

Ezra 8:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the sons of Phinehas; Gershom: of the sons of Ithamar;
Daniel: of the sons of David; Hattush.

Analysis

Of the sons of Phinehas; Gershom: of the sons of Ithamar; Daniel: of the sons of David; Hattush. This verse begins the genealogical registry with Israel's most prestigious lineages. Phinehas (פִּינְחָס, Phinehas) and Itamar (אִיתָמָר) were Aaron's sons—Phinehas's zealous faithfulness (Numbers 25:10-13) earned his family a perpetual priesthood, while Ithamar's line continued through Eli despite that family's judgment (1 Samuel 2:27-36). Gershom and Daniel represent these priestly houses' survival through exile.

Of the sons of David; Hattush identifies Davidic royalty among returnees—1 Chronicles 3:22 lists Hattush in Zerubbabel's lineage, maintaining messianic hope. Though no longer reigning kings, David's descendants preserved covenant promises pointing toward ultimate fulfillment in Christ. The priestly and royal lines traveling together anticipate Zechariah 6:12-13's prophecy: Messiah who combines both offices. This verse demonstrates God's sovereignty preserving specific families through Babylonian captivity to continue redemptive history.

Historical Context

The Phinehas and Ithamar priestly divisions (1 Chronicles 24) organized temple service. Despite exile disrupting functions, genealogical records survived—likely through scribal preservation Ezra himself championed. Royal Davidic lineage, though politically powerless, maintained identity awaiting fulfillment in Jesus, 'son of David' (Matthew 1:1).

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. How does God's preservation of both priestly and royal lines through exile demonstrate His commitment to fulfill specific covenant promises?
2. What does the inclusion of Ithamar's descendants—despite their house's past judgment—teach about God's grace operating alongside His justice?

Interlinear Text

מְבָנֵי י	פִּינְחָס	גֶּרְשֹׁם	מְבָנֵי י	אִיתָמָר	דָּנִיֵּאל	מְבָנֵי י
Of the sons	of Phinehas	Gershom	Of the sons	of Ithamar	Daniel	Of the sons
H1121	H6372	H1647	H1121	H385	H1840	H1121
יְדִיד	חַטּוּשׁ					
of David	Hattush					
H1732	H2407					

Additional Cross-References

1 Chronicles 3:22 (Parallel theme): And the sons of Shechaniah; Shemaiah: and the sons of Shemaiah; Hattush, and Igeal, and Bariah, and Neariah, and Shaphat, six.