

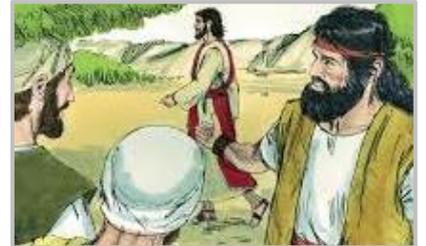
# Adventure Club

A weekly lesson for children, young people, parents and grandparents, from the GCI Watford Church.  
Number 17, 17th July 2020

## Scripture Evidence

Scripture:

'The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."' John 1:29-34, *ESV*



### What Additional Evidence did John the Baptist Hear to Confirm Jesus is the Son of God?

'A voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son".' Matthew 3:17, *ESV*

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Scripture:

Goliath 'was over nine feet tall!' 1 Samuel 17:4, *CEV*



### Is there Evidence Confirming Goliath was a Giant?

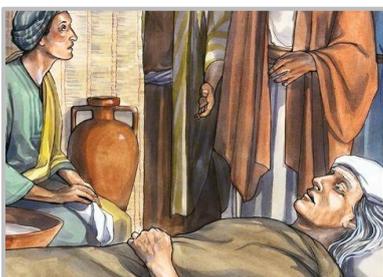
'The Philistine army had a hero named Goliath who was from the town of Gath and was over nine feet tall. He wore a bronze helmet and had bronze armour to protect his chest and legs. The chest armour alone weighed about one hundred twenty-five pounds. He carried a bronze sword strapped on his back, and his spear was so big that the iron spearhead alone weighed more than fifteen pounds. A soldier always walked in front of Goliath to carry his shield.' 1 Samuel 17:4-7, *CEV*

Moses sent twelve men to spy out the Promised Land, on their return ten of them reported: 'The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.' Numbers 13:32-33, *NKJV*

'Joshua came and cut off the Anakim from the mountains: from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their cities. None of the Anakim were left in the land of the children of Israel; they remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod.' Joshua 11:21-22, *NKJV*

Joshua destroyed many of the giants, however, some descendants of Anak were still living in Gath, this fact gives extra credibility to the David and Goliath story.

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Scripture:

'When Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever.' Matthew 8:14, *NKJV*

### What Evidence Confirms Peter had a Wife?

'Do we not have the right to bring a believing wife with us when we travel? The other apostles, the Lord's brothers, and Peter all do this.' 1 Corinthians 9:5, *ICB*

Scripture:

'The whole land of Israel had no blacksmith. This is because the Philistines had said, "The Hebrews might make swords and spears." So all the Israelites went down to the Philistines. They went to have their plows, hoes, axes and sickles sharpened.' 1 Samuel 13:19-20, *ICB*

### Is there Evidence the Israelites once had no Blacksmiths?

'No one could find a shield or a spear among the 40,000 men of Israel.' Judges 5:8, *ICB*. Also, David fought Goliath with a sling (1 Samuel 17:49), Samson fought the Philistines with a jawbone of a donkey (Judges 15:15) and Shamgar fought the Philistines with an oxgoad (Judges 3:31).

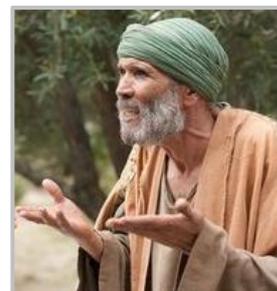


Scripture:

'Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?"' John 6:5, *NKJV*

### What Evidence Indicates Why Jesus asked Philip about Where to Buy Bread?

Luke tells us the feeding of the '5,000' took place near Bethsaida: 'Jesus took them away to a town called Bethsaida. There, Jesus and his apostles could be alone together. But the people learned where Jesus went and followed him. . . . Late in the afternoon, the 12 apostles came to Jesus and said, "No one lives in this place. Send the people away. They need to find food and places to sleep in the towns and countryside around here." ' Luke 9:10-12, *ICB*



'Philip was from the town of Bethsaida.' John 1:44, *ICB*. Consequently, it made sense to ask him where people could find food and accommodation. (Picture shows an actor playing Philip.)

