

LITTLE KNOWN & INTERESTING FACTS

ABOUT WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE...



The prominence of women throughout the Scriptures is sometimes overlooked. Upon careful reading, you will find a multiplicity of women dawning various roles, responsibilities and accomplishments which will be inscribed and remembered for eternity. Some of the following women may be familiar to you and others not so much.

The goal of this list of biblical women is to encourage you to delve deeper into their lives, ignite passion in your heart and perhaps stir you to step out in faith to embrace new challenges with confidence, compassion and assurance that you are beloved of God, called to great accomplishments and He views you as “His daughter.”

Little Known Women in the Old Testament:

- **The Five Daughters of Zelophehad (*Numbers 27:1-8*)**
 - Of the lineage of Manasseh and Joseph.
 - Petitioned Moses to honor their rights to their father’s inheritance.
- **Jochebed (*Exodus 6:20 & Numbers 26:59*)**
 - The daughter of Levi born in Egypt and the wife of Amram.
 - The mother of Moses, Aaron and Miriam.
- **Sheerah (*1 Chronicles 7:23-25*)**
 - The daughter of Ephraim, the son of Joseph, who had nine of his ten sons die in battle.
 - She built three cities (Lower and Upper Beth Horon and Uzen Sheera.)
- **Jael (*Judges 4:17-22 & 5:24-27*)**
 - The wife of Heber the Kenite.
 - Killed Sisera, commander of the army of Jabin, king of Canaan.
- **Keturah (*Genesis 25:1-6, 1 Chronicles 1:32-33*)**
 - The second wife of Abraham, following Sarah’s death.
 - Bore Abraham an additional six sons, excluding Isaac and Ismael.
- **Shiphrah & Puah (*Exodus 1:15-21*)**
 - Egyptian Midwives to the Hebrew women.
 - Defied Pharaoh’s edict to kill all the Hebrew boy babies at birth.

Little Known Women in the New Testament:

- **Philip’s Four Daughters (*Acts 21:8-9*)**
 - The daughters of Phillip the disciple of Jesus.
 - They all served and prophesied in the early church; were all virgins.
- **Rhoda (*Acts 12:12-16*)**
 - The young girl who recognized the Apostle Peter’s voice when he knocked on Mary’s door, the mother of Mark, while in a prayer vigil for Peter.
 - Stood her ground when the adults initially did not believe her.
- **Pontius Pilate’s Wife (*Matthew 27:19*)**
 - Advised her husband to have nothing to do with the punishment of Jesus.
 - Jesus’ innocence was revealed to her in a dream.
- **Joanna & Susanna (*Luke 8:1-3*)**
 - Joanna was the wife of Chuza, king Herod’s steward. Susanna, was healed physically and spiritually by Jesus.
 - Both women cared for and ministered to Jesus and His disciples from their own resources.

Interesting Facts of Leaders/Business Women in Scripture:

- **Deborah (*Judges 4 & 5*)**
 - A prophetess and wife of Lapidoth, she was called by God to serve as the fourth judge over the nation of Israel for nearly 60 years.
 - Entered into battle with Barak to free the nation from oppression by king Jabin, ruler of Canaan.



- **Rahab (Joshua 2:1 -3 & 6:17-25)**

- The prostitute who revered the God of Israel and hid the spies Joshua sent to Jericho.
- She and her household were spared destruction and death by Israel upon the conquest of Jericho. Became part of the genealogy of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:5).

- **The Shunammite Woman (2 Kings 4:8-37)**

- A notable woman who ministered to the needs of Elisha, the prophet, as he often passed through Shunem where she and her husband resided.
- Prophesied the birth of her son even though she had been barren for many years.

- **Abigail (1 Samuel 25:2-44)**

- Initially the wife of Nabal, a foolish man.
- Sought to aid David when her husband initially refused. Saved her house from destruction and eventually became one of David's wives after the death of Nabal.

- **Esther & Ruth (Books of Esther & Ruth)**

- Both were trailblazers in their respective Scripture Books.
- Much can be gleaned from their lives regarding leadership and business.

- **Lydia (Acts 16:11-15 & 40)**

- She was one of the women, who's heart was opened by God to receive the gospel, found by Paul and Silas in Philippi praying at the river where she was also baptized by them.
- She was a merchant (seller of purple cloth) and opened her home as a gathering place for worship.

- **Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2)**

- She was commended by the Apostle Paul for her dedicated service in the early church.
- She was also known to have held the title of "Deacon" in the church.

- **Priscilla (Acts 18:24-28 & Romans 16:3-5)**

- A teacher alongside her husband Aquila who offered their home as a place of worship for early church Christians.
- She and her husband were also business owners (tent makers, alongside the Apostle Paul).

- **Junia (Romans 16:7)**

- Her name appears only once in Scripture noted by the Apostle Paul as one of his fellow "apostles" in prison with him. She had been a Christian before the Apostle Paul's conversion.

- **Tabitha (Acts 9:36-43)**

- Most likely a widow, but with means, she lived in Joppa. She was known as "Dorcas" a seamstress and renowned philanthropist who could always be found doing good and helping the poor, particularly the widows in her care. She was raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter.

Various "Firsts" of Women in Scripture:

- **The Last at the Cross (Mark 15:42-47)**

- Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

- **The First at the Tomb (Mark John 20:1-10)**

- Mary Magdalene was there early while it was yet still dark.

- **The First to See Our Risen Savior (John 20:11-17)**

- Mary Magdalene was there to speak with our resurrected Jesus.

- **The First to Proclaim the Resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:1-8)**

- Mary Magdalene ran to tell the disciples of Jesus' resurrection.

- **The First Preacher to the Jews (Luke 2:36-38)**

- The Prophetess Anna bore witness of the infant Jesus in the temple.

- **The First European Convert (Acts 16:14)**

- Lydia was the first Christian convert of Apostle Paul and Silas in Joppa.