

~JUDEA (968)

(Ju-de'a) [from Hebrew, Of, or Belonging to, Judah]

- The exact boundaries of this region of Palestine are uncertain. Seemingly Judea embraced an area of approximately 80 kilometers (50 miles) from east to west and about 50 kilometers (30 miles) from north to south.
- Samaria lay to the north and Idumea to the south. The Dead Sea and the Jordan Valley formed the eastern boundary. However, when Idumean territory was included in Judea, the southern boundary appears to have extended from below Gaza in the west to Masada in the east.
- Now when Jesus had finished these words, he departed from Galilee and came to the frontiers of Judea across the Jordan. (**Matthew 19:1**)
- The reference to Jesus leaving Galilee and coming to the frontiers of Judea across the Jordan may mean that Jesus departed from Galilee, crossed the Jordan, and entered Judea by way of Perea.
- Herod the Great was the king of **Judea** at the time John the Baptizer and Jesus were born.
- In the days of Herod, king of **Judea**, there happened to be a certain priest named Zechariah of the division of Abijah, and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. (**Luke 1:5**)
- Earlier, Herod had been constituted king of **Judea** by the Roman senate. His dominions were later increased and at the time of his death included **Judea**, Galilee, Samaria, Idumea, Perea, and other regions. Herod the Great's son Archelaus inherited the rulership over **Judea**, Samaria, and Idumea.
- But hearing that Archelaus ruled as king of **Judea** instead of his father Herod, he became afraid to depart for there. Moreover, being given divine warning in a dream, he withdrew into the territory of Galilee. (**Matthew 2:22**)
- And came and dwelt in a city named Nazareth, that there might

be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets; He will be called a Nazarene. ([Matthew 2:23](#))

- But subsequent to his banishment Judea came under the administration of Roman governor's having their official residence at Caesarea. With the exception of the brief reign of Herod Agrippa I as king over Palestine.
- About that particular time Herod the king applied his hands to mistreating some of those of the congregation. ([Acts of Apostles 12:1](#))
- Governor's administered the affairs of Judea until the Jewish revolt in [66 C.E.](#)
- Toward the close of the [First Century B.C.E](#), in fulfillment of prophecy, the promised Messiah, Jesus, was born at Bethlehem in [Judea](#).
- At hearing this King Herod was agitated, and all Jerusalem along with him. ([Matthew 2:3](#))
- And on gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people he began to inquire of them where the Christ was to be born. ([Matthew 2:4](#))
- They said to him; In Bethlehem of [Judea](#). For this is how it has been written through the prophet. ([Matthew 2:5](#))
- And you, O Bethlehem of the land of Judah, are by no means the most insignificant city among the governor's of Judah, for out of you will come forth a governing one, who will shepherd my people, Israel. ([Matthew 2:6](#))
- But the angel said to them; Have no fear, for, look! I am declaring to you Good News of a great joy that all the people will have. ([Luke 2:10](#))
- Because there was born to you today a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, in David's city. ([Luke 2:11](#))
- After the visit of some Oriental astrologers, Jesus adoptive father Joseph, having been alerted by an angel in a dream concerning Herod the Great's intent to destroy the child, fled with his family to Egypt.

