

JESUS CHRIST - Son of Man. - The Messiah; The Son of God.

In the Holy Bible we find that the recording of genealogy (family line) was very important.

Did you know that there are two different genealogies given in the Bible for **Jesus**! There are a few people in the Bible who were called “Jesus” but the One who is referred to over 12 hundred times by this name is unique.

In **Matthew’s account** we read: (1:1-17.) “A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham.” The record goes on to fill out the details of the family link with Abraham. “Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac was the father of Jacob, the father of ... the father of... the father of **David**.the father of... “ until verse 16 where we discover who this genealogy leads us to – “.. Jacob the father of **Joseph, the husband of Mary**, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.” This is Joseph’s genealogy – the husband of Mary, the **step-father** of Jesus. So even through His step-father Jesus has inherited the legal right to the family line of **David** and of the promised **Messiah** (Christ).

When we look at the different genealogy recorded in **Luke’s Gospel** what do we find? (Luke 3:23-38.) “(Jesus) was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph.” We know Jesus was NOT the son of Joseph by birth and that’s why the Bible records that He was only thought by some to be Joseph’s son. Jesus **was** the son of a virgin called Mary just as had been prophesied by Isaiah about 700 years earlier, who also prophesied that the miracle Child would be “Immanuel - **God with us**.” (Isaiah 7:24. Matthew 1:22-23.) The genealogy in Luke goes on to say that Jesus was the son of Heli,son of Matthat son of David .. son of Abraham **the Son of**... right to the son of Adam. (We will stop there in the genealogy for the moment.) Obviously this was the actual genealogy that Jesus WAS “the son of” in the line of His mother **Mary**.

So Jesus clearly was the “Son of man” (took “human likeness” – Philippians 2:5-11.) - He is referred to as “Son of man” over 80 times in the Gospels - a title Jesus readily used about Himself. Jesus was not in any way ashamed of this title having taken flesh and blood and shared in our humanity and is not ashamed to call those who believe in Him “brothers.” (Hebrews 2:11-15.)

Luke’s genealogy of Mary’s family line did not stop with Jesus being the son of Adam, it went on to say “**the Son of God**.” (Luke 3:38.) The One who was born of Mary was indeed **the Son of God**! “They will call Him Immanuel – which means “**God with us**”.(Matthew 1:23.) “The Son of the Most High... He will reign ... forever; His Kingdom will never end”! (Luke 1:32-33.)

Compare that with what the **Gospel of Mark** has to say about Jesus. “The beginning of the Gospel about Jesus Christ, **the Son of God**. It is written in Isaiah the prophet: ‘I will send My messenger ahead of You, who will prepare Your way’” (Mark 1:1-2.) — **The Son of God** – the promised **Messiah** to be announced by a forerunner!

Also in **John’s Gospel** we are told that “the Word” (ie. Jesus) “was with God and **the Word was God**. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made....” (John 1:1-5.) Jesus is declared to be the great Creator God! (Colossians 1:15-20.)

There are various religions that are quite happy to accommodate Jesus as **a son of man** and some will even accept that Jesus was a son of God, *but they take great exception to Jesus’ claim to be the Son of God and to be equal to the Father*. (John 10:30. 5:18, 23.) Eg the Jews; Muslims; Mormons; Jehovah Witnesses; etc.

Listen to some comments about Jesus Christ made by those who knew Him while He was here on earth:

“When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, ‘Who do people say the **Son of Man** is?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘You are THE CHRIST, **THE Son of the Living God**.’ Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by My Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and **on this Rock** (the reality of Jesus being the Son of the Living God) I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.’” (Matt 16:16-18. Emphasis mine.)

(John 5:23.) “He who does not honour the Son (Jesus) does not honour the Father (God) who sent Him.”

(John 15:23.) “He who hates Me (Jesus) hates My Father (God) as well.”

So anyone who rejects Jesus **the Son of God** is rejecting God **the Father** – Rejecting our Father in Heaven!

Saul of Tarsus (later to be known as Paul), in his religious zeal thought He was pleasing God by opposing those who said that God had sent His Son and had raised Him to life after His death for our sins! Later, going to Damascus to persecute Christians there, Saul discovered he was going **against** God! Jesus spoke to him from

Heaven and he was at last willing to acknowledge Jesus as "LORD". (Acts 26:9-18.) Paul went on to declare that Jesus Christ was "in very nature God..." (Philippians 2:6.) And that "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the worst," Paul said! (1 Timothy 1:15.)

