

**Precious  
Truth**

**COMPARING THE  
GENEALOGIES OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
WITH COMMENTS ON  
THE APPARENT  
DISCREPANCIES**



## Little Flock #117 – Toplady

1. Not to ourselves we owe  
That we, O God, are Thine;  
Jesus, the Lord, our night broke through  
And gave us light divine.
2. The Father's grace and love,  
This blessed mercy gave,  
And Jesus left the throne above,  
His wandering sheep to save.
3. No more the heirs of wrath-  
Thy sovereign love we see;  
And, Father, in confiding faith,  
We cast our souls on Thee.
4. Our hearts look up to see  
The glory Thou hast given,  
And dwell e'en now where we shall be  
With Christ, Thine heirs, in heaven.
5. With the adopted band,  
Soon shall we see Thee there:  
With them and Him in glory stand,  
And all His honours share.

There are two genealogy lines of Jesus found in the New Testament: **(Matthew 1:1-16 & Luke 3:23-38)** and two in the Old Testament: **Genesis: 5:1-32 & 11:10-32**. Matthew refers to the line of Joseph while Luke refers to the line of Mary. Matthew shows Jesus' lineage through David the King by way of Solomon while Luke writes of the lineage of Jesus through Mary, the mother of Jesus, by way of Nathan, David's oldest son, averting Jeconiah's curse **(Jeremiah 22:30)**.

Two traditions are helpful in the understanding of Jewish genealogies:

1. First, the "seed" is passed through the father so the lineage of the father establishes which tribe a Semite/Hebrew comes from.
2. The Jews establish someone as being Jewish by having a mother who is Jewish.

Both of these traditions help understand the seeming differences in the genealogies of Matthew and Luke. The two genealogy lines of Jesus have confused some and have even been the basis of arguments by infidels who state that the Gospels are unreliable because the two genealogy lines conflict with each other. To the eye of faith, God's sovereignty in grace and righteousness government, are seen.

There is some disagreement as to whether the Genesis genealogies are telescoped (some names missed for various reasons) and this of course makes a big difference in calculating the time from Adam to Abraham. Up until Shem the four Genealogies are the same and it will be seen that even after Shem the Genesis genealogies and Luke's genealogy are the same, except for the deletion of Cainan, who was cursed by Noah and omitted in Genesis because he was not in the line of Shem. He is included in Luke where the emphasis is *grace to all* as he was included as a servant in Shem's house (see Gen. 9:26, 27). Genesis and Luke being the same is strong evidence that the Genesis genealogies showing the time and ages from Adam to Abraham are not telescoped.

## THE CHRONOLOGY CAN BE SUMMARIZED: (FROM JND)

### Years

From the creation to the flood, when Noah was 600 years old <b>(Gen. 5. 3-29; 7: 11)</b> .....	1,656
From the flood to the birth of Terah <b>(Gen.11:10-25)</b> .....	222
When his father died at the age of <b>205</b> years, Abraham was <b>75</b> .....	130
Which fixes his birth, from the creation of the world.....	<b>2,008</b>
His entrance into the land of Canaan took place 75 years later <b>(Gen. 12.4)</b> .....	75
Up to the exodus from Egypt <b>(Gen. 15. 13, 16; Ex. 12. 40)</b> .....	430
Up to the building of the temple <b>480</b> years later .....	480
Length of Solomon's reign, less three years already past <b>(I Kings 6. 1)</b> .....	37
37 Kings of Israel and Judah, up to the Babylonish captivity <b>(See chart on page 8)</b> .....	370
Length of the captivity <b>70</b> years, and up to Nehemiah 80 years .....	150
Sixty-nine 'weeks' less <b>33</b> years <b>(Dan. 9. 26)</b> .....	450
From the creation to the birth of the Messiah .....	<b>4,000</b>

### NOTE #1:

**First** Luke seems to contradict Matthew with a different name for Joseph's father. Luke is the lineage of Mary and the name Heli, Mary's father, is the father-in-law of Joseph. There are several points to note:

- The Jerusalem Talmud indicates that Mary was the daughter of Heli (Haggigah, Book 77, 4).
- Since the "seed" is passed through the father, Luke did not interject "Jesus the Son of Mary". Luke would only name men who were the fathers of sons in the lineage and did not include any women/mother's names. Thus Heli is mentioned and just appears to be the father of Joseph.
- Original sin is passed through the father. Thus God would not have Jesus conceived by Joseph but rather, the sinless Son of God, is conceived by the Holy Spirit.

