

Bullae Clay Seal Impressions of OT Persons

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Biblical Person	Inscription	Scripture
Jezebel (873-852 BC)	Jezebel ([I']jzbl) ¹	1 Kgs. 16:29-22:40; 21:25
Azariah/ (788-735 BC) Uzziah	Abiyaw the servant of Uzziah / Shebnaiah the servant of Uzziah	2 Kings 14:21-22 2 Chron. 26:1-23
Jeroboam II (790-749/50 BC)	Belonging to Shema, the servant of Jeroboam ²	2 Kgs. 14:23-29
Jotham (758-741 BC)	To Jotham	2 Kgs. 15:32-38 2 Chron. 27:1-9
Ahaz (742-726 BC)	Belonging to Ahaz, [son of] Jehotham, king of Judah / Belonging to Ushna, the servant of Ahaz	2 Kgs. 16:1-20 2 Chron. 28:1-27
Hezekiah (726-697 BC)	Belonging to Hezekiah, [son of] Ahaz, king of Judah / Belonging to Jehozarah son of Hilkiah, servant of Hezekiah / Azariah son of Jehosh, servant of Hezekiah / Belonging to Domia, the servant of Hezekiah / ...servant of Hezekiah	2 Kgs. 18:1-20:21 2 Chron. 29:1-32:33
Eliakim and Hilkiah (726-697 B.C.)	Belonging to Eliakim the son of Hilkiah	2 Kgs. 18:18
Amariah (726-697 BC)	Belonging to Amariah [son of] Hananiah, servant of Hezekiah	2 Chron. 31:15
Hoshea (732-722 BC)	Belonging to Abdi, the servant of Hoshea	2 Kgs. 17:1-6
Shebna (eighth century BC)	...Shebna, servant of the king	Isa. 22:15-25
Manasseh (697-642 BC)	Belonging to Manasseh, son of the king / Belonging to Manasseh son of Hezekiah	2 Kgs. 21:1-18 2 Chron. 33:1-20
Asaiah (late seventh-century BC)	Belonging to Asayahu (Asaiah), servant (minister) of the king	2 Kgs. 22:12, 14 2 Chron. 34:20
Joezer and Igdaliah (late seventh-century BC)	Belonging to Yehoezer son of Yigdalyahu	Jer. 35:4 cf. 1 Chron. 12:7
Azaliah and Meshullam (621 B.C.)	Azaliah the son of Meshullam	2 Kgs. 22:3
Nathan-melech (640-609 BC)	Nathan-melech, servant of the king	2 Kgs 23:11
Ahikam and Shaphan (640-609 BC)	Belonging to Ahikam, the son of Shaphan	2 Kgs. 22:12
Baruch and Neriah (627-586 BC)	Seal of Baruch (Berekyahu) son of Neriah the Scribe ³	Jer. 36:32

¹ Jezebel, the Phoenician daughter of king Ethbaal, was accustomed to sealing documents for her husband Ahab (see 1 Kgs. 21:8).

² After the seal impression was discovered by Gottlieb Schumacher in the early twentieth-century at Tell-Megiddo, it was lost. Fortunately, impressions were made of the object prior to its disappearance.

³ This bulla was identified by the late bulla specialist Nahman Avigad as bearing the name of the prophet Jeremiah's scribe, Baruch, who penned the book of Jeremiah (Jer. 36:1-32).

Priestly family name of Immer	[Ga'a]lyahu...[son] of Immer ⁴	Jer. 20:1-18
Seriah and Neriah (627-586 BC)	Seraiah son of Neriah	Jer. 51:59
Malchiah (627-586 BC)	Malchiah son of the king	Jer. 38:6
Hananiah and Azzur (627-586 BC)	Hananiah the son of Azariah (Azzur)	Jer. 28:1
Gemariah and Shaphan (627-586 BC)	Gemariah son of Shaphan	Jer. 36:10-12
Jerahmeel (627-586 BC)	Jerahmeel son of the king	Jer. 36:26
Elishama (627-586 BC)	Elishama servant of the king	Jer. 36:12
Jehucal, Shelemiah, and Shavi (627-586 BC)	Jehucal son of Shelemiah son of Shavi	Jer. 37:3; 38:1
Gedaliah and Pashhur (627-586 BC)	Gedaliah son of Pashhur	Jer. 38:1
Azariah and Hilkiyah (sixth–fifth century BC)	Seal of Azariah, the son of Hilkiyah (the high priest?) / Seal of Hanan, the son of Hilkiyah the priest	2 Kgs. 22:4-14; 23:4 1 Chron. 6:13; 9:11; Ezra 7:1
Jehoahaz (or Shallum) (609 BC)	Jehoahaz the son of the king	2 Kgs. 23:31-34 2 Chron. 36:1-4
Pedaiah (598-586 B.C.)	Pedaiah the son of the king	1 Chron. 3:18
Seriah and Neriah (598-586 BC)	Seriah son of Neriah	Jer. 51:59
Ba'alish (586-580 BC)	Baalyisha king of the [Ammonites] / Milqom the servant of Ba'alish	Jer. 40:14
Jaazaniah (597-580 BC)	Jaazaniah servant of the king	2 Kgs. 25:23
Shelomith was the “amah” (sister) of Elnathan (510-490 BC)	Belonging to Shelomith / Belonging to Elnathan the governor	1 Chron.3:19 Ezra 8:16
Sanballat, Governor of Samaria	(Belonging) to [...]yah ⁵ son of [San-]ballat, Governor of Samar[ia]	Neh. 2:10

⁴ This bulla was discovered by archaeologist, Gabriel Barkay, as a result of sifting the temple mount dirt discarded from recent renovations of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Immer is the name associated with the priestly family that had oversight of the temple mount during the time of Jeremiah. Pashhur, the son of Immer, is described in Jeremiah 20:1-18 as the individual who beat Jeremiah and placed him under arrest.

⁵ Confirmation of this bulla is found in the collection of fifth-century B.C. Jewish manuscripts known as the Elephantine Papyri. The correspondence was written from the Jewish community living at Elephantine Island located in the midst of the Nile River near Nubia. One particular letter, known as the “Passover letter” (now on display at the Egyptian Museum of Berlin), contains a reference to “Delaiah and Shelemiah, the sons of Sanballat, the governor of Samaria.” These letters also confirm that the Persian king Darius was involved in the authorization to rebuild Jerusalem as well as the Israelites’ participation in its construction as the Bible states in the book of Ezra and Nehemiah.