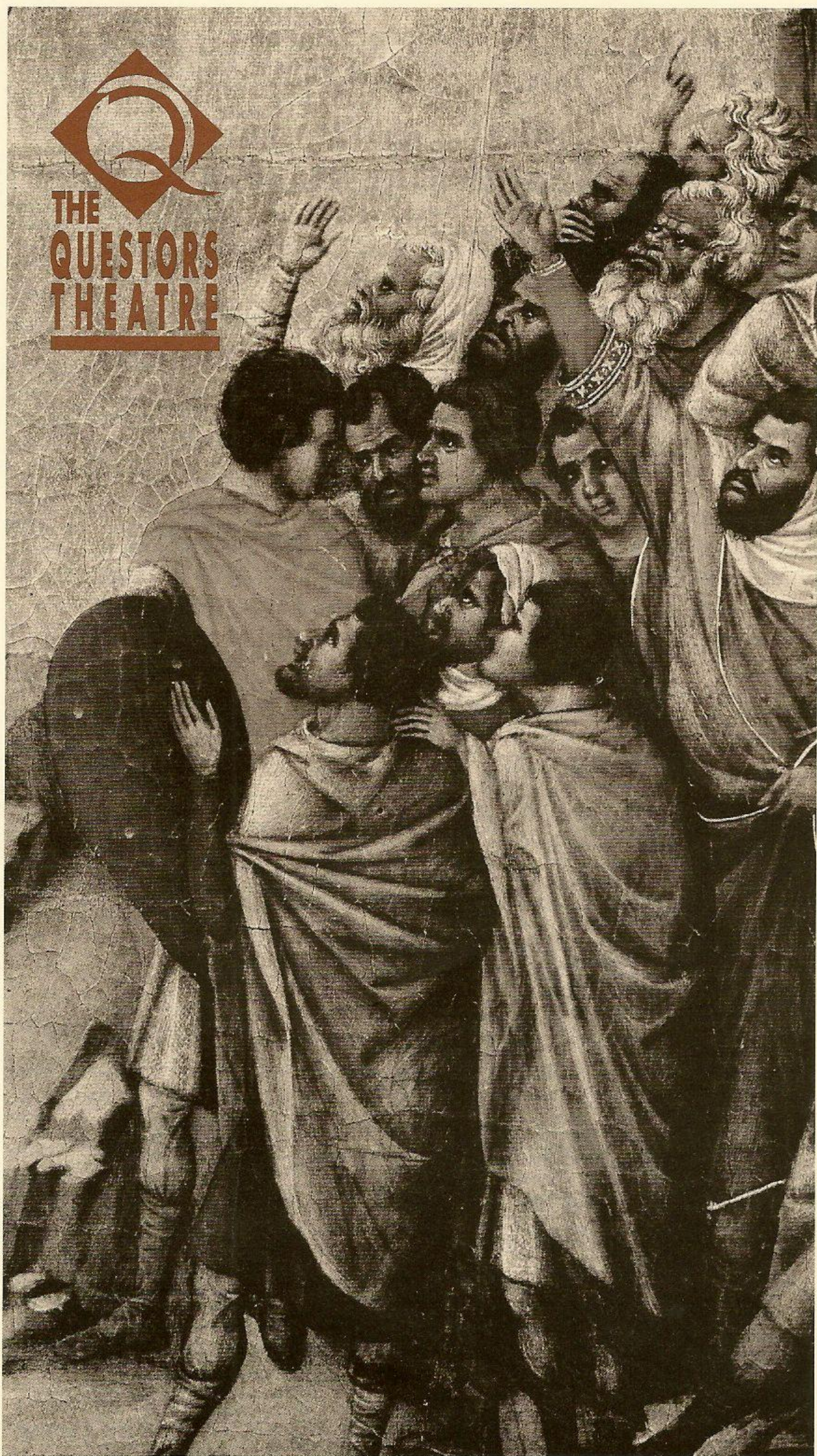


# ALL FOR SEASON 2





## THE BIBLICAL SOURCE

So much of what we understand as the 'bible story' comes from a range of sources and traditions.

For this play, I have returned to four Gospels and The Acts of the Apostles.

This creates some surprises, particularly around the character of Mary Magdalene, about whom very little is written in the Bible.

Although I have taken a few liberties in the interests of dramatic convenience, such as setting the wedding feast in Bethany rather than Cana, most of the scenes have their basis in verses from the New Testament.

The importance of Bethany, as Jesus' base near Jerusalem, is clear from the Gospels. It is also the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus. In John's Gospel in particular, this family plays a crucial role in the story.

In other Gospels, the woman who anoints the feet of Jesus is not named, but John makes it clear that it is Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. And she is clearly a different character from Mary Magdalene.

Luke also sets Bethany as the place of the Ascension. I have taken this prominence to set many scenes in Martha's kitchen.

