

Bible Dictionary for First Quarter, 1900

Al-phæ'-us The father of Levi, or Matthew. Nothing further is known of him.

An'-nas High Priest from 7 to 14 A.D. An unscrupulous, wealthy, influential Sadducee. Deposed; but still retained his power with the people.

An'-drew A native of Bethsaida, Galilee, and brother of Peter.

Beth'-le-hem A village six miles from Jerusalem. It was the birthplace of David, and contained the family records.

Beth-sa'-i-da A town near the north-western shore of the Sea of Galilee; the home of Andrew, Peter, and Philip.

Ca-per'-na-um A town northwest of the Sea of Galilee on the great Damascus road. It had a custom house and military station. It was the centre of Christ's Galilean work.

Cæ'-sar Au-gus'-tus The Octavius of history. Grand-nephew of Julius Caesar. Defeated Antony at Actium, and became ruler of the world.

Cy-ren'-ius An obscure soldier who rose by his military skill to the office of consul and proconsul; and later Governor of Syria. Died A.D. 21.

Gai'-a-phas Son-in-law of Annas. He figures at the trial of Christ.

Ce'-phas See Simon.

Gal'-i-lee The northern province of Palestine. The scene of most of Christ's ministry.

Her'-od Herod Antipas, the son of Herod the Great; the murderer of the Baptist; tetrarch of Galilee for more than forty years. Banished A.D. 39.

tu-ræ'-a A district at the foot of Mount Hermon.

Ja'-cob's well It was dug by Jacob near Mount Gerizim. Here Jesus met the woman of Sychar, a town one mile distant.

Jo'-seph Husband of the Virgin Mary, and a lineal descendant of David. Also Joseph, son of the patriarch Jacob.

James The son of Zebedee, the brother of John, and one of the apostles.

John Son of Zebedee, and brother of James. "The disciple whom Jesus loved." Was banished to Patmos; wrote the Revelation, three Epistles, and one Gospel.

John the Baptist The son of Zacharias and Elizabeth. The forerunner of Christ.

Jor'-dan The chief river of Palestine; rises near Mount Hermon, flows southward through the Sea of Galilee into the Dead Sea, after a winding course of 200 miles.

Ju-dæ'-a The province of Palestine south of Samaria and west of the Jordan. Its capital was Jerusalem.

Le'-vi Identified with Matthew, the writer of the first Gospel.

Ly-san'-i-as Nothing is known of him in history. But two inscriptions discovered some time ago prove that a certain Lysanias actually ruled at this time.

Mo'-ses An Israelite born and educated in Egypt. God raised him up as the deliverer of his people from Egyptian bondage.

Ma'-ry The virgin mother of Jesus, and wife of Joseph. She lived with Jesus at Nazareth, but after the crucifixion with John in Jerusalem.

Na'-a-man A captain of the army of the King of Syria. Healed of leprosy by Elisha.

Naz'-a-reth A town in the south of Galilee, where Jesus lived till His thirtieth year and worked as a carpenter.

Na-than'-a-el The same as Bartholomew. Brought to Jesus by Philip.

Ni-co'-de-mus A Pharisee and ruler of the Jews. Came to Jesus by night; became a secret disciple, and later a bold confessor.

Pon'-tius Pi'-late Procurator of Judæa and Samaria under Tiberius, from 26 to 36 A.D. He was violent and cruel, and for selfish ends gave Jesus to be crucified. Afterwards banished to Gaul, where he committed suicide.

Phil'-ip The brother of Herod Antipas. His tetrarchate included several other places besides Ituræa and Trachonitis.

Phar'-i-sees A narrow and bigoted sect of Jews, who had, however, the merit of being patriotic and zealous for the law as they understood it.

Sa-ma'-ri-a The capital city of northern Israel. The name was later applied to the whole district.

Sa-mar'-i-tans Descendants of foreigners introduced into Israel after the exile, and of the remaining Israelites. Refused to share in rebuilding the temple at Jerusalem. They built a rival temple at Mount Gerizim, and remain to this day hostile to the Jews.

Sy'-char A village near Mount Gerizim, and about a mile from Jacob's well. It was the home of the Samaritan woman whom Jesus met.

Sa-rep'-ta Zarephath, a Phœnician town near the coast. The parent city was Sidon. Here Elijah restored the widow's son to life.

Sy'-ri-a The country lying next to Palestine on the north.

Si'-mon The brother of Andrew. His name was changed to Peter ("A Rock") by Christ.

Ti-ber'-ius Cæ'-sar The step-son and successor of Augustus Caesar. He was Emperor during the ministry and death of Jesus. A notorious and profligate tyrant.

Zach'-ar-ias The father of John the Baptist; a priest belonging to the 18th of the 24 courses into which the priests were divided.