

# 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

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**Ananias, a devout man according to the law** (άνηρ εύλαβής κατὰ τὸν νόμον)—Paul emphasizes Ananias's Jewish credentials to his Jerusalem audience. The term 'devout' (εύλαβής) 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

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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

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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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

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Ἀνανίας	δέ	τις	ἄνθρω	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	G3588	which dwelt	the Jews		
G3140	G5259	G3956		G2730	G2453		

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.