

# 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).

## T

**Tabbaoth** ("spots; rings"), one whose descendants returned with Zerubbabel (Ezra 2:43; Neh. 7:46).

**Tabaal [Tabeel]** ("God is good"). **[1]** Father of a man the kings of Israel and Damascus planned to make king of Judah (Isa. 7:6). **[2]** A Persian official who tried to hinder the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem (Ezra 4:7). **Tabeel.** *See* Tabeal.

**Tabitha** ("gazelle"), the Christian woman of Joppa whom Peter raised from the dead (Acts 9:36-42). Dorcas is the Greek form of the name.

**Tabrimon** ("[the god] Rimmon is good"), father of Ben-hadad I, king of Syria (1 Kings 15:18).

**Tahan** ("graciousness"). **[1]** A descendant of Ephraim (Num. 26:35). **[2]** Another descendant of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:25).

**Tahath** ("depression; humility"). **[1]** A descendant of Kohath (1 Chron. 6:24, 37). **[2]** A descendant of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:20). **[3]** A grandson of the above (1 Chron. 7:20).

**Tahpenes**, an Egyptian queen, wife of the pharaoh, who received the fleeing Hadad, an enemy of Solomon (1 Kings 11:18-20).

**Tahrea [Tarea]** ("flight"), son of Micah, descendant of Saul (1 Chron. 8:35; 9:41).

**Talmi** ("bold; spirited"). **[1]** A man or clan defeated by Caleb (Num. 13:22; Josh. 15:14; Judg. 1:10). **[2]** King of Geshur and father-in-law of David (2 Sam. 3:3; 13:27).

**Talmon** ("oppressor; violent"), a Levite in Ezra's day; a temple porter (1 Chron. 9:17; Ezra 2:42; Neh. 7:45).

**Tamah [Thamah]** ("combat"), one whose descendants returned from the Babylonian Captivity (Ezra 2:53; Neh. 7:55).

**Tamar [Thamar]** ("palm"). **[1]** The wife of Er, mother of Perez, and an ancestor of Christ (Gen. 38:6, 11, 13; Ruth 4:12; Matt. 1:3). **[2]** The daughter of David violated by Amnon (2 Sam. 13:1-32). **[3]** A daughter of Absalom (2 Sam. 14:27).

**Tanhumeth** ("comfort"), father of one of Gedaliah's captains (2 Kings 25:23; Jer. 40:8).

**Taphath** ("ornament"), a daughter of Solomon (1 Kings 4:11).

**Tappuah** ("apple; hill place"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:43).

**Tarea.** *See* Tahrea.

**Tarshish** ("hard"). **[1]** A son of Javan and grandson of Noah (Gen. 10:4; 1 Chron. 1:7). **[2]** One of the seven

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princes of Persia (Esther 1:14). Not to be confused with Tharshish.

**Tartan** (meaning unknown), the title of a high Assyrian officer. There is evidence that the office was second only to the king. There are two tartans mentioned in Scripture (2 Kings 18:17; Isa. 20:1).

**Tatnai** ("gift"), a Persian governor of Samaria in the days of Zerubbabel (Ezra 5:3, 6; 6:6, 13).

**Tebah** ("thick; strong"), a son of Nahor, the brother of Abraham (Gen. 22:24).

**Tebaliah** ("Jehovah is protector; Jehovah has purified"), a Levite gatekeeper in the days of David (1 Chron. 26: 11).

**Tehinnah** ("entreaty; supplication"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4: 12).

**Telah** ("vigor"), a descendant of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:25).

**Telem** ("a lamb"), one who married a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:24).

**Tema** ("south" or "sun burnt"), a son of Ishmael (Gen. 25:15; 1 Chron. 1:30).

**Teman** ("south" or "sun burnt"). [1] A grandson of Esau (Gen. 36: 11, 15; 1 Chron. 1:36). [2] A duke of Edom (Gen. 36:42; Chron. 1:53).

**Terah [Thara]** ("turning; duration"), the father of Abraham and ancestor of Christ (Gen. 11:27-32; Luke 3:34).

**Teresh** ("strictness; reverence"), a chamberlain of the Persian court that plotted against the crown (Esther 2:21; 6:2).

**Tertius** ("third"), the scribe that was dictated the epistle to the Romans (Rom. 16:22). Some conjecture that he is Silas (q.v.).

**Tertullus** ("third"), an orator hired by the Jews to state skillfully their case against Paul before Felix (Acts 24:1-8).

**Thaddeus** (a name derived from an Aramaic word for the female breast), one of the twelve apostles (Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18). He is the same as Judas, the brother of James (Luke 6: 16; John 14:22; Acts 1:13). He was also named Lebbeus ("heart").

