

~CANAAN 2 (3476)

(Ca'naan) [Merchant Land, Land of the Tradesman, Canaanite, Ca'naan-ite]

- Boundaries And Early History
- Conquest Of Canaan By Israel.
- Why Did Yehowah Decree The Extermination Of The Canaanites?
- Later History
- Commercial And Geopolitical Importance
- Language

- The name **Canaan** also applies to the race descended from Hams son and to the land of their residence. **Canaan** was the earlier and native name of that part of Palestine lying West of the Jordan River
- Speak to the sons of Israel, and you must say to them, you are crossing the Jordan into the land of **Canaan**. (**Numbers 33:51**)
- Speak to the sons of Israel, and you must say to them, you are crossing the Jordan to the land of **Canaan**. (**Numbers 35:10**)
- Three cities you will give on this side of the Jordan, and three cities you will give in the land of **Canaan**. As cities of refuge they will serve. (**Numbers 35:14**)
- Although the **Canaanitish** Amorites did invade the land East of the Jordan sometime prior to the Israelite conquest.
- From there they pulled away and went camping in the region of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that extends from the border of the Amorites, for the Arnon is the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites. (**Numbers 21:13**)
- For Heshbon was the city of Sihon. He was the king of the Amorites, and it was he who fought with the king of Moab formerly and went taking all his land out of his hand as far as the Arnon. (**Numbers 21:26**)

·· Boundaries And Early History

- The earliest description of the boundaries of **Canaan** show it as extending from Sidon in the North down to Gerar near Gaza in the

Southwest and over to Sodom and the neighboring cities in the Southeast.

- So the boundary of the **Canaanite** came to be from Sidon as far as Gerar, near Gaza, as far as Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboiim, near Lasha. (**Genesis 10:19**)
- In Abraham's time, however, it seems that Sodom and the other cities of the District were viewed as distinct from **Canaan**.
- Abram dwelt in the land of **Canaan**, but Lot dwelt among the cities of the District. Finally he pitched tent near Sodom. (**Genesis 13:12**)
- The later territories of Edom and Moab, inhabited by descendants of Abraham and Lot, were also apparently considered to be outside of **Canaan**.
- After that Esau took his wives and his sons and his daughters and all the souls of his house and his herd and all his other beasts and all his wealth, which he had accumulated in the land of **Canaan**, and went to a land away from Jacob his brother. (**Genesis 36:6**)
- Because their goods had become too great for them to dwell together and the land of their alien residences was not able to sustain them as a result of their herds. (**Genesis 36:7**)
- So Esau took up dwelling in the mountainous region of Seir. Esau is Edom. (**Genesis 36:8**)
- At that time the sheiks of Edom will indeed be disturbed; As for the despots of Moab, trembling will take hold on them. All the inhabitants of **Canaan** will indeed be disheartened. (**Exodus 15:15**)
- The territory of **Canaan** as promised to the nation of Israel is outlined in fuller detail at;
- Command the sons of Israel, and you must say to them, you are going into the land of **Canaan**. This is the land that will fall to you by inheritance, the land of **Canaan** according to its boundaries. (**Numbers 34:2**)
- And your south side must prove to be from the wilderness of Zin

- alongside Edom, and your south boundary must prove to be from the extremity of the Salt Sea on the east. (**Numbers 34:3**)
- **And your boundary must change direction from the south of the ascent of Akrabbim and cross over to Zin, and its termination must prove to be on the south of Kadesh-barnea, and it must go out to Hazar-addar and pass over to Azmon. (Numbers 34:4)**
 - **And the boundary must change direction at Azmon to the torrent valley of Egypt, and its termination must prove to be at the Sea. (Numbers 34:5)**
 - **As for a west boundary, it must prove to be for you the Great Sea and the shoreland. This will become your west boundary. (Numbers 34:6)**
 - **Now this will become your north boundary. From the Great Sea you will mark out to Mount Hor as a boundary for yourselves. (Numbers 34:7)**
 - **From Mount Hor you will mark out the boundary to the entering in of Hamath, and the termination of the boundary must prove to be at Zedad. (Numbers 34:8)**
 - **And the boundary must go out to Ziphron, and its termination must prove to be Hazar-enan. This will become your north boundary. (Numbers 34:9)**
 - **Then you must mark for yourselves as your boundary on the east from Hazar-enan to Shepham. (Numbers 34:10)**
 - **And the boundary must go down from Shepham to Riblah on the east of Ain, and the border must go down and strike upon the eastern slope of the sea of Chinnereth. (Numbers 34:11)**
 - **And the border must go down to the Jordan, and its termination must prove to be the Salt Sea. This will become your land according to its boundaries all around. (Numbers 34:12)**
 - **It evidently began farther North than Sidon and extended South as far as the torrent valley of Egypt and Kadesh-barnea. The Philistines, who were not **Canaanites**.**
 - **And Mizraim became father to Ludim and Anamim and Lehabim**

- and Naphtuhim (**Genesis 10:13**)
- **And Pathrusim and Casluhim, from among whom the Philistines went forth, and Caphtorim. (**Genesis 10:14**)**
 - **Had occupied the coastal region South of the Plain of Sharon, but this, too, had previously been reckoned as **Canaanite** land.**
 - **From the branch of the Nile that is in front of Egypt and up to the border of Ekron to the north, it used to be reckoned as belonging to the **Canaanites**, five axis lords of the Philistines, the Gazites and the Ashdodites, the Ashkelonites, the Gittites and the Ekronites, and the Avvim. (**Joshua 13:3**)**
 - **Other tribes, such as the Kenites, one family of which is later associated with Midian.**
 - **Then Moses said to Hobab the son of Reuel the Midianite, the father-in-law of Moses; We are pulling away for the place about which Yehowah said; I shall give it to you. Do come with us, and we shall certainly do good to you, because Yehowah has spoken good concerning Israel. (**Numbers 10:29**)**
 - **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**)**
 - **And the Amalekites, descended from Esau.**
 - **And Timna became the concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son. In time she bore to Eliphaz Amalek. These are the sons of Adah, Esau's wife. (**Genesis 36:12**)**
 - **Had also penetrated the territory.**
 - **On that day Yehowah concluded with Abram a covenant, saying, To your seed I will give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates. (**Genesis 15:18**)**
 - **The Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites. (**Genesis 15:19**)**
 - **And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim. (**Genesis****

15:20)

- And the Amorites and the **Canaanites** and the Girgashites and the Jebusites. (**Genesis 15:21**)
- Then the Amalekites and the **Canaanites** who were dwelling in that mountain came on down and began striking them and went scattering them as far as Hormah. (**Numbers 14:45**)
- **Whether the descendants of **Canaan** migrated to and settled in this land directly after the breakup at Babel.**
- That is why its name was called Babel, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:9**)
- **Or whether they first accompanied the main body of Hamites to Africa and then worked their way back up into the Palestinian region, the Bible does not say.**
- **At any rate, by 1943 B.C.E. when Abraham left Haran in Paddan-aram and headed toward that land, the **Canaanites** were settled there, and Abraham had certain dealings with both Amorites and Hittites.**
- **After that Terah took Abram his son and Lot, the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, the wife of Abram his son, and they went with him out of Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of **Canaan**. In time they came to Haran and took up dwelling there. (**Genesis 11:31**)**
- **So Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot the son of his brother and all the goods that they had accumulated and the souls whom they had acquired in Haran, and they got on their way out to go to the land of **Canaan**. Finally they came to the land of **Canaan**. (**Genesis 12:5**)**
- **And Abram went on through the land as far as the site of Shechem, near the big trees of Moreh, and at that time the **Canaanite** was in the land. (**Genesis 12:6**)**
- **And a quarrel arose between the herders of Abram's livestock and the herders of Lot's livestock, and at that time the **Canaanite** and the Perizzite were dwelling in the land. (**Genesis 13:7**)**

- **After that a man who had escaped came and told Abram the Hebrew. He was then tabernacling among the big trees of Mamre the Amorite, the brother of Eshcol and brother of Aner, and they were confederates of Abram. (Genesis 14:13)**
- **So Sarah died in Kiriatharba, that is to say, Hebron, in the land of Canaan, and Abraham came in to bewail Sarah and to weep over her. (Genesis 23:2)**
- **Then Abraham got up from before his dead and proceeded to speak to the sons of Heth, saying; (Genesis 23:3)**
- **An alien resident and settler I am among you. Give me the possession of a burial place among you that I may bury my dead out of my sight. (Genesis 23:4)**
- **At this the sons of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him. (Genesis 23:5)**
- **Hear us, my lord. A chieftain of God you are in the midst of us. In the choicest of our burial places bury your dead. None of us will hold back his burial place from you to prevent burying your dead. (Genesis 23:6)**
- **Thereupon Abraham got up and bowed down to the natives, to the sons of Heth. (Genesis 23:7)**
- **And spoke with them, saying; If your souls agree to bury my dead out of my sight, listen to me and urge Ephron the son of Zohar for me, (Genesis 23:8)**
- **That he may give me the cave of Machpelah, which is his, which is at the extremity of his field. For the full amount of silver let him give it to me in the midst of you for the possession of a burial place. (Genesis 23:9)**
- **As it was, Ephron was sitting among the sons of Heth. So Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the sons of Heth with all those entering the gate of his city, saying; (Genesis 23:10)**
- **No, my lord! Listen to me. The field I do give to you, and the**