- **Following Herod's death Joseph did not return to **Judea** but settled at Nazareth in Galilee. This was because Herod's son Archelaus then ruled over **Judea** and also on account of the divine warning given to Joseph in a dream.**
- **Then Herod secretly summoned the astrologers and carefully ascertained from them the time of the stars appearing. (**Matthew 2:7**)**
- **And, when sending them to Bethlehem, he said; Go make a careful search for the young child, and when you have found it report back to me, that I too may go and do it obeisance. (**Matthew 2:8**)**
- **When they had heard the king, they went their way, and, look! the star they had seen when they were in the east went ahead of them, until it came to a stop above where the young child was. (**Matthew 2:9**)**
- **On seeing the star they rejoiced very much indeed. (**Matthew 2:10**)**
- **And when they went into the house they saw the young child with Mary its mother, and, falling down, they did obeisance to it. They also opened their treasures and presented it with gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. (**Matthew 2:11**)**
- **However, because they were given divine warning in a dream not to return to Herod, they withdrew to their country by another way. (**Matthew 2:12**)**
- **After they had withdrawn, look! Yehowah's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph, saying; Get up, take the young child and its mother and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I give you word, for Herod is about to search for the young child to destroy it. (**Matthew 2:13**)**
- **So he got up and took along the young child and its mother by night and withdrew into Egypt. (**Matthew 2:14**)**
- **And he stayed there until the decease of Herod, for that to be fulfilled which was spoken by Yehowah through his prophet, saying; Out of Egypt I called my son. (**Matthew 2:15**)**

- Then Herod, seeing he had been outwitted by the astrologers, fell into a great rage, and he sent out and had all the boys in Bethlehem and in all its districts done away with, from two years of age and under, according to the time that he had carefully ascertained from the astrologers. (**Matthew 2:16**)
- Then that was fulfilled which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet, saying; (**Matthew 2:17**)
- A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and much wailing, it was Rachel weeping for her children, and she was unwilling to take comfort, because they are no more. (**Matthew 2:18**)
- When Herod had deceased, look! Yehowah's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. (**Matthew 2:19**)
- And said; Get up, take the young child and its mother and be on your way into the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the soul of the young child are dead. (**Matthew 2:20**)
- So he got up and took the young child and its mother and entered into the land of Israel. (**Matthew 2:21**)
- But hearing that Archelaus ruled as king of Judea instead of his father Herod, he became afraid to depart for there. Moreover, being given divine warning in a dream, he withdrew into the territory of Galilee. (**Matthew 2:22**)
- And came and dwelt in a city named Nazareth, that there might be fulfilled what was spoken through the prophets; He will be called a Nazarene. (**Matthew 2:23**)
- In the spring of **29 C.E.**, when John the Baptizer began his work in preparation for Messiah's coming, **Judea** was under the jurisdiction of Roman Governor Pontius Pilate.
- Many, including **Judeans**, heard John's preaching in the Wilderness of **Judea** and were baptized in symbol of repentance.
- In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of **Judea**. (**Matthew 3:1**)
- Saying; Repent, for the kingdom of the heavens has drawn near.

(Matthew 3:2)

- **This, in fact, is the one spoken of through Isaiah the prophet in these words; Listen! Someone is crying out in the wilderness, Prepare the way of Yehowah, you people! Make his roads straight. (Matthew 3:3)**
- **But this very John had his clothing of camels hair and a leather girdle around his loins, his food too was insect locusts and wild honey. (Matthew 3:4)**
- **Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the country around the Jordan made their way out to him. (Matthew 3:5)**
- **And people were baptized by him in the Jordan River, openly confessing their sins. (Matthew 3:6)**
- **In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (Luke 3:1)**
- **In the days of chief priest Annas and of Caiaphas, God's declaration came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. (Luke 3:2)**
- **So he came into all the country around the Jordan, preaching baptism in symbol of repentance for forgiveness of sins. (Luke 3:3)**
- **Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet; Listen! Someone is crying out in the wilderness, Prepare the way of Yehowah, you people, make his roads straight. (Luke 3:4)**
- **Every gully must be filled up, and every mountain and hill leveled down, and the curves must become straight ways and the rough places smooth ways. (Luke 3:5)**
- **And all flesh will see the saving means of God. (Luke 3:6)**
- **Therefore he began to say to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to**

you to flee from the coming wrath? (**Luke 3:7**)

