

THE ANCESTRY AND INFANCY OF JESUS

Matthew 1 - 2; Luke 1 - 2

In tracing the earthly life of Jesus, it is necessary to begin far back in His ancestry. As you study, notice why this is so important; and then study the first events of His earthly life:

A. The Ancestry in Matthew: Matthew 1:1-17

1. From what two important Old Testament characters is Jesus' ancestry traced in Matthew 1:1? _____
2. Glance through this **genealogy** (list of ancestors), listing the names of any others you recognize:

3. Which of Jesus' earthly parents' ancestors are listed in Matthew? Matthew 1:16

4. Who begat (became the physical father of) Joseph? Matthew 1:16a

B. The Ancestry in Luke: Luke 3:23-38

1. In Luke, of whom is Joseph said to be the son? Luke 3:23

2. Notice that this ancestry is the same as that in Matthew, after it reaches what important person in Luke 3:31? _____
3. It goes back farther, however, to what person in Luke 3:38?

4. Since the genealogies in Matthew and Luke are different, what must we conclude concerning them? (*THINK!* In what sense could Joseph have been called "The son of Heli"? Compare this with a similar relationship in 1 Samuel 24:16).

C. The Infancy of Jesus: The following seems to be the order of events connected with Jesus' infancy. Read the passages in the order given, noting exactly what the Bible says about each event, and tracing events on Map 2.

1. Luke 1:
 - a. Announcement of John the Baptist's birth to Zacharias in the temple at Jerusalem.

 - b. Annunciation of Jesus' birth to Mary at Nazareth.

 - c. Mary's visit with Elizabeth (probably at Hebron).

 - d. Birth of John the Baptist (probably at Hebron)

2. Matthew 1:18-24: Marriage of Joseph and Mary (probably at Nazareth).

3. Luke 2:

a. Their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. _____

b. Birth of Jesus at Bethlehem. _____

c. Visit of the shepherds to the manger in Bethlehem.

d. Circumcision and naming of Jesus at eight days of age.

e. Presentation of Jesus in the temple at Jerusalem at 40 days of age.

f. Adoration of Simeon and Anna in the temple at Jerusalem.

4. Matthew 2:

a. Visit of the wise men to a house in Bethlehem. (How many wise men?)

b. The flight into Egypt. _____

c. Herod's slaughter of the children in Bethlehem. _____

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How was Jesus received when He came to earth to live? How was He treated?

2. Do I have room in my heart for Jesus? Do I worship and praise Him, or do I fear, like Herod, that He will take away something I want for myself?