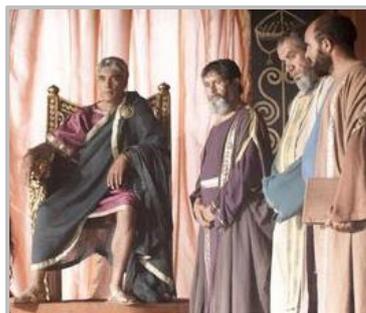
Scripture:

'Jesus and his followers were in a very busy place. There were so many people that he and his followers did not even have time to eat. . . . "We have five loaves of bread and two fish." Then Jesus said to them, "Tell everyone to sit in groups on the green grass." ' Mark 6:31, 38-39, *ERV*

### Is there Evidence which Reinforces 'Green' Grass?

'The Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. . . . Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.' John 6:4, 10, *NKJV*

The miracle of feeding the 'five thousand' took place just before the Passover of the Jews, that's why it was very busy and there were many people. The Passover of the Jews is in the Spring, when, after the winter rains, much grass would very likely be 'green'. (The picture shows *Tabgha*, the traditional site of the feeding of the 5,000. The Sea of Galilee is in the distance.)



Scripture:

Herod said to his servants: 'who is this man I'm hearing so much about?' Luke 9:9, *ISV*

### What Evidence Explains Herod Hearing about Jesus?

'The twelve were with Him, and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities — Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons, and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward.' Luke 8:1-3, *NKJV*

'There were in the Church at Antioch both prophets and teachers — Barnabas, for example, Simeon surnamed Niger Lucius the Cyrenian, Manaen the foster-brother of the governor Herod.' Acts 13:1, *Phillips*. (Other translations say Manaen and Herod had been brought up together.)

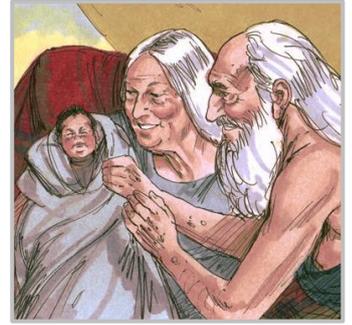
As well as others, Herod undoubtedly heard about Jesus from Chuza and Manaen.

Scripture:

'Abraham was a one hundred years old when his son Isaac was born?' Genesis 21:5, NKJV

## What Evidence Indicates Abraham was Old when Isaac was Born?

'Abraham and Sarah were old by this time, very old. Sarah was far past the age for having babies. Sarah laughed within herself, "An old woman like me? Get pregnant? With this old man of a husband?" ' Genesis 18:12, Message



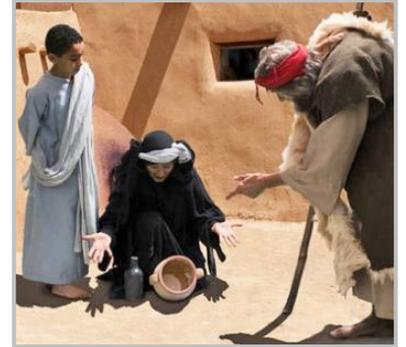
Later Isaac marries Rebekah, she 'was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milkah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor. Genesis 24:15, NIV

The fact that Rebekah was the granddaughter of Abraham's brother indicates Abraham and Sarah were elderly.



Scripture:

'The brook dried up because there was no rain. Then the Lord spoke his word to Elijah, "Go to Zarephath in Sidon. Live there. I have commanded a widow there to take care of you." So Elijah went to Zarephath. When he reached the town gate, he saw a widow there. She was gathering wood for a fire. Elijah asked her, "Would you bring me a little water in a cup? I would like to have a drink." As she was going to get his water, Elijah said, "Please bring me a piece of bread, too." The woman answered, "As surely as the Lord your God lives, I tell you the truth. I have no bread. I have only a handful of flour in a jar. And I have only a little olive oil in a jug. I came here to gather some wood. I will take it home and cook our last meal. My son and I will eat it and then die from hunger." ' 1 Kings 17:7-12, ICB



## Is there Evidence Supporting Olive Oil in Zarephath during a Famine?

'The land was given to the tribe of Asher. . . . It continued to Greater Sidon.' Joshua 19:24, 28, ICB

'The LORD's greatest blessing is for you, tribe of Asher. . . . You will be rich with olive oil.' Deuteronomy 33:24, CEV