- **Therefore produce fruits that befit repentance. And do not start saying within yourselves, As a father we have Abraham. For I say to you that God has power to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. (**Luke 3:8**)**
- **Indeed, the ax is already in position at the root of the trees, every tree, therefore, not producing fine fruit is to be cut down and thrown into the fire. (**Luke 3:9**)**
- **And the crowds would ask him; What, then, shall we do? (**Luke 3:10**)**
- **In reply he would say to them; Let the man that has two undergarments share with the man that has none, and let him that has things to eat do the same. (**Luke 3:11**)**
- **But even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they said to him; Teacher, what shall we do? (**Luke 3:12**)**
- **He said to them; Do not demand anything more than the tax rate. (**Luke 3:13**)**
- **Also, those in military service would ask him; What shall we also do? And he said to them; Do not harass anybody or accuse anybody falsely, but be satisfied with your provisions. (**Luke 3:14**)**
- **Now as the people were in expectation and all were reasoning in their hearts about John; May he perhaps be the Christ? (**Luke 3:15**)**
- **John gave the answer, saying to all; I, for my part, baptize you with water, but the one stronger than I am is coming, the lace of whose sandals I am not fit to untie. He will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and fire. (**Luke 3:16**)**
- **At the time Jesus commenced his ministry less than eight months later, inhabitants of **Judea** were given further opportunity to return to Yehowah with a complete heart. For a time Jesus disciples even immersed more persons than John the Baptizer.**
- **After these things Jesus and his disciples went into Judean**

country, and there he spent some time with them and did baptizing. ([John 3:22](#))

- When, now, the Lord became aware that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John. ([John 4:1](#))
- Although, indeed, Jesus himself did no baptizing but his disciples did. ([John 4:2](#))
- He left **Judea** and departed again for Galilee. ([John 4:3](#))
- After Jesus departed for Galilee great crowds from Jerusalem and **Judea** followed him and thus benefited from his ministry there.
- Consequently great crowds followed him from Galilee and Decapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from the other side of the Jordan. ([Matthew 4:25](#))
- But Jesus with his disciples withdrew to the sea, and a great multitude from Galilee and from Judea followed him. ([Mark 3:7](#))
- And he came down with them and took his station on a level place, and there was a great crowd of his disciples, and a great multitude of people from all of Judea and Jerusalem and the maritime country of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and be healed of their sicknesses. ([Luke 6:17](#))
- Like the Galileans, many of these Judeans doubtless had their initial interest aroused by what they saw Jesus doing in Jerusalem at the festival, Passover, **30 C.E.**
- When, therefore, he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans received him, because they had seen all the things he did in Jerusalem at the festival, for they also had gone to the festival. ([John 4:45](#))
- News of Jesus miracles in Galilee, such as the resurrection of the only son of a widow at Nain, also spread throughout **Judea**.
- Closely following this he traveled to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd were traveling with him. ([Luke 7:11](#))
- As he got near the gate of the city, why, look! There was a dead man being carried out, the only-begotten son of his mother.

Besides, she was a widow. A considerable crowd from the city was also with her. (Luke 7:12)

- And when the Lord caught sight of her, he was moved with pity for her, and he said to her; Stop weeping. (Luke 7:13)
- With that he approached and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still, and he said; Young man, I say to you, Get up! (Luke 7:14)
- And the dead man sat up and started to speak, and he gave him to his mother. (Luke 7:15)
- Now fear seized them all, and they began to glorify God, saying; A great prophet has been raised up among us, and, God has turned his attention to his people. (Luke 7:16)
- And this news concerning him spread out into all Judea and all the surrounding country. (Luke 7:17)
- However, intense opposition came against Jesus from the religious leaders of Judea. These appear to have wielded greater influence over the Judeans than over the Galileans. Already from Passover time of 31 C.E, onward Jesus was no longer safe in Judea.
- After these things there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. (John 5:1)
- So on this account the Jews went persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things during Sabbath. (John 5:16)
- But he answered them; My Father has kept working until now, and I keep working. (John 5:17)
- On this account, indeed, the Jews began seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath but he was also calling God his own Father, making himself equal to God. (John 5:18)
- Now after these things Jesus continued walking about in Galilee, for he did not want to walk about in Judea, because the Jews were seeking to kill him. (John 7:1)