Most of the principal roles are named after characters in the Bible. I have created two characters who are not in the Bible, Rebecca and Amos, but whose actions were clearly part of the drama.

David Fletcher

# TONGUES OF FIRE

By David Fletcher

First performance of this production Saturday 25th November 2000

## Cast

### In Bethany

Martha  
Mary  
Rebecca  
Mary Magdalene  
Joshua  
Simon  
Sarah  
Rachel  
Ruth  
Judas  
Peter

Alison Pollard  
Sonia Waller  
Carol Fullilove  
Karen Munro  
Ben Williams  
Alex Guilham  
Annalie Ranger  
Jennifer Ranger  
Dorit Pollard Davey  
Jonathan Rose  
Michael Hislop

### In Jerusalem

Caiaphas  
Annas  
Malchus  
Nicodemus  
Amos  
Joseph  
Jessica  
Pilate

Derek Woodward  
Duncan Aldridge  
Keith Parry  
John Martin  
Peter Kennedy  
Tony Plumridge  
Maria Brusa  
Robin Ingram

Other Parts played by members of the Company.

## Production Team

Director  
Musical Director  
Designers  
Lighting Designer  
Sound Designer  
Stage Managers  
Assistant Stage Managers

Prompt  
Properties  
Wardrobe  
Construction  
Lighting Operator  
Sound Operator

Peter Field  
Michael Carver  
Peter Field / Spencer Butler  
Richard Mead  
Colin Horne  
Katy Gallantry / Sylvia Wall  
Jackie Duke, Stephen Spyers-Ashby,  
Kate Wheatcroft, Kate Adamson  
Bridgett Strevens  
Jenny Richardson  
Michelle Collen / Rosie Ivison  
Peter Collins  
Philippa Forster / Andy Macdonald  
Paul Wilson / Louise Sinclair

*Many thanks to:*

Maidenhead Aquatics at Syon Park Garden Centre, John Rolfe, Tina Harris, Chris Sydenham, Janet Egan, Candlemakers' Supplies, Red Cross.

TONGUES OF FIRE



# FORTHCOMING PRODUCTIONS

## QUESTORS CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION

### **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** *From the novel by Kenneth Grahame, adapted for the stage by Alan Bennett*

In the Playhouse 9th December - 6th January

Hang spring -cleaning! Go boating with Mole and ratty. Thrill to Toad's passion for fast travel. Follow Mr. Badger down secret passages. Join the River Bankers in beating the living daylights out of the Wild Wooders in the battle for Toad Hall! Alan Bennett's wonderful adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's classic children's story was first performed at the Royal National Theatre in 1990 where it was a huge hit.

### **A CHRISTMAS TREAT FOR ALL THE FAMILY!**

### **A CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC**

*Presented by the Questors Choir*

In the Playhouse 17th December at 7.30pm

### **CLOSE-UP**

*By Tony Rushforth*

In the Studio, 6th - 20th January

An attractive Anglo-Indian widow comes to live in a West Yorkshire Village and her presence causes divided loyalties within a close-knit community.

CLOSE-UP is a dramatic and moving contemporary love story by the author of THE KERRY DANCE, which played to capacity houses last season.