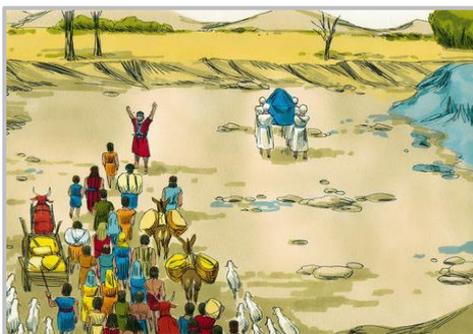
These scriptures show that Zarephath in Sidon was in a good olive tree growing area belonging to the tribe of Asher.

Scripture:

'During harvest the Jordan is flooded. So the river was at its fullest. The priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant came to the edge of the river. And they stepped into the water. Just at that moment, the water stopped flowing.'

Joshua 3:15-16, ICB

## What Evidence Confirms it was 'Harvest' time when the Israelites Crossed the River Jordan?



'The people crossed the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month.' Joshua 4:19. ICB

Because we have the exact date and are told that the Jordan was 'at its fullest' (because of the winter snow melting) we know that this was the time of year that the barley was ready for harvest (not the wheat harvest which came later).



Also we learn from Exodus 9:31 that barley and flax ripen at the same time.

Joshua mentions Rahab hiding two Israelite spies just before the crossing of the river Jordan. 'The woman had taken the men up to the roof. She had hidden them there under stalks of flax.' Joshua 2:6, ICB

The fact that Rahab hid two spies under flax, which ripens at the same time of barley, verifies it was harvest time when the Israelites crossed the Jordan river.

Scripture:

'David left Adullam Cave and went to the town of Mizpeh in Moab, where he talked with the king of Moab. "Please," David said, "let my father and mother stay with you until I find out what God will do with me." So he brought his parents to the king of Moab, and they stayed with him while David was in hiding.' 1 Samuel 22:3-4, CEV



## What Evidence Supports David's Decision to Trust the King of Moab to Care for his Parents?

The book of Ruth tells us that the grandmother of David's father Jesse was Ruth, who was a Moabitess. The map shows Ruth's journey from Moab to Bethlehem.

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Scripture:

'My brothers, I am a Pharisee, descended from Pharisees.' Acts 23:6, NIV



## What Evidence Reinforces Paul saying he was a Pharisee?

Paul calling himself a Pharisee is perhaps surprising considering John the Baptist called the Pharisees and Sadducees a 'brood of vipers!' Matthew 3:7, NKJV. Also, it is well known that Jesus denounced them for their self-righteousness, hypocrisy and



their inattention to the weightier matters of the law, while being very particular as to minute points. Jesus said they were 'blind leaders of the blind' Matthew 15:14. In the Gospels hostility from the Pharisees can be seen in such scriptures as John 11:57 and John 18:3. However, in the book of Acts it is the hostility from the Sadducees, not the Pharisees, that can be seen in such scriptures as Acts 4:1 and Acts 5:17. The Pharisees believed in resurrection, whereas before Christ's resurrection the disciples scarcely knew what resurrection meant (Mark 9:10). Of course, after Christ's resurrection, the resurrection from the dead became a vital Christian belief. Paul capitalises on the Pharisee's resurrection belief while in a Jerusalem court. On this subject he agreed with them.

' "I am on trial here because I believe that people will rise from the dead." When Paul said this, there was an argument between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the group was divided. (The Sadducees do not believe in angels or spirits or that people will rise from the dead. But the Pharisees believe in them all.) So there was a great uproar. Some of the teachers of the law, who were Pharisees, stood up and argued, "We find nothing wrong with this man".' Acts 23:6-9, NCV

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Scripture:

'Barnabas wanted to bring John Mark with them too. But on their first trip John Mark did not continue with them in the work. He had left them at Pamphylia. So Paul did not think it was a good idea to take him this time. Paul and Barnabas had a big argument about this. It was so bad that they separated and went different ways. Barnabas sailed to Cyprus and took Mark with him.' Acts 15:37-39, ERV