**Second**, there is a curse on the throne of David mentioned in the **Jeremiah 22:30**. Joseph is directly related to Solomon (the son of David the King) by the lineage found in Matthew and thus Joseph inherits the curse. Through the conception of Jesus by Mary and the Holy Spirit, both original sin and the curse of David's throne are bypassed. Notice that our Lord Jesus is still a descendant of David through Mary's line by way of David's other son, Nathan. As well, Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, is a direct descendant to the throne of King David via Solomon as written in Matthew, and legally "adopts" Jesus and makes both the marriage to Mary and the birth of Jesus legally official and a Jewish family.

- This legally brings Jesus into the lineage of King David as a Jew without inheriting the original sin of mankind or the curse on David's throne.

### NOTE #2:

**Matthew 1:17** states that there are **14 generations** from Abraham to David, which is clear on the list to the right, and **14 generations** from David to the exile to Babylon which happens with the birth of Jeconiah (note that Jeconiah and the exile are counted twice).

As the verse says, "there are 14 generations from David TO THE EXILE TO BABYLON". So, David is #1 and the exile is #14. From the Exile to Jesus, the Exile is again counted up to Jesus.

- Abraham to David = 14
- David to the **Exile** = 14
- the **Exile** to Jesus = 14

**NOTE #3:** In Matthew there is obvious "telescoping" with some names missing. Jechonias (Jehoiakim or Coniah) is included, though cursed, as he is a marker for the exile to Babylon.

GENESIS 11:10-32; 5:1-32 (REVERSE ORDER)		MATTHEW 1:4-16 (REVERSE ORDER)	LUKE 3:23-38
		JESUS CALLED CHRIST	
		Joseph (husband of Mary)	
			Heli
			Matthat
		Jacob	Levi
			Melchi
		Matthan	Janna
			Joseph
		Eleazar	Mattathias
			Amos
		Eliud	Naum
			Esli
		Achim	Nagge
			Maath
		Sadoc	Mattathias
		Azor	Semei
			Jospeh
		Eliakim	Juda
		Abiud	Joanna
			Rhesa
		Zorabbabel	
		Salathiel	
			Neri
			Melchi
		Jechonias/Jehoiakim/Coniah	
			Addi
			Cosam
		Josias	
			Elmodam
		Amon	
			Er
			Jose
		Manasses	Eliezer
			Jorim
		Ezekias	
		Achaz	Matthat
		Jotham	Levi
		Ozias	Esli
			Nagge

**NOTE #1**

BLUE is used  
when the name  
is especially  
significant

YELLOW is used  
when the  
genealogies are  
the same

**NOTE #2**

**NOTE #3**

#### NOTE #4:

The awful sins of Ahaziah, Athaliah (the daughter of Jezebel and Ahab), Joash (after the death of his faithful uncle Jehoiada) and Amaziah are given in **2 Kings chapters 8-14**. These ungodly kings are excluded from the genealogy in Matthew and are a solemn reminder of the government of God. When God gives us privileges He will expect that we carry out these privileges with fear and faithful responsibility before Him.

#### NOTE #5:

This is the point where the split between Mary the Mother of Jesus and Joseph the father of Jesus occurs. Almost all of the names in the genealogy lines found in Matthew and Luke match up until this point. In Matthew, the lineage leading to Joseph starts with **Solomon**, and in Luke the lineage leading to Mary starts with **Nathan**.

Solomon the younger brother takes the throne. Note that the first born inherits the rights EXCEPT when God changes it. This is one of these exceptions where God allows the younger brother to take the throne.

(See **1 Chronicles 3:4-9** and **2 Samuel 5:14**) for proof that Nathan is the older brother. This is yet another wonderful example of God's sovereignty!

#### NOTE #6:

**Four women** are mentioned in the genealogy in Matthew who were guilty of adultery or under a curse. This again shows the wonderful sovereign grace of God. As mentioned at the beginning, women were normally not mentioned in a Jewish genealogy but God mentions them here to magnify His grace. All have sinned and no one was worthy to be found in the genealogy of Christ Jesus.

#### NOTE #7:

Abram, who is later called Abraham, is God's Sovereign choice to carry the "elect" lineage of the Creator after Adam failed regardless of the fact that Haran was the oldest son. He was God's sovereign choice.

In **Genesis 15:13** and **Acts 7:6** it is **400 yrs** because it is from Abram's seed (Isaac) to the exodus but in **Exodus 12:40** and **Galatians 4:17** it is **430 yrs** being from Abram's call up to the exodus. Thus they have the same end-point but different beginnings. The **30 yrs** difference is related to the fact that Abram was **75** when called out of Er of the Chaldees (**Genesis 12:4**) and **100** when Isaac was born (**Genesis 21:5**). The extra **5 yrs** must have been when Abram sojourned in Haran until his father Terah (an idol worshipper died - see **Joshua 24:2**, rather than going directly into the promised land - **Genesis 11:31**).

