

# Bible Dictionary for Fourth Quarter, 1899

**A'-dar.** The twelfth month in the later Jewish calendar.

**A'-gag-ite.** A term of reproach used to designate Haman. Its origin is not known.

**Ahas-u-e'-rus.** Opinion divided between Cambyses, successor to Cyrus, and Xerxes (485-465), the King of Persia during the period of Esther.

**Ah-a'-va.** A tributary of the Euphrates on which Ezra encamped when setting out for Jerusalem.

**Am'-mon-ites.** Inhabitants of the district east of the Jordan between Arnon on the south and Jabbok on the north; the perpetual enemies of Israel.

**Ash'-dod-ites.** Inhabitants of Ashdod, one of the seven great Philistine strongholds. After the restoration enemies of the Jews.

**Ar-a'-bians.** The wandering inhabitants of the great desert peninsula of Arabia.

**Chis'-leu.** The ninth Hebrew month.

**Da'-vid.** Son of Jesse, and, after Saul, called to be king of Israel.

**El-i'-jah.** The greatest of the early prophets, called out of Gilead to stem the rising tide of heathenism in Israel.

**Esth'-er.** See Mordecai.

**Es'-ra.** A priest and scribe who led a colony of exiles from Babylon to Jerusalem, instituted many reforms. He did much to collect and arrange the sacred writings.

**Gen'-tiles.** Nations outside of Judah, strangers to the true religion.

**Hach-a-li'-ah.** The father of Nehemiah.

**Ha'-man.** Son of Hammedatha; was chief minister of Ahasuerus. Enemy of the Jews, but defeated at court by the Jewish queen Esther, and hanged on the gallows he had prepared for Mordecai.

**Ha-na'-ni.** A brother or near kinsman of Nehemiah, who brought him tidings to Susa of the distressed condition of the Jews in Palestine. Later made a governor of Jerusalem.

**Hach-a-bi'-ah.** With Sherebiah, one of the twelve priests set apart by Ezra to carry and care for the holy vessels brought back from the captivity.

**Ho'-reb.** The mountain in the Sinaitic peninsula of which Sinai was a chief summit.

**Is'-ra-el.** Name given to Jacob because he prevailed in prayer; later given to his descendants, the whole nation, and later still to the kingdom of the Ten Tribes.

**Ja'-cob.** Son of Isaac and father of twelve sons, who became the heads of the twelve tribes. (See Israel.)

**Je-ru'-sa-lem.** The Holy City, capital of all Israel, and after the separation, of the kingdom of Judah.

**Josh'-u-a.** and his twelve companions. Levites who assisted Ezra in expounding the

law to the assembled people.

**Jews.** The descendants of the Israelites. (See Israel.)

**Ju'-dah.** The fourth son of Jacob, whose name was given to one of the tribes. After the division of the kingdom the name was applied to the southern division, which included the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, with a portion of Simeon and Dan; Jerusalem was its capital.

**Le'-vites.** Descendants of Levi, the third son of Jacob and Leah; set apart for the services of the sanctuary. They assisted the priests and conducted the service of praise.

**Mat-tith-i'-ah,** and twelve others, who stood to the right and left of Ezra as he read the law to the people.

**Mi'-dian.** The Midianites who inhabited northern Arabia.

**Mor'-de-cai.** A Benjaminite who incurred the displeasure of Haman at the Persian court. Through Queen Esther, who was his own niece, and whom he had brought up, he overthrew Haman's plot against the Jews, and secured the punishment of Haman. He became the prime minister to the Persian king.

**Mo'-ses.** Born an Israelite, and saved as a babe from the wrath of Pharaoh in Egypt. Taken to the Court and taught in all the learning of the Egyptians. Chose rather to be a Hebrew; and in time led Israel out of Egypt and through the desert. Died on Mount Nebo.

**Ne-he-mi'-ah.** The Governor of Judah under Artaxerxes at the time of the Restoration. A man of great wealth, and a strong, honest ruler; prompt in resolution, masterful in execution.

**Ni'-san.** The first month of the Jewish year.

**Per'-sia.** The great eastern kingdom conquered by Cyrus and governed by Xerxes, which overran all western Asia and long held sway over Palestine.

**San-bal'-lat.** Satrap of the king of Persia in Israel after the Restoration; the great opponent to the rebuilding of the Temple and city.

**Shu'-shan.** One of the three capitals of Persia and winter residence of its kings.

**Tri-sha'-tha.** The Persian title for a local or provincial governor.

**To-bi'-ah.** An Ammonite who united with Sanballat to oppose the Jews in the restoration of the city and Temple.

**Tyre.** A chief city of the Phœnicians on the Mediterranean, celebrated for its traffic, and very rich.

**Vash'-ti.** The first queen of Ahasuerus, divorced for disobedience.

**Zi'-on.** The mountain captured by David. Later the name was applied to the city of Jerusalem and to the dwelling place of Jehovah therein.