

Life of Christ

Birth To Final Week-Part One

New Testament
One Lesson



Lesson Goal:

- To describe the life of Christ and through the transforming power of the Holy Spirit gain a deeper knowledge of the person and work of our Redeemer.

Lesson Goal:

OT • Old Testament

NT • New Testament

			OT	NT	TH
W.EEK	TOPIC	SUBJECT MATTER			
1	Creation	General Introduction To Entire Bible	1		
	Ufe of Christ	Birth To Final Week-Part One		1	
	Trinity	Introduction; Existence, Definition, and names for God			1

A. THE FOUR BIOGRAPHERS (MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE, JOHN)





Matt
Lion

Jesus as the righteous King of the Jews, the
Lion of the **Tribe of Judah**
Matthew dwells on **his royal majesty**;



Mark
Ox

Jesus as the Servant of the Lord & People
Emphasis on His Miracles,
Burden Bearer, and **Sacrifice**



Luke
Man

Jesus as the Great Physician and Friend of
Sinners **The Son of Man**, and Mercy.
Luke traces his genealogy back to Adam



John
Eagle

Jesus as the Word of God, the Living Bread
that "**came down from heaven** "
Emphasis on His *Divinity*

1 . **Matthew, the teacher** - known as Levite by Mark and Luke

- a. A publican or tax-collector, for imperial Rome by vocation and hated for it by his own Jewish people.
- b. He became a disciple and an apostle of Jesus Christ (Mt. 9:9; 10:3; Mk. 2: 14; Lk. 5:29; Acts 1: 13).
- c. **His gospel**
 - (1) Written about **A.D. 50 to A.D. 70**
 - (2) Written primarily for Jews
 - (3) **Theme: Christ the King**
 - (4) **Theological emphasis:** Kingdom of God
 - (5) **Distinctives:** Messiah and His discourses (sermons). It stresses Christ's teaching and kingdom living and thus was much used to instruct new Jewish converts.
 - (6) **Key word: "fulfilled"**
 - (7) Indicates Jesus as fulfilling many Old Testament predictions by making mention of more than 60 prophecies.



2. **Mark, the preacher**, also referred to as John Mark.

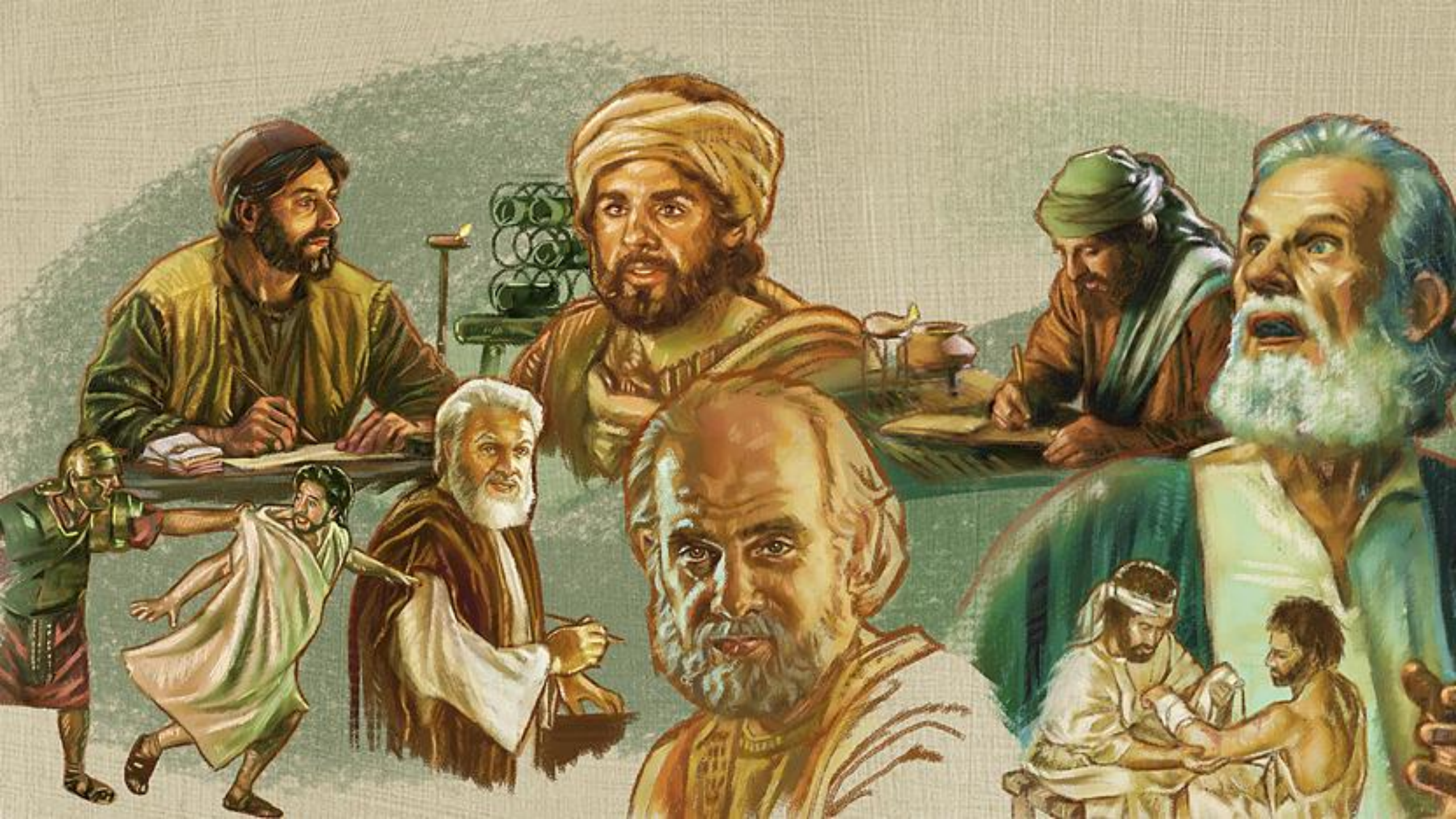
- a. He was the son of Mary of Jerusalem and was related Barnabas also (Col. 4: 10).
- b. He was with Paul and Barnabas on the first missionary trip and is remembered as one who quit. Later he was restored to Paul.
- c. **His gospel**
 - (1) Written probably between **A.D. 65 and A.D. 68.**
 - (2) Written to the Romans or Gentile believers in general as it is scarce in Old Testament references.
 - (3) **Theme:** Christ, the Servant
 - (4) **Emphasis:** Miraculous deeds of Jesus. Mostly records his actions rather than His teaching.
 - (5) **Distinctives include:** It is the most brief gospel account but probably the most action-packed of all.

