

~FATHER'S HOUSE (224)

[Hebrew, *behth 'av*]

- The Hebrew expression *behth 'av*, plural, *behth 'a-vohth*, could refer to a;
 - Dwelling place,
 - They must also bring the girl out to the entrance of her **father's house**, and the men of her city must pelt her with stones, and she must die, because she has committed a disgraceful folly in Israel by committing prostitution in the house of her father. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 22:21**)
 - Household of one's father at his place of dwelling,
 - They must also bring the girl out to the entrance of her **father's house**, and the men of her city must pelt her with stones, and she must die, because she has committed a disgraceful folly in Israel by committing prostitution in the house of her father. So you must clear away what is bad from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 22:21**)
 - So Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law; Dwell as a widow in the house of your father until Shelah my son grows up. For he said to himself; He too may die like his brothers. Accordingly Tamar went and continued to dwell at her own **father's house**. (**Genesis 38:11**)
 - Those making up the household itself, even in a location away from the ancestral home,
 - Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his **father's household**; Let me go up and report to Pharaoh and say to him, My brothers and my father's household who were in the land of Canaan have come here to me. (**Genesis 46:31**)
 - And you, for your part, have risen up against the household of my father today that you might kill his sons, seventy men, upon one stone, and that you might make Abimelech, the son of his slave girl, king over the landowners of Shechem just because he is

your own brother. (**Judges 9:18**)

- As variously translated, to a **father's house**, chief house, ancestral house, paternal house, which, in some cases, took in several families.
- For example, at the time of numbering the Israelites in the wilderness, four families were regarded as making up the paternal house of Kohath.
- And the sons of Kohath by their families were Amram and Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. (**Numbers 3:19**)
- And the chieftain of the paternal house for the families of the Kohathites was Elizaphan the son of Uzziel. (**Numbers 3:30**)
- These are the heads of the house of their fathers. The sons of Reuben, Israel's firstborn, were Hanoch and Pallu, Hezron and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben. (**Exodus 6:14**)
- And the sons of Judah came to be, by their families: Of Shelah the family of the Shelanites, of Perez the family of the Perezites, of Zerah the family of the Zerahites. (**Numbers 26:20**)
- And the sons of Perez came to be. Of Hezron the family of the Hezronites. Of Hamul the family of the Hamulites. (**Numbers 26:21**)
- These were the families of Judah, of their registered ones: seventy-six thousand five hundred. (**Numbers 26:22**)
- Next he had the families of Judah come near and picked the family of the Zerahites, after which he had the family of the Zerahites come near, able-bodied man by able-bodied man, and Zabdi got to be picked. (**Joshua 7:17**)
- Several paternal houses constituted a tribe, such as the tribe of Levi, made up of the paternal houses of Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.
- The terms paternal house, or **father's house**, house of our father, and so forth, were not always limited to the above usages, however. For a broader use of paternal house.
- Speak to the sons of Israel and take from them one rod for each

paternal house from all their chieftains, by the house of their **fathers**, twelve rods. You will write the name of each one upon his rod. (**Numbers 17:2**)

- So Moses spoke to the sons of Israel, and all their chieftains went giving him a rod for each chieftain, a rod for each chieftain, by the house of their **fathers**, twelve rods, and Aaron's rod was in among their rods. (**Numbers 17:6**)
- Where a paternal house is a tribe.
- As the population of Israel increased and as various areas of the Promised Land became settled, paternal houses also increased in number. The priests were organized by David into 24 divisions of service according to their paternal houses, 16 divisions for Eleazar and 8 for Ithamar. The 24 headmen were called heads for their paternal houses.
- But the sons of Eleazar were found to be more numerous in headmen than the sons of Ithamar. So they distributed them to the sons of Eleazar, as heads for their paternal houses, sixteen, and to the sons of Ithamar, as heads for their paternal houses, eight. (**1 Chronicles 24:4**)
- Further, they distributed them by lots, these along with those, for there had to be chiefs of the holy place and chiefs of the true God from the sons of Eleazar and from the sons of Ithamar. (**1 Chronicles 24:5**)
- Then Shemaiah the son of Nethanel the secretary of the Levites wrote them down before the king and the princes and Zadok the priest and Ahimelech the son of Abiathar and the heads of the fathers of the priests and of the Levites, one paternal house being picked out for Eleazar and one being picked out for Ithamar. (**1 Chronicles 24:6**)
- The rest of the Levites were selected for certain duties by lot, without regard to any priority of age of the heads of their paternal houses.
- And of the sons of Levi that were left over, of the sons of Amram there was Shubael, of the sons of Shubael, Jehdeiah. (**1 Chronicles 24:20**)

