

# Genealogies from Noah to Jesus

Masoretic Text vs. Septuagint (with Luke's genealogy)



## 1. From Noah to Abraham

### Masoretic Text



★ Key feature: no Cainan between Arphaxad and Shelah

🕒 Approximate chronology from the Flood to Abraham: ~292 years



**Main difference:** the Septuagint adds Cainan and lengthens the post-Flood chronology

### Septuagint (LXX)



★ Key feature: includes an extra generation, Cainan

🕒 Approximate chronology from the Flood to Abraham: ~1,072 to 1,172 years

## 2. Why the Chronology Differs



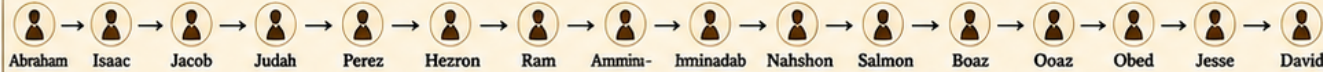
Begetting ages in Genesis 11

|          | Masoretic Text (MT) | Septuagint (LXX)            |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Arphaxad | 35                  | 135 (to Cainan)             |
| Cainan   | absent              | 130 (to Shelah)             |
| Shelah   | 30                  | 130                         |
| Eber     | 34                  | 134                         |
| Peleg    | 30                  | 130                         |
| Reu      | 32                  | 132                         |
| Serug    | 30                  | 130                         |
| Nahor    | 29                  | 79 or 179 (textual variant) |
| Terah    | 70                  | 70                          |

The Septuagint usually adds about 100 years to most post-Flood begetting ages.



## 3. From Abraham to Jesus



### Branch A: Matthew 1

Traces Jesus through the royal line  
David → Solomon → ... → Joseph → Jesus  
*Emphasis: royal/legal genealogy*

### Branch B: Luke 3

Traces Jesus through a different Davidic branch  
David → Nathan → ... → Joseph → Jesus  
*Important detail: Luke includes Cainan*



... Abraham ← Terah ← Nahor ← Serug ← Reu ← Peleg ← Eber ← Shelah ← Cainan ← Arphaxad ← Shem ← Noah

★ Luke's genealogy matches the Septuagint form at the point where it includes Cainan between Arphaxad and Shelah.



**Bottom Line**



Masoretic Text: shorter post-Flood chronology, no Cainan



Septuagint: longer chronology, includes Cainan



Luke 3 aligns with the Septuagint form by including Cainan



The biggest difference is before Abraham, not in the later line to Jesus