

The Perfect King

Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Old
Testament
Story Time

When the Lord anointed David as King of Israel, the Lord also made David a promise. The Lord promised David to raise up his offspring - his descendants - to succeed him as king and that his own flesh and blood would always sit on the throne. David's house and his kingdom would endure forever.



While King David was a man after God's own heart, his descendants were not always faithful to God. Some Kings from the house of David were wicked and did evil things.

As a sign of hope for better days, God sent His people the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah told the people about the ideal king from the house of David that was to come one day!

This future ideal king was described as a man filled with the spirit of the Lord. He would have the spirit of: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, and strength, among other things. This king would rule and make just decisions based on love and mercy.

Most of all, Isaiah paints a beautiful picture of peace and harmony when this king would rule the world! The most unlikely things will happen:

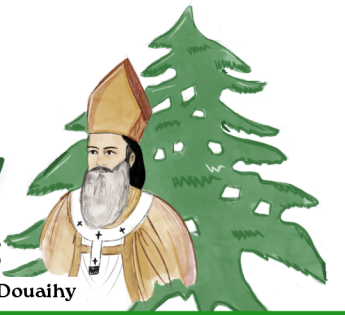
a wolf will be friends with a lamb,
a leopard will lie down with a goat,
a baby shall play by a viper's den,
and a calf and lion will walk together
with a young child as their guide.



So many of these things sound too good to be true. But with God, all things are possible! In this vision of the world under a perfect king, Isaiah shows us how God wants us to live in a place of love, mercy, and justice amidst peace and harmony with all. God promises one day a king who can deliver all these things will come!

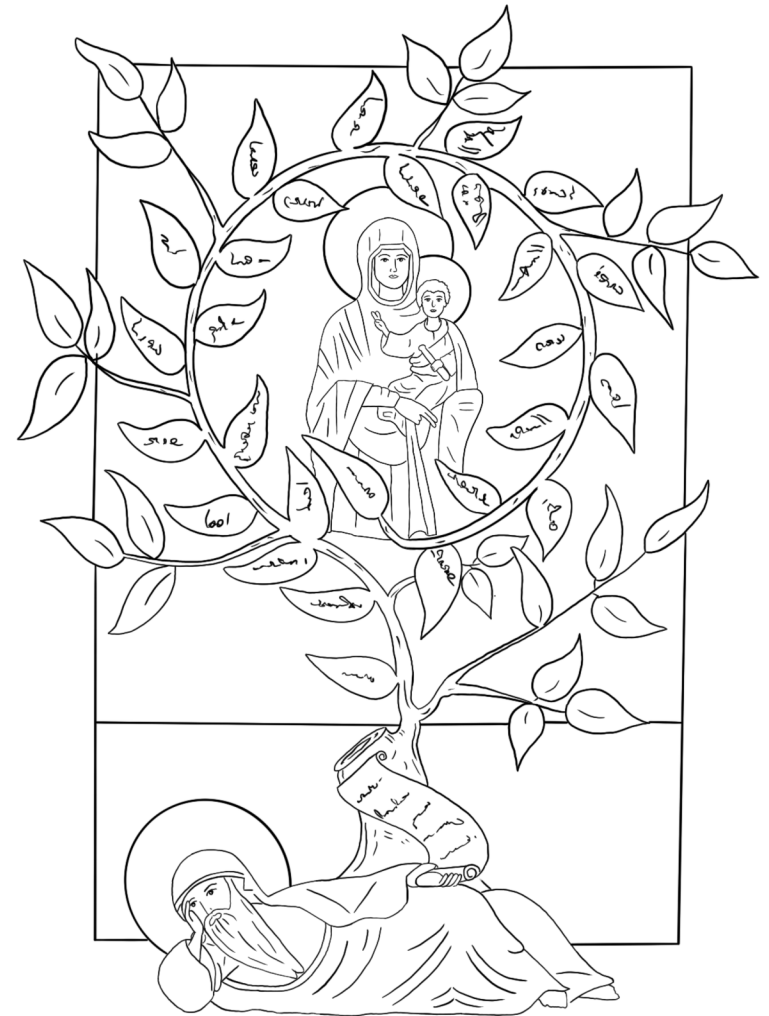
Cedar

Kids



The Way of Blessed Estephan Douaihy

Genealogy of Jesus, Vol 1, No. 9



**“O exult, town of Bethlehem!
David's city, sing with joy!
Born in you, from a virgin's womb,
is creation's Lord and God.”**



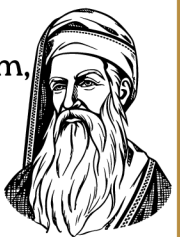


Gospel Corner

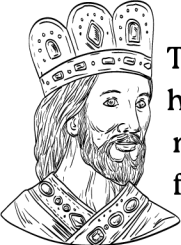
Matthew
1:1-17

There are a lot of names in today's Gospel reading. That is because they are all Jesus' ancestors, from Abraham down to David and then to Jesus. The list goes through 42 generations!

Back in the Old Testament, God had told Abraham, "...and in your descendants all the nations of the earth will find blessing, because you obeyed my command." (Genesis 1:18)



This blessing came in the form of Jesus coming to earth as one of Abraham's descendants.



Then in 2 Samuel, the Lord says to David, "Your house and your kingdom are firm forever before me; your throne shall be firmly established forever." (2 Samuel 7:16)

This indicated that Jesus would come as one of David's descendants as well.

Today's Gospel reading shows us exactly how Jesus came from the line of Abraham and David (with lots of people in between!). God had planned this from the beginning of time and nothing could stop God's plan from happening.



Guess what - God has a plan for you too! He placed you in a family with your own ancestors, knowing who you would be and who you would be related to. He has a story that He has written for you, just like all those people in today's reading. If you stay faithful to the Lord, He will show you that plan as you follow Him.



Did you know?

Genealogy is the study of a family's history and ancestry, including: where they lived, who they married, and how many children they had.



Knowing your genealogy can help you understand your family history, learn about your ancestors' experiences, and preserve family traditions.

What you can do

Talk to your parents or grandparents about your family tree. You might be surprised to find out who some of your ancestors are!



My Family

Fill out the chart below to get started on your family tree. Draw yourself in the bottom circle and write your name in the label. Then add your parents and grandparents. If you have siblings, you can add circles to include them!

