

Mystery Men of the Bible

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Prompter (*Introduces the skit. After it starts, he shouts brief phrases and Echoes repeat them.*)

Echoes (*All others who are present. Repeat, shouting, the brief phrases that Prompter says.*)

Prompter We will visit mystery men of the Bible. You all have a part in this skit. If you received no script, then you are an Echo; just repeat what I say after we start. All of you please guess aloud at any time which mystery man is speaking. If you guess one of the men, then let others guess the rest, unless nobody can. Now we start. Here is our **first mystery man**.

1st man Hello, folks. Guess who I am!

Prompter & Echoes (*Loudly*) Let's hear your story.

(If folks fail to echo this, then shout, "Shout it, Echoes! "Let's hear your story.")

1st man I am also your Holy Land tour guide. We will travel back in time now and meet several other Bible men. You don't know yet who I am.

Prompter & Echoes Please tell us!

1st man My mother was Jewish and my father was a Greek. While serving Jesus I shared many adventures and travels with the Apostle Paul. Paul praised my grandmother Lois and my mom Eunice for their sincere faith.

Prompter & Echoes They were a blessing to everyone!

1st man I served Paul, and passed on to others what he committed to me; they passed it on to still others, sparking a huge chain reaction of new leaders and churches. Paul also sent me two letters

Prompter & Echoes You are Timothy!

1st man Correct, Now come with me. This road leads to older ages.

Prompter & Echoes Fasten your seat belts!

1st man Now we meet our **second mystery man**.

Prompter & Echoes Oh! Look at those gigantic tombs!

1st man Enormous!

1st man Pardon us, sir, can you tell us why you are known?

2nd man I am a son of the patriarch Jacob—or *Israel*, as he later became known.
My father loved me deeply. My brothers envied me e because of that.
I also told my brothers that I dreamt that someday they'd bow down to me!

Prompter & Echoes Quite a dreamer!

1st man Then what happened, sir?

2nd man They spied me coming while tending the flocks, and plotted to murder me. Then they
saw a caravan traveling to Egypt, and sold me to those merchants instead, for 20
pieces of silver.

Prompter & Echoes Poor, miserable slave!

2nd man God intervened, and I rose to be King Pharaoh's administrator.
In that position, I saved my brothers from famine, and provided choice land for them.

Prompter & Echoes You returned good for evil!

2nd man Four centuries later, the children of Israel had become slaves in Egypt.

Prompter & Echoes Ruthlessly treated!

1st man But they multiplied into a large nation, which worried Pharaoh.

Prompter & Echoes They might join his enemies!

2nd man Pharaoh told the midwives to drown all Hebrew boy babies in the Nile River.

Prompter & Echoes Heartless!

2nd man However, God intervened again; baby Moses was spared, and Pharaoh's daughter
adopted him. Years later Moses led his people of Israel through the sea, free from
Egypt's slavery. God based his covenant with Israel on that huge miracle.

Prompter & Echoes Freedom!

1st man Come now, folks, to a later time.

Prompter & Echoes Thank you, Joseph!

1st man Now let us meet our **third mystery man**.

3rd man Hello, strangers! Why have you come to this dusty, desolate wilderness?

1st man Look! There are little white flakes all over on the ground!

3rd man It is manna, and it is good to eat. Try it!

Prompter & Echoes Yum-yum!

1st man Your people seem to be in a hurry. Why the big rush?

3rd man We are fleeing from Egypt's evil king, Pharaoh. My brother is leading us.

Prompter & Echoes A grand exodus!

3rd man Pharaoh enslaves us pitilessly; he compels us to build his cities.
Other pharaohs also had thousands of slaves build their massive tombs.

Prompter & Echoes The great pyramids!

1st man I have read about your sad captivity in the Book of Exodus.

3rd man A book? It must be the log that my brother Moses kept to record God's great works.
With God's amazing help, my brother led us out of Egypt's land of death to freedom.

1st man Didn't you have some awesome adventures while wandering in the wilderness?

3rd man Oh, for sure! We were starving, and God gave us manna. We thirsted, and the Lord
made water flow from a rock. We complained that we had no meat, and he gave us
quail. We kept grumbling, and he let serpents bite us!

Prompter & Echoes Ouch!

3rd man Their painful, scalding venom was unbearable! However, God had Moses make a
fiery serpent of bronze and raise it on a pole; God healed the excruciating venom of
those fatal fangs for all who gazed upon it.

1st man If I recall correctly, your two sons suffered a flaming death.

3rd man That was horrible! God had us build a tabernacle with an inner Holy Place.

As High Priest, I was the only one that God allowed to enter his Presence in it, and
only once a year, with the atoning blood. But my sons, Nadab and Abihu dared enter
it without the blood of the sacrifice.

God's fire consumed them!

Prompter & Echoes How tragic!

1st man We must go now. Thank you, sir. Come, folks, into a later century.

Prompter & Echoes Goodbye, Aaron.

1st man Now we encounter our **fourth mystery man**.

4th man Hi, travelers! You've come to our land at a precarious time. A lamentable cycle keeps repeating itself. We turn from the Lord to idols, and then God sends a pagan nation to invade and punish us; then we repent and God drives out the invaders.

Prompter & Echoes Again and again!

1st man That is a shame! Which of the hostile pagans are threatening you now?

