

# Bible Dictionary for Third Quarter 1900

**Bar'-jo'-na;** Bar means "son of"; a name applied to Simon Peter, whose father was Jonah.

**Beth-sa'-i-da** Probably Bethsaida Julius, a town on the north-east shore of the Lake of Galilee, near the entrance of the river Jordan.

**Cæ-sar-e'-a Phil-lip'-i** A city of romantic beauty on the southern slopes of Mount Hermon, to be distinguished from Cæsarea (Acts 8: 40, etc.) on the sea-coast of Palestine.

**Ca-per'-na-um** An important town on the north-west of the Sea of Galilee, situated in a most fertile plain. It was on the commercial highway from Damascus, had a custom-house and was a military station. It was the centre of Christ's Galilean ministry.

**El-i'-as** The Greek form of Elijah, the great prophet of King Ahab's time.

**Gal'-i-lee** The northern province of Palestine, about the size of Prince Edward Island, with a population of between one and three millions, who were engaged in farming, fishing and mercantile business. The people were much more frank and open, but also less learned, than those of Judea.

**Greek** The language of the educated classes and of commerce in the cities of Syria and Asia Minor, as well as in Greece. A Greek would be a Gentile who spoke Greek.

**Ha'-des** The abode of the dead. Originally good and bad were supposed to dwell there in a shadowy existence; but in the time of our Lord the Jews had come to regard it as a place of punishment.

**Her'-od** The name given to the royal family that had rule in Palestine during the life of Christ and His apostles. The Herod of these lessons is Antipas, tetrarch of Galilee and Perea under the Romans; son of Herod the Great.

**James** Son of Zebedee and the elder brother of John.

**Jer'-e-mi-as** The Greek form of Jeremiah, a prophet, whose words are preserved in the book bearing his name.

**Jer'-i-cho** A city of great age in the rich valley of the Jordan, from which a busy public road led up through the mountains to Jerusalem. It was on the caravan route to Arabia and Egypt.

**Je-ru'-sa-lem** Originally a Jebusite stronghold. David made it his capital. Solomon built the Temple there. There our Lord was crucified. Jerusalem has been destroyed either wholly or partially seventeen times.

**John** Son of Zebedee and younger brother of James.

**John the Baptist** Son of Zacharias and Elizabeth; the forerunner of our Lord.

**Ju-de'-a** Southern province of Palestine, with Jerusalem as capital. A mountainous country, inhabited in the uplands by shepherds. Its towns, and especially Jerusalem, were filled with scholars and teachers, but it was not, like Galilee, of commercial importance.

**Le'-vites** In the time of our Lord an inferior order of priests who had duties in the Temple services.

**Mo'-ses** The great deliverer and law-giver of Israel; died on Mt. Nebo.

**Pe'-ter** Son of Jonah and brother of Andrew. The apostle of impulse and hope. The first to confess and the first to deny his Lord.

**Phar'-i-sees** Separatists. A Jewish sect zealous for outward forms, but bigoted and often of unholy lives.

**Phil'-ip** Son of Herod the Great and brother of Antipas, ruler of the country to the north and east of Galilee.

**Rabbi** Hebrew word, meaning "teacher"; used as a title of respect.

**Sa-mar'-i-tan** An inhabitant of Samaria, the province between Galilee and Judea. The Samaritans were half-pagan and half-Jewish, and their cities had been much under the influence of Greek and Roman invaders. A rich and prosperous country, but with an inferior class of people, who were despised by the Jews. They accepted only the Pentateuch, and built a rival temple at Mount Gerizim.

**Scribes** A class of learned men, usually belonging to the Pharisees; authorities on the law.

**Si'-don** A city of Phœnicia. (See Tyre.)

**Si-lo'-am** A pool in Jerusalem at the foot of Mount Moriah. The name means "a rush," as, for example, of water.

**Son of Man** The favorite title used by Jesus of Himself to denote that He was the Head of the Kingdom of Humanity.

**Sy'-ro-phœ-ni-cian** i.e., a Phœnician belonging to Syria. The Phœnicians were a very ancient people, who traded to distant lands. Their chief home was on the coast of Syria, bordering on the Red Sea.

**Ti-be'-ri-as** An important city on the west of the Sea of Galilee, very wealthy and beautiful, the capital of Herod Antipas. The Sea of Galilee was also called Lake of Tiberias.

**Tyre** A city of Phœnicia on sea coast beyond the northern border of Palestine, and neighbor to Sidon. Tyre and Sidon were busy and rich commercial cities, and, like Capernaum and Jerusalem, met fearful calamities for their sins.