

# Luke 3:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi,  
which was the son of Melchi, which was the son of Janna,  
which was the son of Joseph,

## Analysis

**Which was the son of Matthat, which was the son of Levi**—Luke's genealogy (Luke 3:23-38) traces Jesus's lineage through Mary's line via Nathan (David's son), while Matthew's traces Joseph's legal line through Solomon. The Greek phrase *huios* (υἱός, son) appears repeatedly, establishing Jesus's legal humanity and fulfillment of messianic prophecy requiring Davidic descent.

This genealogical section (vv. 24-38) moves backward through lesser-known ancestors between David and Abraham, documenting the human lineage God sovereignly orchestrated across centuries. Unlike Matthew's stylized three-fold structure (14 generations each), Luke presents a comprehensive historical record emphasizing Jesus's connection to all humanity through Adam.

## Historical Context

Luke, writing for a Gentile audience (likely Theophilus), provides a complete genealogy tracing Jesus back to Adam rather than stopping at Abraham as Matthew does. These intermediate names between David and Abraham were preserved through Jewish genealogical records, though many individuals remain otherwise unknown in Scripture.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus's genealogy through otherwise unknown individuals encourage you about God's use of ordinary people in His redemptive plan?
2. What does Luke's tracing of Jesus back to Adam (rather than just Abraham) reveal about the scope of Christ's redemptive mission?
3. How does God's faithful preservation of this lineage over generations demonstrate His sovereignty in fulfilling His promises?

## Interlinear Text

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τοῦ

Ματθὰτ,

G3588

**Which was the son of Matthat**

G3158

τοῦ

Λευὶ

G3588

**which was the son of Levi**

G3017

τοῦ

Μελχὶ

τοῦ

Ἰαννὰ,

τοῦ

**which was the son of Melchi**

G3588

**which was the son of Janna**

G3588

G3197

G2388

Ἰωσὴφ

**which was the son of Joseph**

G2501

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