

# ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE

This article identifies all of the people whose proper names occur in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books.

The names are set out alphabetically as they are spelled in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The meaning of the name is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various individuals bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this: **[1]**; **[2]**; and so on. Then follows a description of the character, with several Bible verses listed where the name occurs. (Not all verses could be given; so if the reader is considering a passage that is not cited in the section, he must choose the character that would most likely be identical with the person in his passage.)

We have made no attempt to designate each person as a Palite, Harodite, Gileadite, and so on. Many of these designations refer to the ancestor of an individual; in other cases, they refer to the person's city, district, or distinctive clan. It is often a guess as to which meaning is intended.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These names are ancient and their history is obscure and uncertain.

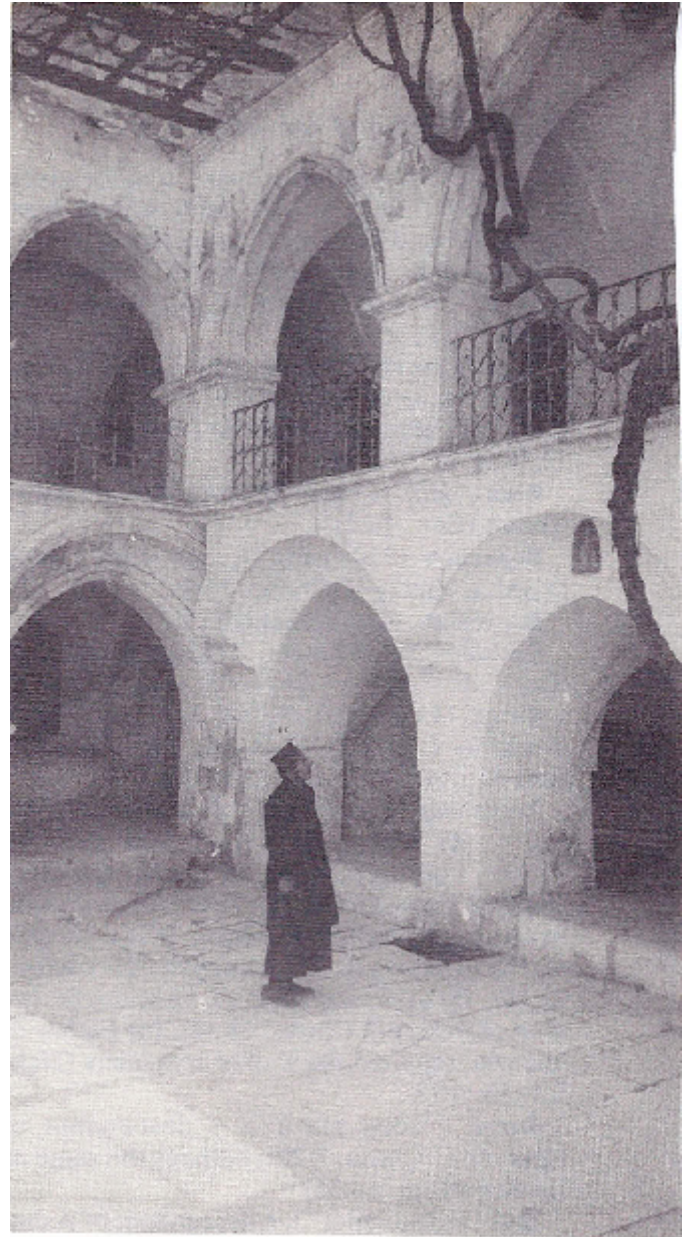
Many people in Scripture bear the same name. In dozens of cases, we cannot determine whether an individual in one book is identical with someone having the same name in another book. In the ancient world, a person was often called by more than one name.

In the transmission of Scripture, copyists occasionally made errors. Surely Reuel was not also called Deuel, nor Jemuel called Nemuel, and so on. Yet which is original? Only in a few cases do we have any clues.

We find variant forms and contractions of names through the Bible. They probably presented little difficulty to an ancient reader. But this further complicates the identification problem for us.

The Hebrew genealogies are abbreviated at many points. At times it is difficult to distinguish a man from his ancestor. Consider also the problem of trying to match an abbreviated list with a fuller list. Either the names in the abbreviated list are independent of the longer list or they are already included in it. In other words, we may find the same person included in two lists or two different people in two lists.