- cave that is in it to you I do give it. Before the eyes of the sons of my people I do give it to you. Bury your dead. (**Genesis 23:11**)
- At that Abraham bowed down before the natives (**Genesis 23:12**)
 - And spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the natives, saying; Only if you, no, listen to me! I will give you the amount of silver for the field. Take it from me, that I may bury my dead there. (**Genesis 23:13**)
 - Then Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him. (**Genesis 23:14**)
 - My lord, listen to me. A land plot worth four hundred silver shekels, what is that between me and you? So bury your dead. (**Genesis 23:15**)
 - Accordingly Abraham listened to Ephron, and Abraham weighed out to Ephron the amount of silver that he had spoken in the hearing of the sons of Heth, four hundred silver shekels current with the merchants. (**Genesis 23:16**)
 - Thus the field of Ephron that was in Machpelah, which is in front of Mamre, the field and the cave that was in it and all the trees that were in the field, which were within all its boundaries round about, became confirmed (**Genesis 23:17**)
 - To Abraham as his purchased property before the eyes of the sons of Heth among all those entering the gate of his city. (**Genesis 23:18**)
 - And after that Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah in front of Mamre, that is to say, Hebron, in the land of **Canaan**. (**Genesis 23:19**)
 - Thus the field and the cave that was in it became confirmed to Abraham for the possession of a burial place at the hands of the sons of Heth. (**Genesis 23:20**)
 - Abraham received repeated promises from Yehowah God that his seed, or descendants, would inherit the land, and he was instructed to go about in the land through its length and through its breadth.
 - Yehowah now appeared to Abram and said; To your seed I am going to give this land. After that he built an altar there to

Yehowah, who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12:7)

- **And Yehowah said to Abram after Lot had separated from him; Raise your eyes, please, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward. (Genesis 13:14)**
- **Because all the land at which you are looking, to you and to your seed I am going to give it until time indefinite. (Genesis 13:15)**
- **And I will constitute your seed like the dust particles of the earth, so that, if a man could be able to count the dust particles of the earth, then your seed could be numbered. (Genesis 13:16)**
- **Get up, go about in the land through its length and through its breadth, because to you I am going to give it. (Genesis 13:17)**
- **Then he added to him; I am Yehowah, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to take it in possession. (Genesis 15:7)**
- **And he began to say to Abram; You may know for sure that your seed will become an alien resident in a land not theirs, and they will have to serve them, and these will certainly afflict them for four hundred years. (Genesis 15:13)**
- **But the nation that they will serve I am judging, and after that they will go out with many goods. (Genesis 15:14)**
- **As for you, you will go to your forefathers in peace. You will be buried at a good old age. (Genesis 15:15)**
- **But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. (Genesis 15:16)**
- **The sun was now setting and a dense darkness came and, look! A smoking furnace and a fiery torch that passed in between these pieces. (Genesis 15:17)**
- **On that day Yehowah concluded with Abram a covenant, saying; To your seed I will give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates. (Genesis 15:18)**

- The Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites. (**Genesis 15:19**)
- And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim. (**Genesis 15:20**)
- And the Amorites and the **Canaanites** and the Girgashites and the Jebusites. (**Genesis 15:21**)
- And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land of your alien residences, even the entire land of **Canaan**, for a possession to time indefinite, and I will prove myself God to them. (**Genesis 17:8**)
- On the basis of this promise and out of respect for God's curse, Abraham was careful that his son Isaac's wife should not be a **Canaanite**.
- Now Abraham was old, advanced in years, and Yehowah had blessed Abraham in everything. (**Genesis 24:1**)
- Hence Abraham said to his servant, the oldest one of his household, who was managing all he had; Put your hand, please, under my thigh. (**Genesis 24:2**)
- As I must have you swear by Yehowah, the God of the heavens and the God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the **Canaanites** in among whom I am dwelling. (**Genesis 24:3**)
- But you will go to my country and to my relatives, and you will certainly take a wife for my son, for Isaac. (**Genesis 24:4**)
- The relative ease with which Abraham and, later, Isaac and Jacob were able to move about the land with their large herds and flocks indicates that the region was not as yet thickly populated.
- These men are peace-loving toward us. Hence let them dwell in the land and carry on business in it, as the land is quite wide before them. Their daughters we can take as wives for ourselves and our own daughters we can give to them. (**Genesis 34:21**)
- Archaeological investigations also give evidence of a rather sparse settlement at that time, with most of the towns located along

the coast, in the Dead Sea region, in the Jordan Valley, and on the Plain of Jezreel.

- Concerning Palestine in the early part of the **Second Millennium B.C.E**, **W. F. Albright** says that the hill country was in the main still unoccupied by sedentary population, so the Biblical tradition is absolutely correct in making the patriarchs wander over the hills of central Palestine and the dry lands of the south, where there was still plenty of room for them. [*Archaeology of Palestine and the Bible*, 1933, pp. 131-133]

- **Canaan** was evidently subject to some Elamite, and hence Semitic, influence and domination at this time, as indicated by the Biblical record at;

- Now it came about in the days of Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of Goiim. (**Genesis 14:1**)

- That these made war with Bera king of Sodom, and with Birsha king of Gomorrah, Shinab king of Admah, and Shemeber king of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela, that is to say, Zoar. (**Genesis 14:2**)

- All these marched as allies to the Low Plain of Siddim, that is, the Salt Sea. (**Genesis 14:3**)

- Twelve years they had served Chedorlaomer, but the thirteenth year they rebelled. (**Genesis 14:4**)

- And in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer came, and also the kings who were with him, and they inflicted defeats on the Rephaim in Ashterothkarnaim, and the Zuzim in Ham, and the Emim in Shavehkiriathaim. (**Genesis 14:5**)

- And the Horites in their mountain of Seir, down to Elparan, which is at the wilderness. (**Genesis 14:6**)

- Then they turned about and came to Enmishpat, that is, Kadesh, and defeated the whole field of the Amalekites and also the Amorites who were dwelling in Hazazontamar. (**Genesis 14:7**)

- Among the towns around which Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob camped were Shechem.

- And Abram went on through the land as far as the site of

Shechem, near the big trees of Moreh, and at that time the **Canaanite** was in the land. (**Genesis 12:6**)

- **Bethel and Ai**

- Later he moved from there to the mountainous region to the east of Bethel and pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. Then he built an altar there to Yehowah and began to call on the name of Yehowah. (**Genesis 12:8**)

- **Hebron**

- So Abram continued to live in tents. Later on he came and dwelt among the big trees of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and there he proceeded to build an altar to Yehowah. (**Genesis 13:18**)

- **Gerar**

- Now Abraham moved camp from there to the land of the Negeb and took up dwelling between Kadesh and Shur and residing as an alien at Gerar. (**Genesis 20:1**)

- **Beer-sheba**

- After that Abraham returned to his attendants, and they got up and went their way together to Beersheba, and Abraham continued to dwell at Beersheba. (**Genesis 22:19**)

- Though no great animosity seems to have been manifested by the **Canaanites** toward the Hebrew patriarchs, divine protection nevertheless was the prime factor in their freedom from attack.

- This was when they happened to be few in number, yes, very few, and alien residents in it. (**Psalms 105:12**)

- And they kept walking about from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people. (**Psalms 105:13**)

- He did not allow any human to defraud them, but on their account he reproved kings. (**Psalms 105:14**)

- Saying; Do not you men touch my anointed ones, and to my prophets do nothing bad. (**Psalms 105:15**)

- **Thus, after the assault by Jacob's sons on the Hivite city of Shechem, it was because the terror of God came to be upon the neighboring cities that they did not chase after the sons of Jacob.**
- **In time Jacob came safe and sound to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of **Canaan**, while he was coming from Paddanaram, and he pitched camp in front of the city. (**Genesis 33:18**)**
- **And Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, a chieftain of the land, got to see her and then took her and lay down with her and violated her. (**Genesis 34:2**)**
- **After that they pulled away, and the terror of God came to be upon the cities that were round about them, so that they did not chase after the sons of Jacob. (**Genesis 35:5**)**
- **Secular history indicates that Egypt exercised suzerainty over **Canaan** for some two centuries prior to the Israelite conquest. During this period, messages, known as the **Amarna Tablets**, sent by vassal rulers in Syria and Palestine to Pharaoh's Amenhotep III and Akhenaton, present a picture of considerable intercity strife and political intrigue in the region.**
- **At the time of Israel's arrival at its frontier **1473 B.C.E**, **Canaan** was a land of numerous city-states or petty kingdoms, though still showing some cohesion according to tribal relations. The spies who had searched out the land nearly 40 years earlier found it to be a land rich in fruitage and found its cities to be well fortified.**
- **So they went up and spied out the land from the wilderness of Zin to Rehob to the entering in of Hamath. (**Numbers 13:21**)**
- **When they went up into the Negeb, they then came to Hebron. Now Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmai, those born of Anak, were there. Incidentally, Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan of Egypt. (**Numbers 13:22**)**
- **When they came to the torrent valley of Eshcol, they then proceeded to cut down from there a shoot with one cluster of grapes. And they went carrying it with a bar on two of the men, and also some of the pomegranates and some of the figs. (**Numbers 13:23**)**
- **They called that place the torrent valley of Eshcol, on account of**

