

~PAPHOS (82)
(Pa'phos)

- A city on the West coast of the island of Cyprus. Here Paul, after working his way across the island with Barnabas and John Mark, encountered the sorcerer Bar-Jesus, or Elymas, who opposed their preaching to Sergius Paulus the proconsul.
- For this he was miraculously made temporarily blind by Paul. Witnessing this act, Sergius Paulus was converted to Christianity.
- 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**)
- Saul, who is also Paul, becoming filled with Holy Spirit, looked at him intently. (**Acts of Apostles 13:9**)
- And said; O man full of every sort of fraud and every sort of villainy, you son of the Devil, you enemy of everything righteous, will you not quit distorting the right ways of Yehowah? (**Acts of Apostles 13:10**)
- Well, then, look! Yehowah's hand is upon you, and you will be blind, not seeing the sunlight for a period of time. Instantly a thick mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went around seeking men to lead him by the hand. (**Acts of Apostles 13:11**)
- Then the proconsul, upon seeing what had happened, became a believer, as he was astounded at the teaching of Yehowah. (**Acts of Apostles 13:12**)
- The men, together with Paul, now put out to sea from **Paphos** and arrived at Perga in Pamphylia. But John withdrew from

them and returned to Jerusalem. ([Acts of Apostles 13:13](#))

- Two Cypriot cities have borne the name **Paphos**, **Old Paphos** and **New Paphos**. **New Paphos**, the city referred to in the Acts account, was capital of the senatorial province of Cyprus when Paul visited the island during his first missionary tour.
- This city is thought to be represented by the ruins at the ancient seaport of **Baffo** about 1.5 kilometers (1 miles) South of modern Ktima. The natural harbor there, which served as a naval base during Greek and Roman times, was no doubt the point from which Paul and his companions sailed North-Northwest toward Perga in Asia Minor.
- Moles of the ancient harbor at Baffo still stand, as do the remains of various public and private buildings and a city wall.
- Barnabas and Mark no doubt revisited the site around **49 C.E.**
- Now after some days Paul said to Barnabas; Above all things, let us return and visit the brothers in every one of the cities in which we published the word of Yehowah to see how they are. ([Acts of Apostles 15:36](#))
- For his part, Barnabas was determined to take along also John, who was called Mark. ([Acts of Apostles 15:37](#))
- But Paul did not think it proper to be taking this one along with them, seeing that he had departed from them from Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. ([Acts of Apostles 15:38](#))
- At this there occurred a sharp burst of anger, so that they separated from each other, and Barnabas took Mark along and sailed away to Cyprus. ([Acts of Apostles 15:39](#))