

# Luke 3:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which was the son of Joanna, which was the son of Rhesa,  
which was the son of Zorobabel, which was the son of  
Salathiel, which was the son of Neri,

## Analysis

**Which was the son of Joanna, which was the son of Rhesa, which was the son of Zorobabel**—Here Luke intersects with Old Testament history: Zerubbabel (Ζερούβαβελ, Zorobabel) was the governor who led the first return from Babylonian exile (Ezra 3:2) and rebuilt the temple. Haggai and Zechariah prophesied during his leadership, and God called him His "signet ring" (Haggai 2:23), reversing the curse on his ancestor Jeconiah.

**Salathiel** (Shealtiel, שְׁאַלְתִּיאֵל) was Zerubbabel's father according to Ezra 3:2, connecting Jesus's lineage to the post-exilic restoration. The inclusion of these historically verifiable figures anchors the genealogy in documented history, demonstrating Luke's careful research (Luke 1:3: "having followed all things closely," ἀκριβῶς παρηκολούθηκότι).

## Historical Context

Zerubbabel (circa 520 BC) represents a pivotal figure connecting pre-exilic Israel to post-exilic Judaism. His temple reconstruction (completed 516 BC) restored central worship and prepared for Messiah's coming. Luke's inclusion demonstrates Jesus as the ultimate temple builder and restoration figure Zerubbabel foreshadowed.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Zerubbabel's role as temple builder foreshadow Jesus as the ultimate temple (John 2:19-21)?
2. What does God's reversal of the curse on Jeconiah through Zerubbabel reveal about His redemptive power over generational consequences?
3. How does Jesus's connection to the post-exilic restoration fulfill the 'greater exodus' theme in Luke's Gospel?

## Interlinear Text

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τοῦ

Ἰωάννα

τοῦ

Πησὰ

τοῦ

G3588

**Which was the son of Joanna**

G3588

**which was the son of Rhesa**

G3588

G2490

G4488

Ζοροβαβὴλ

τοῦ

Σαλαθὶὴλ

τοῦ

**which was the son of Zorobabel**

G3588

**which was the son of Salathiel**

G3588

G2216

G4528

Νηρὶ

**which was the son of Neri**

G3518

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 1:12** (Parallel theme): And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconias begat Salathiel; and Salathiel begat Zorobabel;