

**Title: The Unfamiliar  
Christmas Tree**

**Text: Matthew 1:1-2**

**Topic: Jesus' Genealogy, Hope**

**Teacher: Pastor Barry**

**Time: 12/3/23. File Under: Holiday**



*This is the genealogy of Jesus, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac was the father of Jacob, Jacob, the father of Judah, and his brothers. Matthew 1: 1-2.*

Jesus' Family Tree, is the unfamiliar tree of Christmas. The genealogy of Jesus is part of the Christmas story.

The unfamiliar tree of Christmas traces Jesus' genealogy beginning in **Genesis** continuing all the way through the Old Testament to **Matthew Chapter 1:1-17**.

Jesus' family Christmas tree gives us even more reason to **celebrate Jesus' birth**.

At the time Jesus was born, it was your **genealogy** that gave you your identity.

Jesus' family Christmas tree will **surprise** you.

The family tree of Jesus has **skeletons in the closet**.

The family tree of Jesus **represents** all of humanity and the message is that Christmas is for **everyone!**

That first Advent was a time when men were in **genealogies** and women were **invisible**, but in Christ's family tree there are **four women** named.

You have a Savior who has come **for you**.

Our God took the **greatest evil** ever known to humanity and made it into the **greatest gift** known to humanity.

The heartbreaking family lineage of Jesus throws a **lifeline of hope** to all heartbroken families.

*"Before the spies went to sleep that night, Rahab went up on the roof to talk to them. 'I know the Lord has given you this land,' she told them, 'for the Lord your God is the supreme God of the heavens above and the earth below.'" Joshua 2:8*

*"When we come into the land, you must leave this scarlet rope hanging from the window through which you let us down. All your family members, your father, your mother, your sister, your brothers, all your relatives must be here inside this house. 'I accept your terms,' she replied. She sent them on their way. On their way, leaving the scarlet rope, hanging from the window.'" Joshua 2:21*

Rahab is the great, great grandmother of **King David**.

*"By faith, by having great hope, by faith, the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believe not when she received the spies with peace." Hebrews 11:31.*

Rahab's life bears testimony that great **faith** and great **hope** are the great equalizers.

*"Rahab stands as a blessed example, both of the sovereignty of God's grace and its power. Nobody, no sin should lead to despair when the cure of God's sovereign almighty grace is engaged." John Owen*

No situation is more **hopeless** than our Savior is **graceful**.

The Hebrew word for that **scarlet red cord** that Rahab threw out her window is the same word for **hope**.

Whatever kind of family you **came from** is exactly the kind of family that Jesus **came from**, and exactly the same kind of family that Jesus **came for**.