

~BAAL-MEON (87)

(Ba'al-me'on) [shortened form of Beth-baal-meon]

- A prominent town on the tableland of North Moab assigned to the tribe of Reuben along with Nebo, Kiriathaim, and other towns of the region.
- And the sons of Reuben built Heshbon and Elealeh and Kiriathaim. (**Numbers 32:37**)
- And Nebo and **Baal-meon**, their names being changed, and Sibmah, and they began to call by their own names the names of the cities that they built. (**Numbers 32:38**)
- And Bela the son of Azaz the son of Shema the son of Joel, he was dwelling in Aroer and as far as Nebo and **Baal-meon**. (**1 Chronicles 5:8**)
- The Reubenites, desiring the region for its good grazing land, evidently rebuilt and renamed the towns. In the earlier list at;
- Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Sebam and Nebo and **Beon**. (**Numbers 32:3**)
- The land that Yehowah defeated before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock. (**Numbers 32:4**)
- **Baal-meon** may be represented by the name **Beon**. Joshua thereafter refers to it as **Beth-baal-meon**, likely the full name of the place.
- Heshbon and all its towns that are on the tableland, Dibon and Bamoth-baal and **Beth-baal-meon**. (**Joshua 13:17**)
- **Baal-meon** seems to have been retaken by the Moabites during the reign of King Mesha of Moab, evidently in the latter part of the **Tenth Century B.C.E.** The Moabite Stone inscription (line 9) states that Mesha built or perhaps, fortified, **Baal-meon**, making a reservoir in it, and on line 30 he refers to it by the fuller name **Beth-baal-meon**. Additionally, on a piece of inscribed pottery found in Samaria, Ostraca 27 of Samaria, mention is made of a certain **Baala the Baal-meonite**.

- In the **Seventh Century B.C.E.** the prophet Jeremiah issued a divine warning to Moab foretelling the despoiling of the land by Babylon, specifically mentioning certain towns, including **Beth-meon**.
- Moab has been put to shame, for she has been struck with terror. Howl and cry out. Tell in Arnon, O men, that Moab has been despoiled. (**Jeremiah 48:20**)
- And judgment itself has come to the land of level country, to Holon and to Jahaz and against Mephaath. (**Jeremiah 48:21**)
- And against Dibon and against Nebo and against Beth-diblathaim. (**Jeremiah 48:22**)
- And against Kiriathaim and against Beth-gamul and against **Beth-meon** (**Jeremiah 48:23**)
- Ezekiel includes **Baal-meon** as one of the Moabite sites to be possessed by the Orientals, or, sons of the East.
- Therefore here I am opening the slope of Moab at the cities, at his cities to his frontier, the decoration of the land, Beth-jeshimoth, **Baal-meon**, even to Kiriathaim. (**Ezekiel 25:9**)
- To the Orientals, alongside the sons of Ammon, and I will make it something to possess, in order, that it may not be remembered, that is, the sons of Ammon, among the nations. (**Ezekiel 25:10**)
- Secular history and archaeological investigation confirm the fulfillment of these prophecies.

See Also MOAB

See Also MOABITES 2

- **Baal-meon** is identified with the ruins of **Ma`in**, forming a mound of considerable size about 6 kilometers (3.5 miles) West-Southwest of Medeba and 12 kilometers (7 miles) East of the Dead Sea. The plateau on which **Ma`in** lies is about 800 meters (2,600 feet) in elevation.