- the cluster that the sons of Israel cut down from there. (**Numbers 13:24**)
- Finally at the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. (**Numbers 13:25**)
 - So they walked and came to Moses and Aaron and all the assembly of the sons of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. And they came bringing back word to them and all the assembly and showing them the fruitage of the land. (**Numbers 13:26**)
 - And they went on to report to him and say; We entered into the land to which you sent us out, and it is indeed flowing with milk and honey, and this is its fruitage. (**Numbers 13:27**)
 - Nevertheless, the facts are that the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the fortified cities are very great, and, too, those born of Anak we saw there. (**Numbers 13:28**)
 - The Amalekites are dwelling in the land of the Negeb, and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites are dwelling in the mountainous region, and the **Canaanites** are dwelling by the sea and by the side of the Jordan. (**Numbers 13:29**)
 - Hear, O Israel, you are today crossing the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, cities great and fortified to the heavens. (**Deuteronomy 9:1**)
 - And they went capturing fortified cities and a fat soil and taking in possession houses full of all good things, cisterns hewn out, vineyards and olive groves and trees for food in abundance, and they began to eat and to be satisfied and to grow fat and to luxuriate in your great goodness. (**Nehemiah 9:25**)
 - **Distribution of the Tribes of Canaan.** Of the 11 **Canaanite** tribes,
 - And **Canaan** became father to Sidon his firstborn and Heth. (**Genesis 10:15**)
 - And the Jebusite and the Amorite and the Girgashite. (**Genesis 10:16**)
 - And the Hivite and the Arkite and the Sinite. (**Genesis 10:17**)

- **And the Arvadite and the Zemarite and the Hamathite, and afterward the families of the **Canaanite** were scattered. (**Genesis 10:18**)**
- **So the boundary of the **Canaanite** came to be from Sidon as far as Gerar, near Gaza, as far as Sodom and Gomorrah and Admah and Zeboiim, near Lasha. (**Genesis 10:19**)**
- **The Amorites appear to have occupied a principal position in the land. Aside from the land conquered by them East of the Jordan in Bashan and Gilead, the references to the Amorites show that they were strong in the mountainous country of **Canaan** proper, both in the North and in the South.**
- **At this they gathered together and went on up, five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, these and all their camps, and they proceeded to camp against Gibeon and to war against it. (**Joshua 10:5**)**
- **The **Canaanites** to the east and the west, and the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites in the mountainous region and the Hivites at the base of Hermon in the land of Mizpah. (**Joshua 11:3**)**
- **To the south all the land of the **Canaanites**, and Mearah, which belongs to the Sidonians, as far as Aphek, as far as the border of the Amorites. (**Joshua 13:4**)**
- **Perhaps second in strength were the Hittites, who, though found as far South as Hebron in Abraham's time.**
- **And after that Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the cave of the field of Machpelah in front of Mamre, that is to say; Hebron, in the land of **Canaan**. (**Genesis 23:19**)**
- **Thus the field and the cave that was in it became confirmed to Abraham for the possession of a burial place at the hands of the sons of Heth. (**Genesis 23:20**)**
- **Later seem to have been mainly to the North, in the direction of Syria.**

- From the wilderness and this Lebanon to the great river, the river Euphrates, that is, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun your territory will prove to be. (**Joshua 1:4**)
- And the house of Joseph began to spy on Bethel, incidentally, the name of the city before that was Luz. (**Judges 1:23**)
- And the watchers got to see a man going out of the city. So they said to him, Show us, please, the way to get into the city, and we shall certainly exercise kindness toward you. (**Judges 1:24**)
- Accordingly the man showed them the way to get into the city, and they went striking the city with the edge of the sword, but the man and all his family they let go. (**Judges 1:25**)
- Upon that the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and called its name Luz. That is its name down to this day. (**Judges 1:26**)
- And a chariot customarily came up and was exported from Egypt for six hundred silver pieces, and a horse for a hundred and fifty, and that was the way it was for all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria. It was by means of them that they did the exporting. (**1 Kings 10:29**)

See Also AMORITE

- Of the other tribes, the Jebusites, the Hivites, and the Girgashites are next most frequently mentioned at the time of the conquest. The Jebusites were evidently centered in the mountainous region around Jerusalem.
- The Amalekites are dwelling in the land of the Negeb, and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites are dwelling in the mountainous region, and the **Canaanites** are dwelling by the sea and by the side of the Jordan. (**Numbers 13:29**)
- And the boundary went down to the extremity of the mountain that faces the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is in the low plain of Rephaim to the north, and it went down to the valley of Hinnom, to the slope of the Jebusite on the south, and went down to En-rogel. (**Joshua 18:16**)

- And Zelah, Ha-eleph and Jebusi, that is to say; Jerusalem, Gibeah and Kiriath, fourteen cities and their settlements. This was the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin by their families. (Joshua 18:28)
- The Hivites were scattered from as far South as Gibeon.
- And the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai. (Joshua 9:3)
- At this the men of Israel said to the Hivites; Perhaps it is in our vicinity that you are dwelling. So how could we conclude a covenant with you? (Joshua 9:7)
- On up to the base of Mount Hermon in the North.
- The **Canaanites** to the east and the west, and the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites in the mountainous region and the Hivites at the base of Hermon in the land of Mizpah. (Joshua 11:3)
- The territory of the Girgashites is not indicated.
- The remaining six tribes, the Sidonians, Arvadites, Hamathites, Arkites, Sinites, and the Zemarites, may well be included in the comprehensive term **Canaanites** frequently used in association with the specific names of other tribes, unless the expression is simply used to refer to cities or groups that were of mixed **Canaanite** population.
- For my angel will go ahead of you and will indeed bring you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the **Canaanites**, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I shall certainly efface them. (Exodus 23:23)
- For your part keep what I am commanding you today. Here I am driving out from before you the Amorites and the **Canaanites** and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. (Exodus 34:11)
- 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**)

- The Amalekites are dwelling in the land of the Negeb, and the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites are dwelling in the mountainous region, and the **Canaanites** are dwelling by the sea and by the side of the Jordan. (**Numbers 13:29**)
- All these six tribes seem to have been primarily located North of the region originally conquered by the Israelites and receive no specific mention in the account of the conquest.

•• Conquest Of Canaan By Israel.

- In the second year after the Exodus the Israelites had made an initial attempt to penetrate the southern borders of **Canaan**, but without divine backing, and they were routed by the **Canaanites** and allied Amalekites.
- Do not go up, because Yehowah is not in your midst, that you may not be defeated before your enemies. (**Numbers 14:42**)
- For the Amalekites and the **Canaanites** are there before you, and you are certain to fall by the sword, because, for the reason that you turned back from following Yehowah, Yehowah will not continue with you. (**Numbers 14:43**)
- However, they presumed to go up to the top of the mountain, but the ark of Yehowah's covenant and Moses did not move away from the midst of the camp. (**Numbers 14:44**)
- Then the Amalekites and the **Canaanites** who were dwelling in that mountain came on down and began striking them and went scattering them as far as Hormah. (**Numbers 14:45**)
- Toward the close of the 40-year period of wandering, Israel again moved toward the **Canaanites** and was attacked by the king of Arad in the Negeb, but this time the **Canaanite** forces were defeated, and their cities were destroyed.
- Now the **Canaanite** the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negeb, got to hear that Israel had come by the way of Atharim, and he began to fight with Israel and carry away some of them as captives. (**Numbers 21:1**)

- **Consequently Israel made a vow to Yehowah and said; If you will without fail give this people into my hand, I shall also certainly devote their cities to destruction. (Numbers 21:2)**
- **So Yehowah listened to Israel's voice and gave the **Canaanites** over, and they devoted them and their cities to destruction. Hence they called the name of the place Hormah. (Numbers 21:3)**
- **Still the Israelites did not follow up this victory with an invasion from the South but circled around to approach from the East. This brought them into conflict with the Amorite kingdoms of Sihon and Og, and the defeat of these kings put all of Bashan and Gilead under Israelite control, including 60 cities with a high wall, doors and bar in Bashan alone.**
- **Israel now sent messengers to Sihon the king of the Amorites, saying; (Numbers 21:21)**
- **Let me pass through your land. We shall not turn off into a field or a vineyard. We shall drink water of no well. On the kings road we shall march until we pass through your territory. (Numbers 21:22)**
- **And Sihon did not allow Israel to pass through his territory, but Sihon gathered all his people and went out to meet Israel in the wilderness, and came to Jahaz and began fighting with Israel. (Numbers 21:23)**
- **At that Israel struck him with the edge of the sword and took possession of his land from the Arnon to the Jabbok, near the sons of Ammon, because Jazer is the border of the sons of Ammon. (Numbers 21:24)**
- **So Israel took all these cities, and Israel began dwelling in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon and all its dependent towns. (Numbers 21:25)**
- **For Heshbon was the city of Sihon. He was the king of the Amorites, and it was he who fought with the king of Moab formerly and went taking all his land out of his hand as far as the Arnon. (Numbers 21:26)**
- **That is why the sayers of mock verses would say; Come to**

Heshbon. Let the city of Sihon be built and be proved firmly set up. (**Numbers 21:27**)

- For a fire has come out of Heshbon, a flame from the town of Sihon. It has consumed Ar of Moab, the owners of the high places of the Arnon. (**Numbers 21:28**)
- Woe to you, Moab! You will certainly perish, O people of Chemosh! He will certainly give his sons as escaped ones and his daughters in the captivity to the king of the Amorites, Sihon. (**Numbers 21:29**)
- So let us shoot at them. Heshbon will certainly perish up to Dibon; And the women up to Nophah, the men up to Medeba. (**Numbers 21:30**)
- And Israel began to dwell in the land of the Amorites. (**Numbers 21:31**)
- Then Moses sent some to spy on Jazer. So they captured its dependent towns and dispossessed the Amorites who were there. (**Numbers 21:32**)
- After that they turned and went up by the way of Bashan. At this Og the king of Bashan came out to meet them, he and all his people, to the battle of Edrei. (**Numbers 21:33**)
- Yehowah now said to Moses; Do not be afraid of him, for into your hand I shall certainly give him and all his people and his land, and you must do to him just as you did to Sihon, the king of the Amorites, who used to dwell in Heshbon. (**Numbers 21:34**)
- So they went striking him and his sons and all his people, until there was no survivor remaining to him, and they went taking possession of his land. (**Numbers 21:35**)
- So they went striking him and his sons and all his people, until there was no survivor remaining to him, and they went taking possession of his land. (**Numbers 21:35**)
- The defeat of these powerful kings had a weakening effect on the **Canaanite** kingdoms West of the Jordan, and the subsequent miraculous crossing of the Jordan dry-shod by the Israelite nation caused the **Canaanites** hearts to begin to melt.

