommer for at vi kan bosætte os i et eller andet jordisk rige eller for at give os status over for verden. Men frem for alt er han en Befrier, der kommer for at befri os fra en undertrykkelse, som er langt værre: Han kommer for at befri os fra syndens bånd, idet han dør på korset for at give os tilgivelse. Gennem ham træder vi ind i det forjættede land, himlens evighed.

Gennem Kristus blev Gud en "Gud med os", Emmanuel. Gud påtager sig den menneskelige natur, bliver en af os, for at give os det, vi ikke give os selv: tilgivelse, liv og frelse.

Hvad er vores største behov? Hvad skal vi søge mest? Jesus siger: "Sæt derfor Guds rige og det, Gud ønsker, først i dit liv, og han vil give dig alt det andet oveni." (Mattæus 6:33) Hvis vores største behov havde været uddannelse, ville Gud have sendt en lærer; hvis vores største behov havde været teknologi, ville Gud have sendt en videnskabsmand; hvis vores største behov havde været penge, ville han have sendt en økonom; hvis glæde var vores største behov, ville han have sendt en kunstner. Men vores største behov var TILGIVELSE, og derfor sender han en Frelser og en Konge for at tilgive os! I Jesus er der tilgivelse. Hans navn antyder, hvad han kommer for at gøre: Han kommer for at frelse os. Når vi sætter Guds rige på førstepladsen i vores liv, vil alle de andre ting blive givet til os.

Han kommer for at helbrede os for enhver form for sygdom. Han blev selv et menneske, så vi alle kunne være helt sikre på, at vi ville blive frelst ved Kristi blod, Guds Lam, som borttager verdens synd.

"Så blev forhænget i templet revet i to, fra top til bund. Jorden rystede, og klipperne flækkede."

connects us directly to the Father. Through Christ's death and resurrection, he guarantees us forgiveness of all our sins and eternal life.

Jesus did not come to give us posts of authority or to seat us on human or merely earthly thrones. What he promises us (and gives us) is much more than that. It's worth much more than just occupying prominent places in this world or be recognized by humans: **He came to guarantee us eternal salvation and a new life, already in this world, but above all in eternity.**

That's what he came for. He is Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Savior.

(Mattæus 27:51) Når templets forhæng er revet i stykker, repræsenterer det for os, at vi nu får direkte adgang til Det Allerhelligste. Det var ikke bare et normalt gardin. Det var meget mere end det. Det viser os, at vi nu er åbnet en vej, som forbinder os direkte med Faderen. Gennem Kristi død og opstandelse garanterer han os tilgivelse for alle vores synder og evigt liv.

Jesus kom ikke for at give os status eller give os høje stillinger eller gøre os store i andre menneskers øjne. Hvad han lover os (og giver os) er meget mere end det. Det er meget mere værd end blot at indtage fremtrædende pladser i denne verden eller blive anerkendt af mennesker: Han kom for at garantere os evig frelse og et nyt liv, allerede i denne verden, men frem for alt i evigheden.

Det var det, han kom for. Han er Jesus Kristus, Guds søn, vores frelser.

www.vivit.dk/sommerlejr/sommerlejr2023