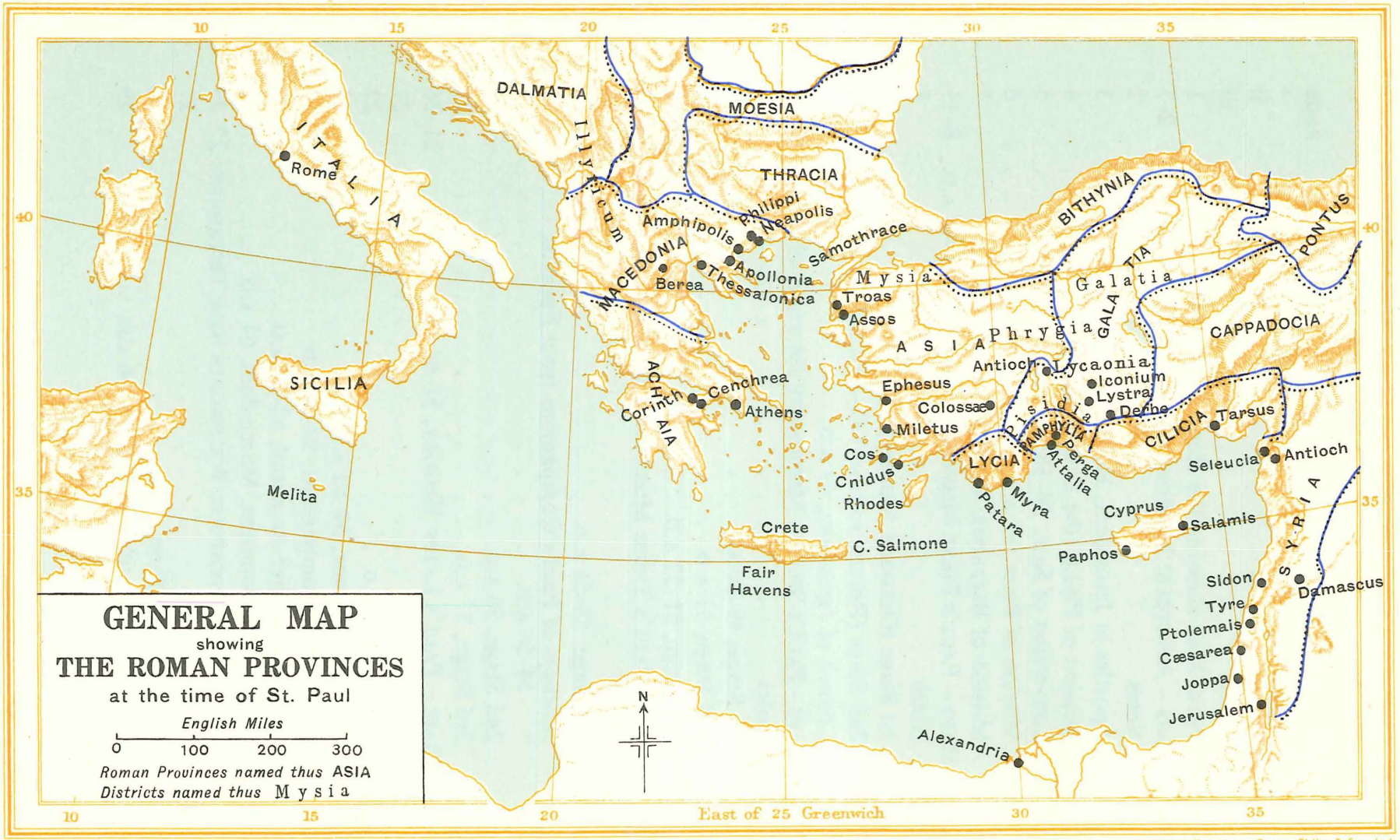


GENERAL MAP

showing

THE ROMAN PROVINCES

at the time of St. Paul

English Miles

0 100 200 300

Roman Provinces named thus ASIA

Districts named thus Mysia

APOSTOLIC MISSIONS IN PALESTINE

30—46 A.D.

