

**Sovereign Grace Church**  
**“Kingdom Reactions” outline**  
March 4, 2018

**Matthew 1**

*This morning we will begin a series on the Sermon on the Mount. However, in order to set the context we will review the first several chapters of Matthew over the next few weeks.*

*The first chapter of Matthew concerns the genealogy and birth of Jesus. Jesus was born of the royal line of David in fulfillment of the Old Covenant prophecies of a Coming One who would atone for the sin of His people and open the way into God's eternal kingdom of love and righteousness. This kingdom became available to us at the coming of Jesus, continues today, and will continue on forever and ever. It is interesting to note that Jesus is presently about 2022 years old. Even mere human beings when they die do not really die. Their bodies die, for a time at least,...but their souls continue on! My grandpa on my Mom's side is presently 123 years old. He had a beginning, will someday be reconnected to a glorified body and will never have an end. Such is life in Jesus' Kingdom of Love and Grace.*

*During today's sermon we will attempt to glean some lessons in Mary and Joseph's responses to the surprising news that they had been chosen to be parents of the Son of God! How would YOU have entertained such news? Their choices clearly made a difference! And we can be thankful for them.....and the grace that empowered them.*

**1. The Royal Genealogy of Jesus through Joseph**

**2. The Coming of the Messiah-King v. 18**

- **Mary's visit w/ Gabriel (Luke 1)**

**A note on the Kingdom of Jesus**  
**Dan. 2: 44; Matthew 13: 33; John 18: 36**

- **Joseph's Doubts and Dreams vv. 20-25**  
**Isa 7: 14**

### **3. Lessons**

#### **Questions for Conversation and Reflection**

- 1. How far back do you know your personal genealogy? How many of those who have gone before do you think have taken up residence in Christ's kingdom? Are they still alive? If their essential being never dies why do we put the date of death on their headstones? Can you think of a better system?**
- 2. Put yourself in Mary or Joseph's place. How do you think you would have handled the "good news" of the angel Gabriel? Would you have taken it as a great honor? Or as a lot of inconvenience and uncertainty? How do you think Joseph and Mary's parents might have felt about all of this?**
- 3. How do the problems and inconveniences of life appear differently when regarded from the perspective of Christ's Kingdom vs. our own little kingdoms? How would Pilate's decision have been different if he had been a resident of Christ's Kingdom? What about Judas'? Which kingdom was Peter living in when he denied Christ those three times in the courtyard at Jesus' trial before the Sanhedrin?**
- 4. What does it mean when we talk about Christ's kingdom? Our kingdom? Does entering Christ's kingdom mean we abandon our own? Or merely submit it to His? Can we abandon our own kingdom without abandoning us?**
- 5. What are some choices you have recently had to make. Did you make them as a resident of your kingdom only or of Christ's? How would they have been different otherwise? How do you know to which kingdom you are giving control? What is the mind-set of someone living in the kingdom of self only as opposed to living in the kingdom of Christ?**