- (6) The book features the miracles of Christ and the person and work of the Son of God.
- (7) **Key word: "Immediately"**
- (8) Mark's narrative includes certain important hidden aspects of Christ. The outward miraculous works actually teach to a greater degree than words. The fact of his Messiahship is not openly declared. Christ's efforts seek to develop faith in the disciples while obscuring the truth to the skeptics and antagonists.



3. **Luke, the historian** - a "beloved physician" says Paul in Col. 4: 14.

- a. **Luke** was a well-educated man and a close companion of the apostle Paul.
- b. He wrote the gospel account as well as the book of Acts.
- c. **His gospel**
 - (1) Written prior to **A.D. 61**
 - (2) Written to Gentiles mainly but addressed to Theophilus who remains unknown to us.
 - (3) **Theme: Christ, the Perfect Man**
 - (4) **Theological emphasis:** Christ as Messiah, Son of God, prophet. Also prominent throughout the book is the person of the Holy Spirit.



- (5) **Distinctives:** Christ's parables; emphasis on prayer, geographical and historical matters, discipleship, poverty and wealth; humanity and compassion of Christ.
- (6) **Key verse:** (Luke 19: 10) "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. 11
- (7) **Luke's gospel** is the longest New Testament book and also the most literary. This gospel narrative presents an emphasis on women and joy. It has been called the "most beautiful book ever written."

4. **John, the theologian** - John the Beloved

- a. **John** was one of two fisherman's sons known as "**Sons of Thunder.**"
- b. **John**, along with Peter and James, was a member of the inner circle with Jesus,
- c. **His gospel**
 - (1) Written between **A.D. 85 and A.D. 95**
 - (2) Written **to the world**
 - (3) **Theme:** Jesus - God the Son
 - (4) **Theological Emphasis:** Stresses the deity of Christ



- (5) **Distinctives:** Revelation of Christ as God; the new birth; two beautiful rivers of truth which flow through the book are believing and everlasting life; Jesus' seven "I am's"; book records events of only thirty days of Christ's ministry on earth.
- (6) **Key word: "Believe"**
- (7) **Key verse:** (John 20:31) "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name."

