

~BINDING HOUSE OF THE SHEPHERDS (29)

- A place on the road from Jezreel to Samaria where, by a cistern, Jehu met and slew the brothers of King Ahaziah of Judah.
- And he proceeded to rise and come in, then get on his way to Samaria. The **binding house of the shepherds** was on the way. (2 Kings 10:12)
- And Jehu himself encountered the brothers of Ahaziah the king of Judah. When he said to them; Who are you? Then they said, We are the brothers of Ahaziah, and we are on our way down to ask if all is well with the sons of the king and the sons of the lady. (2 Kings 10:13)
- Immediately he said; Seize them alive, you men! So they seized them alive and slaughtered them at the cistern of the **binding house**, forty-two men, and he did not let a single one of them remain. (2 Kings 10:14)
- Its name apparently indicates a house **where the sheep were bound to facilitate the work of shearing**. Some versions render *behth-e'qedh* as **meeting house**, indicating an inn where **the shepherds** *ha-ro-im* met, others simply transliterate the **Hebrew** name, viewing it as the name of a town. It is generally identified with **Beit Qad, Bet Qad** about 6 kilometers (3.5 miles) East-Northeast of modern Jenin. There are several cisterns at this place.