

➔ **JESUS** - Son of Man.

➔ **CHRIST** - The Messiah; The Son of God.

In the Bible we find that genealogy is very important to the Jew.

There are two different genealogies given in the Bible for **Jesus**. It is true that various people in the Bible 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 links from 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 v 16 where we discover whose genealogy this is – "... 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 Messiah.

When we look at the genealogy recorded by **Luke** 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 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....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 genealogy that Jesus WAS "the son of" in the line of His mother **Mary**.

So Jesus clearly was the "Son of man" - 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". (Heb 2:11-15. Phil 2:6-11.)

See what the Gospel of Mark has to say about Him. (Mark 1:1-2.) "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'" – **The Son of God** – the promised **Messiah** to be announced by a forerunner. By the way, **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!** "God with us".

There are various religions that are quite happy to accommodate Jesus as the **son of man**, *but they take great exception to Jesus being **the Son of God***. Eg the Jews; the Muslims; the Mormons; the Jehovah Witnesses; the Way International; the Moonies; to name a few.

Listen to some of Jesus' comments about Him being called the Son of God:

(Matthew 16:13.) "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 God) I will build My Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.'" (Matt 16:16-18.)

(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 rejected God in his religious zeal to oppose those who said Jesus was the Son of God – until Jesus spoke to him from Heaven while Saul was on the road to Damascus. (See Acts 9:1-6.)

The apostle John had this to say: (2 John 1:7-11.) "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. Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you may be rewarded fully. Anyone who runs ahead and does not continue in the teaching of Christ does not have God; whoever continues in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this teaching, do not take him into your house or welcome him. Anyone who welcomes him shares in his wicked work."

"Many deceivers" - Jesus Himself gave the deceivers this warning: "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! 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. 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.) His miraculous power and amazing claims in His teachings were further evidences of His deity. (see John 5:31-47.) If a person concludes that Jesus is not truly God then they would have to claim that He was *either a liar or a lunatic*; but His teachings and His miracles and His fulfilment of many 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!

(1 John 2:22-23.) "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."

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

At the mock trial of Jesus the High Priest asked Him (Mt 26:63-64) "Tell us if you are the Christ, the **Son of God**." "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."

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 we are presenting two gods! Surely you don't think you can fully understand and explain the Almighty 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 trust things most of us cannot understand, for example Computers; Aeroplanes; Mobile phones; and for me the Almighty, Loving, Gracious and Faithful Triune God as my Lord and Saviour.

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.)