

Luke 3:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Which was the son of Simeon, which was the son of Juda,
which was the son of Joseph, which was the son of Jonan,
which was the son of Eliakim,

Analysis

Which was the son of Simeon, which was the son of Juda—Simeon (Συμεών, Symeon) bears the name of Jacob's second son, meaning "hearing" (Genesis 29:33), while Juda (Judah, Ἰούδα) recalls the tribe from which Messiah would come (Genesis 49:10). The repetition of tribal names reinforces the family's conscious identification with covenant history and prophetic promises.

These names also connect to Luke's narrative: Simeon the prophet recognized infant Jesus as Messiah (Luke 2:25-35), and the entire genealogy establishes Jesus as "Lion of the tribe of Judah" (Revelation 5:5). Each generation's naming choices reflected active participation in maintaining messianic expectation through faithful child-rearing and covenant instruction.

Historical Context

The practice of naming children after patriarchs and tribal ancestors served as living catechism, teaching each generation their place in salvation history. This genealogical consciousness helped preserve Jewish identity during dispersion and prepared the people to recognize prophetic fulfillment when Messiah appeared.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How might deliberate naming practices (choosing names with spiritual significance) serve as faith-forming tools in raising children?
2. What does this genealogical consciousness teach about the importance of knowing and teaching church history and biblical heritage?
3. How does Jesus's embodiment of Israel's tribal identity (Lion of Judah) fulfill the corporate election of Israel?

Interlinear Text

τοῦ

Συμεὼν

G3588

Which was the son of Simeon

G4826

τοῦ

Ἰούδα

G3588

which was the son of Juda

G2455

τοῦ

Ἰωσὴφ

which was the son of Joseph

G2501

τοῦ

Ἰωνᾶν,

G3588

which was the son of Jonan

G2494

τοῦ

Ἐλιακεὶμ,

which was the son of Eliakim

G1662

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