B. THE TWO PREFACES

THE BIRTH AND EARLY YEARS OF CHRIST

THE TWO PREFACES

Luke's preface (Lk. 1:1-4)

John's preface (Jn. 1:1-5)

1 . **Luke' s preface I Read Lk. 1: 1-4.**

- a. He states his method of writing (1:2)
- b. He states his purpose for writing (1:3,4).
 - His purpose in writing another story of Jesus' life was to add more detail (as the Spirit led) so that Theophilus and believers in general would know fully the things they had been taught about Jesus and life in Heaven (op. Jn. 20:31).

2. **John's preface (Jn. 1:1-5) Read**

- a. **Jesus Christ was with the Father** in eternity past (Prov. 8:22-31).
- b. Jesus Christ was the **Creator of all things** (1:3),
- c. Jesus Christ **shone in the darkness** which could not extinguish Him (1:5).

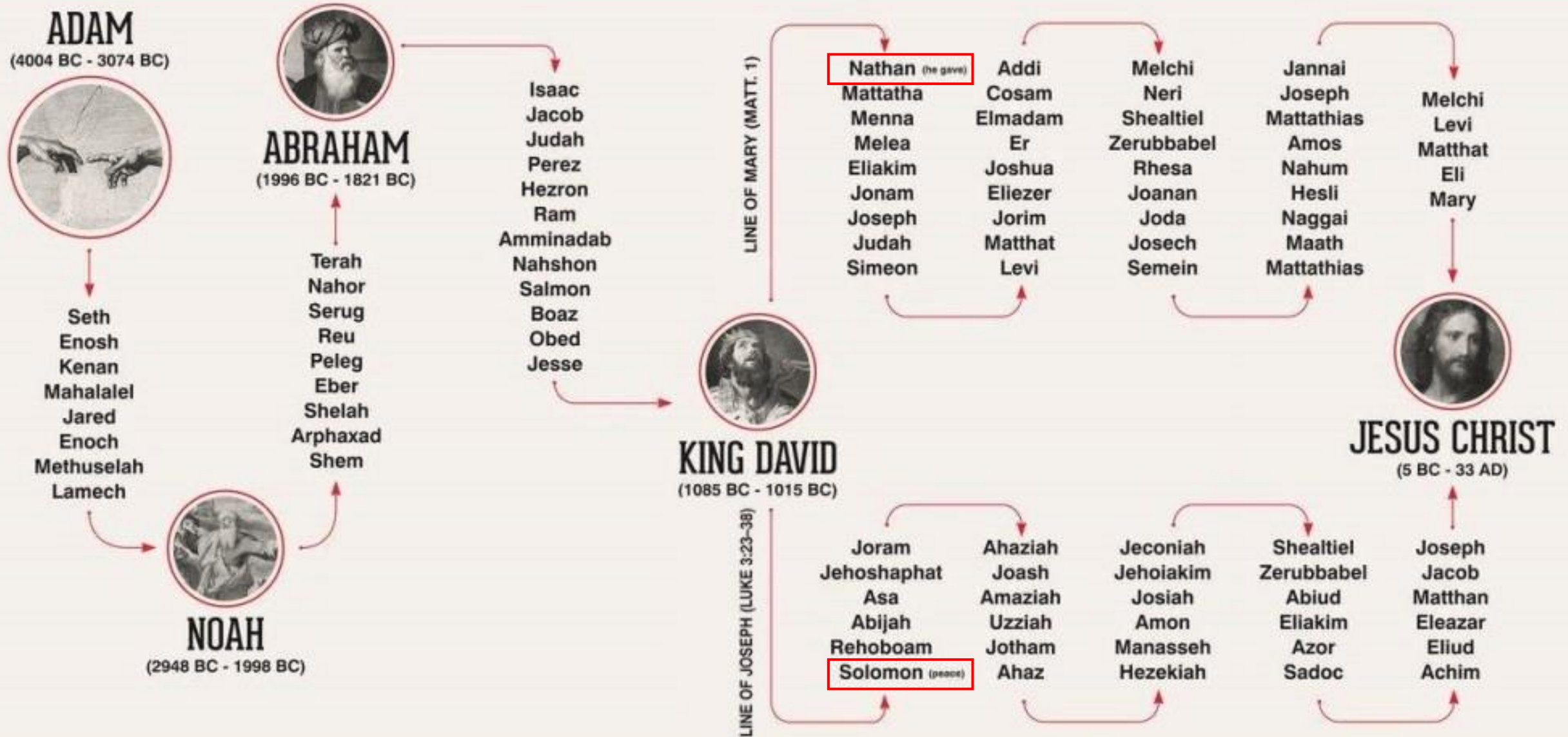


Hugh Claxton

C. THE TWO GENEALOGIES

GENEALOGY of JESUS

[FROM ADAM TO CHRIST]



