

# A MINISTRY FOR HUNGRY SAINTS

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

† THE BOOK OF LUKE

WHAT WE MOST ASSUREDLY BELIEVE

WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRIES, ASSOCIATED

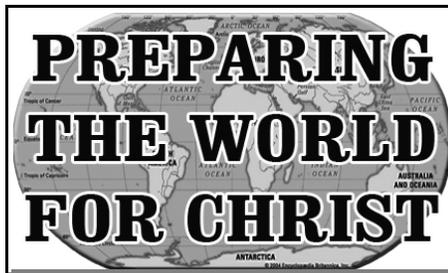
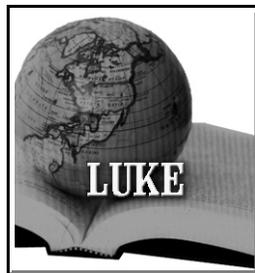
*An overview of the Gospel of Luke, by Given O. Blakely*

Lesson # 12

COMMENTARY ON: 3:1-23b-38

## THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

The genealogy of Jesus is intended to confirm the government of God over everything involved in, or associated with, the Word becoming flesh, and dwelling among men. Throughout the entire process we behold the impossibility of overturning what God has determined. It is also confirmed that His election is not driven by ungoverned history, or in any way determined by human response. This should give no one any difficulty, because God created man, and all men belong to Him. When tracing the genealogy of Jesus, Divine choice is the only way of consistently accounting for those recounted in the lineage. Most of the people in the listing are fundamentally unknown, with no inspired commentary on their lives. In the beginning of the genealogy, From Adam to Noah, progenitors begat children over life spans ranging from 500 to 930 years. The billions, even trillions, of offspring are staggering to consider – and yet out of them all, seventy-five were selected, the greatest of which was Jesus.



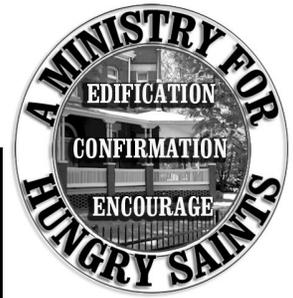
Since May, 1993, a ministry instituted for the encouragement of believers in Christ





**The Book of Luke. 2/20/2015**

**Lesson Number 12**



A MINISTRY INITIATED IN MAY 1993, AND DEDICATED TO STRENGTHENING THOSE WHO ARE IN CHRIST, BY BUILDING THEIR FAITH, ENHANCING THEIR JOY, AND STABILIZING THEIR HOPE, ENABLING THEM TO WORK OUT THEIR SALVATION WITH FEAR AND TREMBLING.

**TRANSLATION LEGEND:** ABP=Apostolic Bible Polygot m(1992); ALT=Analytical-Literal Translation (2005), AMPLIFIED =Amplified Bible (1965), ABP=Apostolic Bible Polygot with Greek Interlinear (2003); ASV=American Standard Version (1901), BBE=Bible in Basic English (1949), BRENT=Brenton's English Septuagint; CEB =Common English Bible (2011); CEV=Contemporary English Version (1995); DRA=Douay-Rheims (1899), EMTV =English Majority Text (2002); ERV =English Revised Version (1885), ETRV = Easy to Read (1999), ESV=English Stand Version (2001), GENEVA=Geneva Bible (1599), GNB=Good News (1966), GSNT =Goodspeed (1923), GWN =God's Word (1995), IE= International English (1973), ISV=International Standard Version (1967), JPS=Jewish Publication Society (1917), JUB=Jubilee Bible (2003); KJV=King James Version (1611), LITV= Literal Translation of the Bible (1976), LIVING=Living Bible (1971), MESSAGE=The Message (1993), MKJV= Modern KJV (1962), MONTGOMERY=Montgomery's New Testament (2001), MRD=Peshitta-James Murdock Translation (1852), NAB=New American Bible (2002), NASB=New American Standard Bible (1977), NAU=New American Standard Bible (1995), NIB=New International Bible, NIV=New International Version (1984), NJB=New Jerusalem Bible (1985), NKJV=New King James Version (1979), NLT=New Living Translation (1996), NRSV=New Revised Standard Version (1989), PHILLIPS=J B Phillips New Testament (1962), PNT=Bishop's New Testament (1595), RSV=Revised Standard Version (1952), TNK=JPS Tanakj (1985), WEB=Webster Bible (1833), WEYMOUTH=Weymouth's New Testament (1903), WILLIAMS=William's New Testament (1937), TYNDALE=Tyndale's Bible (1526), WYCLIFFE=Wycliffe New Testament (1382), YLT =Young's Literal Translation (1862)

**GREEK LEXICON LEGEND**

LEXICON LEGEND: FRIEBERG = Friberg Lexicon, UBS = Barclay-Newman, LOUW-NIDA = Louw-Nida Lexicon, LIDDELL SCOTT

PERSUADED OF THE NECESSITY OF KNOWING THE CERTAINTY OF THE THINGS WE BELIEVE, LUKE MAKES US MORE FIRM BY BUTTRESSING OUR FAITH, AND CONFIRMING WE HAVE NOT EMBRACED FABLES.

**DISCLAIMER:** The quoting of other translations is not to be taken as a condoning of them. My purpose is rather to show the remarkable diversity, and sometimes outright contradictions that exist among these various versions of Scripture. Our understanding of the Word of God ultimately depends upon our comprehension of the Lord Himself and His eternal purpose. Where this understanding is not present, we are shut up to scholasticism and conjecture, both of which are of the world, not of God.

# THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS

.. Luke 3:23b ... Jesus ... being (as was supposed) the son of <sup>(1)</sup> Joseph, which was the son of <sup>(2)</sup> Heli (*uncertain*), <sup>(3)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(3)</sup> Matthat (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(4)</sup> Levi (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(5)</sup> Melchi (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(6)</sup> Janna (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(7)</sup> Joseph (*uncertain*), <sup>(8)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(8)</sup> Mattathias (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(9)</sup> Amos (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(10)</sup> Naum (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(11)</sup> Eslu (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(12)</sup> Nagge (*uncertain*), <sup>(13)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(13)</sup> Maath (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(14)</sup> Mattathias (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(15)</sup> Semei (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(16)</sup> Joseph (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(17)</sup> Juda (*uncertain*), <sup>(18)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(18)</sup> Joanna (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(19)</sup> Rhesa (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(20)</sup> Zorobabel (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(21)</sup> Salathiel (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(22)</sup> Neri (*uncertain*), <sup>(23)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(23)</sup> Melchi (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(24)</sup> Addi (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(25)</sup> Cosam (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(26)</sup> Elmodam (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(27)</sup> Er (*uncertain*), <sup>(28)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(28)</sup> Jose (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(29)</sup> Eliezer (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(30)</sup> Jorim (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(31)</sup> Matthat, which was the son of <sup>(32)</sup> Levi, <sup>(33)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(33)</sup> Simeon (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(34)</sup> Juda (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(35)</sup> Joseph (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(36)</sup> Jonan (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(37)</sup> Eliakim (*uncertain*), <sup>(38)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(37)</sup> Melea (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(39)</sup> Menan (*uncertain*), which was the son of <sup>(40)</sup> Mattatha (*not mentioned*), which was the son of <sup>(41)</sup> Nathan, which was the son of <sup>(42)</sup> David, <sup>(43)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(43)</sup> Jesse, which was the son of <sup>(44)</sup> Obed, which was the son of <sup>(45)</sup> Booz (Boaz), which was the son of <sup>(46)</sup> Salmon, which was the son of <sup>(47)</sup> Naasson (Nahshon), <sup>(48)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(48)</sup> Aminadab (Aminadab), which was the son of <sup>(49)</sup> Aram (Ram), which was the son of <sup>(50)</sup> Esrom (Hezron), which was the son of <sup>(51)</sup> Phares (Phares), which was the son of <sup>(52)</sup> Juda (Judah) was the son of <sup>(53)</sup> Jacob, which was the son of <sup>(54)</sup> Isaac, which was the son of <sup>(55)</sup> Abraham, which was the son of <sup>(56)</sup> Thara (Terah), which was the son of <sup>(57)</sup> Nachor (Nahor), <sup>(58)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(58)</sup> Saruch (Serug), which was the son of <sup>(59)</sup> Ragau (Reu), which was the son of <sup>(60)</sup> Phalec (Pegleg), which was the son of <sup>(61)</sup> Heber (Eber), which was the son of <sup>(62)</sup> Sala (Salah), <sup>(63)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(63)</sup> Cainan, which was the son of <sup>(64)</sup> Arphaxad, which was the son of <sup>(65)</sup> Sem (Shem), which was the son of <sup>(66)</sup> Noe (Noah), which was the son of <sup>(67)</sup> Lamech, <sup>(68)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(68)</sup> Mathusala (Methuselah), which was the son of <sup>(69)</sup> Enoch, which was the son of <sup>(70)</sup> Jared, which was the son of <sup>(71)</sup> Maleleel (Mahaleleel), which was the son of <sup>(72)</sup> Cainan, <sup>(73)</sup>Which was the son of <sup>(73)</sup> Enos, which was the son of <sup>(74)</sup> Seth, which was the son of <sup>(75)</sup> Adam, which was the son of God." – **75 generations, over 4,000 years** – Genesis, Numbers, Joshua, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah

..... Luke 3:23b-38; Genesis 5:3-31; 10:22-11:16 46:12; Num 26:21; Ruth 4:19-20; 2 Sam 5:13

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### A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE TEXT

The genealogy of Jesus is intended to confirm the government of God over everything involved in, or associated with, the Word becoming flesh, and dwelling among men. God is consistently represented in Scripture as governing the world at a remarkable level, and with absolute consistency.

#### SOVEREIGN

- ⇒ GOVERNOR: *"For the kingdom is the LORD'S: and He is the Governor among the nations."* (Psa 22:28)
- ⇒ GOD AT THE DETAILED LEVEL: *"For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment."* (Deut 10:17-18)
- ⇒ HE SET BOUNDARIES: *"When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel."* (Deut 32:8)
- ⇒ HE DETERMINED TIMES AND PLACES. *"And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after Him, and find Him, though He*

## INTRODUCTION

- be not far from every one of us: For in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also His offspring."* (Acts 17:26-28)
- ⇒ HE DOES WHATEVER HE PLEASES. *"But our God is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased."* (Psa 115:3)
- ⇒ NONE CAN HINDER OR INTERROGATE HIM: *"And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest thou?"* (Dan 4:35).
- ⇒ HE MANAGES OPPOSITES. *"The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: He bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up. The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: He bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and He hath set the world upon them. He will keep the feet of his saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the LORD shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall He thunder upon them: the LORD shall judge the ends of the earth; and He shall give strength unto His king, and exalt the horn of his anointed."* (1 Sam 2:8-10)
- ⇒ HE IS THE SUPREME LAWGIVER. *"There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?"* (James 4:12)
- ⇒ HE CAN TURN THE KING'S HEART. *"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: He turneth it whithersoever He will."* (Prov 21:1)
- ⇒ ULTIMATELY, IT IS GOD WITH WHOM WE HAVE TO DO. *"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."* (Heb 4:13)

Carrying out this genealogy required a Sovereign God. There is no way that these names could possibly be linked together independently of Divine management and causation.

Throughout the entire process we behold the impossibility of overturning what God has determined. Such an overthrow was attempted by Satan and his hosts. However, their aggregate efforts could not delay the entrance of the Word into the world so much as a day, or even an hour. When the "fulness of the time" came, the Christ was born (Gal 4:4).

#### ELECTION

Although it is not a popular subject among some, the genealogy of Jesus is a glaring demonstration of the election of God. By "election," I mean the choice made by God owing to His own will. This genealogy also confirms that God's election is not driven by

**Carrying out this genealogy required a Sovereign God. There is no way that these names could possibly be linked together independently of Divine management and causation.**

ungoverned history, or in any way determined by human response.

⇒ JESUS IS CALLED “ELECT: *“Behold My Servant, whom I uphold; Mine elect, in whom My soul delighteth; I have put My spirit upon Him: He shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.”* (Isa 42:1)

*“Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a Chief Corner Stone, **Elect**, Precious: and he that believeth on Him shall not be confounded.”* (1 Pet 2:6)

⇒ ISRAEL IS CALLED “ELECT.” *“For Jacob my servant’s sake, and Israel **Mine elect**, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known Me.”* (Isa 45:4)

*“And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and **Mine elect** shall inherit it, and My servants shall dwell there.”* (Isa 65:9)

*“They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of My people, and **Mine elect** shall long enjoy the work of their hands.”* (Isa 65:22)

⇒ THE SAVED ARE CALLED “ELECT.” *“And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for **the elect’s sake** those days shall be shortened.”* (Matt 24:22; Mk 13:20)

*“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive **the very elect.**”* (Matt 24:24; Mk 13:22)

*“And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together **His elect** from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.”* (Matt 24:31; Mk 13:27)

*“And shall not God avenge **His own elect**, which cry day and night unto*

*Him, though He bear long with them?”* (Luke 18:7).

*“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of **God’s elect**? It is God that justifieth”* (Rom 8:33).

*“Therefore I endure all things for **the elect’s sakes**, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”* (2 Tim 2:10)

*“Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of **God’s elect**, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness.”* (Titus 1:1)

*“**Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.”* (1 Pet 1:2)

*“The church that is at Babylon, **electd together with you**, saluteth you; and so doth Marcus my son.”* (1 Pet 5:13)

*“Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make **your calling and election** sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall.”* (2 Pet 1:10)

⇒ DIVINE CHOICE AND PURPOSE ARE ACCORDING TO ELECTION. *“For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, **that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth.**”* (Rom 9:11)

⇒ THE “REMNANT” ARE ACCOUNTED FOR BY ELECTION. *“Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to **the election of grace**”* (Rom 11:5)

⇒ ELECTION IS ASSOCIATED WITH GRACE. *“Even so then at this present time also there is a remnant according to **the election of grace.**”* (Rom 11:5)

⇒ OBTAINING SALVATION IS ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTION. *“What then? Israel*

*hath not obtained that which he seeketh for; but **the election hath obtained it**, and the rest were blinded”* (Rom 11:7)

⇒ THE BELOVED OF GOD ARE ASSOCIATED WITH ELECTION. *“As concerning the gospel, they are enemies for your sakes: but as touching **the election**, they are beloved for the fathers’ sakes.”* (Rom 11:28)

⇒ THE SAINTS ARE THE ELECT OF GOD. *“Put on therefore, as **the elect of God**, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering.”* (Col 3:12)

⇒ GOD’S ELECTION IS MADE KNOWN IN MEN’S RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL. *“Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father; **Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God.**”* (1 Thess 1:4)

⇒ THERE ARE ELECT ANGELS. *“I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and **the elect angels**, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.”* (1 Tim 5:21)

I have taken the time to list these references in order to confirm the frequency of the mention of election in Scripture. **The genealogy with which we are dealing is a poignant example of election, and of its effectiveness.** It simply is not possible to account for those in this lineage apart from God’s election, Sovereign choice, and gracious selection.

**This should give no one any difficulty, because God created man, and all men belong to Him.** When tracing the genealogy of Jesus, Divine choice is the only way of consistently accounting for those recounted in the lineage. Most of the people in the listing are fundamentally unknown, with no inspired commentary on their lives. In the beginning of the genealogy, From Adam to Noah, progenitors begat children over life spans ranging from 500 to 930 years. The billions, even

trillions, of offspring are staggering to consider – and yet out of them all, seventy-five were selected, the greatest of which was Jesus.