JERUSALEM

The Upper Room was probably a roof-chamber, reserved and furnished for retreat, and approached by a flight of stone steps running up the outside wall of the house.

The Gate Beautiful opened into one of the outer courts on the eastern side of the Temple.

Solomon's Porch was the name given to the eastern cloisters of the Temple.

For Jerusalem and Samaria see also 'Atlas of Life of Christ,' pp. 4, 8, 24.

GAZA

A well-fortified city which stood like a gateway across the great caravan route between Egypt and Syria. East and west of the city rose bare hills of rock and sand; but within its walls were gardens and orchards, and from its northern gate an avenue of ancient olive-trees extended for three miles. Half-way between Gaza and Joppa was the city of **Azotus** (Ashdod), now buried under the drifted dunes of sand.

CÆSAREA

A city of magnificent palaces lifted above the sea on a rocky ledge of the coast, and looking Romeward. Its harbour was the most costly in the world, and ran far out into the sea like an arm that would touch the mother city. Near to the water rose the towers of a temple to Augustus, and the columns of a vast theatre; round its walls were stationed the imperial troops. As the political centre of Judæa and the seat of the Roman governors, it had little in common with the Jewish cities; but Jews and Greeks rivalled each other for its possession. It is significant that each forward movement of the early Church began at Jerusalem and culminated in this city (*cp.* Maps 4, 5 and 6).

DAMASCUS

The plain that holds the city is literally a burst of vegetation in the desert, and is spread like a scattered flower on the trailing skirt of Lebanon. The oasis is a wilderness of luxuriant foliage and winding mountain streams. Between the tall and stately forest trees are far-stretching thickets of fruit trees and wild shrubberies, whose branches are interlaced and weighted with roses that load the air with their fragrance. Rushing rivulets and playing fountains fill the woodland with music, and their waters reflect the glittering towers and domes of the city. Through this garden pass the great high roads from the desert to the sea, and above it are the bare and changeless hills.

JOPPA

The only elevation in the long low coastline between Cæsarea and Gaza was claimed by the city of Joppa (now Jaffa). On the seaward side of the rocky hill were rows of closely built and brightly coloured houses. Behind the city was a deep green belt of fruit and palm trees, and in the distance the grey outline of the Judæan hills. Its harbour and its direct communication with Jerusalem, made it one of the most important cities along the coast.

LYDDA

A village in the plain of Sharon on the way to Jerusalem, and on the great caravan route between Babylon and Egypt. It nestled in a hollow of the hills by a fruitful river valley.

