

Worker Sermons

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The period of time between the first century and the present twentieth century

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We are often asked who started this church? Heb. 12:2 "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." Jesus gave us God's eternal plan of salvation in its fullness. He is both the author and finisher. Jesus being the finisher there is no more room for anyone else to add anything.

Then, we are sometimes asked, **"Why don't you speak of older ministers of the faith of Jesus in past generations."** God's answer to this question is found in 2 Cor. 4:5, "for we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord and ourselves your servants for Jesus sake." So, it is not the will of God for us to be preaching about ministers of past generations. We preach Christ.

Also we are sometimes asked about the period between the first and second coming of Christ, but especially the period of time between the first century and the present twentieth century. We have no written records on earth of God's work in the world during this period. God's records are written in heaven. Malachi 3:16. Luke 10:20. Revelation 20:12. Any who would suggest a written genealogy record is necessary between the first and twentieth century would fall into the category of 1 Timothy 1:3, 4. "As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine. Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do."

We shall consider three illustrations. **First, Gen. 1:12...wheat seed. Wheat has always been wheat. If you were a wheat farmer, and I was a wheat seed merchant and you came to me to obtain a truckload of wheat seed, it would not be necessary for me to put into your hand a historical brochure with a written record of when and where that wheat has been grown in past years in several states and countries of Europe and the near East and back to the garden of Eden, for that wheat seed to grow wheat. Every wheat seed is a living historical brochure of wheat clear back to Gen. 1:12.**

And so the spiritual lesson is: Jesus said in Luke 0:11, "The seed is the word of God." The word of God has always been the same seed. Whether anyone believes and receives the seed of the word of God makes no difference in this respect, for God's truth is God's truth if no body believes and receives it or a few do or many do. As with wheat seed, there could have been times in the centuries of time there may have been no wheat seed planted. but it was still wheat seed. And if farmers took wheat out of the granary and planted it again there would be wheat growing and harvested again in the world.

So it may have been there were times in centuries past if there was no one in the earth believing and receiving the seed of the word of God for a time and then God was able to raise up true ministers like Jesus established to sow the seed of the word of God, then there would be the godly harvest in the world again. It is just that simple certain.

Second. A pattern. You make a suit of clothes by the pattern and follow the pattern closely then the suit will be like the pattern. If you make ten suits or a hundred suits or a thousand suits and follow the pattern closely then they will all be like the pattern and like each other. And so in the spiritual. Jesus is our pattern. Rom. 8:29, "be conformed to the image of Jesus." The word "image" here comes from a word that meant "pattern." So anyone in any century going back to Jesus the pattern and following the pattern closely will have the ministry and salvation and church like Jesus.

However if anyone was to make a suit of clothes by the pattern and then put the pattern away in the drawer and then use suit number one as some of the pattern for suit number two; and then suit number two as some of the pattern for suit number three; and then suit number three as some of the pattern for suit number four; and continue to use this method in making nineteen suits of clothes, the last one would not even resemble the pattern or the first suit of clothes that had been made by the first pattern. And there is the answer for all the confusion in the world today that is so different than Jesus, the original pattern, and the first century ministry and church that was made by the first pattern. If nineteen suits of clothes were made by this last method, how would suit number twenty be made like suit number one? Answer: Set all the other suits aside and go back and get the original pattern out of the draw and then make suit number twenty by the first pattern; and then suit number twenty will be like the first pattern and the first suit made by the first pattern.

Also, spiritually. In this twentieth century we go back to Jesus, the first pattern and his ministry and faith and spirit and love and teaching and example and everything, and then we will have all this in Jesus and Him who is the first pattern, and also we will have in the ministry and church everything (the same as) the first century church that was made by Jesus, the first pattern. I hope there were people did this in the centuries between the first century and twentieth century, but we have no records and we do not know. God knows...Whether they did or did not does not make bit of difference to our salvation. The pattern in Jesus was always there waiting for the sincere and. honest to go back to.

