



# Prophecies Fulfilled

John 1:1-3, 14; Matthew 1:1-17;

Luke 1:1-80, 3:23-28



## John 1:1-3

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.



## John 1:14

**14** And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.



# John: The Theological Prologue

- Matthew connects Jesus with David and Abraham.
- Mark associates Him directly with John the Baptist.
- Luke records the predictions and circumstances of His birth.

John, however, declares Him to be the eternal Son of God.



# At the Beginning

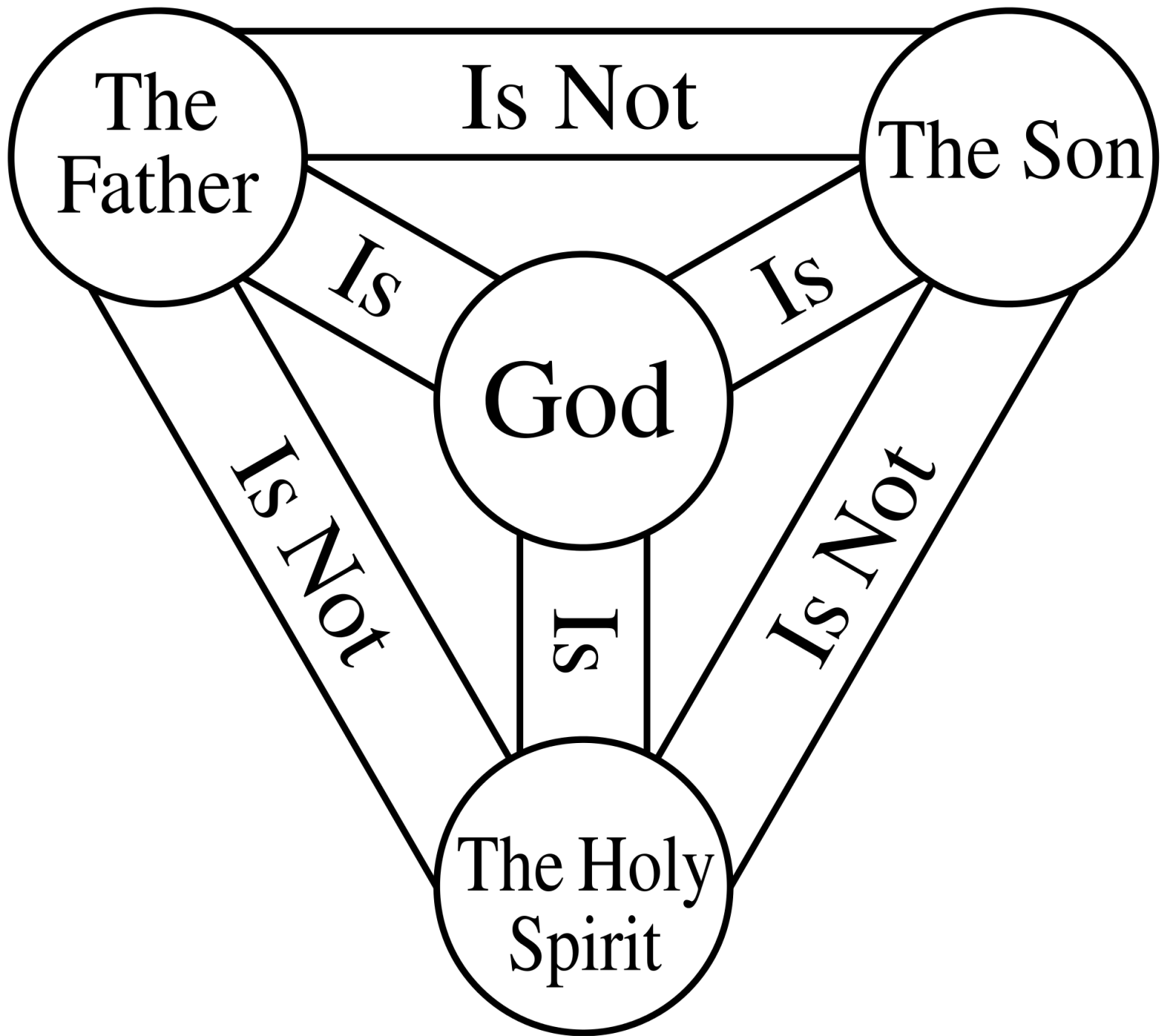
In eternity past, when there was nothing else, the Word existed.

“the Word” - λόγος (*logos*)

To the Hebrew ‘the word of God’ was the self-assertion of the divine personality.

