

THE Unlikely List

This unique list with names of unlikely individuals from Scripture is a reminder that God chooses ordinary men and women to change the world.

NOAH A simple, faithful man who had never seen the rain or an ark, yet God chose him to save the human race from complete destruction. (Genesis 7)

ABRAHAM One of the three sons of the idolator Terah, Abraham moved to Canaan where God promised he would become the father of a great nation. (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:1-6)

SARAH At the unlikely of ninety, Sarah, Abraham's wife, was given the promise from God that she would become the mother of a great nation. (Genesis 17:17-22; 18:11-15)

JOSEPH This next-to-the-youngest of Jacob's twelve sons secured a place for Jacob's family to find refuge from a famine, ensuring their preservation. (Genesis 45:1-13)

MOSES Moses murdered an Egyptian and fled to the deserts of Midian where he lived in obscurity for forty years until God called him to rescue the Hebrews. (Exodus 2:11-3:22)

JOSHUA AND CALEB Because of their faithfulness, these two Hebrew spies were the only adults of the Exodus generation who entered the Promised Land of Canaan. (Numbers 14:30)

RAHAB This immoral Canaanite woman aided the Israelites in the capture of Jericho and found her way into the Messiah's genealogy as the great grandmother of King David. (Joshua 2; 6:22-25; Ruth 4:18-21; Matthew 1:5)

GIDEON This young son of an Israelite farmer was called by God to deliver Israel from the vast Midianite army with only 300 soldiers. (Judges 6:1-9:6)

DAVID The youngest and therefore least likely of Jesse's eight sons, David was anointed to succeed Saul as king over Israel. (1 Samuel 16:1-13)

ABIGAIL Widow of the worthless Nabal ("fool"), Abigail was a quick-witted woman who prevented a slaughter and became a wife to King David. (1 Samuel 25)

ESTHER The young Jewess living in Persia used her position as a queen to save the Jewish people from annihilation by the scheme of an evil court official. (Esther 1-10)

DANIEL AND HIS THREE FRIENDS These young men stood their ground in Babylon and would not compromise their faith. (Daniel 1,3)

MARY For His entrance into the world in human flesh, God chose an unwed, teenaged girl for a mother - but who was willing to submit her will to God's. (Luke 1:26-38)

JOSEPH For a father, Jesus had an honest, blue-collar carpenter from a backwater region of Israel that was looked down upon by the religious elite. (Matthew 1:18-25)

THE DISCIPLES Jesus chose an unlikely group of twelve disciples to help Him announce the kingdom of God - including fishermen and a tax collector. (Matthews 12:2-4)

A BOY WITH BREAD AND FISH Jesus used the fish and bread belonging to a young boy to prove that God can use anyone and anything to meet needs. (Matthew 14:13-21)

NYMPHA An otherwise unknown servant of Christ who hosted meetings of the church at Laodicea in her home. (Colossians 4:15)

TIMOTHY The product of a mixed Jewish-Greek marriage, the shy, young Timothy became the apostle Paul's most trusted fellow worker and protege. (Acts 16:1-3 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Thessalonians 3:2)