Thirdly, in the Old Testament there were two ministries. First the Levites and priesthood of Aaron ministry and secondly the prophet ministry. (Jeremiah and. Ezekiel were both priests and prophets.) There was an unbroken chain of ministry from Aaron to Christ but there were missing links in the prophet ministry during this same period of time from Moses and Aaron to Christ. Transferring that as an object lesson over to the period of time between Christ and now, there was an unbroken continuance of the priesthood ministry of Christ in heaven from the first century to the twentieth century. Heb. 7:25, "He ever liveth to make intercession to God...." However we have no written record on earth concerning the New Testament ministry that was established by Christ during the period between the first century and the twentieth century. Whether there were or may not have been broken periods and if so when, God knows and that is sufficient.

Matt. 16:16-18. If people receive true revelation from the Father that is the rock foundation of salvation of Christ and not having any need of an apostolic succession of recorded history. Sufficient for that. The main thing we wish to give fresh consideration to this morning is better learning to pray as Jesus prayed and as He taught us to pray.

First, Hebrews 10:19, "Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter the holiest by the blood of Jesus." It is the blood of Jesus that makes it possible to offer true prayers to our Father.

TTT Editors Note: The history of a fellowship that is approximately 100 years old, hardly qualifies as "endless genealogy."

The Nature of Jesus by Dan Hilton

Luke 1; 35 – "and the angel answered. The Holy Ghost will come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing that shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

Every child that is born has the nature of both father and mother. Even children know this. Being conceived by the Holy Spirit Jesus had the divine nature of the heavenly Father of the father side and being born of the virgin Mary, he had a human body with a human spirit on the mother side and the same human nature as we do. Not some other nature that is foreign to us. We can be so very, very thankful that God gave us His dear Son who, on the human side is of the same race as we are. Not some other nature that is foreign to us making him of some race foreign to us.

There are 81 places in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John where Jesus spoke of himself as "the Son of man". "Man" is translated from the Greek word, 'anthropos' which means the 'genus and nature of the human being, whether man or woman.'" The fact that we have recorded in God's inspired word where Jesus said 81 times that he was the Son of nature that is human or the Son of human nature is a massive overwhelming preponderance of witness and evidence that Jesus believed he had human nature.

God believes what Jesus believed. John 8: 28. "as my. Father hath taught me that I speak." Thus, God the Father believes His Son had both divine nature and human nature while he was here. God's true ministers and Christians in the church in the New Testament times believed this. This truth is indisputable, 100% infallible, 100% irrefutable, irrevocable and incontestable. A few places Jesus spoke of himself as the "Son of man" – viz: 'the Son of anthropos' – viz: 'the Son of human nature' in reference to his second coming. e.g. Matt. 26:64, thus guaranteeing all things will always be reckoned by what God gave to the world when Jesus was here as the Son of God and the Son of man.

John 5:27, "and hath given him authority to execute judgement also, because he is the Son of man" = Greek, anthropos = 'the oenus and nature of the human being, whether man or woman'. We can rejoice with joy unspeakable that judgement is not by a foreigner with some nature foreign to our own human nature, but his human nature the same as ours so he can judge with true and correct understanding. This is the only kind of judgement that is fair.

John 12:24-26 – "If any man serve me, let him follow me;" = Mark 10:28-30. Every true servant and handmaiden in the ministry of Christ can be deeply thankful that his ministers are following the chief cornerstone ministry who had the same human nature as we, he can understand the denying life of the ministry 100%.

Romans 1:1-4 – "the gospel of God...concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh." "Seed" is translated from the Greek word, 'sperma' which is defined as "the grain or kernel which contains within itself the

germ and nature of the future plant." Matt. 1:1-17 1:6 "David"... on down the Family tree to the birth of Jesus of the virgin Mary. David's seed contained within itself the germ and nature of the future human life in Christ because the 'seed' of David was the seed of human nature. "According to the flesh"—"flesh is the Greek word for 'sarx' which always means 'mere human nature' where it is used as the opposite to the divine. So, the actual simple true meaning what God inspired this to be written was, "seed of human nature according to the human nature."

