

BIBLE DICTIONARY FOR FIRST
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An-a-ni'-as. A member of the early Church who was visited with divine judgment because of lying and hypocrisy.

Ar-a'-bi-ans. Inhabitants of the peninsula between the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.

A'-si-a. The Roman province comprising the south-west part of Asia Minor. Ephesus was the capital.

Al-ex-an'-dri-ans. Inhabitants of Alexandria, the great commercial city of Egypt, founded by Alexander the Great. It had a fine university, and a large colony of Jews.

An'-nas. The high priest who, with Caiaphas (See below) tried Peter and John (Acts 4: 6). He had been deposed by Roman authority, A.D. 14, but was high priest by right, as the office was for life.

Cy-re'-ni-ans. Inhabitants of Cyrene, a Greek colony and city in Libya, Africa. The country is now known as Tripoli.

Ci-lie'-ia. A Roman province in Asia Minor. Its capital was Tarsus, the birth-place of Paul.

Cretes. Inhabitants of Crete, an island in the Mediterranean, now called Candia.

Cai'-a-phas. The son-in-law of Annas, (See Annas) and acting high priest from A.D. 14-36. He was deposed, and succeeded by a son of Annas, A.D. 37.

Cap-pa-do'-ci-a. A province in the interior of Asia Minor.

E'-lam-ites. A people of ancient Persia, just south of Media and Parthia. (See Parthia.)

Eg'-ypt. A province in Africa, divided into Upper and Lower Egypt. The former comprised the long, narrow valley, and the latter the delta, of the Nile.

Ga-ma'-li-el. The son of Rabbi Simeon and the grandson of Rabbi Hillel. He was president of the Sanhedrim for many years and was noted for his wisdom and moderation. It was a common saying that when Gamaliel died the glory of the law ceased.

Gal'-i-lee. The northern province of Palestine. Its population was engaged in farming, fishing and mercantile pursuits.

Is'-ra-el. A name given to the Jewish nation to denote descent from Jacob, who was also called Israel.

Ju-dæ'-a. The southern province of Palestine, with Jerusalem for capital.

Je-ru'-sa-lem. A Jebusite stronghold which David took and made his capital. Solomon built the temple there. The city was destroyed by the Romans about forty years after the death of Christ.

Ju'-das of Gal'-i-lee. A wild insurgent leader who led a rebellion against Rome in the early years of our Lord.

John. The disciple whom Jesus loved;

the companion of Peter; banished to Patmos; wrote the fourth Gospel and three Epistles.

Lib'-er-tines. Jews who were taken prisoners to Rome by Pompey, B.C. 63, and who being liberated returned to Jerusalem.

Medes. Inhabitants of Media, a country that played an important part in the ancient Persian Empire.

Mes'-o-pot-a'-mi-a. A province lying between the rivers Tigris and Euphrates, bordering on the West of Media.

Naz'-ar-e-th. A town in the south of Galilee, the home of Christ's boyhood and early manhood.

Phar'-i-sees. A religious party in the Jewish Church who had the merit of patriotism and of zeal for the law as they understood it. They persecuted Christ, and the members of the early Church.

Par'-thians. A Scythian people on the south-west of the Caspian Sea, and with the Medes and Elamites, belonging to the ancient Persian Empire, which had suffered decline long before the time of Christ.

Pont'-us, Phryg'-i-a, Pam-phy'l'-i-a; provinces of Asia Minor.

Pe'-ter. The impulsive disciple who denied his Lord. But after Pentecost he became a fearless preacher, and proved himself worthy of his name which means "a rock."

Phil'-ip. One of the seven deacons. He was also an evangelist and later lived at Caesarea (Acts 21: 8).

Sa-ma'-ria. The central province of Palestine. Its capital of the same name was known as Sebaste in the time of our Lord.

Ste'-phen. One of the seven deacons and the first Christian martyr.

Saul. Born at Tarsus in Cilicia, Asia Minor, about A.D. 2: educated at Jerusalem; a zealous persecutor of the church; but converted he became her great champion.

Sol'-o-mon's Porch. A colonnade 600 feet long, supported by two rows of marble columns, running along the outside of the court of the Gentiles on the east. Solomon built it wholly or in part.

Si'-mon Ma'-gus. Simon the magician, an impostor who was exposed at Samaria by Philip. He joined the church but soon showed his true character (Acts 8: 17-21). He is said to have been the founder of a sect known as Gnostics, whose religion was a mixture of crude philosophy and of Christianity.

Sad'-du-caes. A Jewish sect that denied the immortality of the soul and hence also the resurrection.

Sapph'-i'-ra. The wife of Ananias (See). She shared his sin and punishment.

The-oph'-i-lus. Probably an official Roman of high rank, with a Greek name (loved of God), and a convert to Christianity.

Theu'-das. An insurgent leader referred to by Gamaliel. Nothing more is certainly known of him.

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