1. **Matthew's genealogy** (Mt. 1:1-17)

- 1. His account has **forty-one names** in it, including four women: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba.
- 2. He traces the line **forward in time from Abraham to Joseph.**
- 3. He gives **the line of Joseph.**
- 4. He traces the line **from David through his son Solomon.**

2. **Luke's genealogy** (Lk. 3:23-38)

- His account has **seventy-four names** in it.
- 2, He traces the line **backward in time from Joseph to Adam.**
- 3. He traces the line from **David through another son named Nathan.**
- 4. He gives **the line of Mary.**

3. Purpose of these two genealogies

- a. **Matthew's genealogy** provides **proof to the Jews that Jesus has a right to the messianic throne** because He is the fulfillment of the promises to Abraham and David.
- b. **Luke's genealogy.** "The purpose of the genealogy is **to establish that Jesus was legally a descendant of David** (cf. 1:27, 32, 69) and to assign Him a place in the Jewish branch of the human race" (Eerdmans, the New Bible Commentary: Revised, p. 895).

D. THE THREE ANNUNCIATIONS

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To Zacharias	CONCERNING JOHN'S BIRTH	(Lk. 1:5-25)
To Mary	CONCERNING JESUS' BIRTH	(Lk. 1:26-38)
To Joseph	CONCERNING MARY'S PURITY	(Mt. 1:18-25)

1. **To Zacharias, about the birth of John** (Lk. 1:5-25)

- A. The archangel Gabriel appears to Zacharias the priest in the temple.
 - a. He and Elisabeth would have **a son** (1 :13).
 - b, His name would be **John** (1 :13),
 - c, He would become a Spirit-filled **Nazarite** (1:15).
 - d. He would have a successful ministry (1: 16).
 - e, He would **prepare** the way for the Messiah (1 :17).
 - f. His style would be similar to that of **Elijah** (1 :17)



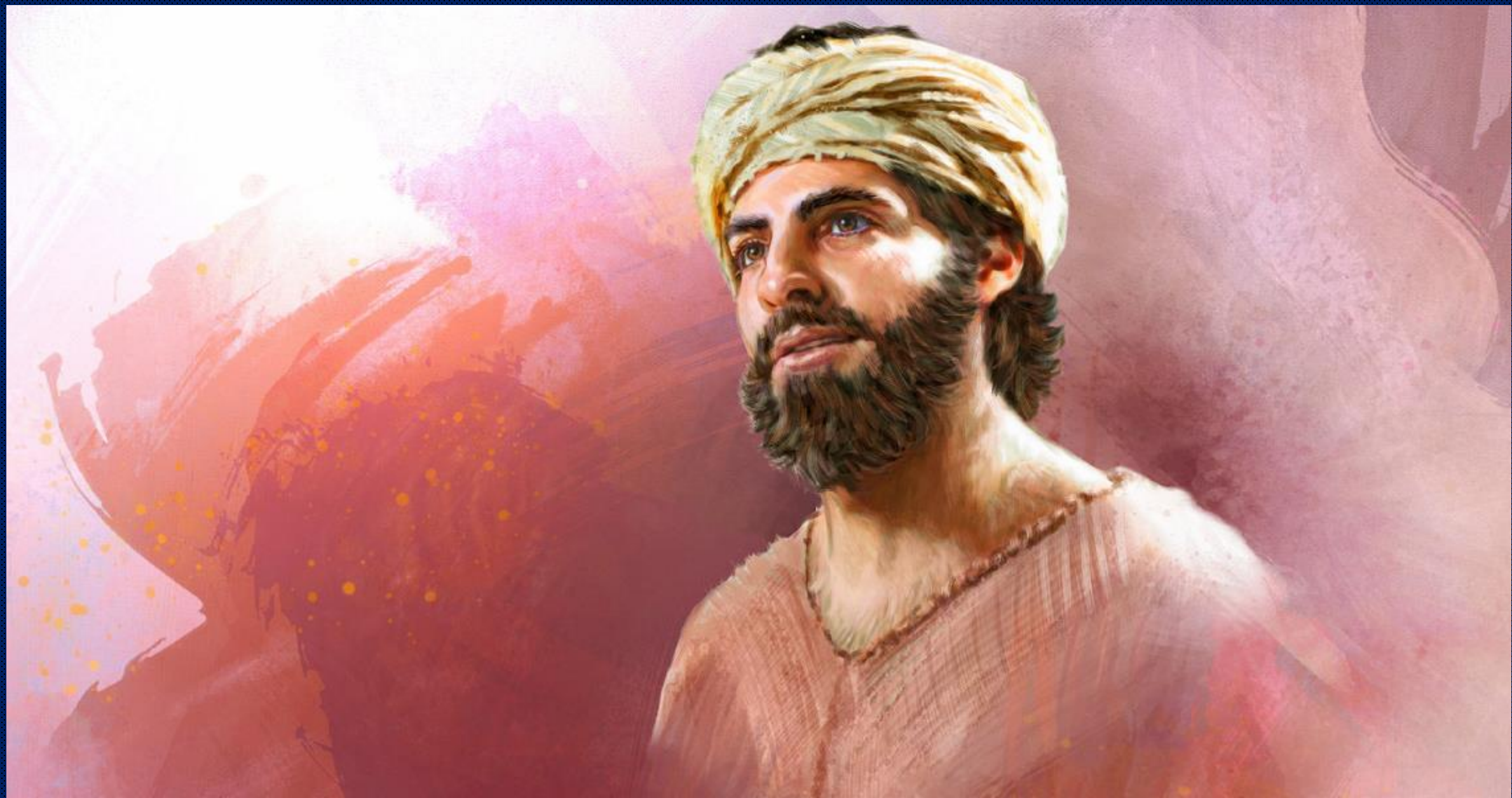
2. To Mary about the birth of Jesus (Lk. 1:26-38)

