

## Learn names of Biblical figures from great works of art



### ABC Biblical figures in Art

#### *Acknowledgement*

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Front cover: Novgorod, Miracle of St George and the Dragon, c. 15th century  
The State Russian Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia

Back cover: Byzantine, Medallion with Saint John the Baptist from an Icon Frame, c. 1100  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, US

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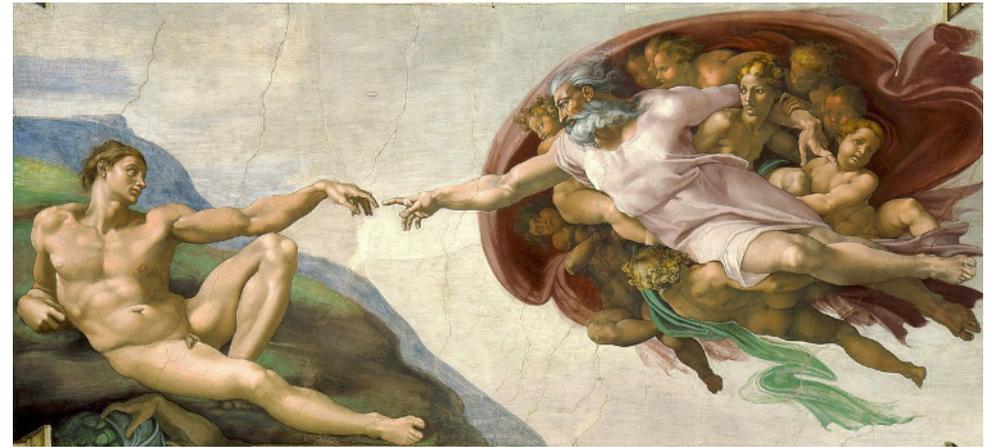
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# ABC Biblical figures in Art

# A is for Adam

Adam was the first man created, who was placed in the Garden of Eden and given the responsibility of naming all of the animals



Michaelangelo (1475-1564)  
The Creation of Adam, c. 1511  
Cistine Chapel, Vatican City

# B is for Belshazzar

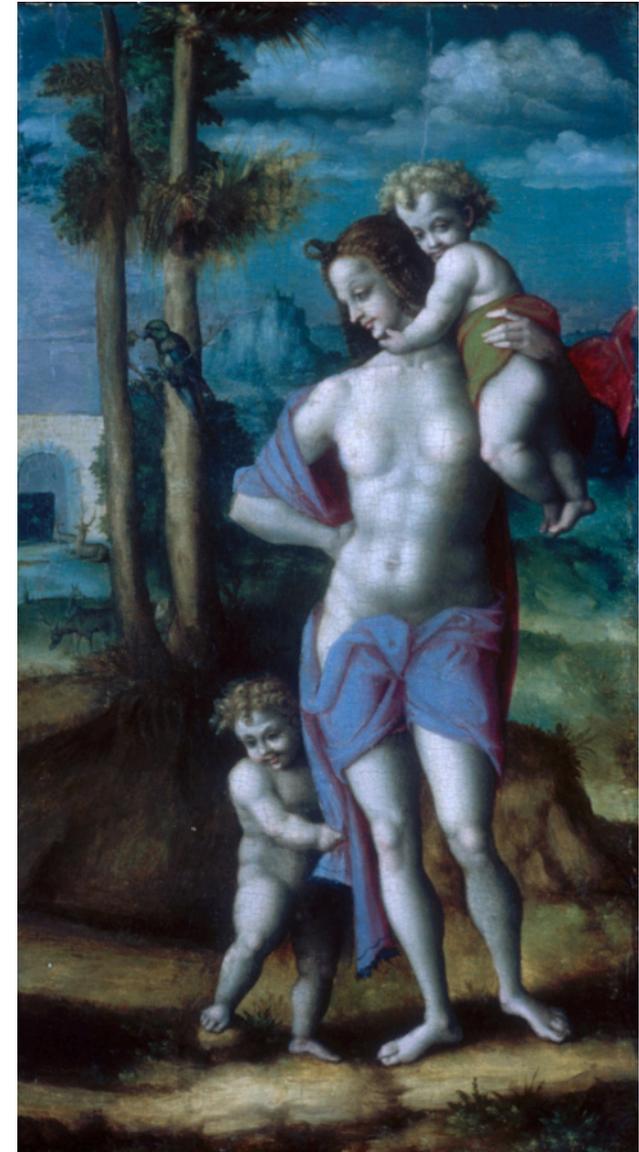
Belshazzar was a Babylonian king who saw a mysterious writing on the wall during a feast, which was interpreted by the prophet Daniel as a sign of his downfall



Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669)  
Belshazzar's Feast, c. 1635-1638  
The National Gallery, London, UK

# C is for Cain

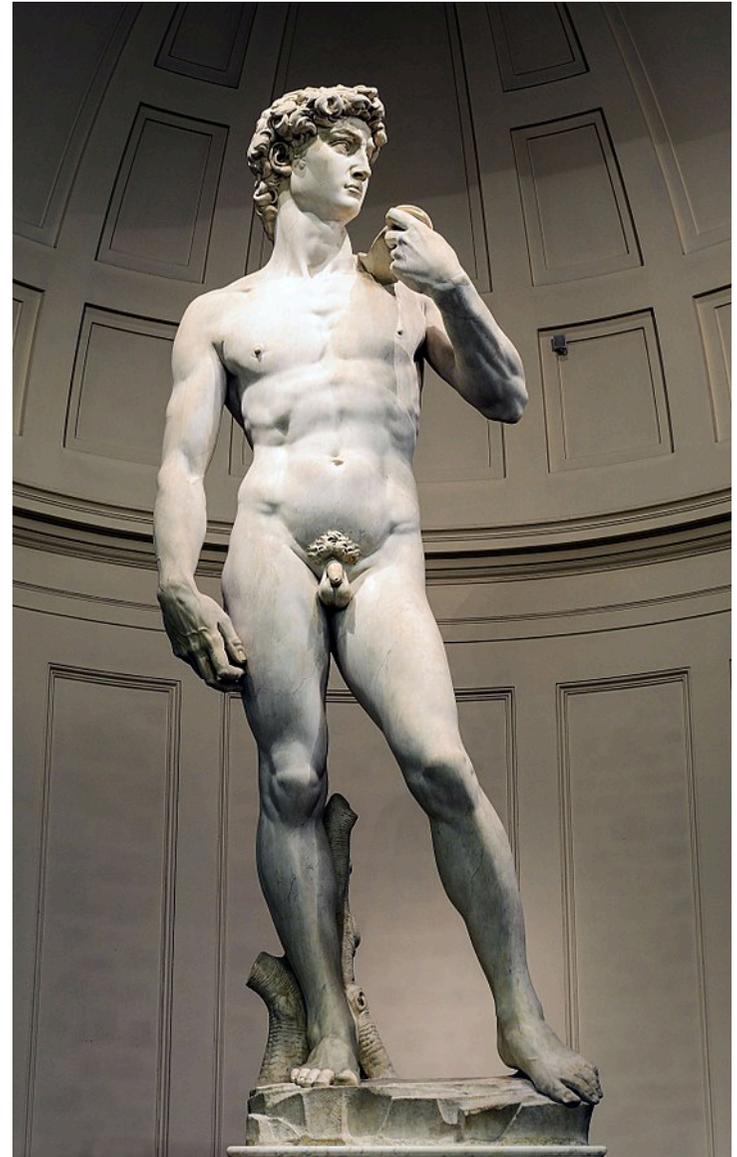
Cain was the firstborn son of Adam and Eve, who became jealous of his younger brother Abel



Francesco Bacchiacca (1494-1557)  
Eve with Cain and Abel, c. 1520  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, US

# D is for David

David was a shepherd boy who became the second king of Israel, known for his bravery and poetry