## What Evidence Strengthens Barnabas's decision to take Mark to Cyprus?

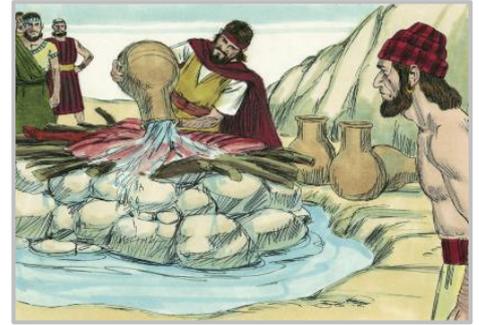
Barnabas was a Cypriot. Acts 4:36 tells us: 'The apostles called him Barnabas, a name that means "one who encourages others." He was a Levite born in Cyprus.' ERV.



This helps explain why Barnabas was sent from Jerusalem to Antioch where there were some Christians from Cyprus. Acts 11:19-22. Barnabas had experience of Mark coming on an earlier trip to Cyprus (Acts 13:4-5) so was comfortable with him coming again. In addition, Barnabas had family loyalties to Mark because he was 'the cousin of Barnabas' Colossians 4:10, ESV.

Scripture:

'The drought in Samaria at the time was most severe. . . . Ahab went out to meet Elijah. The moment Ahab saw Elijah he said, "So it's you, old troublemaker!" "It's not I who has caused trouble in Israel," said Elijah, "but you and your government — you've dumped GOD's ways and commands and run off after the local gods, the Baals. Here's what I want you to do: Assemble everyone in Israel at Mount Carmel. . . . Elijah dug a fairly wide trench around the altar. He laid firewood on the altar, cut up the ox, put it on the wood, and said, "Fill four buckets with water and drench both the ox and the firewood." Then he said, "Do it again," and they did it. Then he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time. The altar was drenched and the trench was filled with water.' 1 Kings 18:2, 16-18, 32-33, *Message*



### What Evidence Explains much Water during a Drought?

Mount Carmel is on the coast, so it's highly probably that sea-water was used.

See if you can memorize some, or all, of these words:

'A voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased".' Matthew 3:17, *NKJV*

### Word Search

- JOHN                ELIJAH
- GOLIATH        RAHAB
- ANAK             AHAB
- DAVID            RUTH
- SAMSON         PETER
- SHAMGAR       PAUL
- PHILIP          BARNABAS
- HEROD          MARK
- JOANNA         JOSHUA
- CHUZA          REBEKAH
- MANAEN        NAHOR
- ABRAHAM       MOSES
- SARAH          MARY
- ISAAC            JESSE

D	A	V	I	P	E	E	T	E	R	U	T	T	H
B	P	H	G	O	L	I	A	T	H	C	H	U	Z
A	I	D	A	I	V	I	Z	B	A	L	D	A	V
R	L	A	J	K	N	D	U	K	R	U	R	B	D
N	I	A	V	H	E	V	H	A	A	A	O	A	A
A	H	D	O	D	I	B	C	N	S	P	H	H	V
P	P	J	I	S	S	A	E	A	H	M	A	A	I
A	V	O	E	D	A	V	I	R	A	D	N	R	M
S	I	S	D	S	M	B	A	N	M	A	I	A	A
M	O	H	I	V	S	V	A	D	G	B	R	V	N
M	D	U	M	O	O	E	S	N	A	Y	D	A	E
Q	X	A	Z	H	N	D	X	H	R	V	Q	D	A
S	R	A	V	Z	T	Z	A	N	N	A	O	J	M
K	V	A	D	I	Q	U	P	D	A	X	B	A	O
R	E	T	E	P	D	O	R	E	H	E	P	E	S

**Abbreviations** for Bible translations used are explained thus: *CEB*: Common English Bible. *CEV*: Contemporary English Version. *ERV*: Easy-to-Read Version. *ESV*: English Standard Version. *ICB*: International Children's Bible. *ISV*: International Standard Version. *Message*: The Message. *NCV*: New Century Version. *NIV*: New International Version. *NKJV*: New King James Bible. *TLB*: The Living Bible.

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For more information on the contents of this lesson please refer to J.J. Blunt's *Undesigned Scriptural Coincidences* by Eric Lounsbery and *Hidden in Plain View* by Lydia McGrew.

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Any questions, etc, please contact the UK GCI Watford Church Council  
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