4th man Those cruelly brutal Midianites.

Prompter & Echoes Vicious and ruthless!

4th man The Angel of the Lord appeared to me and told me to drive them out. He gave me signs to show me that he would be with me. One sign was to make a sheep's fleece wet on a dry morning and dry on a wet morning.

Prompter & Echoes How powerful is our God!

4th man I raised a large army, but the Lord told me to pare it down to only 300 men.

Prompter & Echoes Amazing!

4th man I gave each man a trumpet and a clay jar with a burning torch hidden inside of it.

Prompter & Echoes How mysterious!

4th man We encircled the massive Midianite force at night on hillsides. All my soldiers shouted, broke their jars and the torches suddenly appeared. The enemy thought we were an enormous multitude. They panicked and fled.

Prompter & Echoes A stunning victory!

4th man The Israelites came to make me King, but I told them that only the Lord is our ruler.

Prompter & Echoes Christ is King of Kings!

1st man We must go now. Come folks, to a later century.

Prompter & Echoes Goodbye, Gideon!

1st man Now we join our **fifth mystery man**.

5th man Oh! What is that cloud of dust coming this way? And what is that weird noise?

Prompter & Echoes The rumble of chariots!

1st man Look! The leading chariot has hundreds of men running in front of it. Hey! They intend to run right over us!

Prompter & Echoes Watch out!

5th man Whoa, horses! Who are you strangely dressed foreigners who dare trample our royal highway without my imperial permission?

1st man We are visitors from afar, sir. May we ask who you are?

5th man We are the all-powerful and majestic King of Israel! Bow down before me, I say, or my swordsmen will run you through!

Prompter & Echoes Quick! Bow down!

5th man Sir, what are all those shameful lewd statues that line your royal road?

Prompter & Echoes They are idols!

1st man And who are all those gaudily painted men who run in front of your chariot?

5th man They are our prophets of Baal, of course. They feed at my wife Jezebel's table.

1st man But you are king of Israel, whose God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the creator of all humankind!

5th man Watch your insolent tongue! Now get out of my way, you miserable vermin!

1st man Look out!

Prompter & Echoes He will run over us!

5th man I certainly will! We are going to Mount Carmel where our 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah will engage in a contest against the prophet Elijah. That fool dares to defy me!

Prompter & Echoes 850 against one!

5th man Guards, unsheathe your swords! Bathe your blades in these alien's blood!

1st man Let's get out of here!

Prompter & Echoes Hurry!

1st man Run friends! We will enter a later, and safer, time.

Prompter & Echoes Farewell, evil King Ahab!

1st man We now meet our **sixth Mystery man**.

6th man Hello friends! Come join me as we hike along with Paul on another journey.

Prompter & Echoes He is a disciple of Paul!

6th man I first met Paul in Troas, near the ancient, belligerent city of Troy.

1st man What adventures have you had while traveling with Paul?

6th man Many! In Philippi, a demonized slave girl followed us screaming. Her greedy masters profited from her fortune telling. Paul drove the demon out in the name of Christ, and those men were furious. They put Paul and Silas in jail, but I evaded them. A result was that the jailer received Jesus Christ the Son of God.

Prompter & Echoes He and his family!

6th man I sailed with Paul to Rome when a violent storm shipwrecked us. I also authored two books of the New Testament. I was a historian and a physician.

Prompter & Echoes An educated man!

6th man Please excuse me. A patient needs my medical treatment.

1st man We thank you. Let us move into another time, folks!

Prompter & Echoes Goodbye, Dr. Luke!

1st man Now we interview our **seventh mystery man**.

7th man Hail, travelers, what brings you to Rome?

1st man To meet you, I guess. Please tell us who you are.

7th man I am a follower of Jesus of Nazareth; that is who I am. I was a member of the very first church.

Prompter & Echoes The Jerusalem congregation!

7th man I helped care for the poor.

1st man What else are you known for, sir?

7th man I helped suspicious believers to receive Saul. They feared him because he had jailed Christ's followers. He is fervently following the Lord Jesus Christ now, and goes by his Roman name.

Prompter & Echoes The Apostle Paul!

7th man The church sent me to Antioch to evangelize Gentiles. So many came to Christ that I traveled to Tarsus to find Paul and ask him to help us. We soon recognized Paul as an apostle.

1st man You must have had some exciting adventures with him.

7th man Indeed! The Antioch brothers sent us to evangelize non-Jewish nations. We took my young cousin Mark along to help, but he soon turned back.

Prompter & Echoes A deserter!

1st man However, Paul later found Mark useful and asked for him.

7th man In Lystra, the people thought Paul was the god Hermes because he spoke powerfully. They thought I was *Zeus*, or *Jupiter* in Latin, but we refused their gifts.

1st man Didn't you join a momentous council of leaders from many churches in Jerusalem?

7th man Yes. We agreed to receive Gentiles without their having to adopt Jewish customs

Prompter & Echoes That made a lasting difference!

7th man Absolutely! Soon non-Jews outnumbered Jews in the churches.

Prompter & Echoes Praise God for such great salvation!

7th man On another journey, I wanted to take Mark again, but Paul refused. We argued sharply and went our own ways; we formed two missionary teams, doubling our outreach.

1st man We will return home now, folks. This ends our tour.

Prompter & Echoes Goodbye, Barnabas.