

## ~BETH-HARAN (38)

(Beth-ha'ran)[Beth-haram, Beth-ha'ram]

- A city on the eastern side of the Jordan in the territory requested by the tribe of Gad because of its good pastureland. It was either built or rebuilt by the Gadites, and although situated in a low plain, it became one of their fortified cities.
- Now the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad had come to have numerous livestock, very many, in fact. And they began to see the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, and, look! The place was a place for livestock. (**Numbers 32:1**)
- And the sons of Gad proceeded to build Dibon and Ataroth and Aroer. (**Numbers 32:34**)
- And Beth-nimrah and **Beth-haran**, cities with fortifications, and stone flock pens. (**Numbers 32:36**)
- And in the low plain **Beth-haram** and Beth-nimrah and Succoth and Zaphon, the rest of the royal realm of Sihon the king of Heshbon, the Jordan being the border as far as the extremity of the sea of Chinnereth on the side of Jordan toward the east. (**Joshua 13:27**)
- The name seems to have continued in that of **Tell er-Rameh** on the **Wadi er-Rameh**, **Wadi Husban**, in the Plains of Moab, but the original site of **Beth-haran** or **Beth-haram** is identified with **Tell Iktanu**, about 13 kilometers (8 miles) East-Northeast of the point where the Jordan flows into the Dead Sea.
- The site was near a source of renowned hot springs, which may partly account for King Herod's having built a palace in this area. In the first part of the Common Era, the site of **Tell er-Rameh** was known as Livias, a name given it by Herod Antipas, and later its name was changed to Julias.