Romans 5:1-5 = "flesh" = 'sarx' = 7 times. 'sarx' where used as the opposite to the work of the Spirit is, 'mere human nature.' So the meaning when God inspired these sacred truths to be written was, "there is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the human nature, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the human nature, God sending his own Son in the likeness...same...of sinful human nature and for sin condemned sin in the flesh that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk after the flesh human nature, but after the Spirit", divine nature.

Romans 16:17, 18 "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

Philippians 2:7, 9 "But made himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man" "likeness" is translated from the Greek word, 'omoioima' which means 'equal'. "And being found in fashion as a man" 'fashion' is translated from the Greek word 'sxi'sma' which is defined as "comprising everything in the person which strikes the senses, the figure, bearing, discourse, actions, manner of life" and etc.

IN SHORT, the whole package of what the human being is, the human body, human nature, human spirit, human everything. 100% from A to Z. "being found in the fashion of man" = "man" = Greek = 'anthropos' which is defined as "the genus and nature of the human being, either man or woman." So, God's inspired word is sayino Jesus was made in the likeness...same as....men = 'anthropos' = likeness of human nature: and being found in the fashion of human nature: "became obedient" having human nature...the divine nature was master over the human nature. Give all hope of the power of the divine nature to give victory over the human nature and be obedient to God in our sphere of obedient service to God as Jesus was obedient in his sphere of service to God.

Hebrews 2:16, "For verily he took not on him the nature of angels: but he took on him the seed of Abraham. In Greek the word "seed" is translated from the word "sperma" which is defined as meaning "the grain and kernel which contains within itself the germ and nature of the future plant. Matt. 1:1-25 = Abraham to the birth of Christ. Abraham's seed was the seed of human down through the family tree to the virgin Mary the mother of Jesus = in Mary and Jesus the 'nature of the future plant' in this case Jesus. So, the seed of Abraham was the seed of human nature.

Hebrews 2:17, "Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. For in that he himself hath suffered temptation being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted. "all things" it is an imperative must that "all" means "all" which includes human nature.

No strong delusion, cunningly devised fable of men, can cancel this word all with its meaning in context, out of God's word. any who would are to suffer from God the fate of Rev. 22:13,17. 'Succor' means to "run to the cry of those in danger". It is very specific and clear that Jesus could only "run to the cry of those in danger" those who are his dear children, when they are tempted, if he understood himself what it is to be tempted, also having had human nature himself when he was here on earth as the Son of God and the Son of man.

1 Timothy 2:5, "There is one God, and one mediator between God and men (anthropos) the man (anthropos) Christ Jesus". It is marvelous that Christ our high priest mediator at God's right hand now mediates for us with the memory of his experiences he had when he was here on the battlefield of life as the Son of God and the Son of man, (anthropos). How many times have God's dear children and servants all rejoiced and been deeply thankful for this precious understanding of our mediator, intercessor and advocate, and where would we be without this precious understanding mediation of Jesus our mediator.

Hebrews 2:18, 'For in that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted.' Succor = "to run to the cry of those in danger." The truth herein is so strongly obvious. God's own Son could only have suffered if he had nature that could be tempted, that is, human nature. If he had not have had human nature, then he could not have suffered with temptation. If he had have had some other nature different than human nature then that—rest of line missing.

Thessalonians 2:10, 11. "Because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion that they should believe a lie:" It is clearly floated over the years of experienced observation, that, when God sends any a strong delusion they see things in the scripture backwards. That is, the opposite meaning to what is truth therein. When

anyone would try to help anyone to whom God has given strong delusion, they believe they are being persecuted for righteousness sake and this only further cements the strong delusion. The fear of God is mentioned nearly 200 times in the Bible.