

# Ezra 2:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve.

## Analysis

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**The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand eight hundred and twelve.** This entry presents compound genealogy, with Pahath-moab (פַּחַת מוֹאָב) meaning 'governor of Moab,' suggesting ancestral connection to Moabite territory or service as Persian official over that region. The dual lineage—'of the children of Jeshua and Joab'—indicates merger of two family branches under single clan designation, preserving distinct identities within larger kinship structure.

The name Jeshua (יֵשׁוּעַ) means 'Yahweh saves' (the Hebrew equivalent of Jesus), while Joab (יֹאבָב) means 'Yahweh is father.' Both names center on covenant relationship with Yahweh. The substantial number (2,812) made Pahath-moab the largest group after Parosh, suggesting significant leadership influence in the returning community.

The compound structure teaches that God's work often unites diverse backgrounds into covenant unity. The preservation of both family lines (Jeshua and Joab) within Pahath-moab clan demonstrates how biblical genealogy values multiple ancestral connections, resisting modern tendency toward simplified nuclear family models. This pattern anticipates the church as multi-ethnic family united in Christ.

## Historical Context

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The title 'governor of Moab' likely originated during Davidic or later monarchy when Judahite officials administered Moabite territories. The family preserved this designation through exile as honorific title, maintaining memory of former prominence. Such titles helped exiles maintain identity and hope for restoration.

The dual genealogy (Jeshua and Joab) may reflect ancient practice where family lines merged through marriage or adoption, particularly when one line lacked male heirs. This ensured continuity and property rights. The specific enumeration demonstrates that both branches were counted together yet maintained distinct identity.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does the merger of Jeshua and Joab families illustrate biblical vision for unity that preserves diversity?
2. What does the name 'Yahweh saves' (Jeshua/Jesus) teach when applied to family identity rather than just individuals?
3. How should churches honor historical heritage while embracing diverse backgrounds in covenant community?

## Interlinear Text

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לְבָנֵי י	פַּחַת	מוֹאָב	לְבָנֵי י	יֵשׁוּעַ	יֹאָב
<b>The children</b>	H0	<b>of Pahathmoab</b>	<b>The children</b>	<b>of Jeshua</b>	<b>and Joab</b>
H1121		H6355	H1121	H3442	H3097
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אַלְפֵּי	שְׁמֹנֶה	מֵאָה	וּשְׁנַיִם	עֶשְׂרִים	
<b>two thousand</b>	<b>eight</b>	<b>hundred</b>	<b>and twelve</b>		
H505	H8083	H3967	H8147	H6240	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nehemiah 7:11** (Parallel theme): The children of Pahath-moab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and eight hundred and eighteen.