WHAT I WILL BE DOING

In this lesson I will be reviewing the genealogy chronologically, from Adam through Jesus. This will be done by time period, with the epochal events that occurred during each period. **It will be shown that none of these things**

**deterred the scheduled appearance of Jesus, or forced an alteration of Divine purpose.** With all of his cunning craftiness, Satan was stymied. Principalities and powers had to simply stand and watch the Lord work.

**THE CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORICAL PERIODS**

I will be covering the periods chronologically, from Adam to Jesus. Luke traces the generations from Jesus backwards to Adam. This places the accent on the generations which constitute the household of Jesus. These followed Jesus, although He had no fleshly offspring. This was no doubt to the utter consternation of the wicked one. I will be stressing the decline of the generations until Jesus entered the world, in order to show the irreversibility of the counsel of God, and the absolute vanity of every effort of the devil to thwart the entrance of the Christ into the world. Divine election is also prominent throughout this record.

Much can be learned by reviewing Luke’s genealogy. It is different from that of Matthew, who traces the lineage back to Abraham. It is generally understood that Luke uses Joseph as the beginning point, while Matthew uses Mary. The revelation of the genealogy confirms that the birth of the Messiah was appointed in time, strictly managed by God, and is a sterling display of Satan’s inferiority, even though he is “*the god of this world*” (2 Cor 4:4). The following may also be seen in this genealogy.

- ⇒ What God purposes comes to pass (Num 23:19; Job 23:13; Isa 14:24; 46:11; Jer 50:45; Acts 5:39).
- ⇒ God frustrates and disappoints all opponents (Job 5:12; Isa 44:25; 47:12-14).

- ⇒ Time itself is managed by the Lord (Dan 2:21; Acts 1:7; 17:26).
- ⇒ Revelations cannot be deciphered by human wisdom or Satan’s cunning (Isa 64:4; Matt 11:25; Lk 10:21; 1 Cor 2:9).
- ⇒ God can announce what He is going to do, challenging His opponents to do their best to stop it, then mocking them in their vain efforts (Psa 33:11; 135:6; Prov 19:21; 21:30; Isa 43:13; 46:10-11; Dan 4:35).
- ⇒ God can be trusted to save those He has promised to save (Rom 8:32-39; 9:23; 10:11; 1 Cor 15:58).
- ⇒ Who one is by nature is nothing to compare with being one God has

- chosen (Psa 65:4; 2 Thess 2:13).
- ⇒ God’s will is the driving will, and His counsel is the determinate counsel (Psa 115:3; 135:5; Dan 4:35).
- ⇒ History has been shaped with the Son of God in mind: preparing for His coming, His initial coming, His redemptive accomplishments, His present ministry in heaven, His coming the second time, and the ages to come.

**What we are being exposed to here is not a Divine analysis of history, but a Divine determination and revelation of history.**

**NOTE:** The length of years of each period is an estimation. Relationally, they are very accurate.

**FROM ADAM TO NOAH**

Adam, Seth, Enos, Cainan, Maleleel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah. (10 generations). – Est: 1656 years

“<sup>36B</sup> **Noah, which was the son of** <sup>(#67)</sup> **Lamech,** <sup>37</sup> **Which was the son of** <sup>(#68)</sup> **Mathusala (Methuselah), which was the son of** <sup>(#69)</sup> **Enoch, which was the son of** <sup>(#70)</sup> **Jared, which was the son of** <sup>(#71)</sup> **Maleleel (Mahaleleel), which was the son of** <sup>(#72)</sup> **Cainan,** <sup>38</sup> **Which was the son of** <sup>(#73)</sup> **Enos, which was the son of** <sup>(#74)</sup> **Seth, which was the son of** <sup>(#75)</sup> **Adam, which was the son of God.”**

Numbers (#) are according to Luke’s chronology.

**THE LONGEST PERIOD**

During this time, life spans were unusually long. This confirms that the robust nature of life when Adam was created. It took some time for the length of life to reach a leveling point of 70-80 years. As it is written, “*The days*

*of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away*” (Psa 90:10).

During this period of time, owing to the length of life, and the volume of births, the race grew phenomenally. If the race doubled once a year, excluding

NAME	AGE	AFTER 1ST BEGET MORE
ADAM	930	800 YEARS
SETH	912	807 YEARS
ENOS	905	815 YEARS
CAINAN	910	840 YEARS
MALELEEL	895	830 YEARS
JARED	962	800 YEARS
ENOCK	365	300 YEARS
METHUSELAH	969	782 YEARS
LAMECH	777	595 YEARS
NOAH	950	No info

the deaths that occurred, the race would have theoretically numbered over one trillion. That, of course, is an unreasonable number. However, it does provide us with perspective.

Using various mathematical formulae, some statisticians have said the population at the time of the flood could theoretically have been 17-100 billion. Most agree the population of the earth was decidedly more than it is now.

Now, with the potential numbers before us we see the greatness and preciseness of both Divine prerogatives and power in selecting ten men whose generations would lead to the birth of the promised Savior. **There is no possible way to account for this group of men other than arbitrary Divine choice.** By "arbitrary," I accept the

standard meaning of that word: "DEPENDING ON INDIVIDUAL DISCRETION (AS OF A JUDGE) AND NOT FIXED BY LAW." MERRIAM-WEBSTER

It is true that God does nothing without cause (Ezek 14:23). However, He does not always reveal those causes – which are His prerogative. Elihu well said to Job's three criticizing friends, "Why dost thou strive against Him? for He giveth not account of any of His matters" (Job 33:13). Isaiah says to those who strive with God concerning what He does: "Woe unto him that striveth with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherd of the earth. Shall the clay say to him that fashioneth it, What makest thou? or thy work, He hath no hands?" (Isa 45:9).

**Let it be clear in your mind that the men listed in this time period were all chosen by God simply because He willed to do so – and no further justification is needed.** If God, in His mercy, tells us why He did this or that, we will give thanks and honor Him. But if He does not, we will accept His choice without question.

#### THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING THIS TIME

There were things that took place in this time period in which it is apparent that Satan was seeking to gain unquestionable control – even over

God Himself.

⇨ **THE FALL.** Not long after they were created, Adam and Eve fell. Eve was deceived by the serpent, and Adam chose to eat the forbidden fruit, even though the serpent had not deceived him (1 Tim 2:14). All men were "made sinners," and death entered the world (Rom 5:19). How could a proper genealogy be developed after that? The first person after Adam who was counted in the Messianic generation was Seth, born when Adam was 130 years of age.

⇨ **THE FLOOD.** After about 1,656 years, the earth had become so corrupt that God determined to destroy the world, and everything living in it – both man and beast (Gen 6:13,17). The only ones saved were Noah, his family, and the animals he had taken into the ark (Gen 8:15-19). How could the Messianic genealogy continue after that?

The tenth generation was headed up by Noah, and through him the eleventh generation (Shem) would come, and the Messianic lineage would continue. It will be confirmed that with God, all things are possible. Time will not cause the purpose to be aborted, nor will Satan. Even the destroying flood would not divert God's work.

## FROM SHEM TO ABRAHAM

Shem, Arphaxad, Cainan, Sala, Heber, Peleg, Rague, Sarauch, Nahor, Terah, Abraham. (11 generations). – Est: 400 years

<sup>34B</sup> . . . Abraham, which was the son of <sup>(#56)</sup> Thara (Terah), which was the son of <sup>(#57)</sup> Nachor (Nahor), <sup>35</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#58)</sup> Saruch (Serug), which was the son of <sup>(#59)</sup> Ragau (Reu), which was the son of <sup>(#60)</sup> Phalec (Peleg), which was the son of <sup>(#61)</sup> Heber (Eber), which was the son of <sup>(#62)</sup> Sala (Sala), <sup>36A</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#63)</sup> Cainan, which was the son of <sup>(#64)</sup> Arphaxad, which was the son of <sup>(#65)</sup> Sem (Shem), which was the son of <sup>(#66)</sup> Noe (Noah)."  
Numbers (#) are according to Luke's

chronology.

