

## ~POOL OF THE CANAL (59)

- A pool or reservoir of water, apparently South of the City of David where the Valley of Hinnom and the Central or Tyropoeon Valley meet.
- And the Fountain Gate was what Shallun the son of Colhozeh, a prince of the district of Mizpah, repaired, he himself proceeded to build it and to roof it over and to set up its doors, its bolts and its bars, and also the wall of the Pool of the Canal to the Kings Garden and as far as the Stairway that goes down from the City of David. (Nehemiah 3:15)
- It seems that this pool was also termed, the lower pool.
- And you people will certainly see the very breaches of the City of David, for they will actually be many. And you will collect the waters of the lower pool. (Isaiah 22:9)
- The Masoretic text at;
- And the Fountain Gate was what Shallun the son of Colhozeh, a prince of the district of Mizpah, repaired, he himself proceeded to build it and to roof it over and to set up its doors, its bolts and its bars, and also the wall of the Pool of the Canal to the Kings Garden and as far as the Stairway that goes down from the City of David. (Nehemiah 3:15)
- Designates this the Pool of Shelah. Some scholars believe that Shelah should be emended to Shiloah, meaning, Sender and applying to a canal, or channel, that delivers water to a pool.
- For the reason that this people has rejected the waters of the Shiloah that are going gently, and there is exultation over Rezin and the son of Remaliah. (Isaiah 8:6)
- Thus, while some Bible versions leave Shelah untranslated, The Jerusalem Bible renders the expression the conduit cistern, and the New World Translation reads, the Pool of the Canal.
- Remains have been found of a channel, or canal, that ran South from the Gihon spring, following the contour of the Kidron's bank and terminating in an ancient reservoir now called Birket el-Hamra.

- Sections of the canal were covered with stone slabs, but it appears that there were openings so that water could be drawn off to irrigate parts of the valley. The gradual slope of this canal may be referred to in the words the waters of the **Shiloah** that are going gently.
- For the reason that this people has rejected the waters of the Shiloah that are going gently, and there is exultation over Rezin and the son of Remaliah. (**Isaiah 8:6**)
- The location of **Birket el-Hamra** fits Nehemiah's placement of the **Pool** of the Canal, near the Kings Garden and the Stairway going down from the South end of the City of David.