To the Greek the formula denoted the rational mind that ruled the universe.







**Before We Begin...**

**A Few Comments on  
“The Synoptic Problem”**



# John Dominic Crossan

“Actually, the fact that we have four gospels lies at the very heart of our problem. Because we read particular parables or sayings or stories in several different versions, we can’t miss the disagreements between them.”





## Deuteronomy 19:15

**15** A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed; **on the evidence of two or three witnesses a matter shall be confirmed.**





# A Little Rabbit Trail...



- Which Gospel Came First?
- When Were the Gospels Written?
- Why do skeptics (and many “evangelicals”) date the gospels late?
- Why is this important?



# The Birth of the Forerunner

- To come in the spirit and power of Elijah had been clearly prophesied in the OT.
  - **Isaiah 40:3** – “A voice is calling, ‘Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.’”
  - **Malachi 3:1** – “Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the Lord of hosts.



# The Parents of John: Luke 1:5-7

**5** In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. **7** But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.



**“In the  
days of  
Herod”**





## **Unger in his Bible Dictionary:**

**“Herod was not only an Idumean in race and a Jew in religion, but he was a heathen in practice and a monster in character. During his administration as king he evidenced himself to be exceedingly crafty, jealous, cruel, and revengeful. He exercised his kingly power with the disposition of a very despot.”**



# John's Father: Zacharias, a priest

1. All the sons of Levi were to be workers in the temple, but only the sons of Aaron were to function as priests.
2. From Aaron's two surviving sons had come 24 families; David distributed the temple duties among these families.
3. When Israel returned from Babylon, the priests had divided themselves into 25 orders, and they alternated in performing the priestly office at Jerusalem, functioning in that capacity approximately twice a year.



# The Character of John's Parents

“Such a household as that of Zacharias and Elizabeth would have all that was beautiful in the religion of the time; devotion towards God; a home of affection and purity; reverence towards all that was sacred in things divine and human; ungrudging, self-denying, loving charity to the poor; the tenderest regard for the feelings of others, so as not to raise a blush, nor to wound their hearts; above all, intense faith and hope in the higher and better future of Israel.”

• Alfred Edersheim





# The Angelic Announcement

**Luke 1:8-17**



# The Announcement

1. The child was to be a lifetime Nazirite (v. 15).
2. He was to turn many Israelites to God (v. 16).
3. He was to come in fulfillment of the promise made by Malachi concerning the forerunner of the Messiah (v. 17).



# The Birth of John the Baptist

**Luke 1:57-80**



# The Birth Narrative

1. The birth results in great rejoicing among Elisabeth and her friends (1:57-58)
2. Naming of the child (1:59-66)
3. The “Benedictus” – Zacharias’ song of praise (1:67-79)
4. John matures (1:80)



# Angelic Announcement to Mary



**Luke 1:26-56**



## OT Prophecy

1. “a virgin will be with child” (Is. 7:14)
2. “bear a son” (Is. 7:14)
3. “call His name Immanuel” (Is. 7:14); “He will save you” (Is. 35:4)
4. “great is the Lord” (1 Chr. 16:25)
5. “the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come” (Mal. 3:1)
6. “the throne of David” (Is. 9:7)
7. “My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd” (Ez. 37:24)

## Announcement in Luke 1

1. “conceive in your womb...‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’” (1:31,34)
2. “bear a son” (1:31)
3. “you shall name Him Jesus” (1:31)
4. “He will be great” (1:32)
5. “called the Son of the Most High” (1:32)
6. “the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David” (1:32)
7. “He will reign over the house of Jacob” (1:33)



# Details

- The Time: 6<sup>th</sup> month of Elizabeth's pregnancy
- The Place: Nazareth of Galilee
- Found in Luke 1:28-33

Mary is described as “a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph.”



## The Betrothal of Joseph & Mary



# Mary's Reaction

- Luke 1:34-38

Her question is not asked because of unbelief, but because of bewilderment and confusion.