Michaelangelo (1475-1564)  
David, c. 1501-1504  
Galleria dell'Accademia, Florence, Italy

# E is for Elijah

Elijah was a prophet who confronted the King Ahab and Queen Jezebel of Israel, called down fire from heaven, and was taken up to heaven in a whirlwind



Cretan  
Prophet Elijah in the Desert, c. 16th century  
Monastery of Saint John the Theologian, Patmos, Greece

# F is for Festus

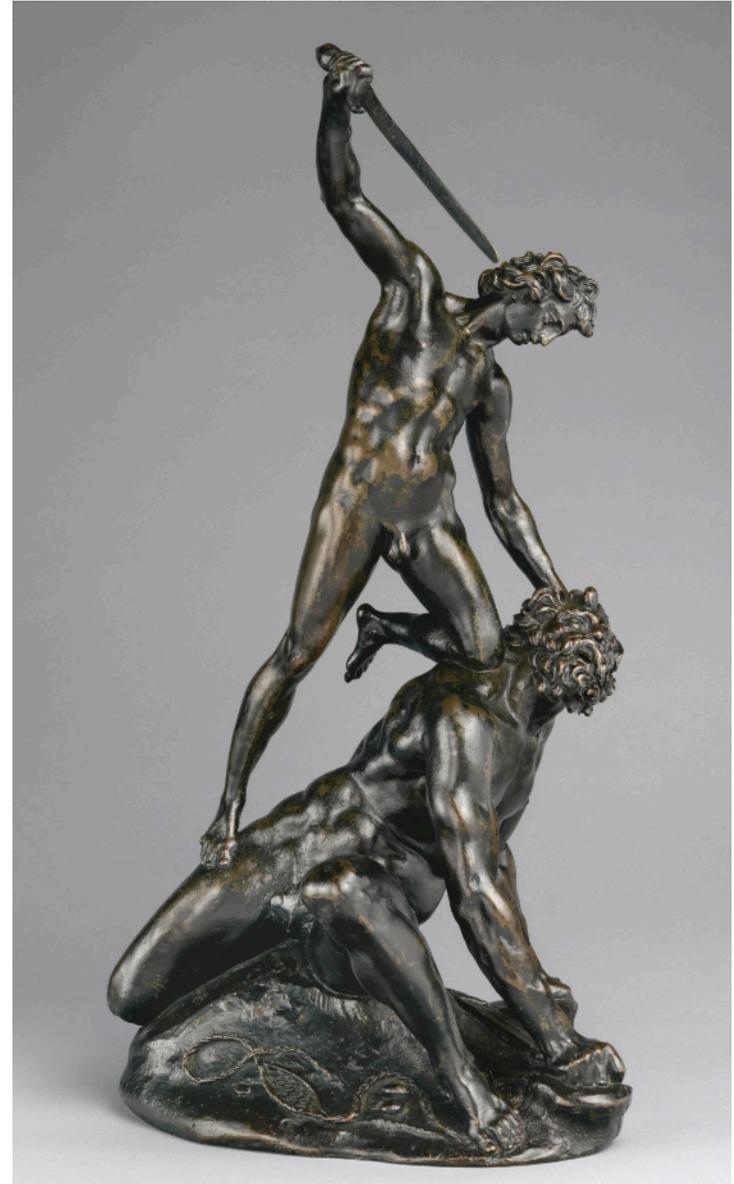
Festus was a Roman governor of Judea who was involved in the trial of the apostle Paul, finding him innocent but he was pressured by the Jewish leaders to send Paul to Rome for trial



Philip Galle (1537-1612)  
Saint Paul before Festus and Agrippa  
The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., US

# G is for Goliath

Goliath was a giant warrior from Gath who was defeated by the young shepherd David



Francesco Fanelli (c. 1590-1653)  
David and Goliath, c. 17th century  
The Metropolitan Museum, New York, US