**Thahash** ("reddish"), a son of Nahor, Abraham's brother (Gen. 22:24).

**Thamah.** See Tamah.

**Thamar,** Greek form of Tamar (q.v.).

**Thara,** Greek form of Terah (q.v.).

**Tharshish** ("hard"), a descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 7:10).

**Theophilus** ("loved by God"), an unknown person, possibly a Roman official, to whom Luke addressed his Gospel and Acts (Luke 1:3; Acts 1:1).

**Theudas** ("the gift of God"), instigator of a rebellion against the Romans, which was crushed by them (Acts 5:36).

**Thomas** ("twin"), one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. When Christ rose from the dead, he was most skeptical (Matt. 10:3; Mark 3:18; John 20:24-29). His Aramaic name is Didymus in Greek.

**Tiberius** ("son of [the river] Tiber"), third emperor of the Roman Empire (Luke 3: 1).

**Tibni** ("intelligent"), one who rivaled Omri for the throne of Israel (1 Kings 16:21-22).

**Tidal** ("splendor; renown"), king of Goyim who, with his allies, invaded the cities of the plain (Gen. 14:1,9).

**Tiglath-pileser [Pul; Tilgath-pilneser]** (Babylonian, *Tukulti-apil-Esharra*—"my trust is in the son of Asharra"), a king of Assyria who invaded Naphtali during the time of Pekah of Israel. He conquered northern Palestine and deported many from Naphtali (2 Kings 15:29; 16:7, 10; 1 Chron. 5:6, 26). He was also known as Pul (2 Kings 15:19). Realizing he bore two names, we should translate 1 Chronicles 5:26, "... God... stirred...Pul king of Assyria *even* [not *and*] Tilgathpilneser king of Assyria."

**Tilon** ("mockery; scorn"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4:20).

**Timaeus** ("honorable"), father of the blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46).

**Timna [Timnah]** ("allotted portion; restraining"). [1] A concubine of a son of Esau (Gen. 36: 12). [2] A daughter of Seir the Horite (Gen. 36:22; 1 Chron. 1:39). [3] A chief of Edom (Gen. 36:40; 1 Chron. 1:51). [4] A son of Eliphaz (1 Chron. 1:36).

**Timon** ("honorable"), one of the seven deacons (Acts 6: 1-6).

**Timotheus [Timothy]** ("honored of God"), a young friend and convert of Paul; he traveled extensively with the apostle. He was from Lystra and was the son of Eunice, a Jewess, and a Greek father (Acts 16:1; 17:14, 15; 1 Tim. 1:2, 18; 6:20).

**Timothy.** See Timotheus.

**Tiras** ("longing"), youngest son of Japheth (Gen. 10:2; 1 Chron. 1:5).

**Tirhakah,** a king of Ethiopia and Egypt who aided Hezekiah in his fight against Sennacherib (2 Kings 19:9; Isa. 37:9).

**Tirhanah** ("kindness"), a descendant of Hezron (1 Chron. 2:48).

**Tiria** ("foundation"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4: 16).

**Tirshatha** ("reverend—i.e., his excellency"), a title of the governor of Judea under Persian rule (Ezra 2:63; Neh. 7:65, 70; 8:9; 10: 1).

**Tirzah** ("delight"), youngest daughter of Zelophehad (Num. 26:33; 27:1; Josh. 17:3).

**Titus** ("pleasant"), a converted Grecian entrusted with a mission to Crete (2 Cor. 2: 13; Gal. 2:1; Titus 1:4).

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**Toah** ("depression; humility"), an ancestor of Samuel the prophet (1 Chron. 6:34). He is called Nahath in verse 26 and Tohu in 1 Samuel 1:1.

**Tob-adonijah** ("the Lord Jehovah is good"), one sent by Jehoshaphat to teach the Law (1 Chron. 17:8).

**Tobiah [Tobijah]** ("Jehovah is good"). [1] A Levite sent by Jehoshaphat to teach the Law (2 Chron. 17:8). [2] An ancestor of returning captives who had lost their genealogy (Ezra 2:60; Neh. 7:62). [3] An Ammonite servant of Sanballat who opposed Nehemiah (Neh. 2:10-20). [4] A leader who returned from the Babylonian Captivity (Zech. 6: 10, 14).

**Tobijah.** See Tobiah.

**Togarmah** (personification of the Hittite region of Tegoramah), a son of Gomer (Gen. 10:3; 1 Chron. 1:6).

**Tohu.** See Toah.

**Toi [Tou]** ("error; wandering"), a king of Hamath who sent his son to congratulate David on his victory over Hadadezer (2 Sam. 8:9-10). He is also called Tou (1 Chron. 18:9,10).

