

# ALL THE PLACES OF THE BIBLE

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This article identifies all of the places named in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books. The place names are arranged alphabetically as they appear in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The suggested meaning of the names is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various places bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this [1] ; [2]; and so on. Then follows a description of each place, with several Bible references to it.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These place names are ancient, many are pre-Israelite, and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Often a Hebrew name refers to both a place and a person. In such cases, you will find the same name in "All the People of the Bible."

Different names were used to refer to certain sites in different periods of history (e.g., Accho and Ptolemais). We have grouped these names under the most familiar biblical name, cross-referencing the other names to it. Modern place names are given under most of the biblical names.

## H

**Habor** ("fertile"), a tributary of the Euphrates River (2 Kings 17:6; 18:11); probably the Khabur River.

**Hachilah** ("gloomy"), a hill in the wilderness southeast of Hebron, near Maon (1 Sam. 26: 1-3).

**Hadashah** ("new"), a village in the lowlands of Judah about 5 km. (3 mi.) from Beth-horon (Josh. 15:37); perhaps modern Khirbet el-Judeideh.

**Hadattah** ("new"), a town in southern Judah (Josh. 15:25), probably near Hazor [2].

**Hades.** *See* Hell.

**Hadid** ("point"), a Benjamite town located 5 km. (3 mi.) east-northeast of Lydda (Ezra 2:33; Neh. 11:34).

**Hadrach** ("dwelling"), a Syrian country associated with Hamath and Damascus, encompassing an area along the Orontes River south of Hamath (Zech. 9: 1).

**Halah** ("moist table"), a portion of the Assyrian kingdom, encompassing the basin of the Habor and Saorkas Rivers (2 Kings 17:6; 1 Chron. 5:26).

**Halak** ("smooth"), a mountain in southern Palestine (Josh. 11: 17; 12:7); possibly present-day Jebel Halog, just north-northeast of Abdeh.

**Halhul** ("tremble"), a Judean village located about 6 km. (4 mi.) north of Hebron (Josh. 15:58); said to be the burial place of Jonah.

**Hali** ("sickness"), a town of Judah, located near the border of Asher (Josh. 19:25).

**Hamath [Hemath]** ("anger"). [1] A Hittite city on the Orontes River about 200 km. (125 mi.) north of Damascus; a supply base for Solomon's armies (2 Chron. 8:4). [2] The northern boundary of Israel (Num. 13:21; 34:8); perhaps a reference to the Valley of Coelesyria between the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon Mountains.

**Hammath [Hemath; Hammoth-dor]** ("hot spring"), a fortress city of the tribe of Naphtali, located near Tiberias (Josh. 19:35; 1 Chron. 2:55).

**Hammon** ("hot waters"). [1] A frontier village of the tribe of Asher, assigned to the Levites, located about 16 km. (10 mi.) south of Tyre (Josh. 19:28). [2] A town of the tribe of Naphtali, allotted to the Levites (1 Chron. 6:76); probably another name for Hammath.

**Hammoth-dor.** *See* Hammath.

**Hamon-gog** ("multitude of Gog"), the valley where Gog and his armies will be defeated in their final struggle against God's people (Ezek.39:11-15).

**Hananeel** ("given of God"), a tower of Jerusalem, located near the Sheep's Gate (Jer. 31:38; Zech. 14:10).

**Hanes** ("Mercury"), an Egyptian town about 80 km. (50 mi.) south of Memphis (Isa . 30:4).

**Hannathon** ("dedicated to grace"), a town of the tribe of Zebulun located on a road between Megiddo and Accho (Josh. 19:14).

**Haphraim** ("two pits"), a frontier town assigned to the tribe of Issachar (Josh. 19:19). It may be modern Khirbet el-Fariyeh, about 10 km. (6 mi.) northwest of Megiddo; or it may be modern et Faryibeh, northwest of Bethshean.

**Hara** ("hill"), a place in Assyria to which the Israelite captives were taken (1 Chron. 5:26); it may be the proper name of a settlement or the Hebrew term for "mountains of the Medes."

