

SPIRIT, SOUL, & BODY

Sermon
Notes

Considering the four gospels, each author discusses Jesus in a different way, reflecting the different purposes and audiences of the writers.

Mark does not provide a genealogy (a list of someone's ancestors—a one line family tree), but rather, begins by immediately showing Jesus's actions. Mark wrote to a Gentile audience, for whom a genealogy was not as important, and wanted to present Jesus as the powerful God in the flesh. Mark was not a disciple, but was a spiritual son of Peter, from whom he got the information to write his gospel.

Matthew provides a genealogy for Jesus tracing back to *Abraham*. Matthew, a disciple and a Jew himself, wrote primarily to a Jewish audience. His goal was to show that Jesus was the long-awaited covenant Messiah prophesied about in the Scriptures (what we call the Old Testament), the redeemer of the Jewish people.

Luke provides a genealogy for Jesus tracing back to *Adam*. Like Mark, Luke was not a disciple himself, but a Gentile physician and historian who was a companion of the Apostle Paul. His goal was to show the humanity of Jesus, and to provide a careful and accurate account of all that Jesus did on the earth.

John provides a spiritual genealogy for Jesus. As the self-described "disciple whom Jesus loved," John was concerned with the spirituality of Jesus, showing that He was truly the Son of God (John 21:7). Why is this spiritual description important?

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Although worshippers of God on earth have many different denominations, God is not confined to or defined by any of them (John 4:21-24).

What is spirit? Spirit is the breath of God (Genesis 2:7). It is like the wind: we cannot see it, but we see its effects.

The Spirit of Jesus dwells in believers (Romans 8:11, 1 Corinthians 15:53-54). When we come to Christ we must be born again in the Spirit, leaving our addiction to ourselves behind (John 3:1-8).

We human beings are made up of three components.

Spirit: *the King*. The inner man, where God speaks to us. The spirit controls the soul and the body.

Soul: *the Servant*. The soul is comprised of our mind, intellect, emotions and will (the power to choose). It operates out of the spirit in control.

Body: *the Slave*. Although it is the most visible part of us, the body only acts out what goes on in the spirit.

Galatians 5:16-26

When you see a satanic force in action, call it by name. Bind the spirit, and the soul and flesh will fall in line accordingly. Walk by the Spirit!