

# 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).

## E

**Ebal [Obal]** ("bare"). [1] A son of Shobal the Horite (Gen. 36:23; 1 Chron. 1:40). [2] A son of Joktan, descendant of Shem (1 Chron. 1:22). He is called Obal ("naked") in Genesis 10:28.

**Ebed** ("servant"). [1] A companion of Ezra on his return to Jerusalem (Ezra 8:6). [2] Father of Gaal who rebelled against Abimelech (Judg. 9:26-35).

**Ebed-Melech** ("the king's servant"), an Ethiopian eunuch who rescued Jeremiah (Jer. 38:7-12; 39: 16).

**Eber [Heber]** ("a shoot"). [1] A descendant of Shem and an ancestor of Christ (Gen. 10:21, 24-25; 11: 14-17; Luke 3:35). [2] Head of a family of Gad (1 Chron. 5: 13). [3], [4] Two descendants of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8: 12, 22). [5] Head of a priestly family (Neh. 12:20).

**Ebiasaph.** See Abiasaph.

**Eden** ("delight"). [1] A descendant of Gershorn (2 Chron. 29: 12). [2] A Levite in the time of Hezekiah (2 Chron. 31: 15).

**Eder** ("flock"), a grandson of Merari, son of Levi (1 Chron. 23:23; 24:30); perhaps the same as Ader (q.v.).

**Edom** ("red"), name given to Esau, the elder son of Isaac, because of his red skin (Gen. 25:30). See Esau; Obed-Edom.

**Eglah** ("calf"), one of David's wives (2 Sam. 3:5; 1 Chron. 3:3).

**Eglon** ("circle"), a king of Moab who oppressed Israel in the days of the judges (Judg. 3:12-17).

**Ehi.** See Ahiram.

**Ehud** ("strong"). [1] A judge who delivered Israel from the oppression of Eglon of Moab (Judg. 3:15-30). [2] Great-grandson of Benjamin (1 Chron. 7: 10; 8:6); perhaps the same as [1].

**Eker** ("root"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:27).

**Eladah** ("God is ornament"), a descendant of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:20).

**Elah** ("oak"). [1] A chieftain of Edom (Gen. 36:41; 1 Chron. 1:52). [2] Father of a commissary officer under Solomon (1 Kings 4: 18). [3] The son and successor of Baasha, king of Israel. He was murdered by Zimri (1 Kings 16:6-14). [4] The father of Hoshea, last king of Israel (2 Kings 15:30; 17:1). [5] A son of Caleb, son of Jephunneh (1 Chron. 4:15). [6] A descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 9:8).

**Elam** (a personification of the empire of south Iran, the Elamites). [1] A son of Shem (Gen. 10:22; 1 Chron. 1: 17). [2] A descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:22). [3] A descendant of Korah (1 Chron. 16:3). [4] A leader of the people who sealed the new covenant with God after the Exile (Neh. 10: 14). [5] A priest of Nehemiah's

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time who helped to cleanse Jerusalem (Neh. 12:42). [6] One whose descendants returned from the Exile (Ezra 2:7). [7] Another whose descendants returned from the Exile (Ezra 2:31). [8] Yet another whose descendants returned from the Exile (Ezra 8:7). [9] Ancestor of some who married foreign wives during the Exile (Ezra 10:2).

**Elasah** ("God is doer"). [1] One who married a foreign wife (Ezra 10:22). [2] Ambassador of Zedekiah (Jer. 29:3). [3] *See* Eleasah.

**Eldaah** ("whom God calls"), a son of Midian (Gen. 25:4; 1 Chron. 1:33).

**Eldad** ("God is a friend"), one of two elders who received the prophetic powers of Moses (Num. 11:26-27).

**Elead** ("God is witness"), a descendant of Ephraim slain by invaders (1 Chron. 7:21).

**Eleasah** ("God is doer"). [1] A descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:39-40). [2] A descendant of King Saul (1 Chron. 8:37; 9:43). *See* Elasah.