Out of the eight people who survived the flood, two were included in the Messianic lineage – Noah, and Shem. The record only accounts for Noah having three sons: "Shem, Ham, and Japheth" (Gen 6:10). Further, Noah did not beget these sons until he was five hundred years old: "And Noah was five hundred years old: and Noah begat Shem, Ham, and Japheth" (Gen 5:32). Noah was six hundred years old when

he entered the ark for the time of the flood: "And Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters was upon the earth" (Gen 7:6). Further, he was one hundred and twenty years building the ark – the period of longsuffering depicted in Genesis 6:3: "And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years" (Gen 6:3). And again, " . . . when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days

of Noah, **while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water**" (1 Pet 3:20). That means that Noah was four hundred and eighty years old when he was called to build an ark (Gen 6:14-16).

After the flood, Noah referred to the Lord as *"the Lord God of Shem"* (Gen 9:26). Shem was one hundred years old two years old after the flood (Gen 11:10). It was then that he begat Arphaxad, who was also in the Messianic lineage. Then, for five hundred years Shem *"begat sons and daughters"* (Gen 11).

Noah commences building the ark . . . . .	Age 480
Time building the ark . . . . .	Yrs 120
Noah has three sons . . . . .	Yrs 500
Noah enters the ark . . . . .	Yrs 600
Noah lived after the flood . . . . .	Yrs 350

Shem is recorded as having nine sons (1 Chron 1:17), but only one of them, was chosen to be in the Messianic lineage – Arphaxad.

The families of the sons of Noah, after their generations, and in their nations, are said to be the ones by whom *"the nations divided in the earth after the flood"* (Gen 10:32). The world prior to the flood is referred to as, *"the world that then was,"* which *"being overflowed with water, perished"* (2 Pet 3:6). Yet, the unparalleled cataclysmic

event did not interrupt the genealogy of the Messiah.

**THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING THIS TIME**

⇒ **THE CURSING OF CANAAN.** This occurred after the flood, when Ham saw his father naked. The outcome of that event resulted in the cursing of Canaan, the offspring of Ham: *"And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant"* (Gen 9:25-27).

This set the stage for the land of Canaan being given to the children of Israel. The Israelites came from Shem, and the Canaanites came from Canaan, who was born to Ham, the son of Noah. Satan was powerless to stop this from taking place – and Jesus was born in Canaan.

⇒ **THE SCATTERING AT BABEL.** We have no intelligent estimate of when the attempted building of the tower and city of Shinar took place. But it was some time before Abraham became prominent in the purpose of God – about 2,000 B.C. – probably

NAME	LIVED TO BE	AFTER 1ST BEGET MORE CHILDREN
SHEM	930	500 YEARS
ARPHAXAD	912	403 YEARS
SALAH	905	403 YEARS
HEBER	910	430 YEARS
PELEG	895	209 YEARS
REU	962	207 YEARS
SERUG	365	200 YEARS
NAHOR	148	119 YEARS
TERAH	205	135 YEARS
ABRAHAM	175	75 years

in the vicinity of 200-300 years after the flood. By the time of Abraham, there were nations and regions that had been established: i.e.–Egypt [Gen 12:10], *"the land of the Philistines"* (Gen 21:32), and Canaan (Gen 11:31). People groups existing at that time included, Rephaims, Zuzims, Emims, Horites, Amalekites, and the Amorites (Gen 14:5-7).

In all of this, I do not doubt that Satan used his cunning and wiles to eliminate the possibility of the *"Seed"* of the woman being born. However, he was not able to do so, and thus the genealogy continued to develop: Shem, Arphaxad, Salah Heber, Peleg, Reu, Serug, Nahor, Terah, and Abraham. The purpose of God continued to develop, with Satan being unable to stop it..

**FROM ABRAHAM TO DAVID**

Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Phares. Esrom, Aram, Aminadab, Naasson, Salmon, Boaz, Obed, David. (13 generations) – *Est: 930 years.*

*" 31B . . . David, 32 Which was the son of (#43) Jesse, which was the son of (#44) Obed, which was the son of (#45) Booz (Boaz), which was the son of (#46) Salmon, which was the son of (#47) Naasson (Nahshon) , 33A Which was the son of (#48) Aminadab (Aminadab), which was the son of (#49) Aram (Ram), which was the son of (#50) Esrom (Hezron), which was the son of (#51) Phares (Phares), which was the son of*

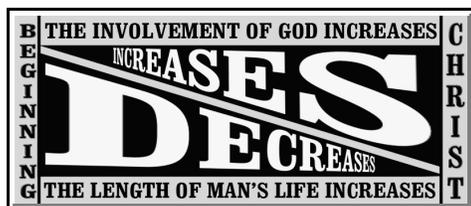
*(#52) Juda (Judah) 34 Which was the son of (#53) Jacob, which was the son of (#54) Isaac, which was the son of (#55) Abraham."* Numbers (#) are according to Luke's chronology.

This was the second longest period of time – 930 years. It was also the time when the age span was reduced to the leveling point. At the beginning of the period, Abraham died *"in a good old age,*

*an old man, and full of years"* just as God said he would – one hundred and seventy-five years old (Gen 15:15; 25:7-8) – 18.8% the age of Adam, 19% the age of Seth, Jared, Methusaleh, and Noah, 48% of Serug, and 85% of his father Terah. At the other end of the spectrum, David died when he was *"old and stricken with age"* (1 Kgs 1:1) – at the age of seventy, 40% the age of Abraham! **The death sentence**

pronounced in Eden is being carried out in the diminishing age of the people. Had God not stabilized the average age, the race would soon have died out, the Messiah would not have been born, and salvation would never have occurred.

SOMETHING TO NOTICE



As we progress through this lineage, there is something of interest to note. **As the life-span of man continues to decrease, the Divine involvements with men begin to increase.** This will continue until Christ, and following His exaltation, there will be a staggering increase of God working with and among men. What looked like an absolute and total triumph for Satan in the Garden is so significantly neutralized that it has the attention of angelic hosts (1 Pet 1:12).

THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING THIS TIME

⇒ **THE CALLING OF ABRAHAM.** The calling of Abraham is a pivotal point in Scripture. The first five chapters of Genesis are about Adam, Eve, and Adam’s generations. Chapters six through nine and ten are about Noah and his offspring. Commencing with chapter eleven, through the entirety of Genesis, the text is about Abraham and those related to him. **In dealing with Abraham, we are introduced to a Divine purpose that has to do with the entire world.** It relates to the resolving of the dilemma caused by sin, the

development of a nation and a country that would provide a place for the Messiah to be raised, and some revelation about this remarkable purpose and the One through whom it would be executed.

⇒ **THE INCIDENT WITH HAGAR.**

Having received a promise from God that He would have a son, yet not knowing how this would come to pass, we are introduced to a handmaid, her son through Abraham, and his genealogy. It was revealed that this son, while God would bless him for Abraham’s sake (Gen 17:20), was excluded from what was promised to Abraham. Yet, nations would come from him who would oppose Abraham’s blessed family, yet from whom God would garner a saved people.

⇒ **THE SEPARATION OF THE BOND WOMAN FROM THE FREE WOMAN.**

By Divine edict, Abraham had to cast the bond woman, Hagar, and her son out of the home. He would receive no inheritance with the promised son, Isaac.

⇒ **THE ELEVATION OF JOSEPH.**

During this time, and in preparation for what was promised to Abraham, Joseph, great, great grandson of Abraham, was exalted over all of Egypt. During his reign, all of the seed of Jacob moved into Egypt owing to a famine. Joseph cared for them there.

⇒ **THE 400 YEAR BONDAGE OF ISRAEL.**

After about thirty years, a Pharaoh rose that did not honor Joseph, and this began a four-hundred year period of oppression and bondage for Israel. This was according to a prophecy given to

Abraham several centuries earlier (Gen 15:13; Ex 1:8-22).