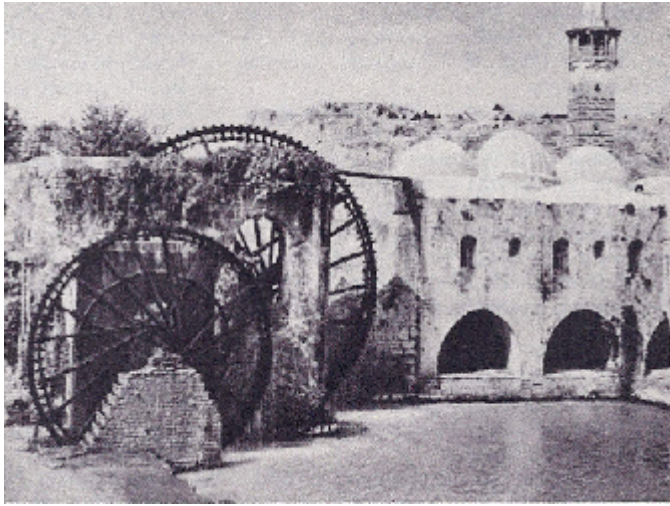
**Haradah** ("fear"), a place where the Israelites camped during their wilderness wanderings (Num. 33:24); its exact location is unknown.

**Haran [Charran]** ("mountains"), a Mesopotamian city located 386 km. (240 mi.) northwest of Nineveh and 450 km. (280 mi.) . north-northeast of Damascus (Gen. 11:31; 12:4-5).

**Harmon** (KJV reads "the palace"), a place to which the people of Samaria were exiled, perhaps in the area of Rimmon (Amos 4:3).

**Harod** ("trembling"), a spring (Judg. 7: 1); commonly thought to be modern 'Ain Jalud on the northwest side of Mount Gilboa, about 1.5 km. (1 mi.) southeast of Jezreel.

**Harosheth** ("carving"), a small village on the northern bank of the Kishon River 26 km. (16 mi.) north-northwest of Megiddo (Judg. 4:2, 13).



**Hamath.** The modern Syrian city of Hama stands on the site of biblical Hamath. The city marked the northern boundary that God assigned to the people of Israel (Num. 34:8; Josh. 13:5). In King David's time, the Aramean people of Hamath were friendly toward Israel (2 Sam. 8:9-10). The Orontes River flows through the city.

**Hashmonah** ("fruitfulness"), a place where the Israelites camped in the wilderness (Num. 33:29-30); possibly modern Wadi el-Hashim.

**Hauran** ("black land"), a district bordering the region of Gilead south of Damascus, noted for the fertility of its soil (Ezek. 47: 16, 18).

**Havilah** ("circle"), a region of central Arabia populated by the descendants of Cush (Gen. 10:7; 1 Sam. 15:7; cf. Gen. 25: 18). This term may have referred to the territory of the Arabian Desert for several hundred miles north of modern Al-Yamanah. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Havoth-jair** ("tent villages of Jair"), an area in the northwest part of Bashan, containing several unwallled cities (Num. 32:41).

**Hazar Addar.** *See* Adar.

**Hazar-enan** ("village of fountains"), a small village on the northern border of Palestine (Num, 34:9; Ezek. 48: 1); probably modern Kiryatein.

**Hazar-gaddah** ("town of Gadah"), a village on the southern border of Judah southwest of Ras Zuveira (Josh. 15:27); possibly modern Khirbet Ghazza.

**Hazar-hatticon** ("enclosure"), a village on the border of Havran (Ezek. 47: 16).

**Hazar-maveth** ("enclosure"), a very small district of Arabia in the southern portion of the Arabian Peninsula (Gen. 10:26).

**Hazar-shual** ("fox village"), a town in southern Judah apportioned to the tribe of Simeon (Josh. 15:28; 19:3). Perhaps it is modern el-Watan, located between Beersheba and Tell es-Saba.

**Hazar-susah [Hazar-susim]** ("captive mare[s]"), a small village in the extreme south of the territory of Simeon (Josh. 19:5; 1 Chron. 4:31); it may be modern Susiyeh, located 3 km, (2 mi.) east of Eshtemoa.

**Hazazon-tamar [Hazon-tamar]** ("sandy surface of the palm tree"), said to be another name for En-gedi (Gen. 14:7; 2 Chron. 20:2); this name may in fact refer to modern Tamar, about 32 km. (20 mi.) south-southeast of the Dead Sea on the road to Elath.

**Hazeroth** ("enclosures "), a place where the Israelites camped in the wilderness (Num. 11:35); possibly modern Ain Hudra, about 58 km. (36 mi.) north-northeast of Mount Sinai.