**Eleazar** ("God is helper"). [1] Third son of Aaron and successor to the high priest's office (Exod. 6:23; Num. 3:32; 20:28). [2] One sanctified to keep the ark of the covenant (1 Sam. 7: 1). [3] One of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:9; 1 Chron. 11:12). [4] A descendant of Merari who had no sons (1 Chron. 23:21-22; 24:28). [5] A priest who accompanied Ezra when he returned to Jerusalem (Ezra 8:33). [6] A priest who assisted at the dedication of the walls of Jerusalem (Neh. 12:42); possibly the same as [5]. [7] An ancestor of Jesus (Matt. 1: 15).

**Elhanan** ("whom God gave; God is gracious"). [1] The warrior who killed Lahmi, the brother of Goliath (1 Chron. 20:5; 2 Sam. 21:19). [2] One of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:24; 1 Chron. 11:26).

**Eli** ("Jehovah is high"), high priest at Shiloh and judge of Israel. He is remembered for his lack of firmness (1 Sam. 1-4). *See also* Heli.

**Eliab** ("God is father"). [1] A prince of Zebulun (Num. 1:9; 2:7; 7:24, 29; 10: 16). [2] Father of the wicked pair, Dathan and Abiram (Num. 16:1, 12; 26:8). [3] Son of Jesse and brother of David (1 Sam. 16:6); he is called Elihu in 1 Chronicles 27:18. [4] Ancestor of Samuel (1 Chron. 6:27); he is called Eliel in 1 Chronicles 6:34 and Elihu in 1 Samuel 1: 1. [5] A warrior of David (1 Chron. 12:8-9, 14). [6] A Levite musician in the time of David (1 Chron. 15: 18, 20; 16:5). [7] *See* Eliel.

**Eliada** [**Eliadah**] ("God is knowing"). [1] A mighty man of Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. 17: 17). [2] Father of Rezon (1 Kings 11:23). [3] *See* Beeliada.

**Elijah**. *See* Elijah.

**Eliahba** ("God hides"), one of David's 30-man guard (2 Sam. 23:32; 1 Chron. 11:33).

**Eliakim** ("God is setting up"). [1] Successor of Shebna as master of Hezekiah's household (2 Kings 18:18, 26; Isa. 22:20). [2] Original name of King Jehoiakim (q.v.). [3] A priest in Nehemiah's time (Neh. 12:41). [4] An ancestor of Christ (Matt. 1:13).

**Eliam** ("my God is a kinsman; God is founder of the people"). [1] Father of Bathsheba (2 Sam. 11:3). [2] One of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:34).

**Elias**, Greek form of Elijah (q.v.).

**Eliasaph** ("God is gatherer"). [1] Head of the tribe of Gad (Num. 1:14; 2: 14; 7:42, 47). [2] A prince of Gershon (Num. 3:24).

**Eliashib** ("God is requiter"). [1] A priest in the time of David (1 Chron. 24: 12). [2] A descendant of David (1 Chron. 3:24). [3] The high priest in Nehemiah's time (Neh. 3:1,20-21). [4], [5], [6] Three men who married foreign wives during the Exile (Ezra 10:24, 27, 36). [7] One who assisted Ezra in resolving the matter of the foreign wives (Ezra 10:6; Neh. 12:10); possibly the same as [3].

**Eliathah** ("God is come"), one appointed for the song service in the temple (1 Chron. 25:4,27).

**Elidad** ("God is a friend"), a chief of the tribe of Benjamin (Num. 34:21).

**Eliel** ("God, my God"). [1] Head of a family of the tribe of Manasseh (1 Chron. 5:24). [2] A descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:20). [3] Another descendant of Benjamin in Chronicles (1 Chron. 8:22). [4] A captain of David's army (1 Chron. 11:46). [5] One of David's mighty men (1 Chron. 11:47). [6] One who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:11); perhaps the same as [4] or [5]. [7] A chief of Judah (1 Chron. 15:9); perhaps [4]. [8] A chief Levite whom David commissioned to bring the ark of the covenant to the temple (1 Chron. 15:11). [9] The Levite overseer of the dedicated things of the temple under Hezekiah (2 Chron. 31:13). [10] *See* Eliab.

