



## Who are you Hananiah bar Daedalus from Yerushalayim?

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### *Ancient Inscriptions*

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In 2018, a monumental Hebrew inscription in Jewish script, dated to the first century CE was discovered in the salvage dig in the western entrance to the modern city of Jerusalem. It opens up a window into the multicultural social and economic life of the ancient city at this time. The archaeological provenance of the site is a town producing ceramic pottery founded by the Hasmonaeans, and in its final stage after the Great Revolt of 66-70CE was under Roman control. The name inscribed is probably that of the Jewish overseer of this installation.

In this paper I will apply onomastic research to examine and clarify the four words that make up the name chiseled in stone, identifying the owner by his Hebrew name Hananiah, the Aramaic term bar, his Greek patronym Daedalus, and the plene spelling of Yerushalayim. This text reflects the cosmopolitan nature of Jerusalem and its environs at a critical moment in the city's history, especially within the cultural framework created by the symbiosis of Jewish and Hellenistic culture.