

# A Tale of Two Sons

Sermon Series: Luke: All Things New



## Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



## Sermon Text

Luke 3:23-38

→ "...the son of Adam, the son of God" (v. 38b).



## Big Idea

Christ is the answer to our nature and nurture problem, because He gives us a new nature and brings us into a new family by His Spirit through the cross.

## 2 Sons

There may be 79 sons in this list, but there are only two sons "of God." And they appear at the beginning and the end of this list. They frame the genealogy, so to speak, and, hence, provide for us a window into the ultimate aim of Luke in recording it for us.

The rebellion of the first son of God (Adam) sets in motion the fallen nature and nurture that characterizes the 77 names that follow after, moving up from Adam in this list. And then, at long last, there arrives another Son of God (v. 23)! This second Son of God, as we shall see is being put forward as God's answer to all that went wrong with the first. With the arrival of Jesus, God is pulling this old, fallen humanity up by the roots! And He's planting something altogether new!

## 3 implications

### (1) The Gospel *Requires* Genealogy

From Gen 3:15 onward, even as the nations diverge and expand out, a golden thread is identified running through the center of them all. The genealogies in the OT exist fundamentally to preserve this line and point the world to it, and to Him.

### (2) The Gospel *Repudiates* Genealogy

The genealogies in the OT are not primarily concerned with preserving Israel's ethnic identity. No! God is preserving Israel's ethnic identity because He promised that from Israel would come the One who would preserve the world! And when this One arrives, there is no longer any need for genealogical discussion! He's here! You put the records down and you follow Him! While the OT's burning question is: "Where is He?" The NT's burning question is: "Now that He's here, are you in Him?!"

### (3) The Gospel *Redeems* Genealogy

Dads, we will not be perfect parents, but O let us be pointing parents! We give our children fallen natures in Adam, and we will nurture them imperfectly in our flesh, but that must not keep us from pointing them to the One who can redeem both them and us.



## Critical Action

Are you in Him? Consider Eph 1:13—"In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit."

## Reflection Questions

- Does your past define you? Do you feel stuck? How does humanity's fallen nature and nurture relate to your problems? Have you experienced Christ's redemption? In what ways?
- Why do you think Adam is called a son of God? What does that tell you about God's original intention for humanity? What does that mean for your life and identity?
- How do you get "in Christ"? Is this a one time or ongoing thing? Are you in Him today?
- How can parents point their children to Christ even in the midst of their own imperfections? Can you give an example of this?