**Elienai** ("unto God are my eyes"), a chief of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:20).

**Eli ezer** ("God is help"). [1] Abraham's chief servant (Gen. 15:2). [2] The second son of Moses and Zipporah (Exod. 18:4; 1 Chron. 23:15, 17). [3] A descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 7:8). [4] A priest who assisted with bringing the ark of the covenant to the temple (1 Chron. 15:24). [5] A prince of Reuben in the time of David (1 Chron. 27:16). [6] A prophet who rebuked Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. 20:37). [7] A leader who induced others to return to Jerusalem (Ezra 8: 16). [8], [9], [10] Three men who took foreign wives during the Exile (Ezra 10:18,23,31). [11] An ancestor of Christ (Luke 3:29).

**Elihoenai** ("to Jehovah are my eyes"), ancestor of some returned exiles (Ezra 8:4). *See also* Elioenai.

**Elihoreph** (" God of harvest grain "), a scribe of Solomon (1 Kings 4:3).

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**Traveller's rest, Kadesh.** An Arab traveller dozes beneath a broom bush in the wilderness along the Negev Desert. In this same area Elijah stopped to rest beneath a juniper tree and received encouragement from an angel of the Lord (1 Kings 19:4-7).

**Elihu** ("God himself"). [1] One who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:20). [2] A porter at the tabernacle at the time of David (1 Chron. 26:7). [3] The youngest "friend" of Job (Job 32:2,4-6). [4] *See* Eliab [3]. [5] *See* Eliab [4].

**Elijah [Elijah; Elias]** ("Jehovah is my God"). [1] A great prophet of God; he strenuously opposed idolatry and was caught up in a chariot of fire at death (1 Kings 17:1-2 Kings 2:11; Matt. 17:3). [2] A chief of the tribe of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:27). [3] One who married a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:26). [4] Another who took a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:21).

**Elika** ("God is rejector"), one of David's warriors (2 Sam. 23:25).

**Elimelech** ("my God is King"), the husband of Naomi and father-in-law of Ruth. He died in Moab (Ruth 1:2-3; 2:1, 3; 4:3, 9).

**Elioenai** ("to Jehovah are my eyes"). [1] A descendant of David (1 Chron. 3:23-24). [2] A chief of the tribe of Simeon (1 Chron. 4:36). [3] A chief of Benjamin (1 Chron. 7:8). [4], [5] Two men who had married foreign wives during the Exile (Ezra 10:22, 27). [6] A priest in the days of Nehemiah (Neh. 12:41); possibly the same as [4]. [7] A doorkeeper of the temple (1 Chron. 26:3). [8] *See* Elihoenai.

**Eliphal** ("God is judge"), one of David's mighty men (1 Chron. 11:35).

**Eliphalet [Eliphelet; Elpalet]** ("God is escape"). [1] The last of David's thirteen sons (2 Sam. 5:16; 1 Chron. 3:8; 14:7). [2] Another of David's sons (1 Chron. 3:6);

called Elphalet in 1Chronicles 14:5. [3] One of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:34). [4] A descendant of Benjamin and Saul (1 Chron. 8:39). [5] One who came back to Jerusalem with Ezra (Ezra 8: 13). [6] One who took a foreign wife during the Exile (Ezra 10:33).

**Eliphaz** ("God is dispenser"). [1] The leader of Job's three "friends" who confronted him (Job 2: 11; 4: 1; 15:1). [2] A son of Esau (Gen. 36:4,10-12; 1 Chron. 1:35-36).