- **Nevertheless, he attended the festivals at Jerusalem and used the opportunity to preach.**
- **But when his brothers had gone up to the festival, then he also went up himself, not openly but as in secret. (John 7:10)**
- **Therefore the Jews began looking for him at the festival and saying; Where is that man? (John 7:11)**
- **And there was a lot of subdued talk about him among the crowds. Some would say; He is a good man. Others would say; He is not, but he misleads the crowd. (John 7:12)**
- **No one, of course, would speak about him publicly because of the fear of the Jews. (John 7:13)**
- **Therefore some of the inhabitants of Jerusalem began to say; This is the man they are seeking to kill, is it not? (John 7:25)**
- **And yet, see! He is speaking in public, and they say nothing to him. The rulers have not come to know for a certainty that this is the Christ, have they? (John 7:26)**
- **The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things about him, and the chief priests and the Pharisees dispatched officers to get hold of him. (John 7:32)**
- **At that time the festival of dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was wintertime. (John 10:22)**
- **And Jesus was walking in the temple in the colonnade of Solomon. (John 10:23)**
- **Therefore the Jews encircled him and began to say to him; How long are you to keep our souls in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us outspokenly. (John 10:24)**
- **Jesus answered them; I told you, and yet you do not believe. The works that I am doing in the name of my Father, these bear witness about me. (John 10:25)**
- **But you do not believe, because you are none of my sheep. (John 10:26)**

- **My sheep listen to my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. (John 10:27)**
- **And I give them everlasting life, and they will by no means ever be destroyed, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. (John 10:28)**
- **What my Father has given me is something greater than all other things, and no one can snatch them out of the hand of the Father. (John 10:29)**
- **I and the Father are one. (John 10:30)**
- **Once more the Jews lifted up stones to stone him. (John 10:31)**
- **Jesus replied to them; I displayed to you many fine works from the Father. For which of those works are you stoning me? (John 10:32)**
- **The Jews answered him; We are stoning you, not for a fine work, but for blasphemy, even because you, although being a man, make yourself a god. (John 10:33)**
- **Jesus answered them; Is it not written in your Law: I said; You are gods? (John 10:34)**
- **If he called gods those against whom the word of God came, and yet the Scripture cannot be nullified. (John 10:35)**
- **Do you say to me whom the Father sanctified and dispatched into the world, You blaspheme, because I said; I am God's Son? (John 10:36)**
- **If I am not doing the works of my Father, do not believe me. (John 10:37)**
- **But if I am doing them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, in order, that you may come to know and may continue knowing that the Father is in union with me and I am in union with the Father. (John 10:38)**
- **Therefore they tried again to seize him, but he got out of their reach. (John 10:39)**

- **It was probably in Judea, after the Festival of Booths in 32 C.E, that Jesus sent out the 70 disciples.**
- **After these things the Lord designated seventy others and sent them forth by twos in advance of him into every city and place to which he himself was going to come. (Luke 10:1)**
- **Then he began to say to them; The harvest, indeed, is great, but the workers are few. Therefore beg the Master of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest. (Luke 10:2)**
- **Go forth. Look! I am sending you forth as lambs in among wolves. (Luke 10:3)**
- **Do not carry a purse, nor a food pouch, nor sandals, and do not embrace anybody in greeting along the road. (Luke 10:4)**
- **Wherever you enter into a house say first; May this house have peace. (Luke 10:5)**
- **And if a friend of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if there is not, it will turn back to you. (Luke 10:6)**
- **So stay in that house, eating and drinking the things they provide, for the worker is worthy of his wages. Do not be transferring from house to house. (Luke 10:7)**
- **Also, wherever you enter into a city and they receive you, eat the things set before you. (Luke 10:8)**
- **And cure the sick ones in it, and go on telling them; The kingdom of God has come near to you. (Luke 10:9)**
- **But wherever you enter into a city and they do not receive you, go out into its broad ways and say. (Luke 10:10)**
- **Even the dust that got stuck to our feet from your city we wipe off against you. Nevertheless, keep this in mind, that the kingdom of God has come near. (Luke 10:11)**
- **I tell you that it will be more endurable for Sodom in that day than for that city. (Luke 10:12)**
- **Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! Because if the**

powerful works that have taken place in you had taken place in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago have repented sitting in sackcloth and ashes. ([Luke 10:13](#))