- Mary will then go to visit Elisabeth (1:39-45)
- The Magnificat of Mary in Luke 1:46-56



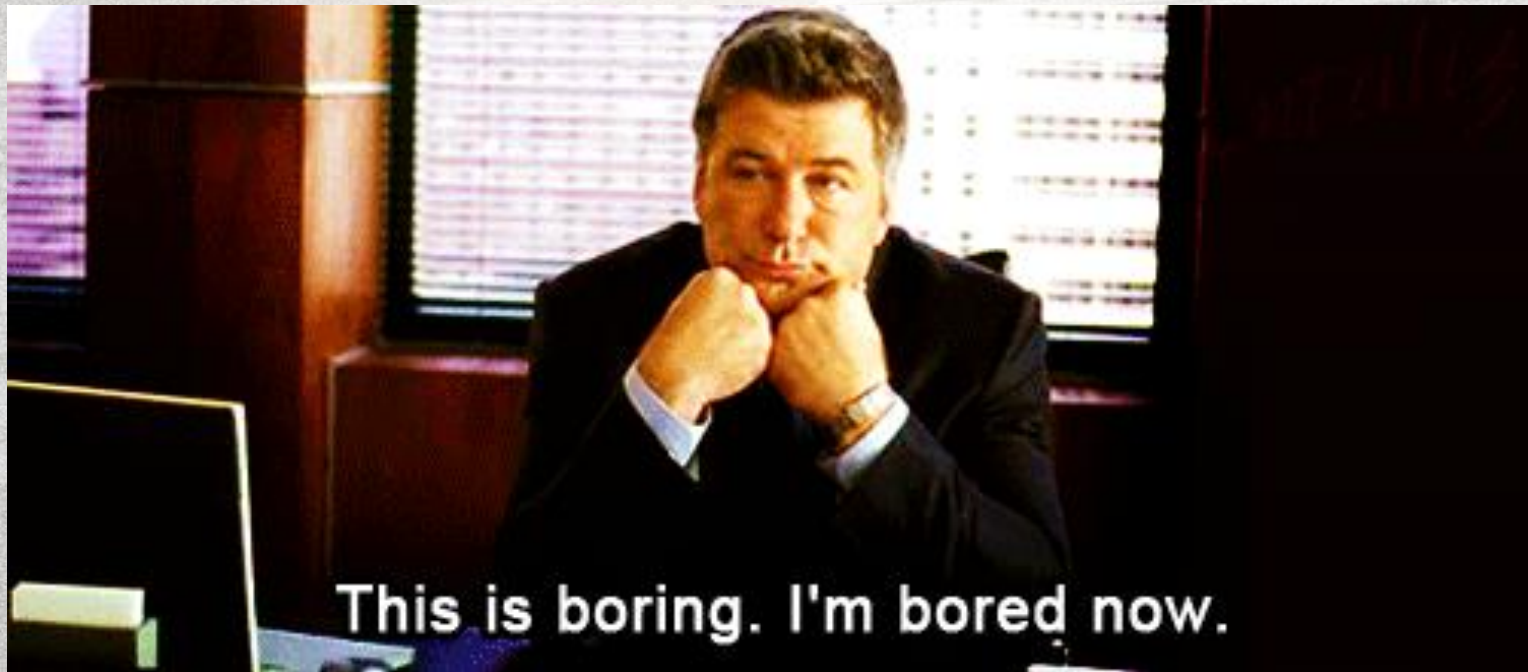
# Angelic Announcement to Joseph

**Matthew 1:18-25**



# Oh Boy, Genealogies!

**Matthew 1:1-17 & Luke 3:23-28**





# Why Include Genealogies?

- To connect Jesus by Legal and Physical descent with three ideas of OT promise, and thus validate His claim to be the promised Messiah.
1. **Messiah must be the seed of Woman –**  
Genesis 3:15
  2. **Messiah must be the seed of Abraham –**  
Genesis 12:1-3
  3. **Messiah must be the seed of David –**  
2 Samuel 7 (Psalm 89)



# Why Are There 2 Genealogies?





# Thomas Paine, *The Age of Reason*

“The history of Jesus Christ is contained in the four books ascribed to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The first chapter of Matthew begins with giving a genealogy of Jesus Christ; and in the third chapter of Luke, there is also given a genealogy of Jesus Christ. Did those two agree, it would not prove the genealogy to be true, because it might, nevertheless, be a fabrication; but as they contradict each other in every particular, it proves falsehood absolutely.”





# Houston, We Have a Problem...

- Luke 3:23-24a (KJV) –

“And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of **Joseph, which was the son of Heli**, Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi...”

- Matthew 1:16 –

“**Jacob was the father of Joseph** the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born...”



## Luke 3:23-24a

“And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, **(being as was supposed the son of Joseph)**, which was the son of Heli, Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi...”



# Genealogy #1: Matthew

- The Legal Lineage of Jesus
  - Establishes His right to the throne of David
  - This is Joseph's line, and while Joseph is not the physical son of Joseph, when he married Mary, Jesus became the legal son of Joseph, and thus the possessor of all that belonged to Joseph's offspring.