- 1. **The fact of his birth (1 :31)**. The archangel Gabriel appears to Mary and announces that God has chosen her to bear his blessed Son.
- 2. **The method of his birth (1 :35)**. The archangel is reassuring: "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall over shadow thee."
- 3. **The purpose of his birth (1 :32, 33)**. He would be called the Son of the Highest and would be given the throne of David.
- 4. **The submission to his birth (1 :38)**. Mary sweetly and simply submits to God's will. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word."



3. **To Joseph**, about the purity of Mary (Mt. 1:18-25)

- 1. **The travails of Joseph (1 :18, 19)**. Upon learning of her pregnancy, Joseph, "being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily."
- 2. **The tenderness of the angel (1 :20)**. That very night, however, he is assured in a dream by Gabriel concerning the impending virgin birth of Christ.
- 3. **The titles of the child (1 :21, 23)**. Gabriel refers to this future Babe as Emmanuel, meaning, "God with us."



4. Purpose of these annunciations

- **An annunciation is an announcement.**

Extraordinary truths are communicated here in an extraordinary manner. That the elderly Elisabeth would bear a child is in itself a miracle and pictures the miraculous birth of Messiah which is close at hand.

- God is setting the stage and preparing the way for the coming of His Son and our Savior.

E. THE THREE SONGS OF PRAISE

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PRAISE OF ELISABETH TO MARY (Lk. 1:39-45)

PRAISE OF MARY TO GOD (Lk. 1:46-56)

PRAISE OF ZACHARIAS TO GOD (Lk. 1:57-79)

1. The **praise** of Elisabeth to Mary (Lk. 1:39-45)

- 1. Upon hearing Mary's greeting, Elisabeth's child leaps within her, and she is filled with the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Elisabeth blesses Mary.



2. The **praise** of Mary to God (Lk. 1:46-56)

- Mary praises God for His: In these verses Mary quotes from at least fifteen Old Testament sources and praises God for his manifold characteristics.
 - GRACE (1:46-48)
 - POWER (1:49, 51, 52)
 - MERCY (1: 50)
 - HOLINESS (1 : 49)
 - GOODNESS (1: 53)
 - FAITHFULNESS (1:54-56)



3, To **praise** of Zacharias to God (Lk. 1 :57-79)

- a. Thanking God for the Davidic Covenant (1 :66).
- b. Thanking God for the Abrahamic Covenant (1 :73).
- b. He prophesied that John will:
 - a. John will be Christ's forerunner.
 - b. He will give the knowledge of salvation.
 - c. He will preach repentance.



APPLICATION

THE FIRST THIRTY YEARS OF THE GLORY STORY

- From Glory to Bethlehem (Lk. 2:1-21) **Birth**
 - From Bethlehem to Jerusalem (Lk. 2:22-38) **Dedication**
 - From Jerusalem back to Bethlehem (Mt. 2:1-12) **Visit of Magi**
 - From Bethlehem to Egypt (Mt. 2:13-18) **Escape Trip**
 - From Egypt to Nazareth (Mt. 2:19-23; Lk. 2:40) **Boyhood Days**
 - From Nazareth to Jerusalem (Lk. 2:41-50) **Temple Quiz**
 - From Jerusalem back to Nazareth (Lk. 2:51, 52) **Preparation Years**
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