The apostle John had this to say: "**Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh,** have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist." (2 John 1:7-11.)

"**Many deceivers**" - Jesus exposed His deceivers by saying: "I have come in My Father's name, and you do not accept Me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him." (John 5:43.) Leaders and prophets in various religions come with their own recommendation having no one but themselves and their own writings to prove they are genuine and they dare to attack and reject the Prophecies in the Word of God! They refuse to acknowledge that Jesus Christ, THE Son of God, is the only Saviour for mankind. (Acts 4:10-12.)

Jesus came in fulfilment of many detailed accurate prophecies that clearly identified Him as **the promised Son of God**; (See Isaiah 9:6-7.) and God spoke from Heaven confirming Jesus as His Son. (Matthew 3:17.) Jesus Himself clearly claimed to be equal with God (John 5:17-18. John 19:7. Luke 22:67-70.) and He was clearly declared to be God **the Son** by the writers of the Bible. (1 John 5: 10 & 20. 2 Peter 1:17. Hebrews 1:3 & 8.) He Himself claimed to be the Son of God sent to be the Saviour of the world. (John 3:16-21. 1 John 4:14.) His miraculous power and amazing claims were further evidences of His deity. (John 5:31-47.) He was, and will forever be, worshipped as God! (John 20:28. Hebrews 1:1-14. Philippians 2:6-11. Revelation 5:9-14.)

If a person concludes that Jesus is not truly God then they would have to conclude that He was *either a liar or a lunatic*; but the teachings of Jesus Christ and His miracles and His fulfilment of so many detailed unshakeable prophecies were certainly not the achievements of either a liar or a lunatic!

Is it not strange that those who reject the claims of the Lord Jesus Christ who came in God the Father's name and clearly had God's commendation, will readily accept instead those who come in their own name having no obvious commendation from God other than their own word! (John 5:43-47. 6:33-36.)

"Who is the liar? It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a man is the antichrist—he denies the Father and the Son. No-one who denies **the Son** has **the Father**; whoever acknowledges **the Son** has **the Father** also." (1 John 2:22-23.)

"Tell us if you are the Christ, the **Son of God**." the High Priest said to Jesus at the ad hoc trial set up to condemn Him. "**Yes**, it is as you say," Jesus replied. "But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming in the clouds of heaven." (Mt 26:63-64)

Even at His crucifixion when the ungodly Roman centurion who stood there in front of Jesus on the cross heard His cry and saw how He died, he said, "Surely this **man** was **the Son of God**!" (Mark 15:39.)

Jesus is identified over and over again as **the Creator God**. (John 1:1-4. Colossians 1:15-20. Hebrews 1:1-13.) He created and sustains all things. Jesus said "I am in the Father and the Father is in Me" (John 10:38. 14:10-11.) So never think that by believing in Jesus as the Son of God would be acknowledging two gods! Surely you don't think you can fully understand and explain the Almighty Eternal God! He has made Himself known as a triune God - Three in One; One in Three - The **Father** the **Son** and the **Holy Spirit**. Because it is difficult to understand and believe is no reason to make God out to be a liar! The Apostle John said, "Anyone who does not believe God has made Him out to be a liar, because he has not believed the testimony God has given about His Son". (1 John 5:10.)

Every day each of us believe in and depend on things that most of us cannot understand. Do we refuse to use Computers; Aeroplanes; Mobile phones; etc until we understand all about how they work? Do you refuse to believe mankind has a soul because you don't understand how a person could be a three-in-one being! (body; soul; spirit.) Can we understand that? Why should you be surprised that I place my faith and hope in the mysterious Almighty, Loving, Gracious and Faithful Triune God (Father; Son; Spirit) as my Lord and Saviour when I've so much evidence to support such faith and confidence?

"... we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world." (1 John 4:14.)

The Apostle John makes this comment towards the end of his Gospel account: "Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name." (John 20:30-31.) **Put your trust for Salvation in "our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ."** (Titus 2:13.)