TARSUS

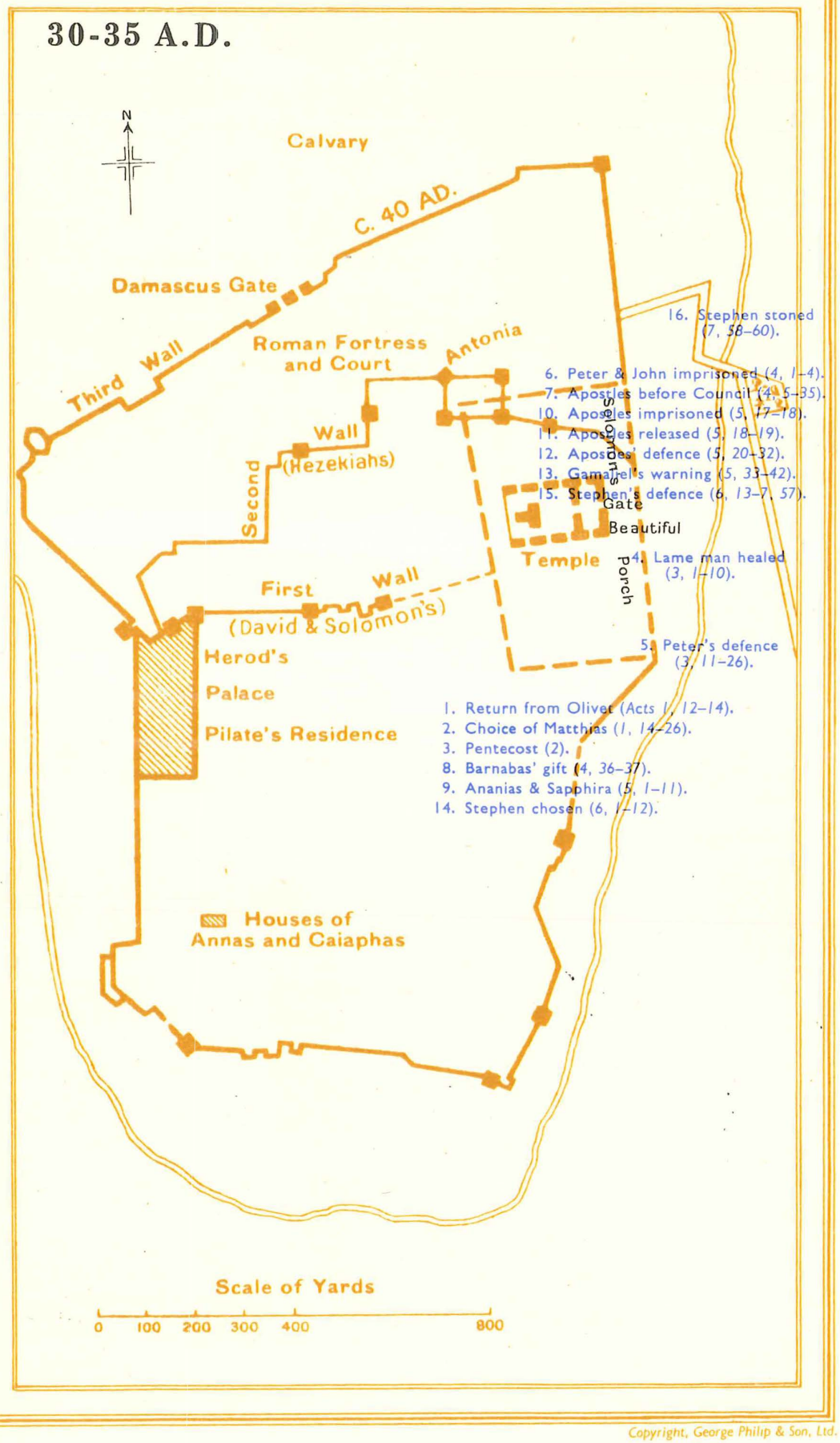
The city stood in a wide plain between the mountains and the sea, and was renowned as a commercial and educational centre. It owed its commercial greatness to the river Cydnus (which in Apostolic days passed through the heart of the city), and to its command of the southern mountain gateway to Inner Asia Minor. Its wharves were crowded with the produce and people of every nation. Educationally, it was held in the highest repute, and sent out from its university distinguished teachers of Stoic Philosophy and Roman Law.