- Thus, the **Canaanites** made no attack upon the Israelite camp at Gilgal during the period of the recovery of many of the Israelite males from circumcision and during the subsequent celebration of the Passover
- And she went on to say to the men; I do know that Yehowah will certainly give you the land, and that the fright of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have become disheartened because of you. (**Joshua 2:9**)
- For we have heard how Yehowah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. (**Joshua 2:10**)
- When we got to hear it, then our hearts began to melt, and no spirit has arisen yet in anybody because of you, for Yehowah your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. (**Joshua 2:11**)
- And it came about that as soon as all the kings of the Amorites, who were on the side of the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the **Canaanites**, who were by the sea, heard that Yehowah had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the sons of Israel until they had passed over, then their hearts began to melt, and there proved to be no spiritedness in them anymore because of the sons of Israel. (**Joshua 5:1**)
- At that particular time Yehowah said to Joshua; Make for yourself flint knives and circumcise the sons of Israel again, the second time. (**Joshua 5:2**)
- Accordingly Joshua made flint knives for himself and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth. (**Joshua 5:3**)
- And this was the reason why Joshua did the circumcising, all the people that came out of Egypt, the males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the road when they were coming out of Egypt. (**Joshua 5:4**)
- For all the people who came out proved to be circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness on the road when they were

coming out of Egypt they had not circumcised. (**Joshua 5:5**)

- For the sons of Israel had walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation of the men of war who came out of Egypt that did not listen to the voice of Yehowah had come to its finish, to whom Yehowah swore that he would never let them see the land that Yehowah had sworn to their forefathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. (**Joshua 5:6**)
- And their sons he raised up instead of them. These Joshua circumcised, because they proved to be uncircumcised, for they had not circumcised them on the road. (**Joshua 5:7**)
- And it came about that when they had completed circumcising all the nation, they kept sitting in their place in the camp until they revived. (**Joshua 5:8**)
- Then Yehowah said to Joshua; Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. So the name of that place came to be called Gilgal until this day. (**Joshua 5:9**)
- And the sons of Israel continued to camp in Gilgal, and they proceeded to carry out the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month, in the evening, on the desert plains of Jericho. (**Joshua 5:10**)
- And they began to eat some of the yield of the land the day after the Passover, unfermented cakes and roasted grains, on this same day. (**Joshua 5:11**)
- Able now to obtain ample water from the Jordan and to draw food supplies from the conquered region East of the Jordan, the Israelites at Gilgal had a good base from which to proceed with the conquest of the land. The nearby outpost city of Jericho, now tightly shut up, was their first target, and its mighty walls fell by Yehowah's power.
- Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the sons of Israel, no one going out and no one entering. (**Joshua 6:1**)
- And Yehowah went on to say to Joshua; See, I have given Jericho and its king, the valiant mighty men, into your hand. (**Joshua 6:2**)

- **And all you men of war must march round the city, going round the city once. That is the way you should do for six days. (Joshua 6:3)**
- **And seven priests should carry seven rams horns, before the Ark, and on the seventh day you should march round the city seven times and the priests should blow the horns. (Joshua 6:4)**
- **And it must occur that when they sound with the horn of the ram, when you hear the sound of the horn, all the people should shout a great war cry, and the wall of the city must fall down flat, and the people must go up, each one straight before him. (Joshua 6:5)**
- **Accordingly Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them; Take up the ark of the covenant, and seven priests should carry seven rams horns before the ark of Yehowah. (Joshua 6:6)**
- **And he went on to say to the people; Pass on and march round the city, and the war-equipped force should pass on ahead of the ark of Yehowah. (Joshua 6:7)**
- **So it came about just as Joshua said to the people, and seven priests carrying seven rams horns before Yehowah passed on and blew the horns, and the ark of the covenant of Yehowah was following them. (Joshua 6:8)**
- **And the war-equipped force was going ahead of the priests blowing the horns, while the rear guard was following the Ark with a continual blowing on the horns. (Joshua 6:9)**
- **Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying; You must neither shout nor let your voices be heard, and no word should come out of your mouths until the day when I say to you, Shout! Then you must shout. (Joshua 6:10)**
- **And he had the ark of Yehowah go marching round the city, going round once, after which they went to the camp and stayed overnight in the camp. (Joshua 6:11)**
- **Then Joshua got up early in the morning, and the priests went carrying the ark of Yehowah. (Joshua 6:12)**
- **And seven priests carrying seven rams horns before the ark of**

- Yehowah were walking, continually blowing the horns, and the war-equipped force was walking ahead of them, while the rear guard was following the ark of Yehowah with a continual blowing on the horns. (**Joshua 6:13**)
- And they went marching round the city on the second day once, after which they returned to the camp. That was the way they did for six days. (**Joshua 6:14**)
 - And it came about on the seventh day that they proceeded to get up early, as soon as the dawn ascended, and they went marching round the city in this manner seven times. Just on that day they marched round the city seven times. (**Joshua 6:15**)
 - And it came about on the seventh time that the priests blew the horns, and Joshua proceeded to say to the people; Shout, for Yehowah has given you the city. (**Joshua 6:16**)
 - And the city must become a thing devoted to destruction, it with everything that is in it belongs to Yehowah. Only Rahab the prostitute may keep on living, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers whom we sent out. (**Joshua 6:17**)
 - As for you people, only keep away from the thing devoted to destruction, for fear you may get a desire and you do take some of the thing devoted to destruction and do constitute the camp of Israel a thing devoted to destruction and bring ostracism upon it. (**Joshua 6:18**)
 - But all the silver and the gold and the articles of copper and iron are something holy to Yehowah. Into the treasure of Yehowah it should go. (**Joshua 6:19**)
 - Then the people shouted, when they proceeded to blow the horns. And it came about that as soon as the people heard the sound of the horn and the people began to shout a great war cry, then the wall began to fall down flat. After that the people went up into the city, each one straight before him, and captured the city. (**Joshua 6:20**)
 - And they went devoting all that was in the city, from man to woman, from young man to old man and to bull and sheep and ass, to destruction by the edge of the sword. (**Joshua 6:21**)

- **Then the invading forces ascended some 1,000 meters (3,300 feet) into the mountainous region North of Jerusalem and, after an initial setback, captured Ai and burned it.**
- **And the sons of Israel went committing an act of unfaithfulness respecting the thing devoted to destruction in that Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the thing devoted to destruction. At this Yehowah's anger grew hot against the sons of Israel. (Joshua 7:1)**
- **Then Joshua sent men out from Jericho to Ai, which is close by Beth-aven, to the east of Bethel, and said to them; Go up and spy on the land. Accordingly the men went up and spied on Ai. (Joshua 7:2)**
- **After that they returned to Joshua and said to him; Let not all the people go up. Let about two thousand men or about three thousand men go up and strike Ai. Do not weary all the people with going there, for they are few. (Joshua 7:3)**
- **So about three thousand men of the people went up there, but they took to flight before the men of Ai. (Joshua 7:4)**
- **And the men of Ai got to strike down about thirty-six men of them, and they went pursuing them from before the gate as far as Shebarim and continued striking them down on the descent. Consequently the heart of the people began to melt and became as water. (Joshua 7:5)**
- **Yehowah now said to Joshua: Stretch out the javelin that is in your hand toward Ai, for into your hand I shall give it. Accordingly Joshua stretched out the javelin that was in his hand toward the city. (Joshua 8:18)**
- **And the ambush rose up quickly from its place, and they began to run at the instant that he stretched out his hand, and they proceeded to enter the city and capture it. Then they hurried and set the city on fire. (Joshua 8:19)**
- **And the men of Ai began to turn back and look, and there the smoke of the city ascended to the heavens, and there proved to be no ability in them to flee this way or that. And the people that were fleeing to the wilderness turned upon the pursuers. (Joshua**

8:20)