# H is for Hagar

Hagar was a servant of Sarah, Abraham's wife, who was given to Abraham to bear him a son, Ishmael



Francesco Maffei (1605-1660)  
Hagar and the Angel, c. 1657  
The Metropolitan Museum, New York, US

# I is for Isaac

Isaac was the long-awaited son of Abraham and Sarah, who was nearly sacrificed by his father but was spared



Leonhard Kern (1588-1662)  
Abraham Leads Isaac to the Sacrificial Altar, c. 1615-1620  
Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany

# J is for Jonah

Jonah was a prophet who disobeyed the command to preach to the city of Nineveh and was swallowed by a great fish



Pieter Lastman (1583-1633)  
Jonah and the Whale, c. 1621  
Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany

# K is for King Solomon

King Solomon was the son of David, who was known for his wisdom and for building the Temple in Jerusalem



Master Mateo (1161-?)  
Statue-column of king Salomon, c. 1188  
Santiago de Compostela, Spain

# L is for Lot

Lot was the nephew of Abraham who lived in the city of Sodom and was spared from its destruction



Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528)  
Lot and His Daughters, c. 1496-1499  
The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., US

# M is for Moses

Moses was a prophet and lawgiver of the Israelites, who was chosen to lead his people out of slavery in Egypt and received the Ten Commandments



Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669)  
Moses with the Ten Commandments, 1659  
Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany

# N is for Noah

Noah built an ark to save himself, his family, and the animals from the Great Flood and he became the father of a new generation of humanity



William de Brailes (c. 1230-1260)  
The Animals Enter Noah's Ark c. 1250  
The Walters' Art Museum, Baltimore, US

# O is for Obadiah

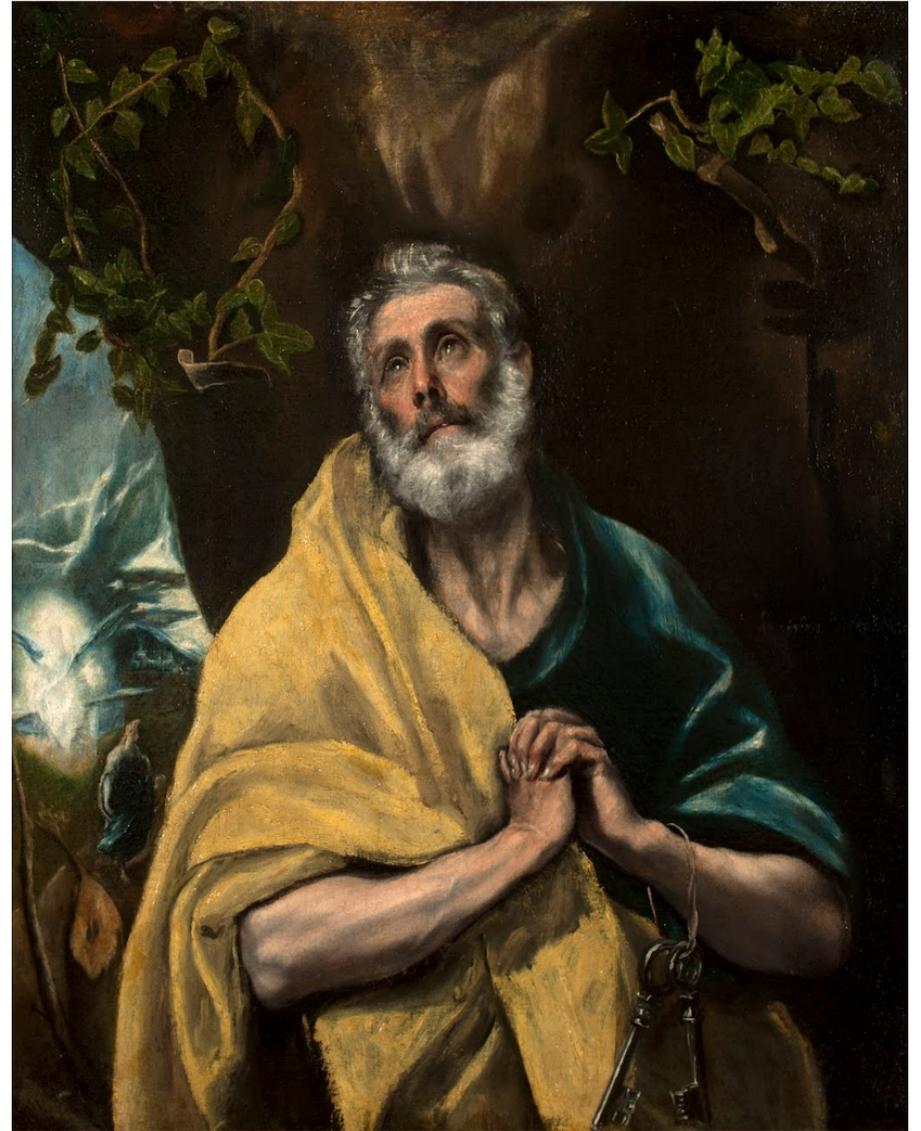
Obadiah is a prophet in the Old Testament who pronounced doom against the nation of Edom for their pride and violence



