

## Question Sunday 5/29/22 Part 1

### 1. Subject: The Genealogy of Jesus in Matthew and Luke

Why are there different genealogies for Jesus in Matthew and Luke? From the research I've done so far theologians are all over the map on this from saying nothing about it to that one is the account of Mary through blood and biology and the other is the dynastic legal line through Joseph. Even these can't agree which parent belongs to which genealogy. What do you say?

#### Answer:

I hold to the traditional view that Matthew's genealogy was through Joseph regarding the dynastic view because he was particularly addressing the Jews. Whereas Luke was tracing back through Mary revealing the biological aspect of the lineage back to Adam.

According to the ESV Study Bible, "Matthew traces Jesus' lineage from Abraham to emphasize Jesus Jewish heritage and Luke traces back to Adam to show that Jesus is the fulfilment of the hopes of all people."

### 2. Subject: Question for Question Sunday

For some unknown reason during a family visit our great niece recently blurted out to her grandmother that she didn't believe in God and that she doesn't want people to talk about Him when they are around her. Her grandmother responded that she would never limit her speech about God around her because God is always good and acts in our best interests even if we can't see that right now.

Our great niece is 12 now and 3 years ago she watched her Dad who she was very close to die a slow death from Lou Gehrig Disease. Over the past 3 years she has had to deal with his loss along with trying times that the Covid virus have brought all of us.

Her family has never been a church going family nor has anyone openly professed being

a believer, and she is the youngest of 3 children and has 2 older brothers. Mom and Dad were always involved in the kids sports and school activities and seemed dominated by this in their lives.

Our best tool is obviously our testimony of our relationship to God as we gently and respectfully question why this came about being said to her grandmother. At this age a young girl has a lot of things to think about and decide what she believes about many things.

Can you construct an apologetic outline how we can talk about the reality of God in our world to help her think beyond her emotional pain from the death of her father?

**Answer:**

Simply build relationship and gently allow space for conversations. Her refusal to want to talk about God or have people talk about God is only a reference to her pain. I would say don't limit your speech regarding God, but be respectful to where the child is. Hopefully, the speech of God that the family is having, will open doors without being forceful. Forcefulness would only be push her away further. People who have gone through deep pain need time, space, and for their questions to be heard, even if they come out sideways, in a context of gentleness and respect. Be tougher than their question or attitude and stand in love for them. Over time the space and time will come to plant seeds here and there, but often the pain has to subside a bit so the truth can be heard because painful emotion can deafen the ear to truth. As the opportunity arises, and pray for that opportunity to arise, ask the Lord to show you how best to give answers for His truth in a way that love is conveyed. This may mean the whole answer may only be given in bite size pieces for a while, but then as curiosity gives way, let them find you as safe place to ask their questions; because of the relationship you have already built.

**3. Should Christians also avoid eating foods such as pork and bugs as referred to by the books of Moses.**

**Answer:**

When Christ came, He came to fulfill the requirements of the law, therefore, we are no longer under the requirements of the law.

Romans 10:4 - For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.<sup>1</sup>

The law was given to the Jews as an insulation to holiness to protect their future so that the Messiah could come from God's people. When the Messiah came the purpose of God's people had come to fruition and the requirements of the law quickly were done away with because the Messiah fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

**4. We know about the birth of Jesus, Him as an adult, what about toddler Jesus?**

**Answer:**

We don't know anything about Jesus as a toddler or even a teenager. We know about Him as an infant, a twelve-year-old, and an adult. The reason for this is that ancient biographies were not written the way modern biographies are written, with every detail in mind. Rather, ancient biographies only concerned themselves with that which would have promoted the person written about to prominence and importance. Therefore, we see Christ's birth written about, as well, in Luke's gospel the snippet regarding Jesus at the Temple which He called His Father's house, and of course His public ministry.

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<sup>1</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: Holman Christian standard version\*](#). (2009). (Ro 10:4). Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers.

**5. Scripture says do not live in fear, so, what are your thoughts on (doomsday) “prepping/self-sustaining?”**

**Answer:**

My first response is 2 Timothy 1:7- For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. <sup>2</sup>

God doesn't want us to live in fear, but definitely live in reality. As believers, our decisions should be made from a place of faith mixed with wisdom. So, I'd say we must push away from the doomsday mentality but also see reality and read the signs of the times.

**6. I ask God to forgive me, how do I know God forgives me really?**

**Answer:**

If you have sincerely confessed your sins unto repentance, then the Bible teaches that God has forgiven you, and you can take Him at His Word. In other words, you can hold God accountable to His Word.

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<sup>2</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: Holman Christian standard version.\*](#) (2009). (2 Ti 1:7). Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers.