

ORIGINS

THE ORIGIN OF JESUS

“The book of the origin of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” -- Matthew 1:1

ORIGINS

In order to set Jesus of Nazareth in his right and historical place, the origin of Jesus, we must begin with what is assumed in the beginning of Matthew's Gospel:

- The Origin of the World
- The Origin of Redemption
- The Origin of Israel

THE ORIGIN OF THE WORLD

“In the beginning, God **created** the heavens and the earth.”
-- Genesis 1:1

“And God saw everything that he had **made**, and behold, it was **very good.**” -- Genesis 1:31a

CREATION: GOD'S KINGDOM

- God created the heavens and the earth and he reigns over all.
- God created man to live under his rule.
- God created man to rule the earth under God's authority.

CREATION: GOD'S KINGDOM

God's kingdom, and his rule, are characterized by love, blessing, peace, and life.

REVOLT: MAN'S KINGDOM

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, ‘**Did God actually say...?**’” -- Genesis 3:1

“But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die...**you will be like God...**” -- Genesis 3:4

REVOLT: MAN'S KINGDOM

Man trusts the word of the serpent over the word of God and thereby rejects God's rule and submits himself, and the world, to the rule of the serpent.

RULERS OF THE EARTH

The rulers of the earth are shaped by rule in the image of the serpent rather than rule in the image of God.

God

Love

Blessing

Peace

Life

Serpent

Hate

Curse

War

Death

THE ORIGIN OF REDEMPTION

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; **he shall bruise your head** and you shall bruise his heel.” -- Genesis 3:15

PROMISE: A DELIVERER

- The world's destiny is now tied up in a struggle between good (God) and evil (serpent).
- God promises a deliverer, one who will crush the head of the serpent. He will rescue the world from oppressive rule in the image of the serpent and restoring it to the prospering rule of God.
- Ultimately liberation for humanity, indeed all of creation, is tied to the destruction of the serpent by a son of man.

SIN-EXILE-REDEMPTION

Genesis 3-11 tells the continual story of humanity's failure to obey God (sin), which leads to being cast away (exile). Each time God is gracious and offers hope (redemption).

Set against this backdrop of creation, revolt, and promise, is the origin of Israel, who will be the divine answer to the problem of evil.

THE ORIGIN OF THE ISRAEL

“Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and **I will bless you** and make your name great, **so that you will be a blessing**. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**’” -- Genesis 1:31a

PROMISE: I WILL BLESS YOU

God's covenant with Abraham is a promise on God's part that he will be faithful to Abraham and his family (Israel)...

PROMISE: YOU WILL BE A BLESSING

God's covenant with Abraham is a promise on God's part that he will be faithful to Abraham and his family (Israel)...

...because through Abraham and his family, God will bless the whole world, restoring his reign of love, blessing, peace, and life.

THE ORIGIN OF JESUS

“The book of the origin of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” -- Matthew 1:1

THE ORIGIN OF JESUS

“The book of the origin of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” -- Matthew 1:1

“So all the generations from **Abraham** to David were fourteen generations, and from **David** to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the **deportation** to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.” -- Matthew 1:17