

BIBLE DICTIONARY FOR THIRD QUARTER, 1910

For additional information in regard to certain of the places, see Geography Lessons.]

Bar'-jo'-na. "Son of John", a surname of the apostle Peter, meaning that he was the son of a man named John.

Beth'-a-ny. A small village on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, about 2 miles from Jerusalem on the road to Jericho. Our Lord often lodged there. It was the home of Mary and Martha and Lazarus. Bethany means "House of Dates", and likely when the village was first named, date palms grew there, though none are found there now. The modern name is el-'Azariyeh, or "Lazarus' Village".

Beth'-pha-ge. A village near Bethany. The exact site is unknown. The name means "House of Figs".

Cæ'-sar. An official title of the Roman emperors who succeeded the great Julius Cæsar.

Cæ-sa-re'-a Phi-lip'-pi. A city at the foot of Mount Hermon, at the main source of the Jordan, and in the angle of a small plain, with hills on all sides of it except on the west. It was enlarged and adorned by Herod Philip, who named it after Tiberius Cæsar and himself.

Christ. The Anointed One, a title corresponding to the Hebrew name Messiah. It is our Lord's official title, as Jesus is His personal name.

Da'-vid. The youngest son of Jesse, a Bethlehemite, and the second king of Israel.

E-li'-as. That is, Elijah. One of the earliest and greatest of the prophets. The Jews expected his return in person before the coming of the Messiah.

Gal'-i-lee. The most northerly of the three provinces into which the Romans divided Palestine. The fresh water sea, so famous in our Lord's ministry, took its name from the province.

Gen'-tiles. All nations of the world other than the Jews.

He-ro'-di-ans. Adherents of the Herods, who owed what power they possessed to the Roman government. "They vied with the Sadducees in scepticism, and with the Greeks in licentiousness, pandered to the vice and cruelty of the Herods and truckled to the Romans."

James and John. Two brothers, sons of Zebedee, who were called, along with Peter and Andrew, to be followers of Jesus, and who also became apostles.

Jer-e-mi'-as. That is, Jeremiah, a great prophet, who prophesied for forty-one years in the reigns of Josiah, Jehoia-kim and Zedekiah, kings of Judah.

Jer'-i-cho. An important city in a plain six miles west of the Jordan. The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan occurred not far from this city. The hill of Quarantania, to the

immediate west, is pointed out as the traditional site of His Temptation. At the end of His ministry, when Jesus was passing through the city, He healed two blind men. At the same time he visited the house of Zacchæus, whose conversion is one of the most graphic stories in the Gospels. Travelers to-day between Jerusalem and Jericho require an armed escort, for fear of falling among thieves, as did the man in the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Je'-ru'-sa-lem. The sacred city and well known capital of the Jews.

Je'-sus. The name given to our Lord by direction of the angel to Joseph (Matt. 1 : 21) and to Mary, Luke 1 : 31. It means "Saviour", and expressed His special office.

John the Bap'-tist. Son of Zacharias and Elisabeth; the immediate forerunner of Jesus. Having rebuked Herod for marrying his brother's wife, he was put to death through a plot laid by Herodias.

Jor'-dan. The most important river in Palestine, flowing from the Lebanon Mountains to the Dead Sea. It was in this river that Jesus, at about thirty years of age, was baptized by John.

Ju-dæ'-a. The southernmost division of Palestine under the Roman government, the middle one being Samaria.

Mo'-ses. The great Jewish leader and lawgiver. No name, save that of Abraham, their ancestor, was held in greater reverence by the Jews, than that of Moses.

Naz'-a-reth. A town of Galilee where Joseph and Mary lived, and the home of Jesus from His childhood until He was about thirty years of age.

Ol'-ives. A mountain, or rather a chain of hills, east of Jerusalem, and separated from it by a valley. It is associated with the closing events of Christ's life and His ascension.

Phar'-i-sees. One of the three chief Jewish sects, the other two being the Sadducees and Essenes.

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

Sa'-tan. "The adversary", so called because he is hostile to all goodness and the chief opponent of God and man.

Si'-mon Pe'-ter. Peter is the Greek form of the Aramaic surname Cephas, meaning "a rock", which Christ bestowed on Simon, brother of Andrew, and one of the twelve apostles. He was a native of Bethsaida (John 1 : 44), and afterwards lived with his family at Capernaum, Matt. 8 : 14 ; Luke 4 : 38.

Si'-on. Or Zion, one of the hills on which Jerusalem was built, but often used as a name for the whole city.

Zeb'-e-dee. The father of the apostles James and John.