GENESIS 11:10-32 (REVERSE ORDER)	MATTHEW 1:4-16 (REVERSE ORDER)	LUKE 3:23-38
		Meath
		Neri
		Semei
		Simeon
		Juda
		Jospeh
	Joram	Jonan
		Eliakim
	Josaphat	Melea
	Asa	Menan
	Abia	
		Mattatha
	Reboam	
	Solomon	Nathan
	DAVID the KING (Uriah's wife)	
	Jesse	
	Obed	
	Booz (Ruth)	
	Salmon (Rachab)	
	Naasson	
	Aminadab	
	Aram	
	Esrom	
	Phares	
	Judas (Thamar)	
	Jacob	
	Isaac	
	Abraham (Abram)	
Terah		Thara
Nahor		Nachor
Serug		Saruch
Reu		Ragau
Peleg		Phalec
Eber		Heber
Shelab		Sala

#### NOTE #4

Four kings are omitted here:

- Ahaziah (1 yr)
- Athaliah (6 yrs)
- Joash (40 yrs)
- Amaziah (29yrs)

Approximately 75 yrs.

A careful study of 2 Kings 8:25-9:37 and 2 Chron. 22 will explain why!

#### NOTE #5

#### NOTE #6

Four women are mentioned:

- Uriah's wife (adultery)
- Ruth (Moabitiss)
- Rachab (Harlot)
- Tamar (played the harlot)

#### NOTE #7

#### **NOTE #8:**

Cainan had been cursed by Noah (**Genesis 9:20-27**). Noah drank too much wine and while drunken, became unclothed and naked. Ham saw his father naked and instead of looking away and covering him, he does nothing and tells his brothers about it. This led Noah to curse the son of Ham whose name was Cainan. Noah did not curse Ham, but cursed the descendants of Ham. The curse however included the terms that Cainan shall dwell in the house of Shem as a servant. Luke thus includes Cainan in between Shem's son, Arphaxad, and Arphaxad's son, Shelah. The name Cainan is not mentioned in Genesis because he is not in the line of Shem, while Luke in grace mentions him (**Gen. 9: 26, 27**) as a servant and thus in his genealogy line. This is another example of God's wonderful grace to someone under a curse and not even in the genealogical line by birth.

#### **NOTE #9:**

The genealogy line continues with Shem. Out of Noah's three sons, Shem is the only one to carry on The Creator's "elected" seed lineage. Most translations state that Japheth is the oldest (**Genesis 10:21**) but God's sovereign choice was Shem.

The first born USUALLY inherits the birth rights and that is the way it is UNLESS the Creator changes it.

#### **NOTE #10:**

Who is missing here? It is Cain and Abel. Both are not part of the lineage because Abel was murdered by Cain and had no descendants and Cain and his descendants were cursed by God. (**See Genesis 4:11-26**)

#### **NOTE #11:**

Why is the Creator first? The Creator is the Son of the Father, the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ who created heaven, earth and all mankind.

The Creator JESUS, our Saviour and Lord came in flesh in order to glorify God about the question of sin and sins of mankind and to grant salvation to those who would have faith in Him. He did this as an act of love for His Father and for His created sons and daughters of Adam.



GENESIS 5:1-32 (REVERSE ORDER)
Cainan omitted
Arphaxad
Shem
Noah
Lamech
Methuselah
Enoch
Jared
Mahalaleel
Caanan
Enos
Seth
Adam
God (The Creator)

**NOTE # 8**

**NOTE # 9**

**NOTE # 10**

Cain and Abel

**NOTE # 11**

LUKE 3:23-38
Cainan included
Arphaxad
Sem
Noe
Lamech
Methusala
Enoch
Jared
Maleleel
Cainan
Enos
Seth
Adam (son of God)
God

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

## THE KINGS AND PROPHETS OF JUDAH AND ISRAEL

subsequent to the reigns of Saul, David and Solomon,  
which were of 40 years each (1095-975 B.C.)

then from 975-606 B.C. (370 yrs) all the kings of Judah and Israel till the captivity