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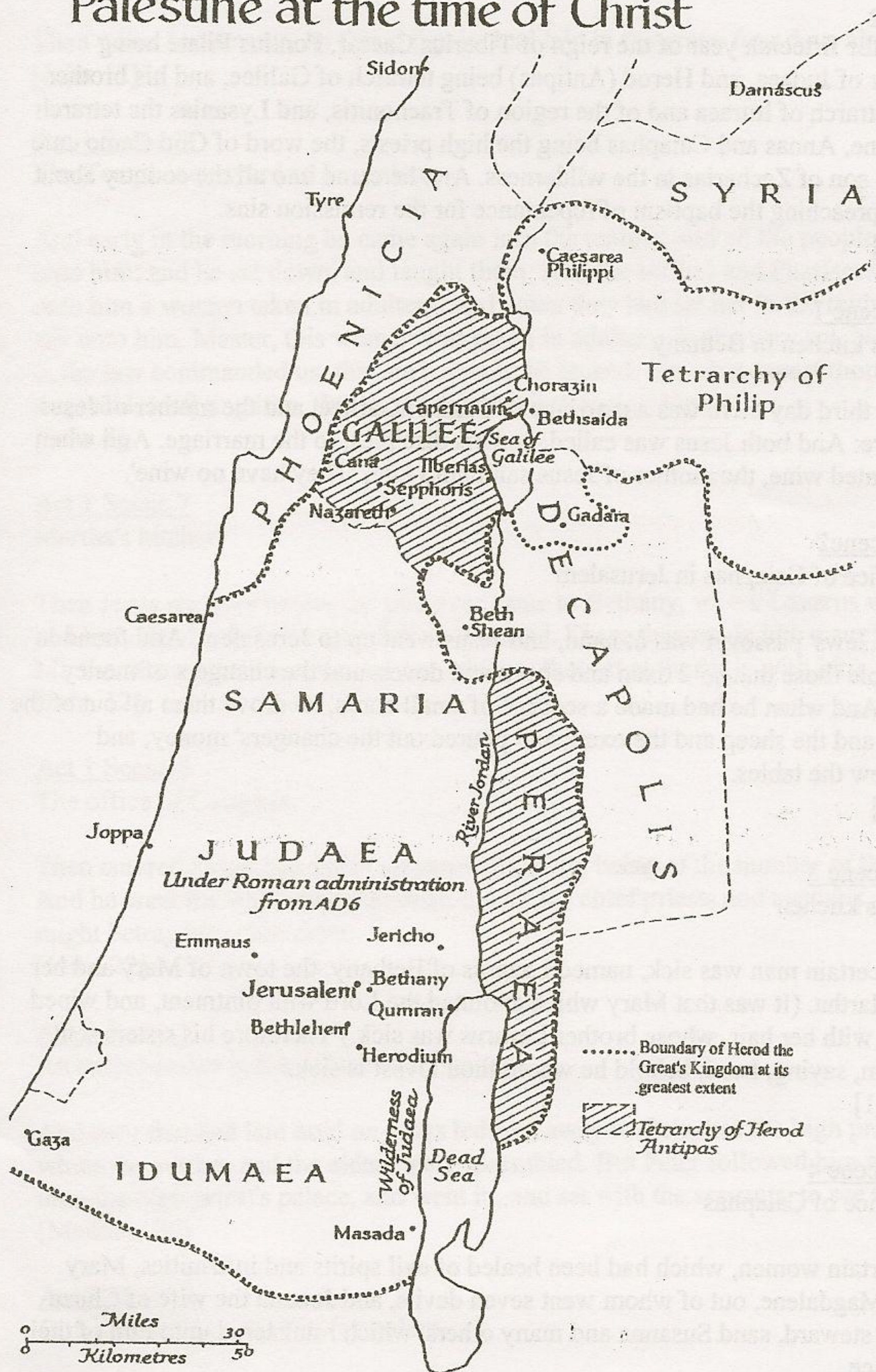
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# Palestine at the time of Christ





## Prologue

Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod (Antipas) being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of Ituraea and of the region of Trachonitis, and Lysanias the tetrarch of Abilene, Annas and Caiaphas being the high priests, the word of God Came unto John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness. And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the baptism of repentance for the remission sins.

[Luke 3]

## Act 1 Scene 1

Martha's kitchen in Bethany

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, 'They have no wine'.

## Act 1 Scene2

The Office of Caiaphas in Jerusalem

And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables.

[John 3]

## Act 1 Scene 3

Martha's kitchen

Now a certain man was sick, named Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. (It was that Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.) Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold he whom thou lovest is sick.

[John 11]

## Art 1 Scene 4

The office of Caiaphas

And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils, and Joanna the wife of Chuza herod's steward, sand Susanna and many others, which ministered unto him of their substance.

[Luke 8]

## Act 1 Scene 5

Martha's kitchen

Then when Jesus came, he found that he had lain in the grave four days already.  
[John 11]

## Act 1 Scene 6

The Temple courtyard in Jerusalem

And early in the morning he came again into the temple, and all the people came unto him; and he sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, they say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him.

[John 8]

## Act 1 Scene 7

Martha's kitchen

Then Jesus six days before the passover came to Bethany, where Lazarus was which had been dead, whom he raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; and Martha served; but Lazarus was one of them that sat at the table with him.

[John 12]

## Act 1 Scene 8

The office of Caiaphas

Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, And communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them.

[Luke 22]

## Act 2 Scene 1

An antechamber in the palace of Caiaphas

And they that had laid hold on Jesus led him away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end.  
[Matthew 26]

## Act 2 Scene 2

Outside Pilate's palace in Jerusalem

When the morning was come. All the chief priests and elders of the people took counsel against Jesus to put him to death: And when they had bound him, they led him away, and delivered him to Pontius Pilate the governor.

[Matthew 27]



[Matthew 27]

Act 2 scene 3

At a distance from the Crucifixion

There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome: (Who also, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered unto him;) and many other women which came up with him unto Jerusalem.

[Mark 15]

Act 2 Scene 4

The garden of Pilate's palace

And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus.

[John 19]

Act 2 Scene 5

The Upper Room in Jerusalem

And when they were come in, they went into an upper room.

[Acts 1]

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had brought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

[Mark 16]

Act 2 Scene 6

Courtyard outside Caiaphas's palace

We remember that the deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He had risen from the dead.

[Matthew 27]

Act 2 Scene 7

The Upper Room in Jerusalem

And he led them out as far as Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

[Luke 24]

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

[Acts 2]