

~ADRIEL (59)
(A'dri-el)

- The son of Barzillai, from the city of Abel-meholah. **Adriel** was given Saul's oldest daughter Merab as wife, though she had previously been promised to David.
- Finally Saul said to David; Here is my oldest daughter Merab. She is the one that I shall give you as a wife. Only prove yourself a valiant person to me and fight the wars of Yehowah. But as for Saul, he said to himself; Do not let my hand come to be upon him, but let the hand of the Philistines come to be upon him. (**1 Samuel 18:17**)
- At this David said to Saul; Who am I and who are my kinsfolk, my father's family, in Israel, so that I should become son-in-law to the king? (**1 Samuel 18:18**)
- However, it came about that at the time for giving Merab, Saul's daughter, to David, she herself had already been given to **Adriel** the Meholathite as a wife. (**1 Samuel 18:19**)
- All of **Adriel's** five sons were later surrendered for execution to help atone for Saul's attempted annihilation of the Gibeonites.
- Consequently the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth, and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul whom she bore to **Adriel** the son of Barzillai the Meholathite. (**2 Samuel 21:8**)
- Then he gave them into the hand of the Gibeonites and they proceeded to expose them on the mountain before Yehowah, so that the seven of them fell together, and they themselves were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the start of the barley harvest. (**2 Samuel 21:9**)
- In this account Michal rather than Merab is spoken of as the mother of **Adriel's** five sons. Since Michal died childless,
- So, as regards Michal, Saul's daughter, she came to have no child down to the day of her death. (**2 Samuel 6:23**)

- And is nowhere spoken of as having been the wife of **Adriel**, some translators view the appearance of Michal's name as a scribal error. Nearly all Hebrew manuscripts, however, use Michal's name, and the traditional explanation is that Merab, Michal's older sister, died early after having borne five sons to **Adriel** and that Michal thereafter undertook the bringing up of her sister's five boys, thus resulting in their being spoken of as her sons. **Isaac Leeser's** translation reads;
- So, as regards Michal, Saul's daughter, she came to have no child down to the day of her death. (**2 Samuel 6:23**)
- And the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul, whom she had brought up for **Adriel**.