- Consequently it will be more endurable for Tyre and Sidon in the judgment than for you. ([Luke 10:14](#))
- And you, Capernaum, will you perhaps be exalted to heaven? Down to Hades you will come! ([Luke 10:15](#))
- He that listens to you listens to me too. And he that disregards you disregards me too. Moreover, he that disregards me disregards also him that sent me forth. ([Luke 10:16](#))
- Then the seventy returned with joy, saying; Lord, even the demons are made subject to us by the use of your name. ([Luke 10:17](#))
- At that he said to them; I began to behold Satan already fallen like lightning from heaven. ([Luke 10:18](#))
- Look! I have given you the authority to trample underfoot serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will by any means do you hurt. ([Luke 10:19](#))
- Nevertheless, do not rejoice over this, that the spirits are made subject to you, but rejoice because your names have been inscribed in the heavens. ([Luke 10:20](#))
- In that very hour he became overjoyed in the Holy Spirit and said; I publicly praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have carefully hidden these things from wise and intellectual ones, and have revealed them to babes. Yes, O Father, because to do thus came to be the way approved by you. ([Luke 10:21](#))
- All things have been delivered to me by my Father, and who the Son is no one knows but the Father, and who the Father is, no one knows but the Son, and he to whom the Son is willing to reveal him. ([Luke 10:22](#))
- With that he turned to the disciples by themselves and said; Happy are the eyes that behold the things you are beholding. ([Luke 10:23](#))

- For I say to you, Many prophets and kings desired to see the things you are beholding but did not see them, and to hear the things you are hearing but did not hear them. ([Luke 10:24](#))
- Later, despite previous attempts to stone him, Jesus, on learning that his friend Lazarus had died, decided to go to Judea.
- Jesus subsequent resurrection of Lazarus at Bethany was used by the religious leaders as a further reason to seek his death. Some of them said,
 - Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ([John 11:5](#))
- However, when he heard that he was sick, then he actually remained two days in the place where he was. ([John 11:6](#))
- Then after this he said to the disciples; Let us go into Judea again. ([John 11:7](#))
- The disciples said to him; Rabbi, just lately the Judeans were seeking to stone you, and are you going there again? ([John 11:8](#))
- Therefore many of the Jews that had come to Mary and that beheld what he did put faith in him. ([John 11:45](#))
- But some of them went off to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. ([John 11:46](#))
- Consequently the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Sanhedrin together and began to say; What are we to do, because this man performs many signs? ([John 11:47](#))
- If we let him alone this way, they will all put faith in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation. ([John 11:48](#))
- But a certain one of them, Caiaphas, who was High Priest that year, said to them; You do not know anything at all. ([John 11:49](#))
- And you do not reason out that it is to your benefit for one man to die in behalf of the people and not for the whole nation to be destroyed. ([John 11:50](#))

