

Introduction: Genealogy Reflections*
(Matthew 1:1-17 compared to Luke 3:23-38)

We can be assured that, in Jesus' birth, there are no hidden flaws in his humanity which subject Him to the curse of Joseph's family tree. His humanity is perfect from conception – not because Mary was sinless, but because the Holy Spirit is able to make of our fallen humanity a sinless human nature for our Savior. We see this in the words which Joseph receives in Matthew 1:20: "Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her *is from the Holy Spirit.*"

With this sinless humanity intact in Christ, Luke's genealogy goes all the way back to Adam in order to offer hope for all nations, created in the image of God. The world-wide message of the church is to be sent out in Jesus' name to all the children of Adam, no matter their origin or language. As Luke says in Acts 1:6-8:

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, **and to the end of the earth.**"

All those created in the image of God are to hear the free offer of the Gospel. And what a compassionate, human Savior we have, able to reclaim our humanity, lost ever since the Fall. This is what Luke's genealogy stresses – that this Jesus was truly man, truly born of the flesh of the virgin Mary, yet without sin. As the Roman centurion, in charge of Christ's execution, put it: "Certainly this Man was innocent."

* In dealing with some of the complex questions regarding the two different genealogies of our Lord in Matthew and Luke, I allow for many different opinions. Some, like R.C. Sproul, perhaps wisely conclude, that he is not sure how to harmonize the differences between these genealogies. In the following notes I adopt the harmonizing theories of James Boice and Donald Grey Barnhouse. Moreover, please note that the theory that Luke's genealogy traces Jesus' human lineage through Mary is an old theory, dating back to the church father, Eusebius.

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LORD'S DAY MORNING WORSHIP

February 22, 2026



GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

Prelude, Reflection

Salutation

Call to Worship

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

*** Opening Hymn**

Man of Sorrows! What a Name!
246 *Trinity Hymnal* (verses 1-4)

1 Man of Sorrows! what a name for the Son of God, who came ruined sinners to reclaim: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

2 Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood, sealed my pardon with his blood: Hallelujah! what a Savior!

3 Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he; full atonement! can it be? Hallelujah! what a Savior!

4 Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished!" was his cry: now in heav'n exalted high: Hallelujah! what a Savior! **

*** Invocation & Lord's Prayer**

God's Law

Jeremiah 36:27-32
(p 791 pew Bible)

Confession of Sin (unison)

Psalm 106:6-15
(p 598 pew Bible)

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 106:44-47
(p 599 pew Bible)

*** Song of Response**

There is a Higher Throne
9 *Covenant Praises* (all verses)

1 There is a higher throne Than all this world has known
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue Will one day come
Before the Son we'll stand Made faultless through the Lamb
Believing hearts find promised grace Salvation comes

Chorus: Hear heaven's voices sing Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies Their praises rise
All glory wisdom pow'r Strength thanks and honour are
To God our King who reigns on high Forever more

2 And there we'll find our home Our life before the throne
We'll honour Him in perfect song Where we belong
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye As thirst and hunger die
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King We'll reign with Him (Chorus)

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Congregational Prayer

Prayer of Dedication & Offering

Offertory Hymn (Psalm 73:25-28)

Whom Have I in Heaven But Thee
16 *Covenant Praise* (all verses)

Whom have I in heaven but Thee,
Besides Thee I desire nothing upon the earth
My heart and my flesh may fail,
but God is my heart's strength and my portion forever.
As for me the nearness of God is my good.
I have made the Lord God my refuge that I may tell of all Thy works.

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*** Gloria Patri**

#735 *Trinity Hymnal*

GOD SPEAKS HIS WORD TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer & Scripture Readings

Luke 3:1-6 (p 1020 pew Bible)
Luke 3:21-38 (p 1020 pew Bible)

Sermon Title Christ, The God-Man, Rules: Holy, Harmless & Undeified

Prayer of Application

*** Closing Hymn**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
521 *Trinity Hymnal* (all verses)

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]**

*** Benediction**

*** Doxology**

#731 *Trinity Hymnal*

* Please stand if able

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