- **And Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, and so they turned around and went striking the men of Ai down. (Joshua 8:21)**
- **And these others came out of the city to meet them, so that they got to be in between Israel, these on this side and those on that, and they went striking them down until there did not remain of them either a survivor or an escapee. (Joshua 8:22)**
- **And the king of Ai they caught alive and proceeded to bring him near to Joshua. (Joshua 8:23)**
- **And it came about that while Israel was finishing the killing of all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness in which they had pursued them, they kept falling, all of them, by the edge of the sword until they came to their end. After that all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword. (Joshua 8:24)**
- **And all those who fell on that day, from man to woman, amounted to twelve thousand, all the people of Ai. (Joshua 8:25)**
- **And Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. (Joshua 8:26)**
- **Only the domestic animals and the spoil of that city Israel plundered for themselves, according to Yehowah's word that he had laid in command upon Joshua. (Joshua 8:27)**
- **Then Joshua burned Ai and reduced it to an indefinitely lasting mound, as a desolation down to this day. (Joshua 8:28)**
- **While the **Canaanite** kingdoms throughout the land began to form a massive coalition to repulse the Israelites, certain Hivite cities now sought peace with Israel by means of a subterfuge. This secession of Gibeon and three other neighboring cities evidently was viewed by the other **Canaanite** kingdoms as an act of treason endangering the unity of the entire **Canaanite** league.**
- **Five **Canaanite** kings, therefore, united to fight, not against Israel, but against Gibeon, and an all-night march by Israelite troops**

under Joshua was undertaken to save the beleaguered city. Joshua's defeat of the five attacking kings was accompanied by a miraculous downpour of huge hailstones and also by God's causing the delay of the setting of the sun.

- **Then the sons of Israel pulled out and came to their cities on the third day, and their cities were Gibeon and Chephirah and Beeroth and Kiriath-jearim. (Joshua 9:17)**
- **Then they answered Joshua and said; It was because your servants were plainly told that Yehowah your God had commanded Moses his servant to give you all the land and to annihilate all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and we became very much afraid for our souls because of you. So we did this thing. (Joshua 9:24)**
- **And now here we are, in your hand. Just as it is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do. (Joshua 9:25)**
- **And it came about that as soon as Adonizedek the king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had captured Ai and then devoted it to destruction, that just as he had done to Jericho and its king, so he had done to Ai and its king, and that the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were continuing in their midst. (Joshua 10:1)**
- **He became very much afraid, because Gibeon was a great city, like one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty ones. (Joshua 10:2)**
- **Consequently Adoni-zedek the king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham the king of Hebron and to Piram the king of Jarmuth and to Japhia the king of Lachish and to Debir the king of Eglon, saying; (Joshua 10:3)**
- **Come up to me and help me and let us strike Gibeon, because it has made peace with Joshua and the sons of Israel. (Joshua 10:4)**
- **At this they gathered together and went on up, five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, these and all their camps, and they proceeded to camp against Gibeon and to war against it. (Joshua 10:5)**

- **Upon that the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying; Do not let your hand relax from your slaves. Come up to us quickly and do save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites inhabiting the mountainous region have collected together against us. (Joshua 10:6)**
- **So Joshua went on up from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him and all the valiant mighty men. (Joshua 10:7)**
- **Then Yehowah said to Joshua; Do not be afraid of them, for into your hand I have given them. Not a man of them will stand against you. (Joshua 10:8)**
- **And Joshua proceeded to come against them by surprise. All night long he had gone up from Gilgal. (Joshua 10:9)**
- **And Yehowah went throwing them into confusion before Israel, and they began to slay them with a great slaughter at Gibeon and went pursuing them by way of the ascent of Bethhoron and slaying them as far as Azekah and Makkedah. (Joshua 10:10)**
- **And it came about that while they were fleeing from before Israel and were on the descent of Beth-horon, Yehowah hurled great stones from the heavens upon them as far as Azekah, so that they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than those whom the sons of Israel killed with the sword. (Joshua 10:11)**
- **It was then that Joshua proceeded to speak to Yehowah on the day of Yehowah's abandoning the Amorites to the sons of Israel, and he went on to say before the eyes of Israel; Sun, be motionless over Gibeon, and, moon, over the low plain of Aijalon. (Joshua 10:12)**
- **Accordingly the sun kept motionless, and the moon did stand still, until the nation could take vengeance on its enemies. Is it not written in the book of Jashar? And the sun kept standing still in the middle of the heavens and did not hasten to set for about a whole day. (Joshua 10:13)**
- **And no day has proved to be like that one, either before it or after it, in that Yehowah listened to the voice of a man, for Yehowah himself was fighting for Israel. (Joshua 10:14)**

- **After that Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp at Gilgal. (Joshua 10:15)**
- **Meantime these five kings fled and went hiding themselves in the cave at Makkedah. (Joshua 10:16)**
- **Then the report was made to Joshua, saying; The five kings have been found hidden in the cave at Makkedah. (Joshua 10:17)**
- **At that Joshua said; Roll great stones up to the mouth of the cave and assign men over it to guard them. (Joshua 10:18)**
- **As for you men, do not stand still. Chase after your enemies, and you must strike them in the rear. Do not allow them to enter into their cities, for Yehowah your God has given them into your hands. (Joshua 10:19)**
- **And it came about that as soon as Joshua and the sons of Israel had finished slaying them with a very great slaughter, until these came to their end, and those who did survive of them escaped and went entering into the fortified cities. (Joshua 10:20)**
- **All the people then began to return to the camp, to Joshua, at Makkedah in peace. Not a man moved his tongue eagerly against the sons of Israel. (Joshua 10:21)**
- **Then Joshua said; Open the mouth of the cave and bring out these five kings from the cave to me. (Joshua 10:22)**
- **At that they did so and brought out to him from the cave these five kings, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon. (Joshua 10:23)**
- **And it came about that as soon as they had brought out these kings to Joshua, Joshua proceeded to call all the men of Israel and to say to the commanders of the men of war that had gone with him: Come forward. Place your feet on the back of the necks of these kings. So they came forward and placed their feet on the back of their necks. (Joshua 10:24)**
- **And Joshua went on to say to them; Do not be afraid or be terrified. Be courageous and strong, for it is like this that Yehowah will do to all your enemies against whom you are**

warring. (**Joshua 10:25**)

- **And after that Joshua proceeded to strike them and put them to death and hang them upon five stakes, and they continued hanging upon the stakes until the evening. (**Joshua 10:26**)**
- **And it came about that at the time of the setting of the sun Joshua commanded, and they went taking them down off the stakes and throwing them into the cave where they had hid themselves. Then they placed big stones at the mouth of the cave, until this very day. (**Joshua 10:27**)**
- **The victorious Israelite forces then made a sweep through the entire southern half of **Canaan**, with the exception of the Plains of Philistia, conquering cities of the Shephelah, the mountainous region, and the Negeb, and then they returned to their base camp at Gilgal by the Jordan.**
- **And Joshua captured Makkedah on that day and went striking it with the edge of the sword. As for its king, he devoted him and every soul that was in it to destruction. He let no survivor remain. So he did to the king of Makkedah just as he had done to the king of Jericho. (**Joshua 10:28**)**
- **Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Makkedah to Libnah and warred against Libnah. (**Joshua 10:29**)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah gave it also and its king into Israel's hand, and they went striking it and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword. They did not let a survivor remain in it. So they did to its king just as they had done to the king of Jericho. (**Joshua 10:30**)**
- **Next Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Libnah to Lachish and went camping against it and warring upon it. (**Joshua 10:31**)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah gave Lachish into Israel's hand so that they captured it on the second day, and they went striking it and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword, according to all that they had done to Libnah. (**Joshua 10:32**)**
- **It was then that Hiram the king of Gezer went up to help Lachish. So Joshua struck him and his people until he had let not a**

- survivor of his remain. ([Joshua 10:33](#))
- Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Lachish to Eglon and went camping against it and warring against it. ([Joshua 10:34](#))
 - And they got to capture it on that day and began to smite it with the edge of the sword, and they devoted every soul that was in it to destruction on that day, according to all that they had done to Lachish. ([Joshua 10:35](#))
 - Then Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron and began to war against it. ([Joshua 10:36](#))
 - And they got to capture it and went striking it and its king and all its towns and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword. He did not let a survivor remain, according to all that he had done to Eglon. So he devoted it and every soul that was in it to destruction. ([Joshua 10:37](#))
 - Finally Joshua and all Israel with him came back to Debir and began to war against it. ([Joshua 10:38](#))
 - And he got to capture it and its king and all its towns, and they went striking them with the edge of the sword and devoting every soul that was in it to destruction. He did not let a survivor remain. Just as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir and its king, and just as he had done to Libnah and its king. ([Joshua 10:39](#))
 - And Joshua proceeded to strike all the land of the mountainous region and the Negeb and the Shephelah and the slopes and all their kings. He did not let a survivor remain, and everything that breathed he devoted to destruction, just as Yehowah the God of Israel had commanded. ([Joshua 10:40](#))
 - And Joshua went striking them from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza and all the land of Goshen and up to Gibeon. ([Joshua 10:41](#))
 - And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because it was Yehowah the God of Israel who was fighting for Israel. ([Joshua 10:42](#))
 - After that Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp at

Gilgal. (Joshua 10:43)

