~APHEK 5 (60) (A'phek) [Streambed]

- A city mentioned at;
- And it came about at the return of the year that Ben-hadad proceeded to muster the Syrians and to go up to Aphek for battle against Israel. (1 Kings 20:26)
- As the site of the defeat of the Syrian Ben-hadad II. The retreating Syrians pulled back to the city, only to have its wall fall upon 27,000 of them.
- And they continued encamped for seven days, these in front of those. And it came about on the seventh day that the engagement in battle began, and the sons of Israel went striking down the Syrians, a hundred thousand men on foot in one day. (1 Kings 20:29)
- And those that were left went fleeing to Aphek, to the city, and the wall came falling down upon twenty-seven thousand men that were left. As for Ben-hadad, he fled and finally came into the city into the innermost chamber. (1 Kings 20:30)
- It likewise seems to be the place prophetically indicated to King Jehoash by the dying prophet Elisha as the point where the Syrians would suffer future defeats at the hands of Israelites.
- Then he said; Open the window to the east. So he opened it. Finally Elisha said; Shoot! So he shot. He now said; Yehowah's arrow of salvation, even the arrow of salvation against Syria! And you will certainly strike down Syria at Aphek to the finishing point. (2 Kings 13:17)
- And he went on to say; Take the arrows. At that he took them. Then he said to the king of Israel; Strike on the earth. So he struck three times and stopped. (2 Kings 13:18)
- And the man of the true God grew indignant at him, hence he said, It was meant to strike five or six times! In that case you would certainly be striking down Syria to the finishing point, but now it is three times that you will strike down Syria. (2 Kings

13:19)

- And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz proceeded to take back again from the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities that he had taken from the hand of Jehoahaz his father in war. Three times Jehoash struck him down, and he got to recover the cities of Israel. (2 Kings 13:25)
- Some scholars would place the Aphek mentioned in these texts about 5 kilometers (3 miles) East of the Sea of Galilee, where the modern village of Afiq or Fiq is found. However, so far no remains older than the Fourth Century B.C.E. have been found at the site. But at nearby `En Gev on the shore of the Sea of Galilee remains of a large fortified city of the Tenth to Eighth centuries B.C.E. have been discovered.