- This, though, he did not say of his own originality, but because he was High Priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus was destined to die for the nation. (**John 11:51**)
- And not for the nation only, but in order, that the children of God who are scattered about he might also gather together in one. (**John 11:52**)
- Therefore from that day on they took counsel to kill him. (**John 11:53**)
- While the synoptic Gospels deal mainly with Jesus ministry in Galilee, likely because of better response there, Jesus did not neglect **Judea**. Otherwise his enemies could not have stated before Pilate; He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all **Judea**, even starting out from Galilee to here.
- But they began to be insistent, saying; He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all **Judea**, even starting out from Galilee to here. (**Luke 23:5**)
- After the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus, Jerusalem and Judea continued to receive a thorough witness.
- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit arrives upon you, and you will be witnesses of me both in Jerusalem and in all **Judea** and Samaria and to the most distant part of the earth. (**Acts of Apostles 1:8**)
- On the day of **Pentecost, 33 C.E, Judeans** were doubtless among the 3,000 that responded to Peter's preaching and were baptized. Afterward the Christian congregation at Jerusalem continued to enjoy increases. (**Acts of Apostles 2**) But this was not without opposition.
- The next day there took place in Jerusalem the gathering together of their rulers and older men and scribes (**Acts of Apostles 4:5**)
- Also Annas the chief priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander and as many as were of the chief priests kinsfolk. (**Acts of Apostles 4:6**)
- And they stood them in their midst and began to inquire; By

what power or in whose name did you do this? ([Acts of Apostles 4:7](#))

- So they commanded them to go outside the Sanhedrin hall, and they began consulting with one another. ([Acts of Apostles 4:15](#))
- Saying; What shall we do with these men? Because, for a fact, a noteworthy sign has occurred through them, one manifest to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. ([Acts of Apostles 4:16](#))
- Nevertheless, in order, that it may not be spread abroad further among the people, let us tell them with threats not to speak anymore upon the basis of this name to any man at all. ([Acts of Apostles 4:17](#))
- But the High Priest and all those with him, the then existing sect of the Sadducees, rose and became filled with jealousy. ([Acts of Apostles 5:17](#))
- And they laid hands upon the apostles and put them in the public place of custody. ([Acts of Apostles 5:18](#))
- At this they gave heed to him, and they summoned the apostles, flogged them, and ordered them to stop speaking upon the basis of Jesus name, and let them go. ([Acts of Apostles 5:40](#))
- Now Stephen, full of graciousness and power, was performing great portents and signs among the people. ([Acts of Apostles 6:8](#))
- But certain men rose up of those from the so-called Synagogue of the Freedmen, and of the Cyrenians and Alexandrians and of those from Cilicia and Asia, to dispute with Stephen. ([Acts of Apostles 6:9](#))
- And yet they could not hold their own against the wisdom and the spirit with which he was speaking. ([Acts of Apostles 6:10](#))
- Then they secretly induced men to say; We have heard him speaking blasphemous sayings against Moses and God. ([Acts of Apostles 6:11](#))
- And they stirred up the people and the older men and the scribes,

and, coming upon him suddenly, they took him by force and led him to the Sanhedrin. ([Acts of Apostles 6:12](#))

- After the stoning of the Christian Stephen, such bitter persecution came that all except the apostles were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria.
- Saul, for his part, was approving of the murder of him. On that day great persecution arose against the congregation that was in Jerusalem, all except the apostles were scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria. ([Acts of Apostles 8:1](#))
- But, instead of being a hindrance, this scattering resulted in spreading the Christian message, and apparently new congregations were formed in **Judea** and elsewhere.
- However, those who had been scattered went through the land declaring the Good News of the word. ([Acts of Apostles 8:4](#))
- But I was unknown by face to the congregations of Judea that were in union with Christ. ([Galatians 1:22](#))
- Following the conversion of the persecutor Saul of Tarsus, the congregation throughout the whole of Judea and Galilee and Samaria entered into a period of peace, being built up, and as it walked in the fear of Yehowah and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit it kept on multiplying.
- Then, indeed, the congregation throughout the whole of Judea and Galilee and Samaria entered into a period of peace, being built up, and as it walked in the fear of Yehowah and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit it kept on multiplying. ([Acts of Apostles 9:31](#))
- The former persecutor, the apostle Paul himself, preached in Jerusalem and **Judea**.
- But both to those in Damascus first and to those in Jerusalem, and over all the country of **Judea**, and to the nations I went bringing the message that they should repent and turn to God by doing works that befit repentance. ([Acts of Apostles 26:20](#))

