

# THE PEDIGREE OF JESUS CHRIST – ELM AUG 96

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These notes, composed from 2013 on, are based on taped lectures given between 1977 and 1997 by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., formerly the Head of Theology for the Worldwide Church of God; he resigned in January 1974 because of his unresolved doctrinal issues with the administration. Sadly Dr. Martin died in January 2002, a great loss to the world and to those who seek Biblical truth.

One of the most important, yet one of the most misunderstood parts of the Bible where there are two lineage records of Jesus Christ. Hardly anyone recognizes the importance of His heritage, in that we are 'in Him' and so become part of His heritage. We share in the heritage of Christ spiritually. Most people have some idea of their human heritage, but none of their spiritual heritage.

II Timothy 1: 9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

So our heritage as an individual, our relationship, and our holy calling with Jesus Christ, our Creator goes back before the world began. The holy calling that through Grace, in Christ, way before any 'works' either 'good' or 'bad' came on the scene. So although we are ordained to walk in good 'works', it is our joy to do so, because He first loved us.

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed **us** with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:

How are we blessed? By our being in Christ, and sharing His heritage before, now, and forever!

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

This is such a powerful, incredible statement to appreciate: that we are "holy and without blame before Him in love".

By stark contrast, the religions of 'churchianity' teach you to think of yourself as guilty, and would have you struggle through life as a miserable 'sinner', wailing about not being good enough, and seeing that "we have done those things we should not have done, and left undone those things we should have done, and there is no good in us". Of course, Christ wants us to recognize when we sin and repent, but not drag ourselves around with our lower lip on the floor.

Ephesians 2:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Jesus Christ signed our 'adoption papers' long before any of us had a conscious existence. He wanted each of us as his kinfolk, and be to us our Elder Brother before He undertook the Creation of the world! He knew then that he would provide our 'redemption' thorough His sacrifice, and our forgiveness through Grace.

Ephesians 2:7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;

In His wisdom, He reveals His Plan for each of us in stages, not all at once. We have the opportunity to grow in grace and knowledge over time.

Ephesians 2:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in **one** all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

Gathered together in a 'plural one'. God is one, and is plural, Father and Son as 'one' Family.

Ephesians 2:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being **predestinated** according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

Our 'destiny' was written in advance, according to a specific 'purpose'. Christ willed that this would happen, and it has.

Ephesians 2:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

An 'earnest' in human affairs is a word to describe a 'deposit' which someone puts down to show their good faith and their intention to pay the balance of a purchase. Our 'earnest' is the gift of the Holy Spirit, and this resides in us, and when it integrates with our human spirit we are begotten, and this forms a 'new creature'.

We then have the Spirit of Promise in our hearts and minds, which is the 'earnest' of our inheritance. This means that when we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are promised the "balance" at the time of the resurrection when we receive our inheritance in full, and we shall be entirely composed of Spirit.

Colossians 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead (to this world), and your life is hid with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

People who still intend to keep the old law, thinking in some way to be justified, which is impossible anyway, as Paul makes so very clear. Such people do not realize that not only they are not appreciating the sacrifice of Christ, but making His death in vain!

Galatians 2:19 For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

Legally, we are now sitting, sinless, at the right hand of the Father 'in Christ'. Look at how you were and ARE saved, not how you get to be saved!

The genealogy of Christ in Luke's Gospel goes back to Adam. Matthew's genealogy was written for the Jews who were looking for a king, a political Messiah, descended from David.

Born in Bethlehem, the angel said, “JAH is with us” which is the meaning of the name ‘Jesus’. Jesus grew up in Nazareth. Joseph was his legal father by ‘adoption’ which was a legal as if born to him.

Matthew 1:16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. 17 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.

From Abraham to David 14 generations, from David to carrying away to Babylon 14, Babylon to Christ 14, so we come to Joseph.

Matthew’s genealogy was not intended to be Christ’s pedigree, but defines His legal kingship through David in Biblical terms, as adoption was just as legal and binding as to be born from parents. So Christ was ‘from David’ but only in the legal sense.

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God was very angry with the king of Judah, and disqualified him from any of his descendants becoming a king of David’s line. Christ was legally of the Davidic line, but not physically.

Jeremiah 22:1 Thus saith the Lord; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, 2 And say, Hear the word of the Lord, O king of Judah, that sittest upon the throne of David, thou, and thy servants, and thy people that enter in by these gates: 3 Thus saith the Lord; Execute ye judgment and righteousness, and deliver the spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor: and do no wrong, do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, nor the widow, neither shed innocent blood in this place. 4 For if ye do this thing indeed, then shall there enter in by the gates of this house kings sitting upon the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, he, and his servants, and his people. 5 But if ye will not hear these words, I swear by myself, saith the Lord, that this house shall become a desolation.

Jeremiah 22:30 Thus saith the Lord, Write ye this man childless, a man that shall not prosper in his days: for no man of his seed shall prosper, sitting upon the throne of David, and ruling any more in Judah.