PROPHETS OF JUDAH	KINGS OF JUDAH	DATE REIGNED-B.C.	YEARS REIGNED	SCRIPTURE	YEARS REIGNED	DATE REIGNED-B.C.	KINGS OF ISRAEL	PROPHETS OF ISRAEL
Shemaiah	Rehoboam	975	17	1 Kings 14	22	975	Jeroboam	The Man of God from Judah
Iddo	Abijam	958	13	1 Kings 15:1				Ahijah
Azariah son of Oded Hanani	Asa	955	41	1 Kings 15:9				
				1 Kings 15:25	2	954	Nadab	
				1 Kings 15:33	24	953	Baasha	
				1 Kings 16:8	2	930	Elah	
				1 Kings 16:10	7-days	929	Zimri	
				1 Kings 16:16	12	929	Omri	Elijah
Jehu, son of Hanani	Jehoshaphat	914	25	1 Kings 16:29	22	918	Ahab	Micah, son of Imlah
				1 Kings 22:41				
Jahaziel The Levite				1 Kings 22:52	2	897	Ahaziah	Elisha
				2 Kings 3:1				
				2 Kings 8:16	12	896	Joram	
Eliezer son of Dodavah	Jehoram	892	2 Kings 8:25	2 Kings 8:25				
	Ahaziah	885	1	2 Kings 10:36	28	884	Jehu	
	Athaliah	884		2 Kings 12:1				
Zechariah son of Jehoiada	Jehoash	878	40	2 Kings 13:1	17	856	Jehoahaz	Jonah
				2 Kings 13:10	16	841	Jehoash	
Unnamed Prophet	Amaziah	839	29	2 Kings 14:1				
				2 Kings 14:23	4	825	Jeroboam 2	Hosea
				2 Chron 25:15	11	784	Interregnum	Amos
					6 months	773	Zachariah	
Zechariah	Uzziah	810	52	2 Chron 26:5				
				2 Kings 14:21	1 month	772	Shallum	
				2 Kings 15:8	10	772	Menahem	
				2 Kings 15:17	2	761	Pekahiah	
				2 Kings 15:23	20	759	Pekah	
Isaiah				2 Chron 28:9				Oded
Micah	Jotham	758	16	2 Kings 15:32	9	739	Anarchy	
	Ahaz	742	16	2 Kings 16:1			Hoshea	
				2 Kings 17:1				
	Hezekiah	727	29	2 Kings 18:1		721	Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, puts an end to the kingdom of Israel by taking Samaria in the 9 <sup>th</sup> year of Hoshea, and carries away the people to Assyria.	
				2 Kings 17:6				
Joel	Manasseh	698	55	2 Kings 21:1				
	Amon	643	2	2 Kings 21:19				
Jeremiah	Josiah	641	31	2 Kings 22:1		606	THE CAPTIVITY	
Habakkuk	Jehoahaz	610	3 months	2 Kings 23:31			Nebuchadnezzar reigns, at first conjointly with Nabopolassar and carries away the Jews to Babylon.	
Zephaniah	Jehoiakim	610	11	2 Kings 23:36			The 'times of the Gentiles' begins as well as the 70 years of captivity.	
Ezekiel	Jehoiachin	599	3 months	2 Kings 24:8				
Daniel				2 Kings 24:1				
Obadiah								
	Zedekiah	599	11	2 Kings 24:18		604	Nebuchadnezzar reigns alone.	
				2 Kings 25		588	Nebuchadnezzar completely sacks Jerusalem, city and temple.	
						538	Cyrus, King of Persia, captures Babylon and reigns with Darius and then reigns alone and decrees to rebuild the temple.	
						536	Cyrus reigns and in the first year decrees a party under Zerubbabel to go and rebuild the temple at Jerusalem ending the 70 years.	
	GOVERNORS							
Haggai	Zerubbabel	536		Ezra 1:11				
Zechariah	Ezra	468		Ezra 7:1				
Malachi	Nehemiah	455		Neh 1:1				
	Messiah born	5						

## Little Flock # 10 - T. Kelly, 1802

1. Grace is the sweetest sound  
That ever reached our ears,  
When conscience charged and justice frown'd,  
'Twas grace removed our fears.

2. 'Tis freedom to the slave,  
'Tis light and liberty;  
It takes its terror from the grave,  
From death its victory.

3. Grace is a mine of wealth  
Laid open to the poor;  
Grace is the sov'reign spring of health;  
'Tis Life for evermore.

4. Of grace then let us sing !  
(A joyful, wondrous theme !)  
Who grace has brought, shall glory bring,  
And we shall reign with Him.

5. Then shall we see His face  
With all the saints above,  
And sing forever of His grace,  
For ever of His love.

**Errol Ferguson**

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