⇒ **THE DELIVERANCE OF ISRAEL.** At the precisely determined time, Israel was delivered from Egypt, just as the Lord had promised (Gen 15:14; Ex 12:41; 14:23-30).

⇒ **THE GIVING OF THE LAW.** After their deliverance from Egypt, Israel arrived at Mount Sinai where the Law was given, and a covenant was made between God and Israel (Ex 19-20).

⇒ **THE 40 YEAR TREK IN THE WILDERNESS.** When arriving at Canaan, the children of Israel chose to believe the report of ten unfaithful spies, and were therefore consigned to wander in the wilderness for forty years – one year for each day appointed spies had searched out the promised land. In that trek over six hundred thousand died – all of the men over thirty years of age who had disbelieved God, choosing to believe a fearful report.

⇒ **THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN AND THE SELECTION AND ELEVATION OF DAVID.** After conquering the land under Joshua (Josh 18:1), the time came when David was chosen by God to reign over Israel. During his reign the kingdom reached its greatest measure (2 Sam 5:3-4; 8:1-18; 21:15-22).

During these periods, Satan was not able to terminate or delay the genealogical line of the coming Messiah. He could not force it to be altered in any way. I do not doubt that he did all he could to do this, yet, because of his inferiority and God’s Sovereignty, could not do so.

**FROM DAVID THROUGH MALACHI**

David, Nathan, Mattatha, Menan, Melea, Eliakim, Jonan, Joseph, Juda, Simeon, Levi, Jose, Er, Elodam, Cosam, Addi, Melchi, Neri, Salathiel, Zerubbabel (20 generations). – Est: 600 years

“ . . . Zerubbabel, which was the | son of <sup>(#21)</sup> Salathiel (uncertain), which | was the son of <sup>(#22)</sup> Neri (uncertain), <sup>28</sup>

Which was the son of <sup>(#23)</sup> Melchi (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#24)</sup> Addi (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#25)</sup> Cosam (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#26)</sup> Elmodam (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#27)</sup> Er (uncertain), <sup>29</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#28)</sup> Jose (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#29)</sup> Eliezer (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#30)</sup> Jorim (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#31)</sup> Matthat, which was the son of <sup>(#32)</sup> Levi, <sup>30</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#33)</sup> Simeon (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#34)</sup> Juda (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#35)</sup> Joseph (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#36)</sup> Jonan (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#37)</sup> Eliakim (uncertain), <sup>31</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#38)</sup> Melea (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#39)</sup> Menan (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#40)</sup> Mattatha (not mentioned), which was the son of <sup>(#41)</sup> Nathan, which was the son of <sup>(#42)</sup> David . . .” Numbers (#) are according to Luke’s chronology.

This was a spiritually stormy period of time. Solomon reigned after David and, though wise above all that were in the earth, was a terrible king. He married “outlandish” heathen women (Neh 13:26; 1 Kgs 11:3-12), who turned his heart from God to idols (1 Kgs 11:3-4). He instituted idolatry, built places for the worship of idols, and so angered God (1 Kgs 11:5-7), that He raised up adversaries against him (1 Kgs 11:14,23).

#### THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING THIS TIME

⇨ **THE DOMINANCE OF ISRAEL.** The working of the Lord in the earth centered in His dealings with Israel. The Law was given to them, as well as all of the Prophets. Paul says of them, “Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen” (Rom 9:4-5). Here, I say that Israel was dominant because of the ministry of the prophets from the time of David, beginning with Samuel (Acts 3:24; 13:20).

⇨ **THE FIRST DETAILED PROMISES OF THE MESSIAH.** David was given the first detailed prophecy of the coming Messiah (2 Sam 7:13-16). Isaiah gave several of these detailed prophecies, unknown during the previous ages (Isa 9:6-7; 11:1-16; 42:1-4; 49:1-26; 53:1-11; 55:3-5; 59:16-20). Jeremiah was also given insights concerning the Messiah (Jer 23:6; 33:15-18). There were also prophecies by Daniel (Dan 7:13-13; 9:24-27). Haggai (Hag 2:7), Zechariah (Zech 3:8; 9:9; 13:1), and Malachi (Mal 3:1-3; 4:2).

⇨ **THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE.** Solomon headed up the building of the Temple (1 Kgs 6:1,37; 2 Chron 3:2-5:1).

⇨ **THE RISE OF THE PROPHETS.** This was also the era of the prophets, from Samuel through Malachi, raised up by God and sent early to turn Israel from their wicked ways (Jer 7:25; 25:4,5; 29:19; 35:15; 44:4) – but Israel did not give heed to them. Surely Satan will be able to use such people to break their Messianic lineage.

⇨ **THE APOSTASY OF BOTH JUDAH AND ISRAEL.** Both Judah and Israel apostatized, leaving the Lord (Ezek 9:9).

⇨ **THE ASSYRIANS CAPTURE/ISRAEL, AND GOD SCATTERED THEM.** (2 Kgs 17:23-24; Jer 30:11; 31:10; Lam 4:16; Ezek 11:17; 20:34).

⇨ **THE BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY.** (2 Kgs 24:11-16).

⇨ **THE PROPHECIES OF DANIEL.** (Dan 2: 7: 9:).

⇨ **THE RETURN OF JUDAH TO CANAAN.** (2 Chron 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4;2:1-70).

⇨ **THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE AND ITS WALLS.** (Ezra 3:1-6:22; Neh 2: 7:)

Through all of this iniquity, rebellion, and punishment, the Messianic lineage continued to develop. It could not be delayed or cancelled out by the combined forces of their devil.

## FROM MALACHI TO JESUS

Zerubbabel, Rhesa, Joanna, Juda, Joseph, Semei, Mattathias, Maath, Nagge, Esli, Naum, Amos, Mattathias, Joseph, Janna, Melchi, Levi, Matthat, Heli, Joseph, Jesus (21 generations). – Est: 414 years

“Luke 3:23b . . . Jesus . . . being (as was supposed) the son of <sup>(#1)</sup> Joseph, which was the son of <sup>(#2)</sup> Heli (uncertain), <sup>24</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#3)</sup> Matthat (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#4)</sup> Levi (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#5)</sup> Melchi (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#6)</sup> Janna (uncertain), which

was the son of <sup>(#7)</sup> Joseph (uncertain), <sup>25</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#8)</sup> Mattathias (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#9)</sup> Amos (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#10)</sup> Naum (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#11)</sup> Esli (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#12)</sup> Nagge (uncertain), <sup>26</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#13)</sup> Maath

(uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#14)</sup> Mattathias (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#15)</sup> Semei (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#16)</sup> Joseph (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#17)</sup> Juda (uncertain), <sup>27</sup> Which was the son of <sup>(#18)</sup> Joanna (uncertain), which was the son of <sup>(#19)</sup> Rhesa (uncertain), which was

the son of (#20) **Zorobabel (Zerubbabel).**" Numbers (#) are according to Luke's chronology.

This was a time of unspeakable jeopardy. The Israelites had no king. They had no known prophet – until John the Baptist. This appeared to be an ideal; time for the devil to thwart the purpose of God.

#### THINGS THAT HAPPENED DURING THIS TIME

⇒ **NO KNOWN PROPHETS UNTIL JOHN THE BAPTIST.** At the time John the Baptist there had been no known prophets since Haggai, Zechariah, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Malachi – all from the same general period (457-408 BC). The spiritual barrenness was apparently unparalleled since God had begun revealing Himself.

⇒ **ISRAEL PLACED UNDER THE RULE OF ROME.** At the time John appeared, Israel was under the dominion, of Rome, the fourth world empire of Daniel's prophecy. The holy city of Jerusalem, was itself under the government of Roman puppet rulers.

