

Christmas Family Tree

- The genealogy of Jesus through **Joseph** in the book of **Matthew** gives Jesus the **legal** right to the throne of David.
- The genealogy of Jesus through **Mary** in the book of **Luke** gives Jesus the **biological** right to the throne of David.
 - Matthew traces the genealogy of Jesus to **Abraham** to identify Him with **the Jewish people**.
 - Luke traces the genealogy of Jesus to **Adam** to identify Him with **all people**.
 - *Matthew connects Jesus to the promises God made to **Abraham and David**.* Genesis 12:1-3; 2 Samuel 7:12-13
 - Abraham -- Jesus is the one through whom **all the families of the earth will be blessed**.
 - David -- Jesus is the **king** who will rule and reign **forever and ever**.
 - *Luke connects Jesus to the promises God made to **Adam**.* Genesis 3:15
 - Jesus is the seed of the woman who will **crush the head of the serpent**.
- The genealogies of Jesus teach us about the **character of God**.
 - He graciously works to **save people** from their sin.
 - He always **keeps** the promises he makes.
 - He chooses and uses people **by grace**.
- The genealogies of Jesus point us to **the story of two Adams**.
 - Genesis 5:1 - This is the **book of generations** when **God created man**.
 - Matthew 1:1 - This is the **book of generations** when **God became man**.
 - *The first Adam was created from **dust** and the **breath of God**.*
 - *The last Adam came from **the seed of a woman** and the **Spirit of God**.*
 - With the first Adam, **God made man** in His image and likeness.
 - With the last Adam, **God took on** the image and likeness of man.
 - *The first Adam became a living person -- Genesis 2:7*
 - *The last Adam became a life-giving person -- 1 Corinthians 15:45*

- The first Adam **failed to obey God** and as a result all His offspring **die**. Genesis 5
- The last Adam **always obeyed God** and as a result all His offspring **live**. Philippians 2:8; John 3:16

Personal observations from the message.

1. *How would you summarize what you learned in a sentence or two?*
2. *What was something you didn't know or were reminded of?*
3. *What point or verse did you find most helpful? Why?*
4. *What is a question you have?*
5. *What can you share with someone? Who can you share it with?*

Discussion questions from the message.

1. *Why do you suppose websites like Ancestry.com that help you explore your family tree are so popular? What do our family trees teach us?*
2. *When you see a genealogy in your Bible reading, what is your response? Why?*
3. *Briefly look at Matthew 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38. What are some things you observe from what Matthew records? What are some things you observe from what Luke wrote?*
4. *What is the benefit of having these two different genealogies? (Consider the promises God made to different people in the genealogies.)*
5. *What do the genealogies teach us about the character of God? How? How do we see these same character qualities at work on our behalf today?*
6. *From the sermon outline, what stands out to you about the story of two Adams? What does this teach us about the unity of the Bible? What does this teach us about the big message of the Bible?*