- **Now the Canaanites in the northern sector under the leadership of the king of Hazor began to mass their troops and war chariots, uniting their forces at a rendezvous by the waters of Merom, North of the Sea of Galilee. Joshua's army, however, made a surprise attack on the Canaanite confederacy and put them to flight, thereafter marching on to capture their cities as far North as Baal-gad at the base of Mount Hermon.**
- **And it came about that as soon as Jabin the king of Hazor heard of it, he went sending to Jobab the king of Madon and to the king of Shimron and the king of Achshaph. (Joshua 11:1)**
- **And to the kings that were to the north in the mountainous region and in the desert plains south of Chinnereth and in the Shephelah and on the mountain ridges of Dor to the west. (Joshua 11:2)**
- **The Canaanites to the east and the west, and the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Jebusites in the mountainous region and the Hivites at the base of Hermon in the land of Mizpah. (Joshua 11:3)**
- **So they went out, they and all their camps with them, a people as numerous as the grains of sand that are on the seashore for multitude, and very many horses and war chariots. (Joshua 11:4)**
- **Then all these kings met together by appointment and came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel. (Joshua 11:5)**
- **At this Yehowah said to Joshua; Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow about this time I am abandoning all of them slain to Israel. Their horses you will hamstring, and their chariots you will burn in the fire. (Joshua 11:6)**
- **And Joshua and all the people of war with him proceeded to come against them along the waters of Merom by surprise and to fall upon them. (Joshua 11:7)**
- **Then Yehowah gave them into Israel's hand, and they went striking them and pursuing them as far as populous Sidon and Misrephoth-maim and the valley plain of Mizpeh to the east, and**

- they kept striking them until they had not let a survivor of theirs remain. ([Joshua 11:8](#))
- After that Joshua did to them just as Yehowah had said to him, their horses he hamstrung, and their chariots he burned in the fire. ([Joshua 11:9](#))
 - More than that, Joshua turned about at that time and captured Hazor, and its king he struck down with the sword, because Hazor was before that the head of all these kingdoms. ([Joshua 11:10](#))
 - And they went striking every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction. No breathing thing at all was left over, and he burned Hazor in the fire. ([Joshua 11:11](#))
 - And all the cities of these kings and all their kings Joshua captured and went striking them with the edge of the sword. He devoted them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of Yehowah had commanded. ([Joshua 11:12](#))
 - It was only all the cities standing on their own mounds that Israel did not burn, except that Joshua did burn Hazor by itself. ([Joshua 11:13](#))
 - And all the spoil of these cities and the domestic animals the sons of Israel plundered for themselves. It was only all humankind that they struck with the edge of the sword until they had annihilated them. They did not let anyone that breathed remain. ([Joshua 11:14](#))
 - Just as Yehowah had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He did not remove a word from all that Yehowah had commanded Moses. ([Joshua 11:15](#))
 - And Joshua proceeded to take all this land, the mountainous region and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the Shephelah and the Arabah and the mountainous region of Israel and its Shephelah. ([Joshua 11:16](#))
 - From Mount Halak, which goes up to Seir, and as far as Baal-gad in the valley plain of Lebanon at the base of Mount Hermon, and he captured all their kings and went striking them and putting

- them to death. ([Joshua 11:17](#))
- Many days it was that Joshua waged war with all these kings. ([Joshua 11:18](#))
 - There proved to be no city that made peace with the sons of Israel but the Hivites inhabiting Gibeon. All the others they took by war. ([Joshua 11:19](#))
 - For it proved to be Yehowah's course to let their hearts become stubborn so as to declare war against Israel, in order, that he might devote them to destruction, that they might come to have no favorable consideration, but in order, that he might annihilate them, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. ([Joshua 11:20](#))
 - The campaign evidently covered a considerable period of time and was followed by another offensive action in the mountainous region in the South, this attack being directed at the giant-like Anakim and their cities.
 - Furthermore, at that particular time Joshua went and cut off the Anakim from the mountainous region, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab and from all the mountainous region of Judah and from all the mountainous region of Israel. Along with their cities Joshua devoted them to destruction. ([Joshua 11:21](#))
 - No Anakim were left in the land of the sons of Israel. It was only in Gaza, in Gath and in Ashdod that they remained. ([Joshua 11:22](#))

See Also ANAKIM

- By now some six years had passed since the start of the fighting. The major conquest of **Canaan** had been accomplished, and the strength of the **Canaanite** tribes was broken, thus allowing for the distribution of the land among the Israelite tribes to begin.
- However, a number of regions remained yet to be subdued, including such major sections as the territory of the Philistines, who, though not **Canaanites**, were nevertheless usurpers of the land promised to the Israelites, the territory of the Geshurites.
- And David proceeded to go up with his men that they might raid the Geshurites and the Girzites and the Amalekites, for they were

inhabiting the land that extended from Telam as far as Shur and down to the land of Egypt. (1 Samuel 27:8)

- **Territory from the area around Sidon on up to Gebal or Byblos, and all the region of Lebanon.**
- **This is the land yet remaining, all the regions of the Philistines and all the Geshurites (Joshua 13:2)**
- **From the branch of the Nile that is in front of Egypt and up to the border of Ekron to the north, it used to be reckoned as belonging to the **Canaanites**, five axis lords of the Philistines, the Gazites and the Ashdodites, the Ashkelonites, the Gittites and the Ekronites, and the Avvim. (Joshua 13:3)**
- **To the south all the land of the **Canaanites**, and Mearah, which belongs to the Sidonians, as far as Aphek, as far as the border of the Amorites. (Joshua 13:4)**
- **And the land of the Gebalites and all of Lebanon toward the rising of the sun, from Baal-gad at the base of Mount Hermon as far as to the entering in of Hamath. (Joshua 13:5)**
- **All the inhabitants of the mountainous region, from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, all the Sidonians. I myself shall dispossess them from before the sons of Israel. Only make it fall to Israel as an inheritance, just as I have commanded you. (Joshua 13:6)**
- **Besides these, there were pockets of resistance scattered throughout the land, some of which were later captured by the inheriting tribes of Israel, while others remained unconquered or were allowed to remain and made to perform forced labor for the Israelites.**
- **And to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a share in the midst of the sons of Judah at the order of Yehowah to Joshua, namely, Kiriath-arba, said Arba being the father of Anak, that is to say; Hebron. (Joshua 15:13)**
- **So Caleb drove away from there the three sons of Anak, namely, Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmi, those born of Anak. (Joshua 15:14)**
- **Then he went up from there to the inhabitants of Debir. Now the name of Debir before that was Kiriath-sepher. (Joshua 15:15)**

- **And Caleb proceeded to say; Whoever strikes Kiriath-sepher and does capture it, I shall certainly give him Achsah my daughter as a wife. (Joshua 15:16)**
- **At that Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother, captured it. Accordingly he gave him Achsah his daughter as a wife. (Joshua 15:17)**
- **And they did not drive away the **Canaanites** who were dwelling in Gezer, and the **Canaanites** continue dwelling in among Ephraim down to this day and came to be subject to slavish forced labor. (Joshua 16:10)**
- **And there came to belong to Manasseh in Issachar and in Asher Beth-shean and its dependent towns and Ibleam and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Dor and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of En-dor and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Taanach and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its dependent towns, three of the heights. (Joshua 17:11)**
- **And the sons of Manasseh did not prove able to take possession of these cities, but the **Canaanites** persisted in dwelling in this land. (Joshua 17:12)**
- **And it turned out that when the sons of Israel had grown strong, they went putting the **Canaanites** at forced labor, and they did not dispossess them entirely. (Joshua 17:13)**
- **Then the sons of Joseph said; The mountainous region is not enough for us, and there are war chariots with iron scythes among all the **Canaanites** dwelling in the land of the low plain, both those who are in Beth-shean and its dependent towns and those who are in the low plain of Jezreel. (Joshua 17:16)**
- **So Joshua said this to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh; A numerous people you are, and great power is yours. You ought not to get one lot. (Joshua 17:17)**
- **But the mountainous region should become yours. Because it is a forest, you must cut it down, and it must become the termination point for you. For you should drive away the **Canaanites**, although they have war chariots with iron scythes**

and they are strong. (**Joshua 17:18**)

- 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**)
- After that Judah captured Gaza and its territory and Ashkelon and its territory and Ekron and its territory. (**Judges 1:18**)
- And Yehowah continued with Judah, so that he took possession of the mountainous region, but he could not dispossess the inhabitants of the low plain, because they had war chariots with iron scythes. (**Judges 1:19**)
- When they gave Caleb Hebron, just as Moses had promised, then he drove out from there the three sons of Anak. (**Judges 1:20**)
- And the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites inhabiting Jerusalem, but the Jebusites keep on dwelling with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem down to this day. (**Judges 1:21**)
- And the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites inhabiting Jerusalem, but the Jebusites keep on dwelling with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem down to this day. (**Judges 1:21**)
- Meantime the house of Joseph itself also went up against Bethel, and Yehowah was with them. (**Judges 1:22**)
- And the house of Joseph began to spy on Bethel, incidentally, the name of the city before that was Luz. (**Judges 1:23**)
- And the watchers got to see a man going out of the city. So they said to him; Show us, please, the way to get into the city, and we shall certainly exercise kindness toward you. (**Judges 1:24**)
- Accordingly the man showed them the way to get into the city, and they went striking the city with the edge of the sword, but the man and all his family they let go. (**Judges 1:25**)
- Upon that the man went to the land of the Hittites and built a city and called its name Luz. That is its name down to this day.

(Judges 1:26)

- **And Manasseh did not take possession of Beth-shean and its dependent towns and Taanach and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Dor and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Ibleam and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its dependent towns, but the **Canaanites** persisted in dwelling in this land. (Judges 1:27)**
- **And it came about that Israel grew strong and proceeded to set the **Canaanites** to forced labor, and they did not drive them out completely. (Judges 1:28)**
- **Neither did Ephraim drive out the **Canaanites** who were dwelling in Gezer, but the **Canaanites** continued to dwell in among them in Gezer. (Judges 1:29)**
- **Zebulun did not drive out the inhabitants of Kitron and the inhabitants of Nahalol, but the **Canaanites** continued to dwell in among them and came to be subject to forced labor. (Judges 1:30)**

See Also BOUNDARY

- **Though so many of the **Canaanites** survived the major conquest and resisted subjugation, it could still be said that Yehowah gave Israel all the land that he had sworn to give to their forefathers, that he had given them rest all around, and that not a promise failed out of all the good promise that Yehowah had made to the house of Israel, it all came true.**
- **So Yehowah gave Israel all the land that he had sworn to give to their forefathers, and they proceeded to take possession of it and to dwell in it. (Joshua 21:43)**
- **Furthermore, Yehowah gave them rest all around, according to everything that he had sworn to their forefathers, and not one of all their enemies stood before them. All their enemies Yehowah gave into their hand. (Joshua 21:44)**
- **Not a promise failed out of all the good promise that Yehowah had made to the house of Israel, it all came true. (Joshua 21:45)**

- All around the Israelites the enemy peoples were cowed and offered no genuine threat to their security. God had stated earlier that he would drive the **Canaanites** out little by little so that the wild beasts would not multiply in a suddenly desolated land.
- I shall not drive them out from before you in one year, that the land may not become a desolate waste and the wild beasts of the field really multiply against you. (**Exodus 23:29**)
- Little by little I shall drive them out from before you, until you become fruitful and really take possession of the land. (**Exodus 23:30**)
- And Yehowah your God will certainly push these nations away from before you little by little. You will not be allowed to finish them off quickly, for fear the wild beasts of the field may multiply against you. (**Deuteronomy 7:22**)
- Despite the superior war equipment of the **Canaanites**, including war chariots with iron scythes, any failure of the Israelites finally to take certain areas could not be charged to Yehowah's account as a failure on his part to fulfill his promise.
- Then the sons of Joseph said; The mountainous region is not enough for us, and there are war chariots with iron scythes among all the **Canaanites** dwelling in the land of the low plain, both those who are in Beth-shean and its dependent towns and those who are in the low plain of Jezreel. (**Joshua 17:16**)
- So Joshua said this to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh; A numerous people you are, and great power is yours. You ought not to get one lot. (**Joshua 17:17**)
- But the mountainous region should become yours. Because it is a forest, you must cut it down, and it must become the termination point for you. For you should drive away the **Canaanites**, although they have war chariots with iron scythes and they are strong. (**Joshua 17:18**)
- At once Sisera called together all his war chariots, the nine hundred war chariots with iron scythes, and all the people that were with him, out of Harosheth of the nations to the torrent valley of Kishon. (**Judges 4:13**)

- **Rather, the record shows that the Israelites few defeats were due to unfaithfulness on their part.**
- **However, they presumed to go up to the top of the mountain, but the ark of Yehowah's covenant and Moses did not move away from the midst of the camp. (Numbers 14:44)**
- **Then the Amalekites and the **Canaanites** who were dwelling in that mountain came on down and began striking them and went scattering them as far as Hormah. (Numbers 14:45)**
- **And the sons of Israel went committing an act of unfaithfulness respecting the thing devoted to destruction in that Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the thing devoted to destruction. At this Yehowah's anger grew hot against the sons of Israel. (Joshua 7:1)**
- **Then Joshua sent men out from Jericho to Ai, which is close by Beth-aven, to the east of Bethel, and said to them, Go up and spy on the land. Accordingly the men went up and spied on Ai. (Joshua 7:2)**
- **After that they returned to Joshua and said to him; Let not all the people go up. Let about two thousand men or about three thousand men go up and strike Ai. Do not weary all the people with going there, for they are few. (Joshua 7:3)**
- **So about three thousand men of the people went up there, but they took to flight before the men of Ai. (Joshua 7:4)**
- **And the men of Ai got to strike down about thirty-six men of them, and they went pursuing them from before the gate as far as Shebarim and continued striking them down on the descent. Consequently the heart of the people began to melt and became as water. (Joshua 7:5)**
- **At this Joshua ripped his mantles and fell upon his face to the earth before the ark of Yehowah until the evening, he and the older men of Israel, and they kept putting dust upon their heads. (Joshua 7:6)**
- **And Joshua went on to say; Alas, Sovereign Lord Yehowah, why did you bring this people all the way across the Jordan, just to give us into the hand of the Amorites for them to destroy us?**

And if only we had taken it upon ourselves and continued dwelling on the other side of the Jordan! (**Joshua 7:7**)

- Excuse me, O Yehowah, but what can I say after Israel has turned his back before his enemies? (**Joshua 7:8**)
- And the **Canaanites** and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it, and they will certainly surround us and cut our name off from the earth, and what will you do for your great name? (**Joshua 7:9**)
- In turn Yehowah said to Joshua; Get up, you! Why is it that you are falling upon your face? (**Joshua 7:10**)
- Israel has sinned, and they have also overstepped my covenant that I laid as a command upon them, and they have also taken some of the thing devoted to destruction and have also stolen and also kept it secret and have also put it among their own articles. (**Joshua 7:11**)
- And the sons of Israel will not be able to rise up against their enemies. The back is what they will turn before their enemies, because they have become a thing devoted to destruction. I shall not prove to be with you again unless you annihilate the thing devoted to destruction out of your midst. (**Joshua 7:12**)

•• Why Did Yehowah Decree The Extermination Of The Canaanites?

- The historical account shows that the populations of the **Canaanite** cities conquered by the Israelites were subjected to complete destruction.
- Now the **Canaanite** the king of Arad, who dwelt in the Negeb, got to hear that Israel had come by the way of Atharim, and he began to fight with Israel and carry away some of them as captives. (**Numbers 21:1**)
- Consequently Israel made a vow to Yehowah and said; If you will without fail give this people into my hand, I shall also certainly devote their cities to destruction. (**Numbers 21:2**)
- So Yehowah listened to Israel's voice and gave the **Canaanites** over, and they devoted them and their cities to destruction. Hence they called the name of the place Hormah. (**Numbers**

21:3)

- **Yehowah now said to Moses; Do not be afraid of him, for into your hand I shall certainly give him and all his people and his land, and you must do to him just as you did to Sihon, the king of the Amorites, who used to dwell in Heshbon. (Numbers 21:34)**
- **So they went striking him and his sons and all his people, until there was no survivor remaining to him, and they went taking possession of his land. (Numbers 21:35)**
- **Then the people shouted, when they proceeded to blow the horns. And it came about that as soon as the people heard the sound of the horn and the people began to shout a great war cry, then the wall began to fall down flat. After that the people went up into the city, each one straight before him, and captured the city. (Joshua 6:20)**
- **And they went devoting all that was in the city, from man to woman, from young man to old man and to bull and sheep and ass, to destruction by the edge of the sword. (Joshua 6:21)**
- **And Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, and so they turned around and went striking the men of Ai down. (Joshua 8:21)**
- **And these others came out of the city to meet them, so that they got to be in between Israel, these on this side and those on that, and they went striking them down until there did not remain of them either a survivor or an escapee. (Joshua 8:22)**
- **And the king of Ai they caught alive and proceeded to bring him near to Joshua. (Joshua 8:23)**
- **And it came about that while Israel was finishing the killing of all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness in which they had pursued them, they kept falling, all of them, by the edge of the sword until they came to their end. After that all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword. (Joshua 8:24)**
- **And all those who fell on that day, from man to woman, amounted to twelve thousand, all the people of Ai. (Joshua 8:25)**

- **And Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. (Joshua 8:26)**
- **Only the domestic animals and the spoil of that city Israel plundered for themselves, according to Yehowah's word that he had laid in command upon Joshua. (Joshua 8:27)**
- **And after that Joshua proceeded to strike them and put them to death and hang them upon five stakes, and they continued hanging upon the stakes until the evening. (Joshua 10:26)**
- **And it came about that at the time of the setting of the sun Joshua commanded, and they went taking them down off the stakes and throwing them into the cave where they had hid themselves. Then they placed big stones at the mouth of the cave, until this very day. (Joshua 10:27)**
- **And Joshua captured Makkedah on that day and went striking it with the edge of the sword. As for its king, he devoted him and every soul that was in it to destruction. He let no survivor remain. So he did to the king of Makkedah just as he had done to the king of Jericho. (Joshua 10:28)**
- **Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Makkedah to Libnah and warred against Libnah. (Joshua 10:29)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah gave it also and its king into Israel's hand, and they went striking it and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword. They did not let a survivor remain in it. So they did to its king just as they had done to the king of Jericho. (Joshua 10:30)**
- **Next Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Libnah to Lachish and went camping against it and warring upon it. (Joshua 10:31)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah gave Lachish into Israel's hand so that they captured it on the second day, and they went striking it and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword, according to all that they had done to Libnah. (Joshua 10:32)**
- **It was then that Hiram the king of Gezer went up to help Lachish. So Joshua struck him and his people until he had let not a**

survivor of his remain. (**Joshua 10:33**)

