

~BEZEK 1 (48)
(Be'zek)

- The site at which Judah and Simeon defeated 10,000 Canaanite and Perizzite troops under Adoni-bezek.
- Then Judah said to Simeon his brother; Come up with me into my lot and let us fight against the Canaanites, and I myself in turn will go with you into your lot. Accordingly Simeon went with him. (**Judges 1:3**)
- With that Judah went on up and Yehowah gave the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hands, so that they defeated them in **Bezek**, ten thousand men. (**Judges 1:4**)
- When they found Adoni-bezek in **Bezek**, then they fought against him and defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites. (**Judges 1:5**)
- When Adoni-**bezek** took to flight, then they went chasing after him and got hold of him and cut off the thumbs of his hands and the great toes of his feet. (**Judges 1:6**)
- At this Adoni-**bezek** said; There have been seventy kings with the thumbs of their hands and the great toes of their feet cut off picking up food under my table. Just the way I have done, so God has repaid me. After that they brought him to Jerusalem and he died there. (**Judges 1:7**)
- Some identify this **Bezek** with that of **BEZEK NO. 2** below,
- Then he took the sum of them in **Bezek**, and the sons of Israel amounted to three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand. (**1 Samuel 11:8**)
- Which is in an extreme northern location in relation to Jerusalem and the territory occupied by Judah and Simeon. Such a view would require the assumption that Adoni-**bezek** came South to join other Canaanite forces but was met by Judah and Simeon, was chased North to **Bezek**, and was defeated there.
- The context, however, seems to indicate a place in the general area of Jerusalem. In view of these circumstances, **Bezek**, the city of

Adoni-bezek, is tentatively located in the Shephelah region at the site of Khirbet Bezka, about 5 kilometers (3 miles) Northeast of Gezer.