**Elipheleh** ("Jehovah is distinction"), a Levite set over the choral service of the temple when the ark of the covenant was returned (1 Chron. 15:18, 21).

**Eliphelet.** *See* Eliphalet.

**Elisabeth** ("God is swearer; oath of God"), the wife of Zacharias and mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-57).

**Eliseus**, Greek form of Elisha (q. v.).

**Elisha [Elishah; Eliseus]** ("God is Saviour"). [1] The disciple and successor of Elijah; he held the prophetic office for 55 years (1 Kings 19:16-17,19; 2 Kings 2-6; Luke 4:27). [2] Eldest son of Javan and grandson of Noah (Gen. 10:4).

**Elishama** ("God is hearer"). [1] Grandfather of Joshua (Num. 1:10; 2:18; 1 Chron. 7:26). [2] A son of King David (2 Sam. 5: 16; 1 Chron. 3:8). [3] Another son of David (1 Chron. 3:6); also called Elishua ("God is rich") in 2 Samuel 5: 15 and 1Chronicles 14:5. [4] A descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:41). [5] One of the "royal seed" and grandfather of Gedaliah (Jer. 41:1; 2 Kings 25:25). [6] A scribe or secretary of Jehoiakim (Jer. 36: 12, 20, 21). [7] A priest sent by Jehoshaphat to teach the Law (2 Chron. 17:8).

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**Elishaphat** ("God is judge"), one of the captains of hundreds commissioned by Jehoiada (2 Chron. 23: 1).

**Elisheba** ("God is swearer; God is an All the People of the Bible oath"), the wife of Aaron and mother of Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar (Exod. 6:23).

**Elishua**. *See* Elishama [3].

**Eliud** ("God my praise"), an ancestor of Jesus (Matt. 1:14-15).

**Elizaphan [Elzaphan]** ("God is protector"). [1] A chief of the family of Kohath (Nurn, 3:30; 1 Chron. 15:8); he is also called Elzaphan (Exod. 6:22; Lev. 10:4). [2] A prince of the tribe of Zebulun (Num. 34:25). [3] An ancestor of some of the Levites who cleansed the temple in Hezekiah's time (2 Chron. 29:13).

**Elizur** ("God is a rock"), a chief of the tribe of Reuben who assisted Moses in taking the census (Num. 1:5; 2:10; 7:30, 35).

**Elkanah [Elkonah]** ("God is possessing"). [1] Grandson of Korah (Exod. 6:24; 1 Chron. 6:23). [2] Father of the prophet Samuel and a descendant of [1] (1 Sam. 1:1-23; 2: 11, 20). [3] A descendant of Levi (1 Chron. 6:25, 36). [4] A descendant of Levi (1 Chron. 6:26, 35); perhaps the same as [3]. [5] A Levite ancestor of Berechiah (1 Chron. 9: 16). [6] One who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:6). [7] A doorkeeper of the ark of the covenant (1 Chron. 15:23); perhaps the same as [6]. [8] An officer of King Ahaz (2 Chron. 28:7).

**Elmodam** ("measure"), an ancestor of Christ (Luke 3:28).

**Elnaam** ("God is pleasant"), the father of two of David's warriors (1 Chron. 11:46).

**Elnathan** ("God is giving"). [1] Father of Nehushta, Jehoiakim's queen (2 Kings 24:8; Jer. 26:22). [2], [3], [4] Three Levites in the time of Ezra (Ezra 8: 16).

**Elon** ("oak; strong"). [1] Father of a wife of Esau (Gen. 26:34; 36:2). [2] A son of Zebulun (Gen. 46: 14; Num. 26:26). [3] A judge of Israel for ten years (Judg. 12:11-12).

**Elpaal** ("God is working"), a descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:11-12).

**Elpalet**. *See* Eliphalet [2].

**Eluzai** ("God is strong"), one who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:5).

**Elymas [Bar-jesus]** ("a sorcerer"), a false prophet who opposed Saul and Barnabas at Paphos (Acts 13:8); he was also named Barjesus (v.6).