- Of Rehabiah, of the sons of Rehabiah, Isshiah the head. (**1 Chronicles 24:21**)
- Of the Izharites, Shelomoth, of the sons of Shelomoth, Jahath. (**1 Chronicles 24:22**)
- And the sons of Hebron, Jeriah the head, Amariah the second, Jahaziel the third, Jekameam the fourth. (**1 Chronicles 24:23**)
- The sons of Uzziel, Micah. Of the sons of Micah, Shamir. (**1 Chronicles 24:24**)
- The brother of Micah was Isshiah, of the sons of Isshiah, Zechariah. (**1 Chronicles 24:25**)
- The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi, the sons of Jaaziah, Beno. (**1 Chronicles 24:26**)
- The sons of Merari: Of Jaaziah, Beno and Shoham and Zaccur and Ibri. (**1 Chronicles 24:27**)
- Of Mahli, Eleazar, who did not come to have any sons. (**1 Chronicles 24:28**)
- Of Kish, the sons of Kish were Jerahmeel. (**1 Chronicles 24:29**)
- And the sons of Mushi were Mahli and Eder and Jerimoth. These were the sons of the Levites by their paternal houses. (**1 Chronicles 24:30**)
- And they themselves also proceeded to cast lots exactly as their brothers the sons of Aaron did before David the king and Zadok and Ahimelech and the heads of the paternal houses of the priests and of the Levites. As respects paternal houses, the head one was exactly as his younger brother. (**1 Chronicles 24:31**)
- Each Israelite paternal house was represented by its hereditary head in connection with official tribal business and the administration of justice.
- And there was a part of the heads of the paternal houses that gave to the work. The Tirshatha himself gave to the treasure a thousand gold drachmas, fifty bowls, five hundred and thirty priests robes. (**Nehemiah 7:70**)

- And there were some of the heads of the paternal houses that gave to the treasure for the work twenty thousand gold drachmas and two thousand two hundred silver minas. ([Nehemiah 7:71](#))
- And his brothers, heads of paternal houses, two hundred and forty-two, and Amashsai the son of Azarel the son of Ahzai the son of Meshillemoth the son of Immer. ([Nehemiah 11:13](#))
- At the celebration of the Passover in Jerusalem in King Josiah's time, the people apparently entered the court of the temple by their paternal houses to offer their sacrifices. The Levites, by their divisions based on paternal houses, received the sacrifices of the people and prepared them.
- And make preparation by the house of your forefathers according to your divisions, by the writing of David the king of Israel and by the writing of Solomon his son. ([2 Chronicles 35:4](#))
- And stand in the holy place by the classes of the house of the forefathers for your brothers, the sons of the people, and the portion of a paternal house belonging to the Levites. ([2 Chronicles 35:5](#))
- Further, they prepared the burnt offerings so as to give them to the classes by the paternal house, to the sons of the people, so as to make a presentation to Yehowah according to what is written in the book of Moses, and thus also with the cattle. ([2 Chronicles 35:12](#))
- Jesus Christ promised his followers that he was going his way to prepare a place for them in his **Father's house**, by which he had reference to the heavenly dwelling place of Yehowah.
- In the house of my Father there are many abodes. Otherwise, I would have told you, because I am going my way to prepare a place for you. ([John 14:2](#))

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