## Genealogy #2: Luke

- The Physical Lineage of Jesus
  - Establishes His relationship to the House of David
  - This is Mary's line, which links Jesus by blood lineage to the throne of David.



# King David

**Nathan**

(9<sup>th</sup> son of David)

Luke 3:31

**Solomon**

(10<sup>th</sup> son of David)

Matthew 1:6-7

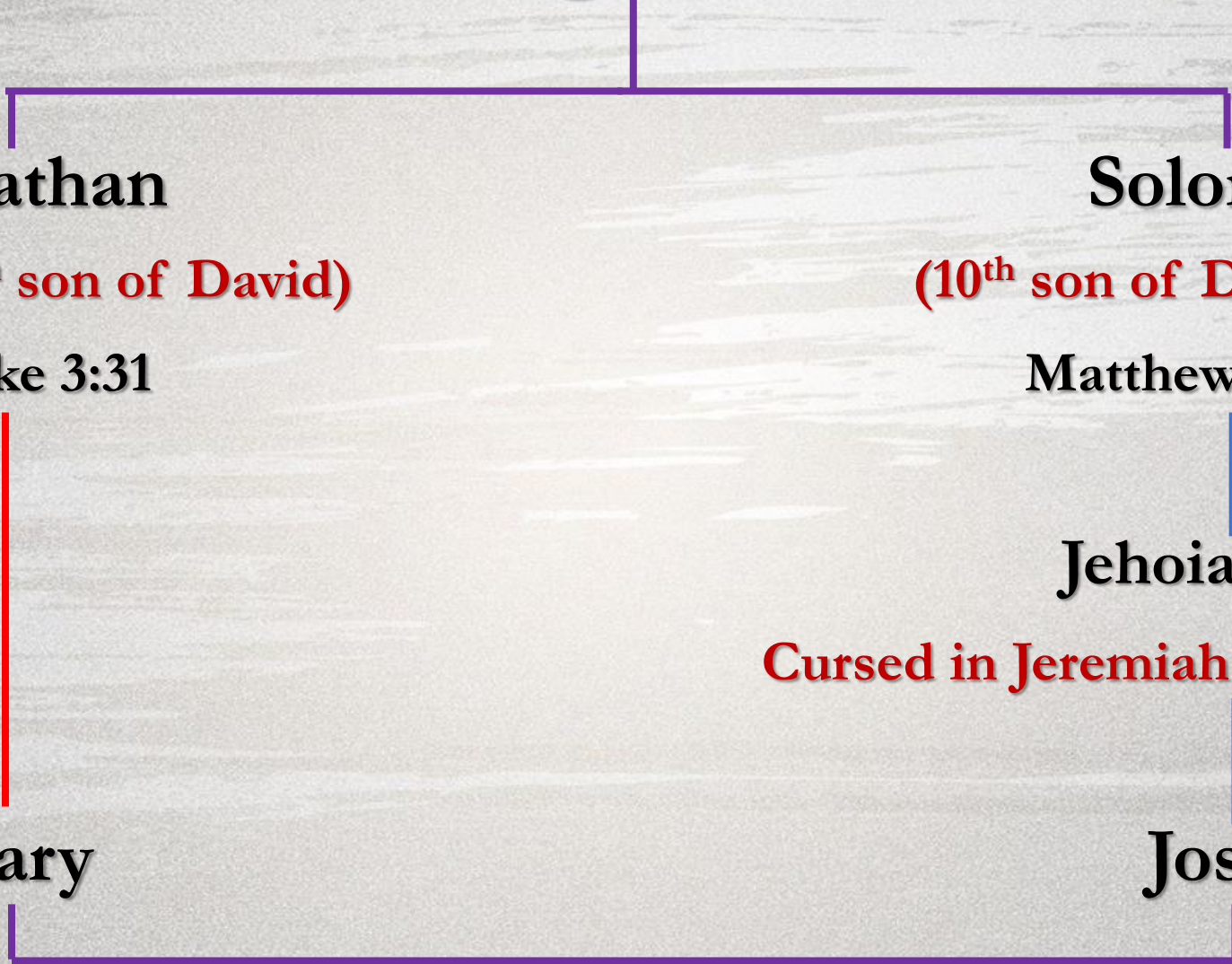
**Jehoiachin**

Cursed in Jeremiah 22:30

**Mary**

**Joseph**

**Jesus The Christ**





**And Thus...**

**By birth, through Mary, Jesus possesses the legitimate blood right to the Throne of David.**

**&**

**By adoption and inheritance, through Joseph, Jesus possesses the legal right to the Throne of David.**



Next Week:



The Word Becomes Flesh!