**Hazor** ("enclosure"). [1] The capital of the Canaanite kingdom, later included in the territory of Naphtali in northern Palestine (Josh. 11:1, 10, 13); site of a major archaeological excavation. [2] A place in extreme southern Judah (Josh. 15:23); possibly modern el-Jebariyeh. [3] A village of the tribe of Benjamin, to which the Jewish exiles returned (Neh. 11:33); modern Khirbet Hazzur, 6 km. (4 mi.) north-northwest of Jerusalem. [4] A region of the Arabian Desert east of Palestine (Jer. 49:28, 30, 33).

**Hebron** ("friendship"). [1] A city in the hills of Judah, 32 km. (20 mi.) south of Jerusalem (Gen. 13: 18; Num. 13:22). [2] A town of the tribe of Asher, more frequently called Abdon (Josh. 19:28). *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

## Hebron and History

The city of Hebron is first mentioned in the Bible when Abram separated his camp from Lot's and settled at Hebron (Gen. 13:18). Years later, Abraham bought the cave at Machpelah in Hebron to bury Sarah. The burial place later served for Abraham, Isaac and Rebecca, and Jacob and Leah (Gen. 49:29-33).

When the Hebrews returned from Egyptian bondage to inhabit the Promised Land, they feared the size of the inhabitants; so they only gradually captured Canaan from the clans of Anak, or made alliances with them (Num. 13:14). After Hebron's king joined with other kings to attack a Hebrew ally, Gibeon, the Hebrews attacked and captured Hebron and other cities (Josh. 10). The Bible gives credit for the capture of Hebron to three people or groups of people: Caleb (Josh. 15:13-15), the tribes of Judah (Judg. 1 :8-10), and Joshua (Josh. 10:36-37). After the capture, Hebron was turned over to Caleb, as God had promised earlier (Num. 14).

Generations later, the inhabitants of Hebron assisted David and his army as he pursued the Philistines. Victorious, David shared "the spoil of the enemies of the Lord (1 Sam. 30-31) with the people of Hebron and other cities. As David grew in power, the men of Judah gathered at Hebron and anointed him their king. David ruled the southern kingdom from Hebron for seven and a half years. After David united the two kingdoms (with the seat of government at Jerusalem), Hebron is mentioned only briefly in the Bible. David's son Absalom launched an



unsuccessful revolt against him from Hebron (2 Sam. 15:7-10). Later Rehoboam strengthened the city's fortifications so that Hebron could protect Jerusalem, which lay about nineteen miles to the north (2 Chron. 11:5,10).

Hebron was designated a city of the Levites. The descendants of Levi (i.e., the priests) were given these cities and surrounding pastures as places to live (cf. Josh. 21 :1-12). Hebron was also named a city of refuge. If a person unintentionally killed someone, he could flee to one of the six cities of refuge, where he would be protected until he stood trial (Num. 35:9-15).

Modern Hebron has a population of about 40,000 and is located on an important road junction in the highland area of western Jordan . The stone-built town has small, winding streets, and active marketplaces, which sell the wares of local craftsmen, such as glassblowers. Dr. Philip C. Hammond of the University of Utah, who has excavated many artifacts at Hebron, considers the city the oldest continuously occupied unwallled city in the world.

**Helbah** ("fertile"), a town of the tribe of Asher on the Phoenician plain northeast of Tyre (Judg. 1:31); probably the same as Ahlah.

**Helbon** ("fat"), a village of Syria near Damascus, known for its wines (Ezek. 27: 18); probably modern Khalbun, 21 km. (13 mi.) north-northwest of Damascus.

**Heleph** ("passing over"), a town marking the boundary of the tribe of Naphtali, just northeast of Mount Tabor (Josh. 19:33).

**Helkath** ("part"), a town marking the boundary of the tribe of Asher (Josh. 19:25); probably modern Tell el-Harboj.

**Helkath-hazzurim** ("field of rock"), an area of smooth ground near the pool of Gibeon (2 Sam. 2: 16).



**Hazor.** Joshua defeated King Jabin of Hazor during the conquest of Canaan (Josh . 11 :1-13; 12:19). King Solomon later fortified the city, but the Assyrians destroyed it in the eighth century B.C. and carried away its people (1 Kings 9:15; 2 Kings 15:29). From 1955 to 1958, Israeli archaeologists led by Yigael Yadin excavated the ruins of Hazor, just northwest of the Sea of Galilee .

**Hell [Hades; Sheol]** ("conceal"), the place of woe for the departed. "Hades" is the New Testament name for" Sheol, "which was conceived as a place beneath the surface of the earth where the souls of all dead resided (Psa. 16:10; Matt. 11:23; Acts 2:27). The KJV also has *hell* as its translation of *Gehenna*, a valley outside Jerusalem that Jesus used as a symbol of woe for lost souls. For believers, He said that Hades would be a paradise (Luke 23:43); for the godless, it would be "Gehenna" (cf. Luke 16:22-23).

