

Our knowledge of Christ will be poor indeed, if we know him not as our God. Our trust in Him will be but feeble, if we feel not that His arms are everlasting, and His strength almighty; and therefore that He has power to save. It is of immense importance to see your way clearly on this point. Believe me, you will enjoy no settled peace in your soul, until your heart welcomes the Saviour in all the greatness of His Godhead.

O that God may pluck up every root of unbelief within us! O that He may give us a strong faith; and enable us to see that that Saviour, on whom all our hopes depend, is to each one of us what He was to Thomas, his Lord and his God!

Having thus spoken of Jesus as "the root" of David—as David's maker—let us now see in what way He calls himself his "offspring."

It was foretold many hundred years before our Lord's coming, that He should be born of the seed of Abraham, and of the family of David. Isaiah plainly declares this in ch. ii. In v. 1, he says, "There shall come forth a rod out of *the stem of Jesse*, and a branch shall grow out of his roots; and the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him." And when Jesus was born into this world, and appeared among us in the likeness of our nature, He chose the Virgin Mary as His mother, who belonged to the family and lineage of David. Thus we find Zacharias, just before our Lord's birth, filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesying in these words: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,