

“Resting in Rootedness”

Matthew 1:1-17

Intro: An Army chaplain gave out thousands of New Testaments to soldiers in World War II. He saw men in their bunks open the New Testament, read for a minute or two at the beginning of Matthew, and then close the book and set it aside. Why didn't they keep reading?

I. The New Testament is rooted in the Old Testament

- a. God's promise to Abraham: Genesis 12:3
- b. God's promise to King David: 2 Samuel 7:16
- c. God's prophecy of His Son born to a virgin: Isaiah 7:14

II. Our faith is rooted in God's Word

- a. Hearing and believing: Rom. 10:17
- b. Hearing and holding on: Matthew 13:5-6, 20-21
- c. Hearing, loving, and obeying: John 15:7

III. Our salvation is rooted in Jesus Christ

- a. Pastor Randy's college Bible verses: Jeremiah 17:7-8
- b. Betsy's high school Bible verses: Colossians 2:6-7
- c. The Root runs deeper than we know: Revelation 22:16

Close: The problem with Christmas trees is they have no roots. Either they're artificial to begin with, or they're lopped off and taken home and put in a stand. Either way, in the end, they're dead.

Thank God our salvation is rooted in Jesus Christ! By faith we are rooted in his word, his life, and his love forever.