## ~GIBBETHON (59) (Gib'be-thon) [Back, Mound]

- A city originally assigned to the tribe of Dan.
- It was for the tribe of the sons of Dan by their families that the seventh lot came out. (Joshua 19:40)
- And the border of their inheritance came to be Zorah and Eshtaol and Ir-shemesh. (Joshua 19:41)
- And Eltekeh and Gibbethon and Baalath. (Joshua 19:44)
- But later given to the Kohathites as a Levite city.
- And for the families of the sons of Kohath, the Levites who were left over of the sons of Kohath, there came to be by their lot cities out of the tribe of Ephraim. (Joshua 21:20)
- And from the tribe of Dan, Elteke and its pasture ground, Gibbethon and its pasture ground. (Joshua 21:23)
- Centuries later, Gibbethon was in the hands of the Philistines, and it was while Israel's King Nadab was attempting to wrest the city from them that the conspirator Baasha assassinated him.
- And Baasha the son of Ahijah of the house of Issachar began to conspire against him, and Baasha got to strike him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon. (1 Kings 15:27)
- Gibbethon was under Philistine control some 24 years later when Omri, army chief of Israel, encamped against it. Acclaimed as king by the Israelite camp there, Omri broke off the siege of Gibbethon to attack the rival Israelite king Zimri.
- In the twenty-seventh year of Asa the king of Judah, Zimri became king for seven days in Tirzah, while the people were encamping against Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines. (1 Kings 16:15)
- In time the people that were encamped heard it said; Zimri has

conspired and also struck down the king. So all Israel made Omri, the chief of the army, king over Israel on that day in the camp. (1 Kings 16:16)

- Omri and all Israel with him now went on up from Gibbethon and began to lay siege to Tirzah. (1 Kings 16:17)
- And it came about that as soon as Zimri saw that the city had been captured, he then came into the dwelling tower of the king's house and burned the king's house over himself with fire, so that he died. (1 Kings 16:18)
- Gibbethon is generally identified with Tell el-Melat, Tel Malot, about 9 kilometers (5.5 miles) North of the suggested site of the Philistine city of Ekron.