

~ITURAEA (68)
(It-u-rae'a)

- A small territory of varying and undefined boundaries located Northeast of the Sea of Galilee.
- The name **Ituraea** is thought to derive from Ishmael's son Jetur, whose descendants residing East of the Jordan were defeated by the Israelites.
- Hadad and Tema, Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. (**Genesis 25:15**)
- These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names by their courtyards and by their walled camps, twelve chieftains according to their clans. (**Genesis 25:16**)
- Jetur, Naphish and Kedemah. These were the sons of Ishmael. (**1 Chronicles 1:31**)
- As for the sons of Reuben and the Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh, of those who were valiant fellows, men carrying shield and sword and bending the bow and trained in war, there were forty-four thousand seven hundred and sixty going out to the army. (**1 Chronicles 5:18**)
- And they began to make war upon the Hagrites, and Jetur and Naphish and Nodab. (**1 Chronicles 5:19**)
- And they came to be helped against them, so that the Hagrites and all those who were with them were given into their hand, for it was to God that they called for aid in the war, and he let himself be entreated in their favor because they trusted in him. (**1 Chronicles 5:20**)
- And they got to take captive their livestock, their camels fifty thousand, and sheep two hundred and fifty thousand, and asses two thousand, and human souls a hundred thousand. (**1 Chronicles 5:21**)
- For there were many that had fallen slain, because it was on the part of the true God that the fighting was. And they continued to dwell in their place down to the time of the exile. (**1 Chronicles**

5:22)

- As for the sons of the half tribe of Manasseh, they dwelt in the land from Bashan to Baal-hermon and Senir and Mount Hermon. They themselves became numerous. (1 Chronicles 5:23)
- Toward the close of the Second Century B.C.E, the Maccabean King Aristobulus I successfully warred against Ituraea and added much of its territory to Judea.
- To remain in the country, the inhabitants of Ituraea had to submit to circumcision and obey Jewish Law. [Jewish Antiquities, XIII, 318, xi, 3]
- Later, Ituraea was one of the territories comprising the tetrarchy of Philip, inherited from his father Herod the Great.
- In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was district ruler of Galilee, but Philip his brother was district ruler of the country of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was district ruler of Abilene. (Luke 3:1)