

Ruth 4:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron,

Analysis

Genealogy begins: '**Now these are the generations of Pharez: Pharez begat Hezron**'. The formal genealogy connects Ruth's story to broader redemptive history, tracing from Pharez (Genesis 38) through Boaz to David. This literary inclusion demonstrates Ruth's canonical importance—not merely touching personal story but crucial link in messianic chain. The genealogy validates Davidic kingship and ultimately Christ's Davidic descent through legal lineage.

Historical Context

Ancient Near Eastern genealogies served multiple purposes: establishing legal inheritance rights, validating royal claims, preserving historical memory, and demonstrating divine providence through generations. The Pharez genealogy appears multiple times in Scripture (1 Chronicles 2:5-15; Matthew 1:3-6; Luke 3:31-33), emphasizing its importance. Pharez himself came through unusual circumstances (Tamar and Judah, Genesis 38), paralleling Ruth's story—God's purposes advancing through unexpected people and events. The ten-generation structure from Pharez to David suggests completeness and divine orchestration.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does the biblical emphasis on genealogy teach about God's faithfulness across generations?
2. How does this genealogy illustrate God's sovereignty weaving together multiple stories into one redemptive narrative?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵלֶּה

H428

תּוֹלְדוֹת

Now these are the generations

H8435

פָּרֶז

Pharez

H6557

פָּרֶז

Pharez

H6557

הוֹלִיד

begat

H3205

אֶת

H853

הֶצְרוֹן:

Hezron

H2696

Additional Cross-References

Luke 3:33 (Parallel theme): Which was the son of Aminadab, which was the son of Aram, which was the son of Esrom, which was the son of Phares, which was the son of Juda,