Germany  
Reliquary Shrine: Achapias (Obadiah), c. 1170-1180  
The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, US

# P is for Peter

Peter was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus, who was a fisherman before becoming a leader in the early Christian church and is known for his denial of Jesus before his crucifixion



El Greco (1541-1614)  
Saint Peter in Tears, c. 1587-1596  
Museo del Greco, Toledo, Spain

# Q is for Queen Sheba

Queen Sheba visited King Solomon to test his wisdom by asking him to solve a number of riddles



Edward Poynter (1836-1919)  
The visit of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon, 1890  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

# R is for Rachel

Rachel was one of the wives of Jacob and the mother of Joseph and Benjamin



William Dyce (1806-1864)  
The meeting of Jacob and Rachel, 1853  
Leicester Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester, UK

# S is for Samson

Samson was a judge of Israel who had incredible physical strength but was later betrayed by Delilah



Israhel van Meckenem (1450-1503)  
Samson Slaying the Lion, c. 1470-1480  
The British Museum, London, UK

# T is for Tobias

Tobias was the son of Tobit who embarked on a journey with the archangel Raphael to retrieve his father's money and cure his blindness



Workshop of Andrea del Verrocchio (1435-1488)  
Tobias and the Angel, c. 1470-1475  
The National Gallery, London, UK

# U is for Uriah

Uriah the Hittite was a loyal soldier and husband to Bathsheba who was betrayed and killed by King David



Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669)  
David and Uriah, c. 1665  
Hermitage, St. Petersburg, Russia

# V is for Virgin Mary

Virgin Mary was the mother of Jesus Christ, who gave birth to him through divine intervention



Jan van Eyck (c. 1390-1441)  
The Ghent Altarpiece: Virgin Mary, 1432  
Saint Bavo's Cathedral, Ghent, Belgium

# W is for Widow of Zarephath

Widow of Zarephath was whom the prophet Elijah stayed  
with during a time of famine



Giovanni Lanfranco (1582-1647)  
Elijah Receiving Bread from the Widow of Zarephath, c. 1621-1624  
The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, US

# X is for Xerxes

Xerxes, also known as Ahasuerus, was a Persian king married to Queen Esther who intervened to save the Jewish people



Giovanni Bonati (1635-1681)  
Esther before Ahasuerus (Xerxes), c. 1650-1675  
Musei Capitolini, Rome, Italy

# Y is for Yael

Yael or Jael was a woman from the Old Testament who killed the Canaanite general Sisera



Jacob Matham after Hendrik Goltzius  
Jael and Sisera, 1588  
The National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., US

# Z is for Zacharias

Zacharias was a priest and the father of John the Baptist  
who was visited by the angel Gabriel



Domingo Ram (1464-1507)  
Panel with the Angel Appearing to Zacharias  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, US