

~HAZOR 1 (157)

(Ha'zor) [Courtyard, Settlement]

- The chief city of northern Canaan at the time of Israel's conquest under Joshua.
- More than that, Joshua turned about at that time and captured **Hazor**, and its king he struck down with the sword, because Hazor was before that the head of all these kingdoms. (**Joshua 11:10**)
- **Hazor** has been identified with **Tell el-Qedah**, **Tel Hazor** located about 11 kilometers (7 miles) South-Southeast of the suggested site of Kedesh. According to archaeologist Yigael Yadin, under whose direction excavations were carried out at the site from, **1955 C.E. to 1958 C.E;** and, **1968 C.E. to 1969 C.E**, the **Hazor** of Joshua's time covered an area of approximately 60 ha (150 acres) and could have accommodated from 25,000 to 30,000 inhabitants.
- Jabin the king of **Hazor** led the united forces of northern Canaan against Joshua but suffered a humiliating defeat. **Hazor** itself was burned, the only city in that area built on a mound to be so treated.
- And it came about that as soon as Jabin the king of **Hazor** heard of it, he went sending to Jobab the king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and the king of Achshaph. (**Joshua 11:1**)
- And to the kings that were to the north in the mountainous region and in the desert plains south of Chinnereth and in the Shephelah and on the mountain ridges of Dor to the west. (**Joshua 11:2**)
- The Canaanites to the east and the west, and the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites in the mountainous region and the Hivites at the base of Hermon in the land of Mizpah. (**Joshua 11:3**)
- So they went out, they and all their camps with them, a people as numerous as the grains of sand that are on the seashore for multitude, and very many horses and war chariots. (**Joshua 11:4**)
- Then all these kings met together by appointment and came and

encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel. (**Joshua 11:5**)

- At this Yehowah said to Joshua; Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I am abandoning all of them slain to Israel. Their horses you will hamstring, and their chariots you will burn in the fire. (**Joshua 11:6**)
- And Joshua and all the people of war with him proceeded to come against them along the waters of Merom by surprise and to fall upon them. (**Joshua 11:7**)
- Then Yehowah gave them into Israel's hand, and they went striking them and pursuing them as far as populous Sidon and Misrephoth-maim and the valley plain of Mizpeh to the east, and they kept striking them until they had not let a survivor of theirs remain. (**Joshua 11:8**)
- After that Joshua did to them just as Yehowah had said to him, their horses he hamstrung, and their chariots he burned in the fire. (**Joshua 11:9**)
- More than that, Joshua turned about at that time and captured **Hazor**, and its king he struck down with the sword, because Hazor was before that the head of all these kingdoms. (**Joshua 11:10**)
- And they went striking every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction. No breathing thing at all was left over, and he burned **Hazor** in the fire. (**Joshua 11:11**)
- And all the cities of these kings and all their kings Joshua captured and went striking them with the edge of the sword. He devoted them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of Yehowah had commanded. (**Joshua 11:12**)
- It was only all the cities standing on their own mounds that Israel did not burn, except that Joshua did burn **Hazor** by itself. (**Joshua 11:13**)
- Although later assigned to the tribe of Naphtali.
- It was for the sons of Naphtali that the sixth lot came out, for the sons of Naphtali by their families. (**Joshua 19:32**)

- And the fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer and Hammath, Rakkath and Chinnereth. (**Joshua 19:35**)
- And Adamah and Ramah and **Hazor**. (**Joshua 19:36**)
- **Hazor**, in the time of Deborah and Barak, was the seat of another powerful Canaanite king also called Jabin.
- So Yehowah sold them into the hand of Jabin the king of Canaan, who reigned in **Hazor**, and the chief of his army was Sisera, and he was dwelling in Harosheth of the nations. (**Judges 4:2**)
- As for Sisera, he fled on foot to the tent of Jael the wife of Heber the Kenite, for there was peace between Jabin the king of **Hazor** and the household of Heber the Kenite. (**Judges 4:17**)
- And they went forgetting Yehowah their God, so that he sold them into the hand of Sisera the chief of the army of **Hazor** and into the hand of the Philistines and into the hand of the king of Moab, and they kept fighting against them. (**1 Samuel 12:9**)
- At a later period, **Hazor**, like Gezer and Megiddo, was fortified by King Solomon.
- Now this is the account of those conscripted for forced labor that King Solomon levied to build the house of Yehowah and his own house and the Mound and the wall of Jerusalem and **Hazor** and Megiddo and Gezer. (**1 Kings 9:15**)
- Archaeological finds indicate that the gates of these three cities were of similar construction. Reporting on the excavations at **Hazor**, Yigael Yadin, in his work [**The Art of Warfare in Biblical Lands [1963, Vol. II, p. 288]**], writes:
 - As the first sign of the gate of this wall began to emerge from the dust and earth that were gently being scooped away, we were struck by its similarity to the Gate of Solomon which had been discovered at Megiddo.
 - Before proceeding further with the excavation, we made tentative markings of the ground following our estimate of the plan of the gate on the basis of the Megiddo gate. And then we told the laborers to go ahead and continue removing the debris.

- **When they had finished, they looked at us with astonishment, as if we were magicians or fortune-tellers. For there, before us, was the gate whose outline we had marked, a replica of the Megiddo gate.**
- **This proved not only that both gates had been built by Solomon but that both had followed a single master plan.**
- **Over 200 years after Solomon's death, during the reign of Israelite King Pekah, the Assyrian king Tiglath-pileser III conquered Hazor and carried its inhabitants into exile.**
- **In the days of Pekah the king of Israel, Tiglath-pileser the king of Assyria came in and proceeded to take Ijon and Abel-beth-maacah and Janoah and Kedesh and **Hazor** and Gilead and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and to carry them into exile in Assyria. (2 Kings 15:29)**