**Elzabad** ("God is endowing"). [1] One who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12: 12). [2] A descendant of Levi (1 Chron. 26:7).

**Elzaphan**. *See* Elizaphan.

**Emmor**, Greek form of Hamor (q.v.).

**Enan** ("eyes; fountain"), father of a prince of Naphtali (Num. 1:15; 2:29).

**Enoch [Henoch]** ("teacher"). [1] The eldest son of Cain (Gen. 4:17-18). [2] A son of Jared and an ancestor of Christ (Gen. 5:18-19, 21; 1 Chron. 1:3; Luke 3:37; Heb. 11:5).

**Enos [Enosh]** ("mortal"), son of Seth and ancestor of Christ (Gen. 4:26; 5:6-11; 1 Chron. 1: 1; Luke 3:38).

**Enosh**. *See* Enos.

**Epaenetus** ("praised"), a Christian at Rome to whom Paul sent greetings (Rom. 16:5).

**Epaphras** (shortened form of Epaphroditus-"lovely"), a Christian worker with Paul who served as missionary to Colossae (Col. 1:7; 4:12; Philem. 23).

**Epaphroditus** ("lovely"), a Philippian Christian who worked so strenuously that he lost his health (Phil. 2:25; 4:18).

**Ephah** ("obscurity"). [1] A concubine of Caleb (1 Chron. 2:46). [2] A descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:47). [3] A grandson of Abraham (Gen. 25:4; 1 Chron. 1:33).

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**Ephai** ("obscuring"), one whose children were left in Judah after the Exile (Jer. 40:8).

**Epher** ("calf; young deer"). [1] A grandson of Abraham and son of Midian (Gen. 25:4; 1 Chron. 1:33). [2] One of the descendants of Judah (1 Chron. 4: 17). [3] A chief of the tribe of Manasseh east of the Jordan River (1 Chron. 5:24).

**Ephlal** ("judging"), a descendant of Pharez through Jerahmeel (1 Chron. 2:37).

**Ephod** ("oracular"), father of a prince of the tribe of Manasseh (Num. 34:23).

**Ephraim** ("doubly fruitful"), the second son of Joseph by Asenath. Although Ephraim was the younger of the two sons of Joseph, he received the firstborn's blessing. He was an ancestor of one of the twelve tribes of Israel (Gen. 41:52; 46:20; 48; 50:23).

**Ephratah [Ephrath]** ("fertility"), the second wife of Caleb (1 Chron. 2: 19, 50; 4:4).

**Ephron** ("strong"), a Hittite from whom Abraham bought a field with a cave, which became Sarah's burial place (Gen. 23:8, 10, 13-14; 49:30).

**Er** ("watcher"). [1] Eldest son of Judah, slain by God (Gen. 38:3, 6-7; 1Chron. 2:3). [2] A son of Shelah (1 Chron. 4:21). [3] An ancestor of Jesus (Luke 3:28).

**Eran** ("watcher; watchful"), the son of Ephraim's oldest son (Num. 26:36).

**Erastus** ("beloved"). [1] Christian sent with Timothy into Macedonia while Paul stayed in Asia (Acts 19:22). [2] An important person in Corinth sending greetings to Rome (Rom. 16:23). [3] One who remained at Corinth (2 Tim. 4:20). Perhaps some or all of the above are identical.

**Eri** ("watcher"), a son of Gad (Gen. 46: 16; Num.26:16).

**Esaias**, Greek form of Isaiah (q.v.).

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**Esarhaddon** ("Ashur has given a brother"), the son of Sennacherib and a powerful king of Assyria (2 Kings 19:37; Ezra 4:2; Isa. 37:38).

