

~NIBHAZ (53)
(Nib'haz)

- **A deity worshiped by the Avvites, whom the king of Assyria settled in the territory of Samaria following the deportation of the Israelites after the fall of the ten-tribe kingdom.**
- **Subsequently the king of Assyria brought people from Babylon and Cuthah and Avva and Hamath and Sepharvaim and had them dwell in the cities of Samaria instead of the sons of Israel, and they began to take possession of Samaria and to dwell in its cities. (2 Kings 17:24)**
- **And it came about at the start of their dwelling there that they did not fear Yehowah. Therefore Yehowah sent lions among them, and they came to be killers among them. (2 Kings 17:25)**
- **So they sent word to the king of Assyria, saying; The nations that you have taken into exile and then settled in the cities of Samaria have not known the religion of the God of the land, so that he keeps sending lions among them, and, look! They are putting them to death, inasmuch as there are none knowing the religion of the God of the land. (2 Kings 17:26)**
- **At that the king of Assyria commanded, saying; Have one of the priests go there whom you led into exile from there, that he may go and dwell there and teach them the religion of the God of the land. (2 Kings 17:27)**
- **Accordingly one of the priests whom they had led into exile from Samaria came and began dwelling in Bethel, and he came to be a teacher of them as to how they ought to fear Yehowah. (2 Kings 17:28)**
- **However, each different nation came to be a maker of its own god, which they then deposited in the house of the high places that the Samaritans had made, each different nation, in their cities where they were dwelling. (2 Kings 17:29)**
- **And the men of Babylon, for their part, made Succoth-benoth, and the men of Cuth, for their part, made Nergal, and the men of Hamath, for their part, made Ashima. (2 Kings 17:30)**

- **As for the Avvites, they made **Nibhaz** and Tartak, and the Sepharvites were burning their sons in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech the gods of Sepharvaim. (2 Kings 17:31)**
- **Aside from the brief Scriptural reference to **Nibhaz**, nothing can be said with certainty about the nature or form of this god.**