- **Through the activities of Paul and others, new congregations of Christians were established, and the apostles and older men of the Jerusalem congregation served as a older men for all of these.**
- **And certain men came down from Judea and began to teach the brothers; Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved. ([Acts of Apostles 15:1](#))**
- **But when there had occurred no little dissension and disputing by Paul and Barnabas with them, they arranged for Paul and Barnabas and some others of them to go up to the apostles and older men in Jerusalem regarding this dispute. ([Acts of Apostles 15:2](#))**
- **Accordingly, after being conducted partway by the congregation, these men continued on their way through both Phoenicia and Samaria, relating in detail the conversion of people of the nations, and they were causing great joy to all the brothers. ([Acts of Apostles 15:3](#))**
- **On arriving in Jerusalem they were kindly received by the congregation and the apostles and the older men, and they recounted the many things God had done by means of them. ([Acts of Apostles 15:4](#))**
- **Yet, some of those of the sect of the Pharisees that had believed rose up from their seats and said; It is necessary to circumcise them and charge them to observe the Law of Moses. ([Acts of Apostles 15:5](#))**
- **And the apostles and the older men gathered together to see about this affair. ([Acts of Apostles 15:6](#))**
- **Now when much disputing had taken place, Peter rose and said to them; Men, brothers, you well know that from early days God made the choice among you that through my mouth people of the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. ([Acts of Apostles 15:7](#))**
- **And God, who knows the heart, bore witness by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us also. ([Acts of Apostles 15:8](#))**
- **And he made no distinction at all between us and them, but purified their hearts by faith. ([Acts of Apostles 15:9](#))**

- **Now, therefore, why are you making a test of God by imposing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our forefathers nor we were capable of bearing? (Acts of Apostles 15:10)**
- **On the contrary, we trust to get saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way as those people also. (Acts of Apostles 15:11)**
- **At that the entire multitude became silent, and they began to listen to Barnabas and Paul relate the many signs and portents that God did through them among the nations. (Acts of Apostles 15:12)**
- **After they quit speaking, James answered, saying; Men, brothers, hear me. (Acts of Apostles 15:13)**
- **Symeon has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name. (Acts of Apostles 15:14)**
- **And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written. (Acts of Apostles 15:15)**
- **After these things I shall return and rebuild the booth of David that is fallen down, and I shall rebuild its ruins and erect it again. (Acts of Apostles 15:16)**
- **In order, that those who remain of the men may earnestly seek Yehowah, together with people of all the nations, people who are called by my name, says Yehowah, who is doing these things. (Acts of Apostles 15:17)**
- **Known from of old. (Acts of Apostles 15:18)**
- **Hence my decision is not to trouble those from the nations who are turning to God. (Acts of Apostles 15:19)**
- **But to write them to abstain from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (Acts of Apostles 15:20)**
- **For from ancient times Moses has had in city after city those who preach him, because he is read aloud in the synagogues on every**

Sabbath. (Acts of Apostles 15:21)

- Then the apostles and the older men together with the whole congregation favored sending chosen men from among them to Antioch along with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers. (Acts of Apostles 15:22)
- And by their hand they wrote; The apostles and the older men, brothers, to those brothers in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the nations. Greetings! (Acts of Apostles 15:23)
- Since we have heard that some from among us have caused you trouble with speeches, trying to subvert your souls, although we did not give them any instructions. (Acts of Apostles 15:24)
- We have come to a unanimous accord and have favored choosing men to send to you together with our loved ones, Barnabas and Paul. (Acts of Apostles 15:25)
- Men that have delivered up their souls for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts of Apostles 15:26)
- We are therefore dispatching Judas and Silas, that they also may report the same things by word. (Acts of Apostles 15:27)
- For the Holy Spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you, except these necessary things. (Acts of Apostles 15:28)
- To keep abstaining from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication. If you carefully keep yourselves from these things, you will prosper. Good health to you! (Acts of Apostles 15:29)
- Accordingly, when these men were let go, they went down to Antioch, and they gathered the multitude together and handed them the letter. (Acts of Apostles 15:30)
- After reading it, they rejoiced over the encouragement. (Acts of Apostles 15:31)
- And Judas and Silas, since they themselves were also prophets, encouraged the brothers with many a discourse and

strengthened them. (**Acts of Apostles 15:32**)