⇒ **ISRAEL DECLINES UNTIL THE PEOPLE WERE SITTING IN DARKNESS.** When Jesus commenced His ministry, the condition was depicted as the people sitting "in darkness," and "in the region of death" (Matt 4:16). The Jewish leaders were said to be "blind guides" (Matt 23:16,24). Can it be that a person can exist that was suitable to be in the lineage of the Messiah? We are told of several holy people at that time: Zacharias and Elizabeth (Lk 1:5-6), Mary (Lk 1:28-37), Joseph (Matt 1:19-21), Simeon (Lk 2:25), Anna (Lk 2:36), those in Jerusalem who were looking for redemption (Lk 2:38), those who in the area of Jerusalem who were in "expectation" (Lk 3:15), John the Baptist (Matt 11:11; Mk 6:20), Andrew and John (1:37-40), Peter (John 1:41-42), Philip (John 1:43-44), and Nathaniel (John 1:45-51).

⇒ **JOHN THE BAPTIST IS BORN AND RAISED.** (Lk 1:13-63). There had not been such a significant birth for centuries. Perhaps Satan thought such a person could never be born in such a spiritually poor environment.

⇒ **JESUS IS BORN, AND HEROD SEEKS TO SLAY HIM** (Lk 2:11; Matt 2:2-13; 16-18). In the midst of this Satanic aggression, it was revealed to some men from the east that a child had been born who was "*King of the Jews.*" They traveled to see Him, found Him, and worshiped Him (Matt 2:1-11).

⇒ **JOHN THE BAPTIST'S MINISTRY AS THE HARBINGER OF CHRIST** (Matt 3:1-17; Mk 1:4-11). Although there had been no known prophet for centuries, and the people were sitting in great darkness, **the people flocked out to hear John the Baptist** (Matt 3:5-6; Mk 1:5; Lk 3:3-14). Through John, God was preparing the way for the Messiah – readying the people to receive Him.

⇒ **JESUS COMMENCES HIS MINISTRY.** The people flooded out to hear Jesus (Matt 4:25; 5:1; 8:1,18; 9:33,36; 12:15; 13:2; 19:2; 21:9; Lk 5:15; 14:25).

⇒ **THE ATONING DEATH OF CHRIST.** (Matt 27:35-56; Mk 15:15-37; Lk 23:33-46; John 1:16-30).

⇒ **THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.** (Matt 28:6-7; Mk 16:6-7,19; Lk 24:5-7; John 20:-18).

⇒ **THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST** (Mk 16:19; Lk 24:51; Acts 1:9).

#### THE DAY OF SALVATION COMMENCES

With Jesus ascended into heaven, and His enthronement at the right hand of God, the day of salvation commenced (2 Cor 6:2). It continues to this day – uninterrupted.

The purpose of God continued through the degeneracy of men. It was worked out in spite of the flood, the scattering of Babel, and the infancy of Israel. It survived the decline of Israel,

the erratic period of the Judges, its apostasy, the scattering of Israel, and the captivity of Judah. It continued on although Israel rejected and killed the prophets that were sent to them (Matt 23:31; Lk 11:47; Rom 11:3; 1 Thess 2:15). The purpose of God marched on when Israel frequently lapsed into idolatry (1 Kgs 15:12; 21:25-26; 2 Kgs 17:9-12; 21:11,21; 23:24; Psa 106:34-38; Isa 2:8), and when they were dominated by its enemies (Judges 2:14; 6:13; 13:1; 2 Sam 12:9).

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO KNOW WHAT GOD IS DOING AND WILL DO

During those difficult years, when iniquity dominated the world prior to the flood, and when wicked nations ruled the world, Israel declined, and prophets were ignored, **and there were some who almost despaired.** Their expressions are recorded for our learning.

⇒ "*We see not our signs: there is no more any prophet: neither is there among us any that knoweth how long. O God, **how long** shall the adversary reproach? shall the enemy blaspheme thy name for ever?*" (Psa 74:9-10)

⇒ "***How long, LORD?** wilt thou be angry for ever? shall thy jealousy burn like fire? Pour out thy wrath upon the heathen that have not known thee, and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon thy name.*" (Psa 79:5-6).

⇒ "*O LORD God of hosts, **how long** wilt thou be angry against the prayer of thy people?*" (Psa 80:4)

⇒ "*LORD, **how long** shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph? How long shall they utter and speak hard things? and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?*" (Psa 94:3-4)

⇒ "*Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: **wherefore lookest Thou upon them that deal treacherously, and holdest thy tongue** when the wicked devoureth the man that is more righteous than he?*" (Hab 1:13).

Yet, there were those who knew God did not forget what He had promised. Nor would He permanently turn from those He had chosen to be His people. Such people held to hope, waiting for God's salvation like Simeon (Lk 2:25), looking for redemption like Anna and others in Jerusalem (Lk 2:38), and were waiting for the Kingdom of God like Joseph or Arimathaea (Mk 15:43). These people knew that even though past generations of Israel were rejected, God would not make His promises to Israel void and irrelevant. They lived in times that were spiritually impoverished – times in which no mighty work of God was being manifested; times when there was no prophet, and no fresh word from God. Had they been like certain pygmy theologians of our day, they would have declared there was no hope for Israel. The great promises of a Messiah, remission of sins, and a New Covenant would thus have been relegated to the imagined state of obsolescence – for no such promises were made to any Gentile nation.

After seventy years of captivity in Babylon, Daniel knew that the promise of deliverance was still in place. Nearly two generations did not erase those promises, although shortsighted people may have appeared correct in saying they were. He therefore set himself to pray as soon as he realized the seventy years of judgment were coming to their appointed end (Dan 9:2-19).

Thus the genealogy marched forward, God working through a remnant, who were at times meager in number and strength. According to God's election, so-and-so begat so-and-so as time marched forward to the time appointed for a Savior to enter into the world.

It is time for the people of God to learn to pray in the manner of holy men of God in the past. Seeking government

reform, and cursory efforts to awaken a lethargic church are not enough. We have an inspired record of the response of men and women of faith to such times. It is wrong for men to culture hardheartedness during such times. This is a time for the tender of heart to arise and seek the Lord. **There are things He has promised that have not yet occurred, and we should not listen to those who teach such revealed purposes have been withdrawn from the Divine agenda.**

The fulfillment of the coming of the promised Messiah through a sanctified lineage is reason to hope. During those former times these statements were made by the Lord:

⇒ *"Then said the LORD unto me, Though Moses and Samuel stood before me, yet my mind could not be toward this people: cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth"* (Jer 15:1); *"I will not hear"* (Isa 1:15; Jer 7:16; 11:14; 14:12; 22:21; Amos 5:23).

⇒ *"Ye are not my people, and I will not be your God"* (Hos 1:9).

⇒ *"Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD. If I cause noisome beasts to pass through the land, and they spoil it, so that it be desolate, that no man may pass through because of the beasts: Though these three men were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters; they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate"* (Ezek 14:16).

Yet, these words did not abrogate the promises of blessed things in the future:

⇒ The coming of a Prophet like unto

Moses, to whom the people would hearken (Deut 18:15,18).

⇒ That God would circumcise the heart of their seed (Deut 30:6).

⇒ Concerning a forerunner being sent to prepare the way of the Lord (Isa 49:3-5).

⇒ The Messiah coming from them and for them (Isa 9:6-7).

⇒ The making of a New Covenant (Jer 31:31-35).

⇒ God would give them a new heart, and remove their stony heart (Ezek 36:26).

⇒ The pouring forth of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-29).

⇒ The opening of a Fountain for sin and uncleanness (Zech 13:1).

All of these were fulfilled in Jewish people, commencing with the day of Pentecost. The Gentiles, those who were afar off, were also included in the promises – *"all flesh"* (Joel 2:28-29).

The word of Peter is still appropriate for this day. During his time, there was a rejected generation in the land. Nothing could be done about them, as Jesus confirmed in His dealings with the scribes and Pharisees. **But behind these people there was another generation** – one that was loved to the Savior. Peter boldly stood before the people and challenged to get out of the rejected generation, and become a part of the accepted one. Hear his words. How appropriate they are for our time: **"Save yourselves from this untoward generation"** (Acts 2:40).