**Esau** ("hairy"), eldest son of Isaac and twin brother of Jacob. He is the progenitor of the tribe of Edom (Gen. 25:25). He sold his birthright to Jacob (Gen. 25:26-34; 27; 36).

**Esau's Wives:** There are two lists of Esau's—wives—Genesis 26:34; 28:9 list them in this fashion: [1] Judith, the daughter of Beeri the Hittite. [2] Bashemath, daughter of Elon the Hittite and [3] Mahalath, the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son. The other list in Genesis 36:2-3 runs thus: [1] Aholibamah, the daughter of Anah the daughter of Zibeon. [2] Adah, the daughter of Elon the Hittite and [3] Bashemath, the daughter of Ishmael. Some scholars suppose we are dealing with six women, but this seems unlikely. In the ancient world, many women received new names at marriage and this fact would account for the different names. Thus, [1] Judith is Aholibamah, [2] Bashemath is Adah, and [3] Mahalath is Bashemath. As far as Judith is concerned, Beeri might be her father and Anah her mother; or perhaps Anah is another name of Beeri. Some even think Beeri ("man of the springs") is a nickname rather than a proper name.

**Esh-baal** ("man or servant of Baal"), altered to a curse. *See* Ish-bosheth.

**Eshban** ("man of understanding"), son of Dishon (Gen. 36:26; 1 Chron. 1:41).

**Eshcol** ("a cluster of grapes"), the brother of Mamre and Aner who helped Abraham defeat Chedorlaomer (Gen. 14: 13-24).

**Eshkek** ("oppressor"), a descendant of King Saul (1 Chron. 8:39).

**Eshton** ("rest"), a descendant of Judah through Caleb (1 Chron. 4:11-12).

**Esli** ("reserved"), an ancestor of Christ (Luke 3:25).

**Esrom**, Greek form of Hezron (q.v.).

**Esther** ("star; [the goddess] Ishtar"), the Persian name of Hadassah, who was chosen by Ahasuerus to be his queen. The Book of Esther tells her story.

**Etam** ("wild beast's lair"), a name occurring in Judah's genealogy list (1 Chron. 4:3). It may be a place name.

**Ethan** ("ancient"). [1] A wise man in the days of Solomon (1 Kings 4:31; Psa. 89 title). [2] A descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:6, 8). [3] *See* Jeduthun. [4] A descendant of Levi (1 Chron. 6:42).

