

~LUZ 2 (39)

[Almond Tree]

- The name of a city built in the land of the Hittites by a man of Bethel, **Luz**, who cooperated with Israelite fighters of the house of Joseph in bringing about the fall of Bethel.
- Like Rahab and her family, he and his family were allowed to go unharmed. But, different from Rahab and perhaps indicating that the basis for his services rendered was not a genuine fear and appreciation of Yehowah the God of Israel, the man did not seek to associate himself with Israel, preferring to go to Hittite country and there build his city, which he named **Luz**, doubtless in memory of his hometown. The Bible does not dignify him by naming him as it does Rahab.
- And the house of Joseph began to spy on Bethel, incidentally, the name of the city before that was **Luz**. (**Judges 1:23**)
- And the watchers got to see a man going out of the city. So they said to him; Show us, please, the way to get into the city, and we shall certainly exercise kindness toward you. (**Judges 1:24**)
- Accordingly the man showed them the way to get into the city, and they went striking the city with the edge of the sword, but the man and all his family they let go. (**Judges 1:25**)
- Upon that the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and called its name **Luz**. That is its name down to this day. (**Judges 1:26**)
- Some consider it likely that the name of the city at least is reflected in the ruins of **el-Louaize**, about 20 kilometers (12 miles) East-Southeast of Sidon.