In a few cases, our English versions use the same word to transliterate several similar Hebrew names. In these instances, we have recorded a separate entry for each Hebrew name (e.g., Iddo).



**House of Caiaphas.** A monastery built in 1931 stands on the traditional site of the house of high priest Caiaphas, on the eastern slope of Mount Zion in Jerusalem. Caiaphas (high priest A.D. 18-36) was the son-in-law of the former high priest, Annas, and worked in close cooperation with him (cf. John 18:13). He presided at the trial of Jesus (Matt. 26 :57).

## C

**Caesar**, the name of a branch of the aristocratic family of the Julii, which gained control of the Roman government; afterward it became a formal title of the Roman emperors. *See* Augustus Caesar; Tiberius Caesar; Claudius Caesar.

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**Caiaphas** ("depression"), the high priest who took a leading role in the trial of Jesus (Matt. 26:3, 57-68; John 11:49).

**Cain** ("acquired; spear"), the eldest son of Adam who killed his brother Abel (Gen. 4:125). *See also* Tubalcain.

**Cainan [Kenan]** ("acquired"). [1] A son of Enosh and ancestor of Christ (Gen 5:9; Luke 3:37). The KJV inconsistently spells the same name Kenan in 1 Chronicles 1:2. [2] A son of Arphaxad and an ancestor of Christ (Luke 3:36). It should be noted that this name occurs in the Septuagint text and not in the Hebrew of Genesis 10:24; 11:12. The presence of this name shows that the early lists in Genesis were not meant to be complete.

**Calcol** ("sustaining" or "nourishment"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:6). *See also* Chalcol.

**Caleb [Chelubai]** ("impetuous; raging with madness"). [1] One of the spies sent out by Moses to see the Promised Land (Num. 13:6; Josh. 14-15). [2] A son of Hezron and grandfather of [1] (1 Chron. 2:18-19,42). [3] A son of Hur (1 Chron. 2:50).

**Canaan** ("low"), a son of Ham and grandson of Noah (Gen. 10:6-19; 1 Chron. 1:8, 13).

**Candace** ("contrite one"), a dynastic title of Ethiopian queens (Acts 8:27).

**Caphthorim [Caphthorim]**, the personification of Crete; a son of Mizraim (Gen. 10:14; 1 Chron. 1:12).

**Carcas** ("severe"), a chamberlain of Ahasuerus (Esther 1:10).

**Careah.** *See* Kareah.

**Carmi** ("fruitful; noble"). [1] A son of Reuben who went to Egypt with him (Gen. 46:9; Exod. 6:14; 1 Chron. 5:3). [2] A descendant of Judah (Josh. 7:1; 1 Chron. 2:7). [3] Another son of Judah (1 Chron. 4:1); some identify him with [2].

**Carpus** ("fruit; wrist"), a friend with whom Paul left his cloak (2 Tim. 4:13).

**Carshena** ("distinguished; lean"), one of the seven princes of Persia and Media during Ahasuerus' reign (Esther 1:14).

**Casluhim** ("fortified"), a son of Mizraim (Gen. 10:14; 1 Chron. 1:12).

**Cephas.** *See* Peter.

**Chalcol** ("sustaining"), a wise man with whom Solomon was compared (1 Kings 4:31).

**Chedorlaomer** (Elamite, Kutir-Lakamar—servant of [the goddess] Lakamar), a king of Elam who came up against Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 14:1-24).

**Chelal** ("completeness"), a man who took a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:30).

**Chelluh** ("robust"), a man who married a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:35).

**Chelub** ("boldness"). [1] A descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4:11). [2] Father of Ezri (1 Chron. 27:26).

**Chelubai.** *See* Caleb [2].

**Chenaanah** ("flat, low"). [1] A son of Bilhan (1 Chron. 7:10). [2] Father of the false prophet Zedekiah (1 Kings 22:11, 24).

**Chenani** ("Jehovah, creator"), a Levite in the time of Ezra (Neh. 9:4).

**Chenaniah** ("established by Jehovah"). [1] A head Levite when David brought the ark of the covenant to the temple (1 Chron. 15:22, 27). [2] An officer of David (1 Chron. 26:29). *See also* Conaniah.

