

Lesson 67:

Pronouncing Names in the Bible, including the Twelve Apostles

There are many names in the Bible. The Bible is really our family's scrapbook, showcasing the stories of our ancestors and cousins on the earth. Did you know that we are all descended from Grandpa Adam and Grandma Eve? Our Grandpa Enoch "walked with GOD, and was not, for the LORD took him"! Then, Grandpa Noah is our ancestor who, with his three sons (our Grandpa and two Great Uncles) built the Ark and saved our whole family from the Flood! We have an amazing family – and we are all related!!! We're all cousins!!!!



Luke 3:23-38 traces the geneology of JESUS all the way back through King David, Judah, Abraham, Noah, Adam, and GOD. This passage and many others in the Bible contain Hebrew names that are unfamiliar to many people. So what do you do?

Well, the first thing to do when trying to pronounce these names is to use your phonics rules and sound the names out slowly, one syllable at a time. That is usually “good enough”. However, if you are going to use a name in a sermon or a speech, it is a good idea to look up the name in the Bible Concordance and see how the Hebrew or Greek Dictionary pronounces it. If you are still unsure, you can listen to a recording of someone reading that passage in the Bible, or you could ask a Bible Scholar. Remember that the saints are very forgiving. If, when you arrive in Heaven, you discover that you have been mispronouncing someone’s name incorrectly all your life, I’m sure the person will be very gracious about your error! So, do your best and don’t worry about little mispronunciations. Just keep trying!

PRACTICE:

THE NAMES OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES (See Mark 3:16 and Acts 1:26):

1. Simon Peter
2. Andrew
3. James
4. John
5. Philip
6. Bartholomew



7. Thomas
8. Matthew
9. James, son of Alphaeus (al-FEE-us)
10. Thaddaeus (THAD-ee-us)
11. Simon (the zealot)
12. Matthias (who replaced Judas Iscariot)

THE GENEALOGY OF JESUS (Luke 3:23-38, New Living Translation. When reading this list, don't worry about perfection. Just sound out the names slowly, one syllable at a time. Try your best, but don't worry about messing up. Almost everyone struggles with these names! Also, note that from Noah on, we have the same genealogy as JESUS!):

The Ancestors of Jesus

²³ Jesus was about thirty years old when he began his public ministry.

Jesus was known as the son of Joseph.

Joseph was the son of Heli.

²⁴ Heli was the son of Matthat.

Matthat was the son of Levi.

Levi was the son of Melki.

Melki was the son of Jannai.

Jannai was the son of Joseph.

²⁵ Joseph was the son of

Mattathias.



Mattathias was the son of Amos.
Amos was the son of Nahum.
Nahum was the son of Esli.
Esli was the son of Naggai.
²⁶ Naggai was the son of Maath.
Maath was the son of Mattathias.
Mattathias was the son of Semein.
Semein was the son of Josech.
Josech was the son of Joda.
²⁷ Joda was the son of Joanan.
Joanan was the son of Rhesa.
Rhesa was the son of Zerubbabel.
Zerubbabel was the son of Shealtiel.
Shealtiel was the son of Neri.
²⁸ Neri was the son of Melki.
Melki was the son of Addi.
Addi was the son of Cosam.
Cosam was the son of Elmadam.
Elmadam was the son of Er.
²⁹ Er was the son of Joshua.
Joshua was the son of Eliezer.
Eliezer was the son of Jorim.
Jorim was the son of Matthat.
Matthat was the son of Levi.
³⁰ Levi was the son of Simeon.
Simeon was the son of Judah.
Judah was the son of Joseph.
Joseph was the son of Jonam.
Jonam was the son of Eliakim.
³¹ Eliakim was the son of Melea.
Melea was the son of Menna.

Menna was the son of Mattatha.
Mattatha was the son of Nathan.
Nathan was the son of David.
³² David was the son of Jesse.
Jesse was the son of Obed.
Obed was the son of Boaz.
Boaz was the son of Salmon.^[h]
Salmon was the son of Nahshon.
³³ Nahshon was the son of Amminadab.
Amminadab was the son of Admin.
Admin was the son of Arni.^[i]
Arni was the son of Hezron.
Hezron was the son of Perez.
Perez was the son of Judah.
³⁴ Judah was the son of Jacob.
Jacob was the son of Isaac.
Isaac was the son of Abraham.
Abraham was the son of Terah.
Terah was the son of Nahor.
³⁵ Nahor was the son of Serug.
Serug was the son of Reu.
Reu was the son of Peleg.
Peleg was the son of Eber.
Eber was the son of Shelah.
³⁶ Shelah was the son of Cainan.
Cainan was the son of Arphaxad.
Arphaxad was the son of Shem.
Shem was the son of Noah.
Noah was the son of Lamech.
³⁷ Lamech was the son of Methuselah.
Methuselah was the son of Enoch.

Enoch was the son of Jared.
Jared was the son of Mahalalel.
Mahalalel was the son of Kenan.
³⁸ Kenan was the son of Enosh. [1]
Enosh was the son of Seth.
Seth was the son of Adam.
Adam was the son of God.