These words are true because the promises of God do not fail! The seventy-five generations from Adam until Jesus prove that to be the case.

**These words are true because the promises of God do not fail! The seventy-five generations from Adam until Jesus prove that to be the case.**

## MATTHEW'S CHRONOLOGY

- 1 Abraham
- 2 Isaac
- 3 Jacob
- 4 Judas
- 5 Phares
- 6 Esrom
- 7 Aram
- 8 Aminadab
- 9 Naasson
- 10 Salmon
- 11 Booz
- 12 Obed
- 13 Jesse
- 14 David
- 15 Solomon
- 16 Roboam
- 17 Abia
- 18 Asa
- 19 Josaphat
- 20 Joram
- 21 Ozias
- 22 Joatham
- 23 Achaz
- 24 Ezekias
- 25 Manasses
- 26 Amon
- 27 Josias
- 28 Jechonias
- 29 Salathiel
- 30 Zorobabel
- 31 Abiud
- 32 Eliakim
- 33 Azor
- 34 Sadoc
- 35 Achim
- 36 Eliud
- 37 Eleazar
- 38 Matthan
- 39 Jacob
- 40 Joseph
- 41 Jesus

**Matt 1:1** *"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. <sup>2</sup> Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; <sup>3</sup> And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; <sup>4</sup> And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; <sup>5</sup> And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; <sup>6</sup> And Jesse begat David the king [14 generations]; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias; <sup>7</sup> And Solomon begat Roboam; and Roboam begat Abia; and Abia begat Asa; <sup>8</sup> And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; <sup>9</sup> And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; <sup>10</sup> And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; <sup>11</sup> And Josias*

*begat Jechonias and his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon [14 generations]; <sup>12</sup> And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel; <sup>13</sup> And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; <sup>14</sup> And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; <sup>15</sup> And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; <sup>16</sup> And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. [13 generations]. <sup>17</sup> So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the*

*carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations."*

### THE SON OF DAVID, THE SON OF ABRAHAM

*"The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."*

Notice that the text cites David first, and Abraham second – even though David was not born until hundreds of years after Abraham. **Matthew's genealogy emphasizes Jesus' relation to David as King.** This is why he traces the genealogy through Solomon instead of through Nathan, as Luke did (Lk 3:3). It is generally understood that Matthew traces the generally through Mary, while Luke traces it through Joseph, which would account for some of the differences. I choose to view Matthew's record as accounting for Jesus being *"the Son of David."* The record therefore emphasizes the various **kings** in the lineage leading up to Jesus.

#### ABRAHAM TO DAVID

*"Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king . . ." [14 generations]*

#### Four Women Mentioned

No women are mentioned in Luke's chronology – not even Eve. However, Matthew mentions four women, which were rather unique, to say the least.

- ⇒ TAMAR (Matt 1:3) – Feigned herself to be an harlot (Gen 38:13-26).
- ⇒ RAHAB (Matt 1:5) – A harlot (Josh 2:1-24).
- ⇒ RUTH (Matt 1:5) – A Moabitess (Ruth

1:4,22; 2:2-22.

⇒ BATHSHEBA (Matt 1:6) – *"her that had been the wife of Urias"* (2 Sam 11:1-27).

Matthew's genealogy from Abraham to David precisely agrees with that of Luke (See last page). It begins to differ when listing who David begat. Instead of Nathan (as in Luke's genealogy), it is Solomon. The one Solomon begat was Roboam (which is translated from the Greek for Rehoboam). First Chronicles 3:10 gives the following account: "And Solomon's son was Rehoboam, **Abia** his son, **Asa** his son, **Jehoshaphat** his son, **Joram** his son, **Ahaziah** his son, **Joash** his son, **Amaziah** his son, **Azariah** his son, **Jotham** his son, **Ahaz** his son, **Hezekiah** his son, **Manasseh** his son, **Amon** his son, **Josiah** his son" (1 Chron 3:10-14). **This parallels Matthew's genealogy.**

MATTHEW 1	1 CHRON 3:10-18
DAVID	DAVID
SOLOMON	SOLOMON
ROBOAM	REHOBOAM
ABIA	ABIA
ASA	ASA
JOSAPHAT	JEHOSAPHAT
JORAM	JORAM
OZIAS	AHAZIAH
JOATHAM	JOTHAM
ACHAZ	AHAZ
EZEKIAS	HEZEKIAH
MANASSES	MANASSEH
AMON	AMON
JOSIAS	JOSIAH
JECHONIAS	JECONIAH
SALATHIEL	SALATHIEL
ZOROBABEL	ZERUBABEL

Think of all that happened between Abraham and David.

- ⇒ The barrenness of Sarah and the impotence of Abraham.
- ⇒ The famine in Canaan

- ⇒ Abraham’s jeopardy in Egypt.
- ⇒ Abraham’s association with Lot.
- ⇒ Abraham’s battle with the five kings.
- ⇒ The birth of Ishmael.
- ⇒ The barrenness of Rebecca.
- ⇒ Isaac’s conflict with the herdmen of Gerar.
- ⇒ The barrenness of Rachel.
- ⇒ Jacob’s conflict with Esau.
- ⇒ Jacob’s experience with Laban.
- ⇒ The famine in Canaan while Jacob was there.
- ⇒ The experience of Joseph.
- ⇒ Four hundred years of bondage in Egypt.
- ⇒ Israel’s wandering in the wilderness for forty years.
- ⇒ Israel’s erratic conduct during the time of the judges.
- ⇒ The unfaithfulness of King Saul.

**Yet, throughout all of this, the genealogy continued to progress. God’s purpose was neither aborted nor stalled.**

David marked an epoch in the history of Israel. Additional promises were given concerning the coming Messiah that touched upon His Kingship.

#### DAVID UNTO THE CARRYING AWAY INTO BABYLON

“ . . . and **David the king** begat Solomon of **her that had been the wife of Urias**; And Solomon begat Roboam (Rehoboam); and Roboam begat Abia (Abijah); and Abia begat Asa; And Asa begat Josaphat; and Josaphat begat Joram; and Joram begat Ozias; And Ozias begat Joatham; and Joatham begat Achaz; and Achaz begat Ezekias; And Ezekias begat Manasses; and Manasses begat Amon; and Amon begat Josias; And Josias begat Jechonias and

*his brethren, about the time they were carried away to Babylon [14 generations].*

Here is where the genealogy differs. **This is owing to Matthew’s emphasis of Jesus being the Son of David.** This was according to the promise made to David: *“And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish His kingdom. He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. I will be his Father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men: But My mercy shall not depart away from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away before thee. And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established for ever before thee: **thy throne shall be established for ever**”* (2 Sam 7:16)

**This was a veiled promise.** In some respects it was fulfilled in Solomon, the son of David through Bathsheba. **Yet, the Scriptures make clear that this was, in fact, a promise of coming Savior, who would be the ultimate King.**

⇒ The eighty-ninth Psalm confirms that this is true: *“I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah”* (Psa 89:4).

⇒ Isaiah also confirmed this promise: *“Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this”* (Isa 9:7).

⇒ The angel Gabriel confirmed this to Mary: *“He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob*

*for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end”* (Luke 1:32-33).

⇒ Peter confirmed Jesus relation to David on the day of Pentecost: *“Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, He would raise up Christ to sit on his throne He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.”* (Acts 2:32)

**Sixteen times in the Gospels, Jesus is referred to as “the Son of David”** (Matt 1:1,20; 9:27; 12:23; 15:22; 20:30,31; 21:9,15; 22:42; Mk 10:47,48; 12:35; Lk 3:31; 18:38-39). There are other associations of Jesus with David.