THE HELLENISTS

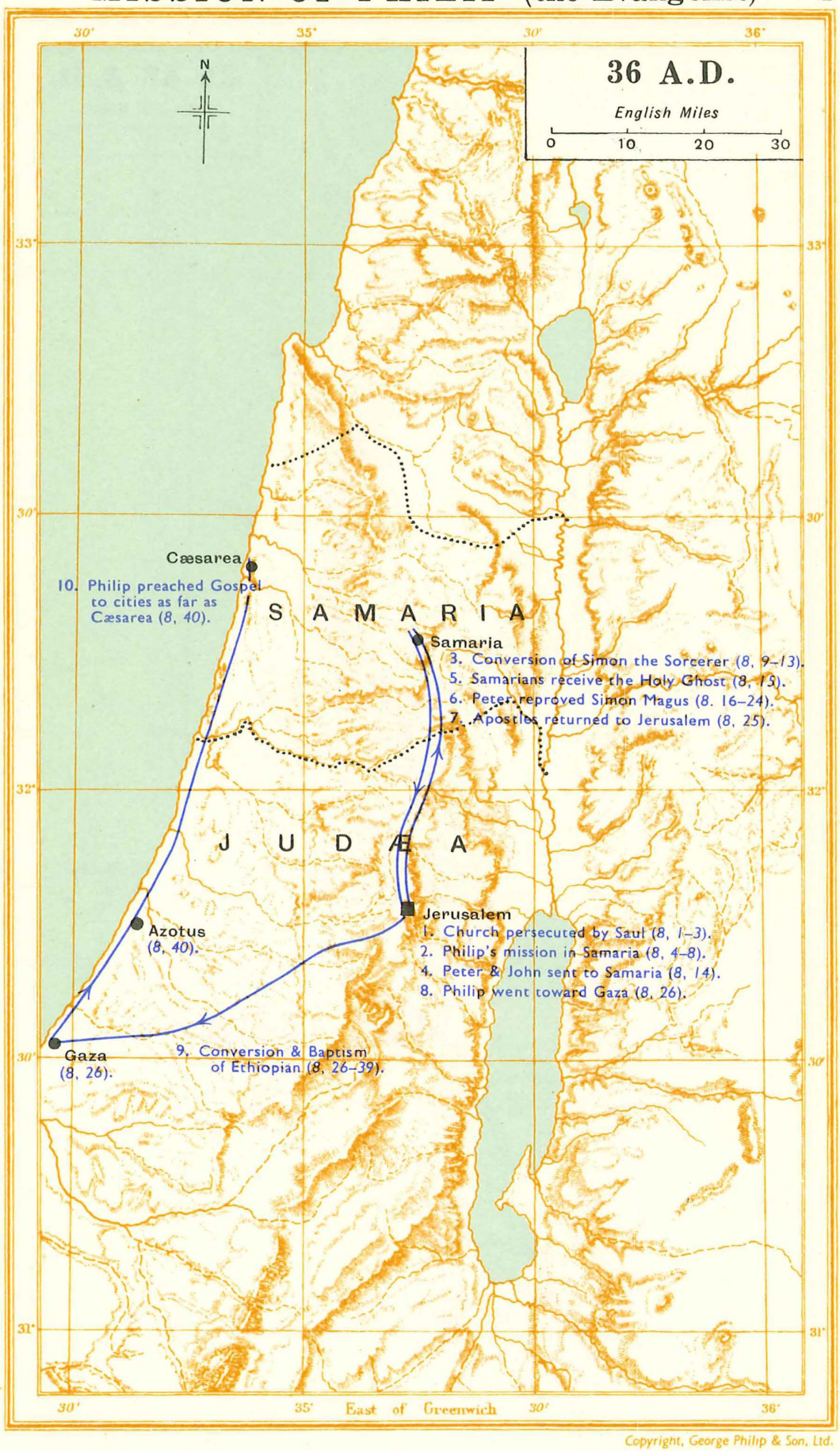
The Hellenists were the Greek-speaking Jews scattered through the Roman Empire. They claimed at Jerusalem equal privileges for their poor with those of the Hebraic section of the community; and it would appear that 'the seven' who were appointed to the office of ministering this relief were chosen from their number. The first Christian martyr (Stephen), and the leader of the first forward movement of Christianity (Philip), belonged to the Hellenists.

