

# Acts 22:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,

## Analysis

---

**Ananias, a devout man according to the law** (ἀνὴρ εὐλαβῆς κατὰ τὸν νόμον)—Paul emphasizes Ananias's Jewish credentials to his Jerusalem audience. The term 'devout' (εὐλαβῆς) means pious, reverent, law-observant. **Having a good report of all the Jews** establishes that Paul's conversion came through a respected Jewish believer, not Gentile Christians. This counters accusations that Paul abandoned Judaism. Ananias represents the continuity between faithful Judaism and Christian faith—believers in Jesus as Israel's Messiah, not a new religion. God chose a Jewish disciple to commission Paul as apostle to the Gentiles.

## Historical Context

---

Ananias lived in Damascus, part of the substantial Jewish community there. Acts 9:10-19 provides fuller detail of Ananias's vision and reluctance to approach the notorious persecutor. His name means 'Yahweh has been gracious,' fitting his role in Paul's conversion.

## Related Passages

---

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. Why would Paul emphasize Ananias's Jewish credentials rather than minimizing them?
2. How does Ananias model obedience when God calls us to minister to unlikely or dangerous people?

## Interlinear Text

---

Ἄνανιας δέ τις ἀνὴρ εὐσεβὴς κατὰ τὸν νόμον

Ananias And one man a devout according G3588 to the law  
G367 G1161 G5100 G435 G2152 G2596 G3551

μαρτυρούμενος ὑπὸ πάντων τῶν κατοικούντων Ἰουδαίων

having a good report of all which dwelt the Jews  
G3140 G5259 G3956 G3588 G2730 G2453

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Acts 10:22** (Word): And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.

**Acts 6:3** (Parallel theme): Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

**3 John 1:12** (Good): Demetrius hath good report of all men, and of the truth itself: yea, and we also bear record; and ye know that our record is true.