

# Bible Dictionary for First Quarter, 1901

**An'-drew** A native of Bethsaida, and brother of Peter. One of our Lord's disciples. It was he who first brought Peter, or Simon, as he was then called, to Jesus.

**An'-nas** The ex-High Priest in the time of our Lord. He had been deposed by Roman authority A.D. 14. He was a wealthy, influential, unscrupulous Sadducee. Not fewer than five of his sons and his son-in-law, Caiaphas, succeeded him in the office.

**Ari-ma-the'-a** The Greek form of Ramathaim, a town in Ephraim (1 Sam. 1:1). It was considered "a city of the Jews" though strictly it was outside the limits of Judaea.

**Bar-ab'-bas** A noted prisoner, guilty of insurrection and murder, liberated, according to the custom of liberating a prisoner at the Passover, and in preference to Jesus.

**Beth'-a-ny** A small stone village on the south-east slope of Olivet, and about two miles from Jerusalem; the home of Lazarus and his sisters and of Simon the leper.

**Beth'-pha-ge** A hamlet near Bethany; exact site unknown. The word means "House of Green Figs." It probably took its name from the adjoining fig orchards.

**Beth-sa'-i-da** Perhaps Bethsaida Julias, situated on the east shore of the Jordan, where it falls into the lake.

**Cai'-a-phas** Son-in-law to Annas, and acting High Priest at the time of our Lord's condemnation. He was the leading spirit in that unjust trial.

**Ce'-dron** (Kidron) A deep torrent valley separating Jerusalem from Mount Olivet on the east. Over this Jesus and His disciples passed on the way to Gethsemane.

**Gal'-i-lee** The northern province of Palestine, containing 240 towns and villages. See "Herod" and "Nazareth."

**Geth-sem'-a-ne** The Garden where Jesus was arrested. It was on the Western slope of Mount Olivet, and was doubtless a cultivated olive orchard. The name means "Oil-press." The traditional site contains eight olive trees of very great age, and is about three quarters of a mile from the city.

**Greeks** Natives of Greece or their descendants. Greece was subject to the Romans in our Lord's time. But the Greek language was the language of culture, the language in which the New Testament was originally written. The Greeks who came to Jesus in the temple may have come from a distance, or from across the Jordan, where there were several Greek cities.

**He'-brew** The language of the Jews. The spoken language in Christ's time was called Aramaic, a variety of Hebrew.

**Her'-od** Herod Antipas, one of the sons

of Herod the Great, and ruler of Galilee and Perea. He played a part in the trial of Christ. Was banished A.D. 38, died in Spain.

**Je'-ru'-sa-lem** Originally 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, after a long and dreadful siege.

**Jo'seph of Arimathea** A member of the Sanhedrim, or Grand Council of the Jews, but a follower of Jesus. He buried the body of Jesus in his own new tomb. He came from Arimathea (See above), but was evidently living at Jerusalem.

**Ju'-das Is-car'-i-ot** The traitor apostle. He was a native of Kerioth, a village in Judah. His name is always last in the list of the twelve. He committed suicide.

**Mount of Olives** A range of hills close to and on the eastern side of Jerusalem; a fine view of the city from one of its summits.

**Naz'-ar-eth** A town in the south of Galilee, the home of Christ's boyhood and early manhood. Rejected at Nazareth, He made Capernaum His headquarters.

**Pe'-ter** The impulsive disciple; yet beneath the superficial elements of his character were possibilities of development that made him worthy of his name *Petros*, a rock.

**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. But they were narrow formalists and were not too careful how they lived. Our Lord strongly denounces their hypocrisy (Matt. 23).

**Phil'-ip** Native of Bethsaida, a practical, matter-of-fact man, but a faithful and trusted disciple. One of the first to be called. (John 1:43).

**Pi'-late** The Roman procurator or "Governor" of Judaea and Samaria under the Emperor Tiberius, from 26 to 36 A. D. A man of vulgar ambition, violent temper and cruel in the extreme. He gave up Jesus to be crucified, though he knew Him to be innocent. He was banished to Gaul, and found a suicide's death.

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

**Si'-mon a Cyrenian** A native of Cyrene, the capital of Libya in Africa. He helped Jesus bear His cross to Calvary.

**Si'-mon the Leper** Nothing more is known of him beyond the fact that Jesus was entertained at his home just before the Passion Week. He was probably cured of his leprosy by Jesus.

**Zeb'-e-dee** A fisherman of Galilee, the father of the apostles James and John.