

~ZEPHATH (54)

(Ze'phath) [possibly from a root meaning, keep watch]

- A royal Canaanite city in the southern part of Judah's territory, apparently South of Arad, captured by the combined forces of Judah and Simeon.
- And the sons of the Kenite, whose son-in-law Moses was, came up out of the city of palm trees with the sons of Judah to the wilderness of Judah, which is to the south of Arad. Then they went and took up dwelling with the people. (**Judges 1:16**)
- But Judah marched on with Simeon his brother, and they proceeded to strike the Canaanites inhabiting **Zephath** and to devote it to destruction. Hence the name of the city was called **Hormah**. (**Judges 1:17**)
- And Eltolad and Chesil and **Hormah**. (**Joshua 15:30**)
- And Eltolad and Bethul and **Hormah**. (**Joshua 19:4**)
- The city was renamed, **Hormah**, meaning, **A Devoting to Destruction**. This city, like the other cities of the Canaanites, had been placed **under ban** by Yehowah and was to be devoted to destruction.
- When Yehowah your God at last brings you into the land to which you are going so as to take possession of it, he must also clear away populous nations from before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations more populous and mighty than you are. (**Deuteronomy 7:1**)
- And Yehowah your God will certainly abandon them to you, and you must defeat them. You should without fail devote them to destruction. You must conclude no covenant with them nor show them any favor. (**Deuteronomy 7:2**)
- And you must form no marriage alliance with them. Your daughter you must not give to his son, and his daughter you must not take for your son. (**Deuteronomy 7:3**)
- For he will turn your son from following me, and they will

certainly serve other gods, and Yehowah's anger will indeed blaze against you, and he will certainly annihilate you in a hurry.
(Deuteronomy 7:4)

- The tribes of Judah and Simeon were now applying the terms of that ban to **Zephath**. Zephath may have been the principal Canaanite city of that district or area.

See Also HORMAH