

~OPHRAH 2 (65)

(Oph'rah)[2,3, possibly, Place of Dust]

- A city of Benjamin.
- And the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin by their families proved to be Jericho and Beth-hoglah and Emek-keziz. (Joshua 18:21)
- Its relative location may be deduced from the narrative about Israel's encounters with the Philistines during Saul's reign. From their camp at Michmash, bands of Philistine pillagers sallied forth in three different directions.
- One band turned to the road to **Ophrah**. Another went westward on the road to Beth-horon, while yet another traveled eastward on the road to the boundary that looks toward the valley of Zeboim.
- Since at least part of the Israelite army was encamped at Geba to the South of Michmash, apparently the Philistine band taking the road to **Ophrah** went northward. Accordingly, this would place **Ophrah** to the North of Michmash.
- And Saul and Jonathan his son and the people yet found with them were dwelling in Geba of Benjamin. As for the Philistines, they had encamped in Michmash. (1 Samuel 13:16)
- And the force of pillagers would sally forth from the camp of the Philistines in three bands. The one band would turn to the road to **Ophrah**, to the land of Shual. (1 Samuel 13:17)
- And the other band would turn to the road of Beth-horon, and the third band would turn to the road to the boundary that looks toward the valley of Zeboim, toward the wilderness. (1 Samuel 13:18)
- Scholars often equate **Ophrah** with the city called Ephraim.
- And it turned out after two full years that Absalom came to have sheepshearers at Baal-hazor, which is close by Ephraim, and Absalom proceeded to invite all the sons of the king. (2 Samuel 13:23)

- Hence Jesus no longer walked about publicly among the Jews, but he departed from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there he remained with the disciples. ([John 11:54](#))
- And Ephraim
- And Abijah kept chasing after Jeroboam and got to capture cities from him, Bethel and its dependent towns, and Jeshanah and its dependent towns, and Ephraim and its dependent towns. ([2 Chronicles 13:19](#))
- Thought to be represented by **et-Taiyiba** 6 kilometers (3.5 miles) East-Northeast of Bethel