



Who is this Jesus Whose life is the subject of this gospel? This man Jesus Whom John baptized – Who was He? He was identified by God in heaven as “My Beloved Son, with Whom I am well-pleased.” But is that alone sufficient identification? Where did He come from, from heaven or from earth? Here is Luke, telling His story, but “Before I begin to tell you what He did, let me supply the details of His human ancestry.” Why is that necessary?

We cannot have a complete gospel unless we establish the Man Jesus as possessing two distinct, complete, perfect natures – one human and one divine. “For there is one God, and there is one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus (1Ti 2:5).

In the fullest explanation of the gospel, the book of Romans, we have this same emphasis. This gospel “concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord” (Romans 1:3, 4).

The first promise of this Coming Savior was given in Genesis 3. It identifies Jesus, the Christ, as “the seed (offspring) of the woman.” In Luke 3:23 we are reminded that Jesus is the seed of the woman. This Savior would come as a man by natural generation. “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law” (Gal 4:4). This God-man had human DNA. Might it have been said of him, “He has His mother’s eyes, chin...?” And yet... But thou, Beth-lehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting (Mic 5:2 ASV).

Jesus, as “seed of the woman,” what does this mean? It certainly speaks of **warfare and ultimate triumph**. That will be confirmed in the next episode of Luke’s drama. What did the church in Rome understand when the apostle Paul told them, “The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you” (Rom 16:20)?

Among the **applications** are:

The human race originated in one man. Jesus came from Adam, yes, but **every human being who has ever existed also came from that one man**. “And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place (Acts 17:26). Your ancestor is not Piltdown Man or the green algae from some primordial swamp. God created herds of beasts, swarms of fishes, flocks of birds, legions of angels, but He created only one man, made alone in His image. You share in the same human history as the eternal Son of God!

Luke ends his genealogy with “Son of God.” Does this refer to Adam or to Jesus? God Has only one “only-begotten Son” but He has many sons by adoption. “For whom He foreknew, He also foreordained *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren” (Rom 8:29). “What is a Christian? The question can be answered in many ways, but the richest answer I know is that a Christian is one who has God for his Father.” (J. I. Packer, Knowing God) “You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3:26). “And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” (Gal 4:6)