

~**MAACAH** 10 (108)

(Ma'a-cah)[1-9, possibly from a root meaning squeeze]

- A petty kingdom in existence in North Palestine at the time of the Israelite invasion, also called **Maacath**. The territory of the tribe of Manasseh evidently was to embrace this area, but the record shows that the Israelites did not dispossess the inhabitants of that land, so they kept dwelling in the midst of Israel.
- Jair the son of Manasseh took all the region of Argob as far as the boundary of the Geshurites and the **Maacathites**, and he proceeded to call those villages of Bashan by his own name, Havvoth-jair, to this day. (**Deuteronomy 3:14**)
- And the sons of Israel did not dispossess the Geshurites and the **Maacathites**, but Geshur and **Maacath** keep dwelling in the midst of Israel down to this day. (**Joshua 13:13**)
- Generally associated with the neighboring kingdom of Geshur, **Maacah** appears to have been located to the North of that kingdom and to have bordered on the region of Bashan.
- And who ruled in Mount Hermon and in Salecah and in all Bashan, as far as the boundary of the Geshurites and the **Maacathites**, and half of Gilead, to the territory of Sihon the king of Heshbon. (**Joshua 12:5**)
- It is usually considered to have occupied the area running from the southern slopes of Mount Hermon down to the Hula Basin and from the Jordan River eastward to the edge of the Syrian Desert, or, basically, the northern part of the present district of Golan.
- **Maacah** was an Aramaean or Syrian kingdom, its people perhaps descending from Nahor's son of the same name.
- There was his concubine too, whose name was Reumah. In time she herself also gave birth to Tebah and Gaham and Tahash and **Maacah**. (**Genesis 22:24**)
- In time the sons of Ammon saw that they had become foul-smelling to David, and Hanun and the sons of Ammon proceeded to send a thousand silver talents to hire for themselves chariots

and horsemen from Mesopotamia and from **Aram-maacah** and from Zobah. (**1 Chronicles 19:6**)

- When the Ammonites went to war against King David, they hired the services of the king of **Maacah**, along with others. The small number of troops provided by **Maacah**, as compared with those of the other allies, may indicate the small size of the **Maacathite** kingdom.
- In time the sons of Ammon saw that they had become foul-smelling to David, and the sons of Ammon proceeded to send and hire Syrians of Beth-rehob and Syrians of Zobah, twenty thousand men on foot, and the king of **Maacah**, a thousand men, and Ishtob, twelve thousand men. (**2 Samuel 10:6**)
- When David heard of it, then he sent Joab and all the army and the mighty men. (**2 Samuel 10:7**)
- And the sons of Ammon began to go out and draw up in battle formation at the entrance of the gate, also the Syrians of Zobah and of Rehob, and Ishtob and **Maacah** by themselves in the open field. (**2 Samuel 10:8**)
- Joab's victory over the Ammonites and their Syrian allies was followed up by a further victory over the Syrians by King David.
- Then Joab and the people that were with him advanced to the battle against the Syrians, and they went fleeing from before him. (**2 Samuel 10:13**)
- As for the sons of Ammon, they saw that the Syrians had fled, and they took to flight from before Abishai and hence came into the city. After that Joab returned from the sons of Ammon and came to Jerusalem. (**2 Samuel 10:14**)
- When the Syrians saw that they had been defeated before Israel, they proceeded to gather themselves together. (**2 Samuel 10:15**)
- So Hadadezer sent and brought out the Syrians that were in the region of the River, and then they came to Helam, with Shobach the chief of the army of Hadadezer before them. (**2 Samuel 10:16**)
- When the report was made to David, he immediately gathered all Israel and crossed the Jordan and came to Helam. The Syrians

now drew up in formation to meet David and began to fight against him. ([2 Samuel 10:17](#))

- And the Syrians took to flight from before Israel, and David got to kill of the Syrians seven hundred charioteers and forty thousand horsemen, and Shobach the chief of their army he struck down so that he died there. ([2 Samuel 10:18](#))
- When all the kings, the servants of Hadadezer, saw that they had been defeated before Israel, they promptly made peace with Israel and began to serve them, and the Syrians were afraid to try saving the sons of Ammon anymore. ([2 Samuel 10:19](#))
- From later accounts it seems likely that the kingdom of Maacah eventually came under the domination of the kingdom of Damascus.