

~GOZAN (64)
(Go'zan)

- **A name seemingly applied both to a place and to a river.**
- **Have the gods of the nations that my forefathers brought to ruin delivered them, even **Gozan** and Haran and Rezeph and the sons of Eden that were in Tel-assar? (**2 Kings 19:12**)**
- **Have the gods of the nations that my forefathers brought to ruin delivered them, even **Gozan** and Haran and Rezeph and the sons of Eden that were in Tel-assar? (**Isaiah 37:12**)**
- ****Gozan** appears to embrace an area larger than a city, for its inhabitants are listed among the nations conquered by the Assyrians. Many scholars, evidently basing their conclusions on word similarities, believe that **Gozan** may correspond to **Gauzanitis**, a district of Mesopotamia referred to by Ptolemy and considered to be the same as the **Guzana** mentioned in Assyrian records.**
- **Ancient **Guzana** is commonly linked with modern **Tell Halaf** on the upper Khabur River, about 590 kilometers (367 miles) East-northeast of the Sea of Galilee.**
- **In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and then led Israel into exile in Assyria and kept them dwelling in Halah and in Habor at the river **Gozan** and in the cities of the Medes. (**2 Kings 17:6**)**
- **After that the king of Assyria took Israel into exile in Assyria and set them down in Halah and in Habor at the river **Gozan** and in the cities of the Medes. (**2 Kings 18:11**)**
- **Some translations read Habor, the river of **Gozan**, **AS**, **RS**, instead of Habor at, or, by, the river **Gozan**, **NW**, **Yg**, thus also making **Gozan** a place in these texts. But the rendering Habor, the river of **Gozan**, does not harmonize with;**
- **Consequently the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul the king of Assyria even the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser the king of Assyria, so that he took into exile those of the Reubenites and of the Gadites and of the half tribe of Manasseh and brought them**

to Halah and Habor and Hara and the river **Gozan** to continue until this day. (**1 Chronicles 5:26**)

- In this passage Habor is listed between Halah and Hara, and Hara, not Habor, is listed before **Gozan**. This indicates that Habor and the river of **Gozan**, **AS**, are not synonymous. Hence, those who identify **Gozan** as a place throughout are obliged to reject the Chronicles reference.
- However, since the Hebrew allows for a consistent rendering of river **Gozan** in all three texts, there is reason to believe that it was in the vicinity of a river called **Gozan** that the king of Assyria settled some of the exiled Israelites of the northern kingdom.
- The Qezel Owzan of Northwest Iran has been suggested as a possible identification of the river **Gozan**. It rises in the mountains Southeast of Lake Urmia, in what used to be the land of the Medes, and finally empties as the Sefid Rud or White River, the name applied to its lower course, into the Southwest section of the Caspian Sea. According to another view, the **Gozan** is a river of Mesopotamia.