

~ADONI-BEZEK (37)

(A-do'ni-be'zek) [Lord of Bezek]

- A powerful ruler who, prior to the Israelite attack at Bezek, had humbled 70 pagan kings by cutting off their thumbs and great toes.
- A similar practice was employed at one time by the ancient Athenians, who decreed that prisoners of war should lose their thumbs. Thereafter they could row, but were unfit to handle a sword or spear. Soon after Joshua's death the combined forces of Judah and Simeon clashed with 10,000 troops of the Canaanites and Perizzites at Bezek, causing **Adoni-bezek** to flee from the defeat.
- Upon being captured, his thumbs and great toes were also severed, at which time he declared. Just the way I have done, so God has repaid me. He was transported to Jerusalem, where he died.
- With that Judah went on up and Yehowah gave the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands, so that they defeated them in Bezek, ten thousand men. (**Judges 1:4**)
- When they found **Adoni-bezek** in Bezek, then they fought against him and defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites. (**Judges 1:5**)
- When **Adoni-bezek** took to flight, then they went chasing after him and got hold of him and cut off the thumbs of his hands and the great toes of his feet. (**Judges 1:6**)
- At this **Adoni-bezek** said; There have been seventy kings with the thumbs of their hands and the great toes of their feet cut off picking up food under my table. Just the way I have done, so God has repaid me. After that they brought him to Jerusalem and he died there. (**Judges 1:7**)