

## ***EASY BIBLE LESSONS***

### **The Ancestry of Jesus the Messiah**

#### **Luke 3:23-38**

23 Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his work.

He was the son (as was thought) of Joseph son of Heli, 24 son of Matthat, son of Levi, son of Melchi, son of Jannai, son of Joseph, 25 son of Mattathias, son of Amos, son of Nahum, son of Esli, son of Naggai, 26 son of Maath, son of Mattathias, son of Semein, son of Josech, son of Joda, 27 son of Joanan, son of Rhesa, son of Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, son of Neri, 28 son of Melchi, son of Addi, son of Cosam, son of Elmadam, son of Er, 29 son of Joshua, son of Eliezer, son of Jorim, son of Matthat, son of Levi, 30 son of Simeon, son of Judah, son of Joseph, son of Jonam, son of Eliakim, 31 son of Melea, son of Menna, son of Mattatha, son of Nathan, son of David, 32 son of Jesse, son of Obed, son of Boaz, son of Sala, son of Nahshon, 33 son of Amminadab, son of Admin, son of Arni, son of Hezron, son of Perez, son of Judah, 34 son of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham, son of Terah, son of Nahor, 35 son of Serug, son of Reu, son of Peleg, son of Eber, son of Shelah, 36 son of Cainan, son of Arphaxad, son of Shem, son of Noah, son of Lamech, 37 son of Methuselah, son of Enoch, son of Jared, son of Mahalaleel, son of Cainan, 38 son of Enos, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God. — NRSV

[Please Note: Luke gives the genealogy of Jesus between His baptism and His temptation in the wilderness. See the Easy Bible Lesson on Luke 3:21-4:13.]

## ***BIBLE QUESTIONS FOR THINKING PEOPLE***

Why do you think the Bible tells us so little about Jesus between the ages of 12 and 30? Why do you think it might be important for Jesus to succeed in a trade before beginning His public ministry?

Jesus, the Son of God, was the legally adopted son of Joseph (as Luke notes, many thought He was Joseph's son). Why do you think Jesus' miraculous birth and His genealogy are so important?

Jesus is a descendent of King David. How do you know from this genealogy list that the David in the list was King David? (See Ruth 4:17 and 1 Samuel 17:12.)

Why do you think the genealogy list goes back beyond King David to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Unlike Matthew, why does Luke also go back to Adam and call him "son of God"? Remember, many scholars think Luke was a Gentile writing for a Gentile audience.

Notice that Matthew, the first book in the New Testament, begins his genealogy list with Abraham and goes to Jesus; whereas, Luke begins with Jesus and goes to Adam. Why might Matthew's list be more important to a Jewish reader than a Gentile reader? See Matthew 1:1-17.