

Bible Genealogies 2

Commentary for May 1, 2016 — More Purposes for Them¹

Genealogy also plays a role in the article for May 2016, "[Saudi Arabia, a Failing Kingdom](#)." Many citizens of Saudi Arabia still trace their lineage to Ishmael, firstborn son of Abraham, and a smaller number trace their lineage to Esau, twin brother of Jacob.² As the title of the article implies, there are great problems with the country of Saudi Arabia. (Read first the "[May 1, 2016 Newsletter](#)" for additional information about the article.)

It appears that God will move people groups to different locations as we approach the end times. Borders of countries will change. Much disruption will occur with those changes.

Genealogies have a purpose, often with a legal function. They are used **"to describe kingship, rank, political and legal relationships, geographical location, and obligations within the cultic sphere."** Biblical genealogies are generally longer than genealogies of most other ancient peoples.³

Your Genealogy, Your Lineage

We tend to forget that we all originated from Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:27, 2:7; Acts 17:26; 1 Corinthians 15:45; 1 Timothy 2:13).

In fact, our genealogy and lineage begin with Adam and Eve, but it then constricts down to Noah and his wife. Every human being of the 7+ billion people alive today is descended from Noah and his wife through one of his three sons and their wives.

How important is it for each of us to know our genealogies? Not very important in our present day, although a search of your ancestors and their lives can be interesting and even fascinating. Sometimes such background information about your ancestors can give answers to questions: such as why you are the way you are physically, why you live where you do, or even your genetic makeup.

However, if you cannot find out such things now, you will know them in the future.

What You Will Know in the Future

At some time in the future, we will all meet and know our physical ancestors and tell them

¹ This commentary follows on from the April 16, 2016 Commentary, "[Bible Genealogies](#)."

² About Esau and the Edomites, see Dr. Martin's article, "[The Most Significant Gentile Nation in the Bible](#)." Muhammed and his Koriesh tribe were descendants of the Samaritans who intermarried with the people of Ishmael. See "[Islam and the People that History Forgot](#)," Chapter 19 of Dr. Martin's book, [The People That History Forgot](#)."

³ "Genealogy in the Old Testament" in *The Lutterworth Dictionary of the Bible*, Watson Mills, ed. (Cambridge: The Lutterworth Press, 1994) 320.

the story of our lives. We will also have the opportunity to tell our descendants our story and they will tell theirs to us.

We will be able to do this because all human beings will be saved. It is God's will (1 Timothy 2:4, 6) and He is the Savior of all men (1 Timothy 4:10), and God works everything according to the purpose of His will:

"In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who works all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ."

• *Ephesians 1:11–12*

Yet when we are born again (John 3:3, 7; 1 Peter 1:23) we have a different legacy, a spiritual legacy not from Adam. We are descended from a different and second ancestor:

"And so it is written, 'The first man Adam was made a living soul'; the last Adam a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural [soulish]; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy [soilish]: the second man is the Lord from [out of] heaven.

As is the earthy [soilish], such are they also that are earthy [soilish]: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy [soilish], we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."

• *1 Corinthians 15:45–49*

Such is your lineage. Physically we derive from Adam. Spiritually we derive from Christ Himself, the Son of God, the Creator of all things (Colossians 1:15–20) and also heir to all things, the one who created the eons (Hebrews 1:2, KJV "**worlds**" should be "**eons**").

My Example

My four grandparents have died. My parents have died. All my direct ancestors have died, every one of them, beginning from Adam and Eve, through Noah and his wife, up to me at the present day.⁴

However, my spiritual ancestor, "**the second man**" as the apostle Paul terms Christ, He still lives at this very moment. God sent "**his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh**" (Romans 8:3) to be born of Mary. Spiritually we all will derive from Him, "**the second man is the Lord from [out of] heaven,**" our Lord Christ Jesus. He is not only alive, but I and you are seated with Him — legally — at God's right hand at this moment (Ephesians 2:5–6) and in actuality with Him in the future (Colossians 3:1).

Our spiritual lineage is the same for each of us. It is God the Father → Christ → you.

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⁴ Yes, they are dead, not alive in another "state of existence" or "dimension." Nor are they in heaven, limbo, or the traditional hell. They are dead in their graves (Ecclesiastes 9:5 and Psalm 146:4).