## ~ELYMAS (58) (El'ie-mas) [Sorcerer]

- The professional name or title of a certain man, a sorcerer, a false prophet, named Bar-Jesus, a Jew who lived on the island of Cyprus in the First Century C.E.
- When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they met up with a certain man, a sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew whose name was Bar-Jesus. (Acts of Apostles 13:6)
- And he was with the proconsul Sergius Paulus, an intelligent man. Calling Barnabas and Saul to him, this man earnestly sought to hear the word of God. (Acts of Apostles 13:7)
- But Elymas the sorcerer that, in fact, is the way his name is translated began opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. (Acts of Apostles 13:8)
- When Luke says sorcerer, is the way his name is translated, the reference is to the assumed name Elymas, not Bar-Jesus. It was not uncommon for Jews of the time to indulge in magical arts and sorcery, nor, when living in Greek society, to assume a Greek name.
- Now in the city there was a certain man named Simon, who, prior to this, had been practicing magical arts and amazing the nation of Samaria, saying he himself was somebody great. (Acts of Apostles 8:9)
- And all of them, from the least to the greatest, would pay attention to him and say; This man is the Power of God, which can be called Great. (Acts of Apostles 8:10)
- So they would pay attention to him because of his having amazed them for quite a while by his magical arts. (Acts of Apostles 8:11)
- This became known to all, both the Jews and the Greeks that dwelt in Ephesus, and a fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus went on being magnified. (Acts of Apostles 19:17)
- And many of those who had become believers would come and confess and report their practices openly. (Acts of Apostles

## 19:18)

Indeed, quite a number of those who practiced magical arts brought their books together and burned them up before everybody. And they calculated together the prices of them and found them worth fifty thousand pieces of silver. (Acts of Apostles 19:19)

**See Also BAR-JESUS**