

GENEALOGIES, WHY READ 'EM?

4 good reasons

- A. Individual “nobodies” are important to God. You’re one of them. So am I. God wanted to remind us how much he cares for each one of us.
- “God must love the common man—He made so many of them.” Abe Lincoln*
- * These lists show that everyone is valuable to God as well as the thousands who are unnamed all the way through the Old testament.
Some of these lists included the saved as well as the lost.
 - * There are 6 extensive lists, 3,234 people mentioned in the Bible, mostly in the 16 chapters of the following mostly OT genealogies.
- * Gen 4,5,11
 - * I Chronicles 1-9
 - If you count all the children,, they will mostly be sons. You’ll find the average number of boys per family is 3.4 boys.*
 - From this number I calculated that the 603,000 military-aged men (Numbers 1.46) would come to about 4+ million Hebrews, infants to elderly (7 kids per family).*
 - n.b. Jesus’ family had 5 boys plus sisters (Matthew 13.55).*
 - * Ezra 10, a limited list
 - * Nehemiah 7, another limited list
 - * Matt 1 Jesus’ line began w/ Abraham (v.2), Judah, and ended w/ Joseph (v.16)
You’ll find 5 ladies mentioned, one is unnamed.
 - * Luke 3 Jesus’ line began w/ Joseph (v.23), Jesse, David, Judah, and ended w/ Adam the son of God (v.38).
 - If you only read one chapter a day from youth to old age (1,189 chapters) you would have read the whole Bible 15 times. You would have spent 240 days reading the genealogies, which equals 8 months.*
 - My recommendation: skip ‘em or speed read.*
- B. Just once in your life read carefully and circle every name you think you might know. You’ll recognize some of the kings, Do the same thing 10 years later and you’ll recognize a couple dozen more if you’ve been diligent in your reading. By the by, there are 13 men named Obadiah.
- C. Zoom thru these lists the rest of the time. Or just look at the names you’ve circled. Don’t expend the effort trying to pronounce them with a Hebrew accent. *However, there just might be a special crown for if you do pronounce each one accurately, I’m not sure.*
- * names that end in “el” stand for God = Elohim Daniel, Elijah, Eli,
 - * names that end in “ah” stand for God = Jah, or Jeh, or Jehovah
 - [as in “hallelu-jah” means halle = praise jah = Jehovahah, God]
 - Ariel = lion of God
 - Elijah = Jehovah is my God
 - * Jesus + Jehovah/Yasha = jeh or jah [God] + yasha [saves or Savior]
Joshua & Hosea are basically the same name as Jesus.
 - * Peter = stone, rock, pebble
 - * Philip (my name is a Greek name) = lover of horses
- D. For us in the Church Age it seems the most valuable thing we learn is that Jesus had a true human lineage and He came in fulfillment to promises mad to prophets thousands of years ago.
God had predicted a Messiah a thousand years prior to Jesus’ birth: tribe of Judah, line of David.
Genealogies verify God’s prophecies were real.