God speaks to Jeremiah, and tells him that David's lineage is at an end with Jehoiakim, and that no king would come from his seed. He had disqualified himself by his actions.

Jeremiah 36:30 Therefore thus saith the Lord of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.

In Matthew's list, Joseph's father was Jacob, Luke's list says Joseph's father was Heli. This is not a mistake, no doubt Heli died, and Jacob adopted him legally, so Joseph had 'two fathers'.

Matthew 1:16 And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.

Luke 3:23 And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli,

This phrase "as was supposed" is a clear indication that Jesus was not the son of Joseph, and that this was clearly understood, and that he was born of a virgin as God had said He would through Isaiah.

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (Isaiah), saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Matthew 1:24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name Jesus.

Joseph did not have sexual relations with Mary until after Jesus was born when they had James who became the Apostle in charge of the ecclesia in Jerusalem. He could go into the Temple as a priest because he was of that lineage through Mary. Joseph's genealogy was of the Davidic or kingly line, and Mary's Genealogy was of Aaron the priestly line.

So the two genealogies of Matthew and Luke are idealized legal lists. God chose this couple for their lineage although Jesus was not physically from either of them, but he was theirs by legal 'adoption'.

There are four women mentioned in Matthew's genealogy, and they are by no means the most respected. Tamar was born through incest, Ruth was a Gentile, Rachab was a harlot, and Bathsheba the mother of David was born through an adulterous relationship. But the Bible is an accurate historical document, some facts like these may not have been included in man's histories!

Luke in his genealogy gives 77 names, another indication that it was an 'ideal' list. This list is not Mary's genealogy. Mary was a cousin of Elizabeth a daughter of the priestly line of Aaron, so Mary was also of priestly descent. Jews at the time would have thought of this as important. John the Baptist, also of the priestly line, knew the High Priest personally.

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. So we see that Christ's pedigree did not come through any man, but from His name Emmanuel, or God with us. God created the fertilized ovum of Jesus Christ and placed it in Mary's womb to develop for nine months as any other child does. Neither Joseph's sperm nor Mary's ovum was involved. Christ is God the Father's Son created and formed by Him as a man, as He created and formed Adam.

Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

This does not mean that the conception was a sin, but that I was formed in iniquity, in sin, because my (and everybody's) mother inherited the sin of Adam, as do all human beings. All humans have sin inherited in them, so Mary would also have sin in her being, so her ovum could not have been used to produce the perfect sinless human being.

This was realized by the Roman Catholic Church, so they had to invent the doctrine of the "Immaculate Conception", born out of the Council of Trent in 1545 A.D., so that Mary was also sinless, and so could produce a sinless baby. There is no scriptural authority or basis for this doctrine whatsoever.

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man (Adam's) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 13 (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him (the 'second' Adam) that was to come.

So in fact, all men and women died before the Law was formally given to Israel, because of Adam's sin, death entered into the world. This meant that all Adam's descendants had 'sin' in their hearts and minds, and was part of them, so they died, and every person since will die because that sin is an integral part of every human being.

Romans 5:15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many. 16 And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. 17 For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

Romans 5:19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one (Jesus Christ) shall many be made righteous. 20 Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: 21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Hebrews the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter Paul is explaining that the spilling of blood of sheep and goats sacrificed as a sin offering cannot, and does not take away sins or render those who make the offering perfect. This is the reason the sacrifices were performed annually, and at other times.

Hebrews 10:3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

But according to the law, the penalty for sin is death, so God conceived the plan for Yahweh, the Creator God of the Old Testament should relinquish the Glory He had as part of the Godhead Family, be formed as a man, and die once and for all sins of all human beings.

Philippians 2:6 Who, (Jesus Christ) being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

So God the Father from part of Himself formed a human body, a foetus which was literally the Son of God, placed it in Mary's womb, she became the 'surrogate mother', and Jesus Christ was born.

Hebrews 10:5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:

When did the foetus become Jesus Christ ? When He took His first breath, the spirit in man entered into Him, and at the same time He was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 40:7 Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

So Yahweh, God, became Jesus Christ the man himself sinless, but bearing all the sin of the world, was crucified, shed his blood, and died for us. His sacrifice rendered the continuance of the sacrificial system pointless, so its purpose came to an end when Christ died.

Hebrews 10:9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

From before the foundation of the earth, God had a Plan to reproduce Himself, and enlarge His Family with Human Beings. He created Yahweh, who created all things, the universe, the earth and all there is in it, who became the Messiah in whom we are.

Acts 17:27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 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.

The Messiah lived a perfect life without sin, and saved mankind from death, and imbued us all with eternal life. God planned for His children, all human



beings to be 'in Christ' before time began. It is God's will that all humans will be saved.

Jesus Christ's pedigree is that He was the Firstborn Son of God, and since we are in Him, we are also Firstborn Sons of God, and so we share His pedigree.