**Tola** ("warm; crimson"). [1] A son of Issachar (Gen. 46:13; 1 Chron. 7:1-2). [2] A judge of Israel (Judg. 10:1).

**Tou.** See Toi.

**Trophimus** ("a foster child"), a Christian convert and afterward a companion-in-travel with Paul (Acts 20:4; 21:29; 2 Tim. 4:20).

**Tryphena** ("dainty; shining"), a Christian woman of Rome to whom Paul sent greetings (Rom. 16: 12).

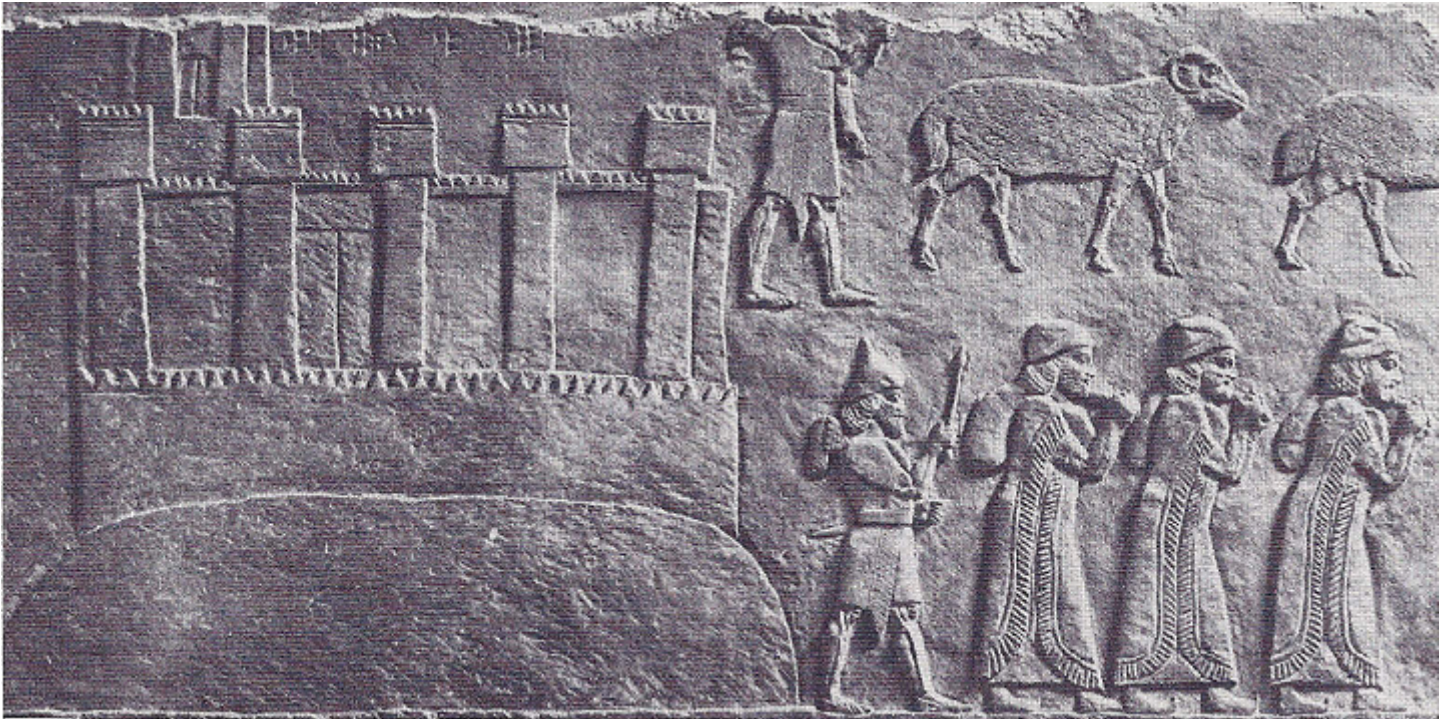
**Tryphosa** ("disdain; shining"), a Christian woman at Rome sent greetings by Paul (Rom. 16: 12).

**Tubal**, a son of Japheth (Gen. 10:2; 1 Chron. 1:5).

**Tubal-cain**, one of the sons of Lamech and expert metal-smith (Gen. 4:22).

**Tychicus** ("fortunate"), a disciple and messenger of Paul (Acts 20:4; Eph. 6:21; 2 Tim. 4: 12).

**Tyrannus** ("tyrant"), a Greek rhetorician or Jewish rabbi in whose school Paul taught at Ephesus (Acts 19:9).



**Tiglath-Pileser's capture of Ashtaroth.** A bas relief from the palace of Tiglath-Pileser III at Calah shows the Assyrian army carrying off the spoils of Ashtaroth, a city just east of the Sea of Galilee. Tiglath-Pileser's soldiers ravaged much of Israel and the surrounding territory between 738 and 726 B.C.

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