

~KEDAR 2 (164)

(Ke'dar) [from a root meaning be dark]

- An Arab tribe descended from Ishmael's son **Kedar** and classed with the sons of the East. Their land is also called **Kedar**.
- But pass over to the coastlands of the Kittim and see. Yes, send even to **Kedar** and give your special consideration, and see whether anything like this has happened. (**Jeremiah 2:10**)
- For **Kedar** and the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon struck down, this is what Yehowah has said; Rise up, go up to Kedar, O men, and despoil the sons of the East. (**Jeremiah 49:28**)
- Their own tents and their own flocks will be taken, their tent cloths and all their articles. And their own camels will be carried off from them. And they will certainly cry out to them; Fright is all around! (**Jeremiah 49:29**)
- A nomadic and pastoral people, having herds of sheep, goats, and camels.
- All the flocks of **Kedar**, they will be collected together to you. The rams of Nebaioth, they will minister to you. With approval they will come up upon my altar, and I shall beautify my own house of beauty. (**Isaiah 60:7**)
- For **Kedar** and the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon struck down, this is what Yehowah has said; Rise up, go up to Kedar, O men, and despoil the sons of the East. (**Jeremiah 49:28**)
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- The **Kedarites** evidently inhabited the Syro-Arabian desert East of Palestine in the Northwest part of the Arabian Peninsula. The reference to the settlements that **Kedar** inhabits.

- Let the wilderness and its cities raise their voice, the settlements that **Kedar** inhabits. Let the inhabitants of the crag cry out in joy. From the top of the mountains let people cry aloud. (**Isaiah 42:11**)
- While possibly referring to temporary encampments, may instead indicate that a portion of them were somewhat settled. Perhaps because of their importance among the Arab tribes, the name of **Kedar** in later times came to apply to desert tribes in general. In the Targums and in rabbinic literature, Arabia itself is sometimes called **Kedar**.
- The Shulammite girl of The Song of Solomon likened her swarthy appearance to the tents of **Kedar**.
- A black girl I am, but comely, O you daughters of Jerusalem, like the tents of **Kedar**, yet like the tent cloths of Solomon. (**Song of Solomon 1:5**)
- Do not you look at me because I am swarthy, because the sun has caught sight of me. The sons of my own mother grew angry with me, they appointed me the keeper of the vineyards, although my vineyard, one that was mine, I did not keep. (**Song of Solomon 1:6**)
- Woe to me, for I have resided as an alien in Meshech! I have tabernacled together with the tents of **Kedar**. (**Psalms 120:5**)
- These likely being made of black goats hair, as are the tents of many modern-day Bedouin. Ezekiel's prophecy mentions the chieftains of **Kedar**, along with the Arabs as merchants of male lambs, rams, and he-goats for the commercial city of Tyre.
- The Arabs and all the chieftains of **Kedar** themselves were merchants in your employ. In male lambs and rams and he-goats, in them they were your merchants. (**Ezekiel 27:21**)
- During the time of Assyria's dominance in the Middle East, the prophet Isaiah foretold the sudden decline of **Kedar's** glory, her mighty bowmen being reduced to a mere remnant.
- For this is what Yehowah has said to me; Within yet a year, according to the years of a hired laborer, all the glory of **Kedar** must even come to its end. (**Isaiah 21:16**)

- And the ones remaining over of the number of bowmen, the mighty men of the sons of **Kedar**, will become few, for Yehowah himself, the God of Israel, has spoken it. (**Isaiah 21:17**)
- The **Kedarites** are evidently the **Qidri** or **Qadri** referred to in Assyrian records of warring campaigns. Assyrian King Ashurbanipal includes them with the **Aribi** or Arabs and Nebaioth.
- All the flocks of **Kedar**, they will be collected together to you. The rams of Nebaioth ,they will minister to you. With approval they will come up upon my altar, and I shall beautify my own house of beauty. (**Isaiah 60:7**)
- In one campaign account and boasts of the asses, camels, and sheep taken from them as booty.
- At a later time, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, struck down **Kedar**.
- For **Kedar** and the kingdoms of Hazor, which Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon struck down, this is what Yehowah has said; Rise up, go up to Kedar, O men, and despoil the sons of the East. (**Jeremiah 49:28**)
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- The monarchs conquest of North Arabia is mentioned by Babylonian historian Berossus, quoted by Josephus. [**Against Apion, I, 129,133,19**]
- A silver bowl, considered to be of the **Fifth Century B.C.E**, found at **Tell el-Maskhutih** in Egypt bears the Aramaic inscription, **Qanu son of Geshem, king of Kedar**.
- The Geshem meant in this case may possibly be Geshem the Arabian who opposed the work of rebuilding Jerusalem's wall in Nehemiah's day.
- Now when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they began to deride us and look on us despisingly and say; What is this thing

that you are doing? Is it against the king that you are rebelling?
(**Nehemiah 2:19**)

- Now it came about that, as soon as it was told to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arabian and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and there had not been left in it a gap, although up to that time the doors themselves I had not set up in the gate. (**Nehemiah 6:1**)
- Sanballat and Geshem immediately sent to me, saying; Do come, and let us meet together by appointment in the villages of the valley plain of Ono. But they were scheming to do me harm. (**Nehemiah 6:2**)
- There was written in it. Among the nations it has been heard, and Geshem is saying it, that you and the Jews are scheming to rebel. That is why you are building the wall, and you are becoming a king to them, according to these words. (**Nehemiah 6:6**)
- Assyrian records indicate that at the shrine of King Hazail of **Kedar** there were images of the following false deities: Atarsamain, the Assyrians identified her with Ishtar Dilbat, Dai, Nahai, Ruldaiu, Atarquruma, and Abirillu.
- A star of gold decorated with precious stones served as a symbol of the goddess Atarsamain. According to the **Babylonian Talmud [Ta`anit 5b]**, the people of **Kedar** also worshiped water.