

## **~ANAKIM (154)**

**(An'a-kim) [Those of or Belonging to Anak]**

- **A race of people of extraordinary size who inhabited the mountainous regions of Canaan as well as some coastal areas, particularly in the South thereof. At one time three prominent men of the **Anakim**, that is, Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, resided at Hebron.**
- **When they went up into the Negeb, they then came to Hebron. Now Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmai, those born of **Anak**, were there. Incidentally, Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan of Egypt. (**Numbers 13:22**)**
- **It was here that the 12 Hebrew spies first saw the **Anakim**, and 10 of the spies subsequently gave a frightening report of the experience, alleging that these men were descendants of the pre-Flood Nephilim and that, by comparison with them, the Hebrews were like grasshoppers.**
- **Nevertheless, the facts are that the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the fortified cities are very great, and, too, those born of **Anak** we saw there. (**Numbers 13:28**)**
- **The Amalekites are dwelling in the land of the Negeb, and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites are dwelling in the mountainous region, and the Canaanites are dwelling by the sea and by the side of the Jordan. (**Numbers 13:29**)**
- **Then Caleb tried to still the people toward Moses and went on to say; Let us go up directly, and we are bound to take possession of it, because we can surely prevail over it. (**Numbers 13:30**)**
- **But the men who went up with him said; We are not able to go up against the people, because they are stronger than we are. (**Numbers 13:31**)**
- **And they kept on bringing forth to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying; The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is a land that eats up its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in the midst of it are men of extraordinary size. (**Numbers 13:32**)**

- And there we saw the Nephilim, the sons of **Anak**, who are from the Nephilim, so that we became in our own eyes like grasshoppers, and the same way we became in their eyes. (**Numbers 13:33**)
- Where are we going up? Our brothers have caused our heart to melt, saying; A people greater and taller than we are, cities great and fortified to the heavens and also the sons of the **Anakim** we saw there. (**Deuteronomy 1:28**)
- Their great stature caused them to be used as a standard of comparison in describing even the giant-like men of the Emim and the Rephaim. Their strength apparently produced the proverbial saying, Who can make a firm stand before the sons of **Anak**?
- The Emim dwelt in it in former times, a people great and numerous and tall like the **Anakim**. (**Deuteronomy 2:10**)
- As for the Rephaim, they also were considered like the **Anakim**, and the Moabites used to call them Emim. (**Deuteronomy 2:11**)
- As the land of the Rephaim it also used to be considered. The Rephaim dwelt in it in former times, and the Ammonites used to call them Zamzummim. (**Deuteronomy 2:20**)
- They were a great and numerous and tall people like the **Anakim**, and Yehowah went annihilating them from before them, that they might dispossess them and dwell in their place. (**Deuteronomy 2:21**)
- Hear, O Israel, you are today crossing the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, cities great and fortified to the heavens. (**Deuteronomy 9:1**)
- A people great and tall, the sons of **Anakim**, about whom you yourself have known and you yourself have heard it said; Who can make a firm stand before the sons of **Anak**? (**Deuteronomy 9:2**)
- And you well know today that Yehowah your God is crossing before you. A consuming fire he is. He will annihilate them, and he himself will subdue them before you, and you must dispossess them and destroy them speedily, just as Yehowah has spoken to you. (**Deuteronomy 9:3**)

- In Joshua's rapid sweep through Canaan, he gained victories over the **Anakim** in the mountainous regions, destroying their cities, but others remained in the Philistine cities of Gaza, Ashdod, and Gath. Whether the **Anakim** were related to the Philistines, as some suggest, or were only associated with them is not stated in the record.
- Furthermore, at that particular time Joshua went and cut off the **Anakim** from the mountainous region, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab and from all the mountainous region of Judah and from all the mountainous region of Israel. Along with their cities Joshua devoted them to destruction. ([Joshua 11:21](#))
- No **Anakim** were left in the land of the sons of Israel. It was only in Gaza, in Gath and in Ashdod that they remained. ([Joshua 11:22](#))
- Later, Caleb requested the city of Hebron, known as Kiriath-arba, and its territory, as promised him by God.
- And now do give me this mountainous region that Yehowah promised on that day, for you yourself heard on that day that there were **Anakim** there and great fortified cities. Likely Yehowah will be with me, and I shall certainly dispossess them, just as Yehowah promised. ([Joshua 14:12](#))
- At that Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. ([Joshua 14:13](#))
- That is why Hebron has come to belong to Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite as an inheritance down to this day, for the reason that he followed Yehowah the God of Israel fully. ([Joshua 14:14](#))
- The name of Hebron before that was Kiriath-arba, said Arba was the great man among the **Anakim**. And the land had no disturbance from war. ([Joshua 14:15](#))
- As for my servant Caleb, because a different spirit has proved to be with him and he kept following wholly after me, I shall certainly bring him into the land where he has gone, and his offspring will take possession of it. ([Numbers 14:24](#))

- It appears that the **Anakim** had reestablished themselves in this area, perhaps while Joshua and his army were continuing their conquest in the northern parts of Canaan, and hence Caleb was now obliged to reconquer the territory.
- So Judah marched against the Canaanites who were dwelling in Hebron, now the name of Hebron before that was Kiriath-arba, and they went striking down Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai. (**Judges 1:10**)
- When they gave Caleb Hebron, just as Moses had promised, then he drove out from there the three sons of **Anak**. (**Judges 1:20**)
- Egyptian execration texts, from pottery on which the names of enemies of the Pharaoh were written and which was then broken as a curse, might make reference to a tribe of **Anak** in Palestine as *Iy-`anaq*.