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## A Biographical Study of Nathanael

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# *Nathanael*

## CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. The skepticism of Nathanael
  - A. The identification—“Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph” (John 1:45).
  - B. The intolerance—“And Nathanael said unto him, Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?” (John 1:46a).
  - C. The invitation—“Philip saith unto him, Come and see” (John 1:46b).
- II. The surprise of Nathanael—“Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee” (John 1:47-48).
- III. The salvation of Nathanael
  - A. His faith in Christ—“Nathanael answered and saith unto him, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel” (John 1:49).
  - B. His future in Christ—“Jesus answered and said unto him, Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. And he saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man” (John 1:50-51).

## STATISTICS

*First mention:* Matthew 10:3

*Final mention:* Acts 1:13

*Meaning of his name:* “Gift of God”

*Frequency of his name:* Referred to 10 times

*Biblical books mentioning him:* Five books (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts)

*Occupation:* Apostle

*Place of birth:* Probably Bethsaida

*Important fact about his life:* Philip witnessed to him under a fig tree and brought him to Christ.