APOSTLES AT JERUSALEM

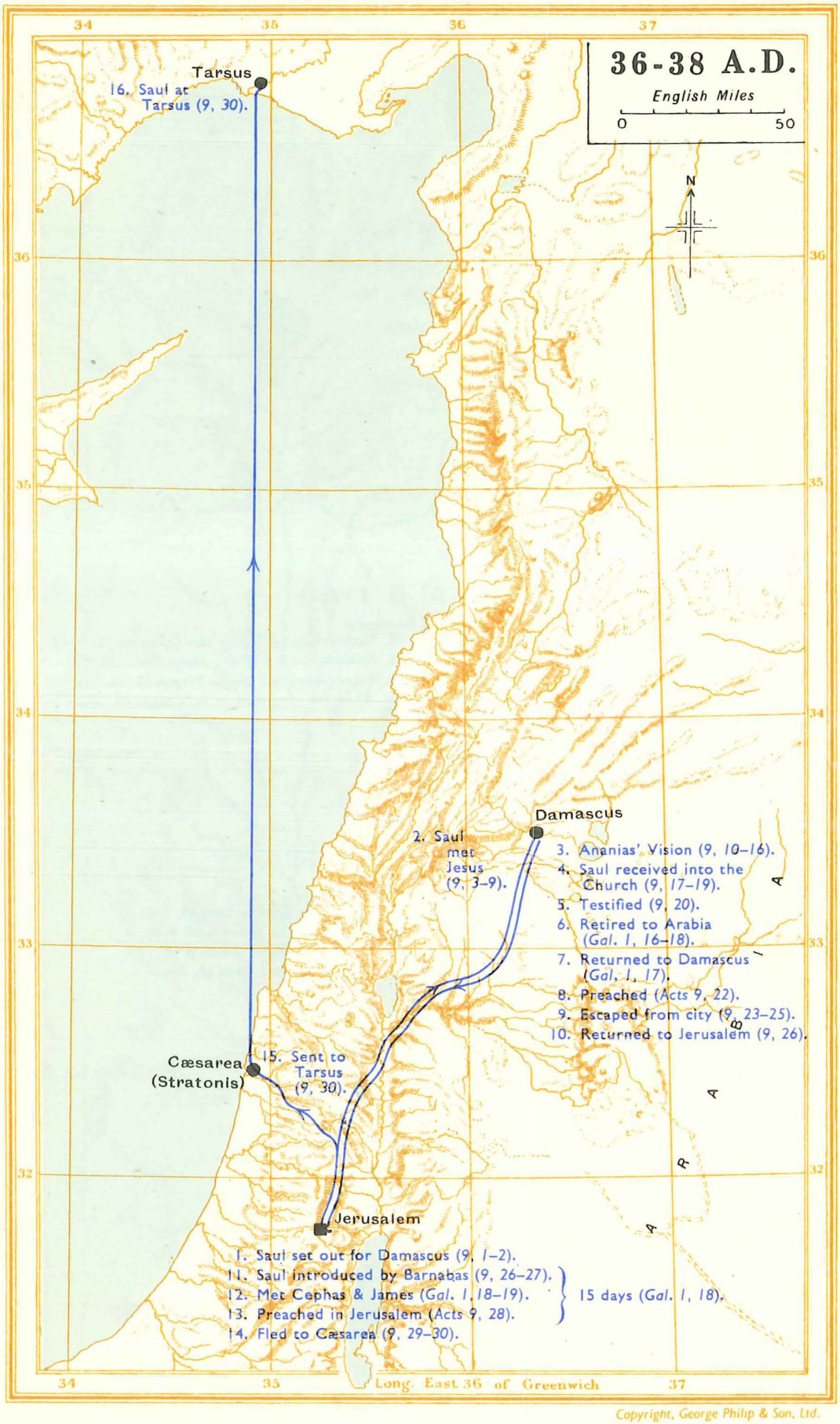
30-35 A.D.



MISSION OF PHILIP (the Evangelist) 4



5 CONVERSION OF SAUL



MISSION OF PETER 6

7 MISSION OF BARNABAS