

BIBLE DICTIONARY FOR FIRST QUARTER, 1906

Andrew. A fisherman and, with his brother Peter, a native of Bethsaida, John 1: 44. After the miraculous draught of fishes (Lesson VI.) he, along with Peter, James and John, was called to be a companion of Jesus, and afterwards chosen to be an apostle, Matt. 10: 2-4.

Beth'-le-hem. The "house of bread," a small village, six miles south of Jerusalem, the birthplace of David and the scene of his earthly life (1 Sam. 16: 1, 4, 13), hence called the "city of David," Luke 2: 11. Here Jesus was born.

Cæ'-sar Au-gus'-tus. The first emperor of Rome (B.C. 31 to B.C. 14). It was in consequence of a decree of Augustus that Mary, the mother of Jesus, went with Joseph her husband, to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born.

Ca-per'-na-um. A town on the north-western shore of the Lake of Galilee. At an early period in His ministry Jesus made His home here, so that Capernaum came to be called His own city, Matt. 9: 1. In this city many of our Lord's wonderful miracles were wrought.

Christ. "The Anointed One," the official title of our Lord, corresponding to the Hebrew "Messiah." It is so constantly added to "Jesus," the Saviour's personal designation, that it virtually forms part of His name.

Cy-re'-ni-us. Quirinius (the former was the original Latin name, the latter the modification of it among Greek speaking people), the Roman governor of the Province of Syria at the time of Jesus' birth.

Da'-vid. The second king of Israel, successor to Saul. Bethlehem is called his city in Lesson I.

Gal'-i-lee. The most northerly of the three provinces west of the Jordan into which Palestine was divided under the rule of the Romans. It was the chief scene of the ministry of Jesus. The lake of the same name is fed by the Jordan, and is called a sea because of its extent. The water is fresh.

Gen-nes'-a-ret. A name in common use for the Lake of Galilee. It was also called the Sea of Tiberias, John 6: 1.

Her'-od. Called "the Great," the first of the seven Herods mentioned in the New Testament. He was made king of Judæa by the Romans in B.C. 37, and reigned till B.C. 4.

Is'-ra-el. A name given to Jacob and his descendants (see Gen. 32: 28.)

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.

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.

Jews. Originally those belonging to the tribe or to the kingdom of Judah (2 Kgs. 16: 6; 25: 25), then those of the Hebrew race who returned from captivity, and finally all of that race throughout the world.

John. The Baptist, son of Zacharias and Elisabeth, and the immediate forerunner of Jesus.

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.

Jo'-seph. The husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus, and during the Saviour's lifetime regarded as His father, Matt. 13: 55.

Ju'-da. Judah, the territory inhabited by the tribe descended from the fourth son of Jacob. It included the greater part of Southern Palestine. Bethlehem, situated within this territory, is spoken of by Micah (ch. 5: 2) as the birthplace of the coming Messiah.

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

Mar'-y. The mother of Jesus. She was a resident of Nazareth, where the Saviour's birth was announced to her, Luke 1: 26. She is presented in the New Testament as a beautiful example of a devoted and pious Jewish mother.

Naz'-ar-eth. 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.

Sa'-tan. "The adversary," so called because he is hostile to all goodness and the chief opponent of God and man. He appears in Lesson V. as the tempter of Jesus.

Sav'-iour. A title given to our Lord by the angel who announced His birth to the shepherds, as they watched their flocks near Bethlehem, Luke 2: 11.

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.

Syr'-i-a. A Roman province, including the territory west of the Euphrates from the Taurus Mountains to Egypt. This province was erected in B.C. 64 with a governor resident at Antioch.

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