⇒ **THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY:** *“Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.”* (Mark 11:10)

⇒ **JESUS’ OWN WORDS.** *“And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the son of David? For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool. David therefore himself calleth Him Lord; and whence is he then his son? And the common people heard him gladly.”* (Mark 12:35-37; Lk 20:42)

⇒ **ZACHARIAS’ PROPHECY:** *“And hath raised up an Horn of Salvation for us in the house of His servant David.”* (Luke 1:69)

⇒ **THE ANGELIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE SHEPHERDS.** *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”* (Luke 2:11)

⇒ **THE PERCEPTION THE PEOPLE HAD OF JESUS:** *“Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of*

*Bethlehem, where David was?"* (John 7:42)

- ⇒ PAUL'S REFERENCE IN ANTIOCH: *"And as concerning that He raised Him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, He said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David."* (Acts 13:34; Acts 13:34)
- ⇒ PAUL WRITING TO TIMOTHY: *"Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel."* (2 Tim 2:8)
- ⇒ JESUS HAS THE KEY OF DAVID: *"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, He that hath the key of David, He that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth"* (Rev 3:7; Isa 22:22)
- ⇒ JESUS IS THE ROOT OF DAVID: *"And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof."* (Rev 5:5)
- ⇒ JESUS IS THE ROOT AND OFFSPRING OF DAVID: *"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."* (Rev 22:16)

#### Enough Is Not Made of Christ's Kingship in Contemporary Preaching

In my judgment, in contemporary preaching, enough is not made of Christ's association with David. This has to do with Christ's present exaltation and reign. Jesus is right now *"over all, God blessed forever"* (Rom 9:5). There is nothing nor no one over which He does not presently preside and unquestionably rule. He has *"the key of David,"* opening and closing whatever He wills (Rev 3:7).

Jesus is presently reigning as *"King of kings and Lord of lords"* (1 Tim 6:15). His reign is wholly devoted to

building His church (Matt 16:18), *"bringing many sons to glory"* (Heb 2:10), mediating the New Covenant (Heb 9:15), and making intercession for the saints (Heb 7:25; Rom 8:34). There are no foes left for Him to defeat. Through His death He has *"destroyed the devil"* (Heb 2:14), and plundered principalities and powers (Col 2:15). In His resurrection He triumphed over death (Acts 13:34; 17:31; Rom 1:4; Eph 1:20).

In *"bringing many sons to glory,"* the Lord Jesus must be over all opposing forces and influences. Should anyone seek to interfere with what He is doing, He will render them impotent to fulfill their will, and can also, should He will to do so, remove them altogether from the arena of conflict. His unquestionable reign and power enable Him to *"make"* even weak saints to *"stand"* (Rom 14:4), keep the saints *"from falling"* (Jude 1:24), and safely Shepherd them through the world (Heb 13:20). He can *"cause"* them to triumph (2 Cor 2:14) because He really over all.

#### THE CARRYING AWAY INTO BABYLON UNTO CHRIST

*" . . . And after they were brought to Babylon, Jechonias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel; And Zorobabel begat Abiud; and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; And Azor begat Sadoc; and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob; And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. [13 generations].*

The Babylonian captivity was also an epoch in the life of Israel, estimated to have lasted (generally speaking) from 605 BC until 535 BC. It marked an end of Israel's idolatry, which had existed among them from the time they came out of Egypt (Ex 32:4,8,23; 2 Kgs 21:11; Hos 13:2; Amos 5:25-26; Acts 7:42-43). It is also understood that this was the period of time when the Jews commenced building synagogues in every city (Acts 15:21). In Babylon, it appears that these were places of

regular gatherings, particularly on the Sabbath Day, which compensated in part for their absence from the Temple.

Prophets whose ministries were during this period include Obadiah – compare Obadiah 1:9-11 with Jeremiah 49:-22 (some dispute this), Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel. Jeremiah's ministry (estimated to be 630-580 BC) extended from before the captivity, and during the first part of the captivity. Ezekiel's total ministry (est 593-562) was during the captivity (estimated to have been during the first part of the captivity). Daniel's prophetic ministry was throughout the entirety of the Babylonian captivity.

#### UNTO CHRIST

**After the Babylonian captivity, the following people and prophets were reported:** Esther, Ezra the scribe, Nehemiah the prophet and builder, Zerubbabel the builder, Haggai the prophet, Zechariah the prophet, Malachi the prophet, and John the Baptist. Between Malachi and John the Baptist it is estimated that about four hundred years past. We have no record of any prophets during that time, or kings, or prophetic writings. John the Baptist burst on the scene to prepare the way for the Messiah, as the prophet Isaiah had foretold (Isa 40:1-3).

The following appear to have been born during that intertestamental period: Abihud, Eliakim, Azor, Sadoc, Achim, Eliud, Eleazar, Matthan, Jacob, and Joseph. That is ten generations, which, using forty years as an average generation, equates to r hundred years.

Thus, through the maze of considerable conjecture, we arrive at the key Person in all of Scripture – the Lord Jesus Christ (John 6:39; Rev 19:10). So far as the birth of Jesus was concerned, He was the Seed of the woman, not being an offspring of Adam. **However, to demonstrate His Sovereignty, and to see the precision of His work,** the Lord provides the genealogy of our Lord's mother, Mary, and of the man chosen to be His parent, Joseph. This genealogy is a display of Divine intention, election, and the completion of His work.

LUKE (Joseph)	MATTHEW (Mary)	LUKE	MATTHEW
01 Adam		39 Eliakim	Josaphat
02 Seth		40 Jonan	Joram
03 Enos		41 Joseph	Ozias
04 Cainan		42 Juda	Joatham
05 Maleleel		43 Simeon	Achaz
06 Jared		44 Levi	Ezekias
07 Enoch		45 Matthat	Manasses
08 Methuselah		46 Jorim	Amon
09 Lamech		47 Eliezer	Josias
10 Noah		48 Jose	Jechonias
11 Shem		49 Er	Abihud
12 Arphaxad		50 Elmodam	Eliakim
13 Cainan		51 Cosam	Azor
14 Sala		52 Addi	Sadoc
15 Heber		53 Melchi	
16 Peleg		54 Neri	
17 Rague		55 Salathiel	Salathiel
18 Saruch		56 Zerubbabel	Zerubbabel
19 Nahor		57 Rhesa	Eliud
20 Terah		58 Joanna	Eleazar
21 Abraham	Abraham	59 Juda	
22 Isaac	Isaac	60 Joseph	
23 Jacob	Jacob	61 Semei	
24 Judah	Judah	62 Mattathias	
25 Phares	Phares	63 Maath	
26 Esrom	Esrom	64 Nagge	
27 Aram	Aram	65 Esli	
28 Aminadab	Aminadab	66 Naum	
29 Naasson	Naason	67 Amos	
30 Salmon	Salmon	68 Mattathias	
31 Boaz	Boas	69 Joseph	
32 Obed	Obed	70 Janna	
33 Jesse	Jesse	71 Melchi	
34 David	David	72 Levi	
35 Nathan	Solomon	73 Matthat	Matthan
36 Mattatha	Roboam	74 Heli	Jacob
37 Menan	Abia	75 Joseph	Joseph
38 Melea	Asa	76 Jesus	Jesus

Our next Hungry Saints Meeting will be held on Friday, 3/6/15. We will continue our series of lessons in the Gospel of Luke. The thirteenth lesson will cover verses 1 thru 13 of chapter 4: "THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS." This concentrated and extended temptation of Jesus was essential to our salvation. It contributed to His effectiveness as our Intercessor. This effectiveness was not found in His authority or power, but in His empathy for those for whom He makes intercession. Our Lord's effective intercession not only includes authority over all circumstances, power over the devil, and deliverance from oppression, but being personally touched with the feeling of the infirmities of those He is bringing to glory. This is an area where we soar beyond academics, language studies, and the likes. Our meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to bring your family and friends for fellowship around the Word of God. Refreshments are served afterward, with a time of extended fellowship for everyone.