**Ethbaal** ("Baal's man; with Baal"), king of Sidon and father of Ahab's wife Jezebel (1 Kings 16:31).

**Ethnan** ("gift"), grandson of Ashur through Caleb, son of Hur (1 Chron. 4:7).

**Ethni** ("my gift"), one whom David set over the song service of the temple (1 Chron. 6:41).

**Eubulus** ("of good counsel"), one of the Roman Christians that remained loyal to Paul (2 Tim. 4:21).

**Eunice** ("conquering well"), the pious mother of Timothy (2 Tim. 1:5; cf. Acts 16: 1).

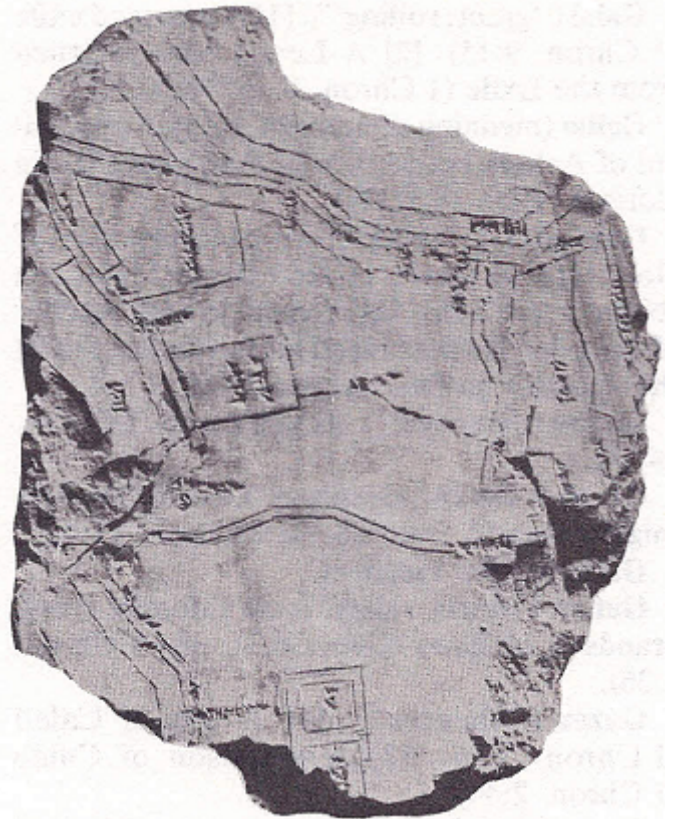
**Euodias** ("fragrant"), a Christian woman at Philippi (PhiI.4:2). The KJV is mistaken at this point, giving a man's name for a woman's. The name should read *Euodia*.

**Eutychus** ("fortunate"), a young man at Troas whom Paul restored to life (Acts 20:6-12).

**Eve** ("life; life-giving"), the first woman, Adam's wife (Gen. 3:20; 4:1; 2 Chron. 11:3). Evi ("desire"), one of the five kings of Midian slain by Israel (Num. 31:8; Josh. 13:21).

**Evil-merodach** (Babylonian, Arvil-Marduk—"the man of [the god] Marduk"), the king of Babylon who released Jehoiachin from imprisonment. He succeeded his father, Nebuchadnezzar (2 Kings 25:27-30; Jer. 52:31).

**City of Exile.** An ancient clay tablet shows a map of Nippur, a city located along the Chebar River in Babylonia. Ezekiel and the other exiles of Judah were taken to cities like Nippur (Ezek. 1:1-3). However, the exact city where Ezekiel stayed is not known.



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**Ezar.** *See* Ezer [6].

**Ezbai** ("shining; beautiful"), the father of one of David's mighty men (1 Chron. 11:37).

**Ezbon** ("bright"). [1] A son of Gad (Gen. 46:16), called Ozni ("Jehovah hears") in Numbers 26: 16. [2] A descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 7:7).

**Ezekias**, Greek form of Hezekiah (q.v.).

**Ezekiel** ("God strengthens"), a prophet of a priestly family carried captive to Babylon. He prophesied to the exiles in Mesopotamia by the river Chevar, and is the author of the book bearing his name (Ezek. 1:3; 24:24).

**Ezer**, English rendering of two Hebrew names: A. ("help") [1] A son of Ephraim slain by the inhabitants of Gath (1 Chron. 7:21). [2] A priest in Nehemiah's time (Neh. 12:42). [3] A descendant of Judah through Caleb (1 Chron. 4:4); perhaps the same as Ezra [2]. [4] A valiant man who joined David at Ziklag (1 Chron. 12:9). [5] A Levite who assisted in repairing the wall of Jerusalem (Neh. 3: 19). B. ("union"), a son of Seir (Gen. 36:21, 27, 30; 1 Chron. 1:42); he is also called Ezar (1 Chron. 1:38). *See* Abi-ezer; Romanti-ezer.

**Ezra** ("help"). [1] Head of one of the courses of priests that returned from the Exile (Neh. 12: 1). The full form of his name, *Azariah* , occurs in Nehemiah 10:2. [2] A descendant of Judah through Caleb (1 Chron. 4:17). *See* Ezer [3]. [3] A prominent scribe and priest descended from Hilkiah the high priest (Ezra 7:1-12; 10:1; Neh. 8:1-13). *See* Azariah.

**Ezri** ("my help"), one of David's superintendents of farm workers (1 Chron. 27:26).

\* **Article on The Herods can be found under "H".**

End of the E's.

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