

Luke 3:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which was the son of Maath, which was the son of Mattathias,
which was the son of Semei, which was the son of Joseph,
which was the son of Juda,

Analysis

Which was the son of Maath, which was the son of Mattathias—Multiple individuals named Joseph and Mattathias appear in this genealogy, demonstrating common Hebrew naming practices honoring patriarchs and ancestors. The Greek transliterations preserve Hebrew names like Ματταθίου (Mattathiou), maintaining linguistic connection to Israel's covenant identity.

This segment continues the backward progression through David's descendants via Nathan, Solomon's brother (1 Chronicles 3:5). While Matthew traces the royal line through Solomon's successors (who faced God's judgment), Luke traces the blood lineage through Nathan, ultimately connecting to Mary, Jesus's biological parent—fulfilling prophecy without the curse on Jeconiah's line (Jeremiah 22:30).

Historical Context

The divergence between Matthew's and Luke's genealogies after David has generated scholarly discussion. The most accepted explanation: Matthew gives Joseph's legal lineage (adoption rights), Luke gives Mary's biological lineage (blood descent). Both establish Jesus's legitimate claim to David's throne while avoiding the curse on Jeconiah's descendants.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does the intricate detail of Jesus's dual genealogies (legal and biological) demonstrate God's meticulous fulfillment of prophecy?
2. What does God's provision of two separate genealogical lines teach about His ability to overcome seemingly impossible obstacles?
3. How should the complexity of these genealogies affect your trust in Scripture's historical accuracy and divine inspiration?

Interlinear Text

τοῦ

Μάαθ

G3588

Which was the son of Maath

G3092

τοῦ

Ματταθίου

G3588

which was the son of Mattathias

G3161

τοῦ

Σεμεῖ,

which was the son of Semei

G4584

τοῦ

Ἰωσὴφ,

which was the son of Joseph

G2501

τοῦ

Ἰουδὰ,

which was the son of Juda

G2455

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