**Cheran** ("lyre; lamb; union"), a son of Dishon (Gen. 36:26).

**Chesed** ("gain"), son of Nahor and Milcah and nephew of Abraham (Gen. 22:22).

**Chidon.** *See* Nachon.

**Chileab** ("restraint of father"), a son of David (2 Sam. 3:3); probably also called Daniel (1 Chron. 3:1).

**Chilion** ("pining"), son of Naomi and husband of Orpah (Ruth 1:2, 5).

**Chimham** ("pining"), a friend and political supporter of David (2 Sam. 19:37-38,40; Jer. 41:17).

**Chislon** ("strength"), a prince of the tribe of Benjamin (Num. 34:21).

**Chloe** ("a tender sprout"), a Corinthian woman or an Ephesian woman who knew of the problems at Corinth (1 Cor. 1:11).

**Christ.** *See* Jesus.

**Chushan-rishathaim** ("man of Cush; he of the twofold crime"), a king of Mesopotamia that God chose to punish Israel (Judg. 3:8, 10).

**Chuza** ("seer"), steward of Herod Antipas whose wife ministered to Christ and the apostles (Luke 8:3).

**Cis,** Greek form of Kish (q.v.).

**Claudia** ("lame"), a Roman Christian who sent greetings to Timothy (2 Tim. 4:21).

**Claudius Caesar** ("lame ruler"), Roman emperor who banished the Jews from Rome (Acts 18:2).

**Claudius Lysias** ("lame dissolution"), a Roman officer, chief captain in Jerusalem (Acts 23:26).

**Clement** ("mild"), a co-worker with Paul at Philippi (Phil. 4:3).

**Cleopas** ("renowned father"), one of the disciples whom Jesus met on the way to Emmaus (Luke 24:18). *See also* Cleophas.

**Cleophas** ("renowned"), the husband of one of the Marys who followed Jesus (John 19:25); possibly the same as Alphaeus (q.v.). *See also* Alphaeus; Cleopas.

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**Col-hozeh** ("wholly a seer"). [1] Father of Shallum, who helped to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem (Neh. 3:15). [2] A man of Judah (Neh. 11:5); possibly the same as [1].

**Conaniah [Cononiah]** ("Jehovah has founded"). [1] A Levite appointed to be overseer of the tithes and offerings at the temple (2 Chron. 31: 12-13). [2] A chief of the Levites (2 Chron. 35:9). *See also* Chenaniah.

**Cyrus cylinder.** King Cyrus of Persia allowed the Jews to return home and rebuild their temple. Inscribed on this clay cylinder are the king's words: "As to the region from ... as far as Ashur and Susa, Akkad ... , as well as the towns of the Gutians,... I also gathered all their former inhabitants and returned to them their habitations,"



**Coniah.** *See* Jehoiachin.

**Cononiah.** *See* Conaniah.

**Core,** Greek form of Korah (q.v.).

**Cornelius** ("of a horn"), a Roman centurion who was converted to Christianity (Acts 10:1-31).

**Co-sam** ("diviner"), an ancestor of Christ (Luke 3:28).

**Coz** ("thorn; nimble"), a descendant of Judah through Caleb (1 Chron. 4:8).

**Cozbi** ("deceitful"), a Midianite woman slain by Phinehas at Shittim (Num. 25:6-18).

**Crescens** ("increasing"), an assistant with Paul at Rome (2 Tim. 4: 10).

**Crispus** ("curled"), a ruler of the Jewish synagogue at Corinth who was converted to Christ (Acts 18:7-8; 1 Cor. 1:14).

**Cush** ("black"; possibly a personification for Ethiopia). [1] Eldest son of Ham (Gen. 10:6-8; 1 Chron. 1:8-10). [2] A descendant of Benjamin and enemy of David (Psa. 7, title).

**Cushi** ("black"). [1] Father of Zephaniah (Zeph. 1:1). [2] Great-grandfather of Jehudi (Jer. 36: 14). [3] The messenger that told David of the defeat of Absalom (2 Sam. 18:21-32).

**Cyrenius [Quirinius]** ("of Cyrene "), the governor of Syria (Luke 2:2).

**Cyrus,** founder of the Persian Empire; he returned the Jews to their land (Ezra 1:1-4, 7; 3:7; Isa. 44:28; 45:1-4; Dan. 6:28).

End of the C's.

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