- So, when they had passed some time, they were let go in peace by the brothers to those who had sent them out. (**Acts of Apostles 15:33**)
- Now I exhort you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the spirit, that you exert yourselves with me in prayers to God for me. (**Romans 15:30**)
- That I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea and that my ministry which is for Jerusalem may prove to be acceptable to the holy ones. (**Romans 15:31**)
- So that when I get to you with joy by God's will I shall be refreshed together with you. (**Romans 15:32**)
- Apparently many of the Jewish Christians living in **Judea** were poor. It therefore must have been very encouraging for them to benefit from the voluntary relief measures organized in their behalf by their Christian brothers in other parts of the earth.
- One of them named Agabus rose and proceeded to indicate through the spirit that a great famine was about to come upon the entire inhabited earth, which, for that matter, did take place in the time of Claudius. (**Acts of Apostles 11:28**)
- So those of the disciples determined, each of them according as anyone could afford it, to send a relief ministration to the brothers dwelling in **Judea**. (**Acts of Apostles 11:29**)
- And this they did, dispatching it to the older men by the hand of Barnabas and Saul. (**Acts of Apostles 11:30**)
- But now I am about to journey to Jerusalem to minister to the holy ones. (**Romans 15:25**)
- For those in Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to share up their things by a contribution to the poor of the holy ones in Jerusalem. (**Romans 15:26**)
- True, they have been pleased to do so, and yet they were debtors to them, for if the nations have shared in their spiritual things, they also owe it to minister publicly to these with things for the

fleshly body. (**Romans 15:27**)

- Now concerning the collection that is for the holy ones, just as I gave orders to the congregations of Galatia, do that way also yourselves. (**1 Corinthians 16:1**)
- Every first day of the week let each of you at his own house set something aside in store as he may be prospering, so that when I arrive collections will not take place then. (**1 Corinthians 16:2**)
- But when I get there, whatever men you approve of by letters, these I shall send to carry your kind gift to Jerusalem. (**1 Corinthians 16:3**)
- Therefore I thought it necessary to encourage the brothers to come to you in advance and to get ready in advance your bountiful gift previously promised, that thus this might be ready as a bountiful gift and not as something extorted. (**2 Corinthians 9:5**)
- Let each one do just as he has resolved in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (**2 Corinthians 9:7**)
- As they continued their faithful service the Jewish Christians in Judea suffered much persecution from unbelieving fellow countrymen.
- For you became imitators, brothers, of the congregations of God that are in Judea in union with Christ Jesus, because you also began suffering at the hands of your own countrymen the same things as they also are suffering at the hands of the Jews. (**1 Thessalonians 2:14**)
- Finally, in **66 C.E.**, when the Roman armies under Cestius Gallus withdrew from Jerusalem, these Christians, in obedience to Jesus prophetic words, fled from Jerusalem and **Judea** to the mountains, thereby escaping the terrible destruction visited upon Jerusalem in **70 C.E.**
- Therefore, when you catch sight of the disgusting thing that causes desolation, as spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in a holy place, let the reader use discernment. (**Matthew 24:15**)

- Then let those in Judea begin fleeing to the mountains. (**Matthew 24:16**)
- However, when you catch sight of the disgusting thing that causes desolation standing where it ought not, let the reader use discernment, then let those in **Judea** begin fleeing to the mountains. (**Mark 13:14**)
- Furthermore, when you see Jerusalem surrounded by encamped armies, then know that the desolating of her has drawn near. (**Luke 21:20**)
- Then let those in **Judea** begin fleeing to the mountains, and let those in the midst of her withdraw, and let those in the country places not enter into her. (**Luke 21:21**)