**Hemath.** *See* Hammath.

**Hena**(troubling"), a city about 32 km. (20 mi.) from Babylon (2 Kings 19: 13; Isa. 37: 13); probably the same as modern Anah on the Euphrates River.

**Hepher** ("pit"), a town west of the Jordan River (Josh. 12: 17); probably modern Tell Ibshar on the plain of Sharon. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Heres** ("sun"). [1].A mountain in the district of Aijalon (Judg. 1:35). [2] An Egyptian city that the KJV calls "the city of destruction" (Isa. 19: 18).

**Hermion** ("devoted to destruction"), the highest mountain of the Anti-Lebanon range, marking the northeast boundary of Palestine (Deut. 3:8; Josh. 11:17; 1 Chron. 5:23).

**Heshbon** ("stronghold"), the Amorite capital on the boundary between Reuben and Gad, standing between the Arnon and Jabbok Rivers (Num. 21:26; Josh. 13:17).

**Heshmon** ("rich soil"), a place in the far southern region of Judah (Josh. 15:27); possibly same as Azmon.

**Hethlon** ("fearful dwelling"), a mountain pass at the northern border of Palestine, connecting the Mediterranean coast with the Plain of Hamath (Ezek. 47: 15; 48: 1).

**Hiddekel** ("sound"), an archaic name for the Tigris River (Gen. 2: 14; Dan. 10:4). It is narrower than the Euphrates, but carries more water. It joins the Euphrates 100 miles from the Persian Gulf at Al Qurna.

**Hierapolis** ("holy city"), a city of the province of Phrygia in Asia Minor, at the confluence of the Lycas and Meander Rivers (Col. 4:13).

**Hilen [Holon]** ("grief"), a city of the tribe of Judah, allotted to the Levites (Josh. 15:51; 1 Chron. 6:58).

**Hinnom** ("their riches"), a narrow valley southwest of Jerusalem (Josh. 15:8; 18: 16; 2 Chron. 28:3).

**Hobah** ("love"), the town north of Damascus that was the farthest point to which Abraham pursued the defeated eastern kings (Gen. 14: 15).

**Holon** ("grief"). [1] A Moabite town (Jer. 48:21); possibly modern Horon. [2]*See* Hilen.

**Hor** ("hill"). [1] A mountain on the boundary of Edom (Num. 20:22; 33:37); tradition identifies it as modern Jebel Harun, but Jebel Madeirch is more likely the location. [2] A mountain between the Mediterranean Sea and the entrance of Hamath [2], possibly in the Lebanon range (Num. 34:7-8).

**Horeb** ("desert"), a range of mountains on the Sinai Peninsula, of which Mount Sinai is the highest (Exod. 17:6); now called the Serbal range.

**Horem** ("dedicated to God"), a fortress of the tribe of Naphtali (Josh. 19:38); modern Hurah at the southern end of the Wadi el-Ain.

**Hor-hagidgad** ("cleft mountain"), a place where the wandering Israelites camped (Num. 33:32); probably located on what is now called the Wadi Ghadaghd. It is perhaps identical with Gudgodah (q.v.).

**Hormah** ("dedicated to God"), a Canaanite city located near Ziklag; originally called Zephath (1 Sam. 30:30); perhaps the same as modern Tell el-Milk, east-southeast of Beersheba.

**Horonaim** ("double caves"), a sanctuary town of Moab, near Zoar (Isa. 15:5; Jer. 48:3).

**Hosah** ("refuge"), a landmark city of the tribe of Asher on the boundary near Tyre (Josh. 19:29). *See also* " All the People of the Bible."

**Hukkok** ("hewn"), a place on the border of Naphtali (Josh. 19:34); probably modern Yakuk.

**Hukok** ("ditch"), a city marking the boundary of Asher (I Chron. 6:75). It is identical with Helkath (q.v.).

**Humtah** ("place of lizards"), a city in the mountains of Judah near Hebron (Josh. 15:54).

**Valley of Hinnom.** In the sixth century B.C., the people of Judah began worshiping idols of the pagan god Molech in this valley south of Jerusalem; King Josiah ended this practice (Jer. 7:30-31; 2 Kings 23:25). Later the people of Jerusalem made this valley a dumping ground for garbage and burned the bodies of criminals upon the heaps



End of the H's.

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