- Then Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Lachish to Eglon and went camping against it and warring against it. (**Joshua 10:34**)
- And they got to capture it on that day and began to smite it with the edge of the sword, and they devoted every soul that was in it to destruction on that day, according to all that they had done to Lachish. (**Joshua 10:35**)
- Then Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron and began to war against it. (**Joshua 10:36**)
- And they got to capture it and went striking it and its king and all its towns and every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword. He did not let a survivor remain, according to all that he had done to Eglon. So he devoted it and every soul that was in it to destruction. (**Joshua 10:37**)
- Finally Joshua and all Israel with him came back to Debir and began to war against it. (**Joshua 10:38**)
- And he got to capture it and its king and all its towns, and they went striking them with the edge of the sword and devoting every soul that was in it to destruction. He did not let a survivor remain. Just as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir and its king, and just as he had done to Libnah and its king. (**Joshua 10:39**)
- And Joshua proceeded to strike all the land of the mountainous region and the Negeb and the Shephelah and the slopes and all their kings. He did not let a survivor remain, and everything that breathed he devoted to destruction, just as Yehowah the God of Israel had commanded. (**Joshua 10:40**)
- More than that, Joshua turned about at that time and captured Hazor, and its king he struck down with the sword, because Hazor was before that the head of all these kingdoms. (**Joshua 11:10**)
- And they went striking every soul that was in it with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction. No breathing thing at all was left over, and he burned Hazor in the fire. (**Joshua 11:11**)

- **And all the cities of these kings and all their kings Joshua captured and went striking them with the edge of the sword. He devoted them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of Yehowah had commanded. (Joshua 11:12)**
- **It was only all the cities standing on their own mounds that Israel did not burn, except that Joshua did burn Hazor by itself. (Joshua 11:13)**
- **And all the spoil of these cities and the domestic animals the sons of Israel plundered for themselves. It was only all humankind that they struck with the edge of the sword until they had annihilated them. They did not let anyone that breathed remain. (Joshua 11:14)**
- **This fact has been used by some critics as a means for depicting the Hebrew Scriptures, or Old Testament, as imbued with a spirit of cruelty and wanton slaughter. The issue involved, however, is clearly that of whether God's sovereignty over the earth and its inhabitants is acknowledged or not. He had deeded over the right of tenure of the land of **Canaan** to the seed of Abraham, doing so by an oath-bound covenant.**
- **So Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot the son of his brother and all the goods that they had accumulated and the souls whom they had acquired in Haran, and they got on their way out to go to the land of **Canaan**. Finally they came to the land of **Canaan**. (Genesis 12:5)**
- **And Abram went on through the land as far as the site of Shechem, near the big trees of Moreh, and at that time the **Canaanite** was in the land. (Genesis 12:6)**
- **Yehowah now appeared to Abram and said; To your seed I am going to give this land. After that he built an altar there to Yehowah, who had appeared to him. (Genesis 12:7)**
- **The sun was now setting and a dense darkness came and, look! A smoking furnace and a fiery torch that passed in between these pieces. (Genesis 15:17)**
- **On that day Yehowah concluded with Abram a covenant, saying, To your seed I will give this land, from the river of Egypt to the**

- great river, the river Euphrates. (**Genesis 15:18**)
- The Kenites and the Kenizzites and the Kadmonites. (**Genesis 15:19**)
- And the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Rephaim. (**Genesis 15:20**)
- And the Amorites and the **Canaanites** and the Girgashites and the Jebusites. (**Genesis 15:21**)
- When the Most High gave the nations an inheritance, when he parted the sons of Adam from one another, He proceeded to fix the boundary of the people with regard for the number of the sons of Israel. (**Deuteronomy 32:8**)
- And he made out of one man every nation of men, to dwell upon the entire surface of the earth, and he decreed the appointed times and the set limits of the dwelling of men. (**Acts of Apostles 17:26**)
- **But more than a mere eviction or dispossessing of the existing tenants of that land was purposed by God. His right to act as Judge of all the earth.**
- **It is unthinkable of you that you are acting in this manner to put to death the righteous man with the wicked one so that it has to occur with the righteous man as it does with the wicked! It is unthinkable of you. Is the Judge of all the earth not going to do what is right? (**Genesis 18:25**)**
- **And to decree the sentence of capital punishment upon those found meriting it, as well as his right to implement and enforce the execution of such decree, was also involved.**
- **The justness of God's prophetic curse on **Canaan** found full confirmation in the conditions that had developed in **Canaan** by the time of the Israelite conquest. Yehowah had allowed 400 years from Abraham's time for the error of the Amorites to come to completion.**
- **But in the fourth generation they will return here, because the error of the Amorites has not yet come to completion. (**Genesis 15:16**)**

- **The fact that Esau's Hittite wives were a source of bitterness of spirit to Isaac and Rebekah to the extent that Rebekah had come to abhor her life because of them is certainly an indication of the badness already manifest among the **Canaanites**.**
- **And Esau grew to be forty years old. Then he took as wife Judith the daughter of Beerli the Hittite and also Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. (**Genesis 26:34**)**
- **And they were a source of bitterness of spirit to Isaac and Rebekah. (**Genesis 26:35**)**
- **After that Rebekah kept saying to Isaac; I have come to abhor this life of mine because of the daughters of Heth. If Jacob ever takes a wife from the daughters of Heth like these from the daughters of the land, of what good is life to me? (**Genesis 27:46**)**
- **During the centuries that followed, the land of **Canaan** became saturated with detestable practices of idolatry, immorality, and bloodshed. The **Canaanite** religion was extraordinarily base and degraded, their sacred poles evidently being phallic symbols, and many of the rites at their high places involving gross sexual excesses and depravity.**
- **You must not bow down to their gods or be induced to serve them, and you must not make anything like their works, but you will without fail throw them down and you will without fail break down their sacred pillars. (**Exodus 23:24**)**
- **Watch yourself that you do not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, for fear it may prove itself a snare in your midst. (**Exodus 34:12**)**
- **But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (**Exodus 34:13**)**
- **And you must drive away all the inhabitants of the land from before you and destroy all their stone figures, and all their images of molten metal you should destroy, and all their sacred high places you should annihilate. (**Numbers 33:52**)**
- **On the other hand, this is what you should do to them: Their**

altars you should pull down, and their sacred pillars you should break down, and their sacred poles you should cut down, and their graven images you should burn with fire. (**Deuteronomy 7:5**)

- Incest, sodomy, and bestiality were part of the way of the land of **Canaan** that made the land unclean and for which error it was due to vomit its inhabitants out.

- Speak to the sons of Israel, and you must say to them; I am Yehowah your God. (**Leviticus 18:2**)

- The way the land of Egypt does, in which you dwelt, you must not do, and the way the land of **Canaan** does, into which I am bringing you, you must not do, and in their statutes you must not walk. (**Leviticus 18:3**)

- My judicial decisions you should carry out, and my statutes you should keep so as to walk in them. I am Yehowah your God. (**Leviticus 18:4**)

- And you must keep my statutes and my judicial decisions, which if a man will do, he must also live by means of them. I am Yehowah. (**Leviticus 18:5**)

- You people must not come near, any man of you, to any close fleshly relative of his to lay bare nakedness. I am Yehowah. (**Leviticus 18:6**)

- The nakedness of your father and the nakedness of your mother you must not lay bare. She is your mother. You must not lay bare her nakedness. (**Leviticus 18:7**)

- The nakedness of your father's wife you must not lay bare. It is your fathers nakedness. (**Leviticus 18:8**)

- As for the nakedness of your sister, the daughter of your father or the daughter of your mother, whether born in the same household or born outside it, you must not lay bare their nakedness. (**Leviticus 18:9**)

- As for the nakedness of the daughter of your son or the daughter of your daughter, you must not lay bare their nakedness, because they are your nakedness. (**Leviticus 18:10**)

- **As for the nakedness of the daughter of your father's wife, the offspring of your father, she being your sister, you must not lay bare her nakedness. (Leviticus 18:11)**
- **The nakedness of your father's sister you must not lay bare. She is the blood relation of your father. (Leviticus 18:12)**
- **The nakedness of your mother's sister you must not lay bare, because she is a blood relation of your mother. (Leviticus 18:13)**
- **The nakedness of your father's brother you must not lay bare. You must not come near his wife. She is your aunt. (Leviticus 18:14)**
- **The nakedness of your daughter-in-law you must not lay bare. She is your son's wife. You must not lay her nakedness bare. (Leviticus 18:15)**
- **The nakedness of your brother's wife you must not lay bare. It is your brother's nakedness. (Leviticus 18:16)**
- **The nakedness of a woman and her daughter you must not lay bare. The daughter of her son and the daughter of her daughter you must not take in order to lay her nakedness bare. They are cases of blood relationship. It is loose conduct. (Leviticus 18:17)**
- **And you must not take a woman in addition to her sister as a rival to uncover her nakedness, that is, besides her during her lifetime. (Leviticus 18:18)**
- **And you must not come near a woman during the menstruation of her impurity to lay her nakedness bare. (Leviticus 18:19)**
- **And you must not give your emission as semen to the wife of your associate to become unclean by it. (Leviticus 18:20)**
- **And you must not allow the devoting of any of your offspring to Molech. You must not profane the name of your God that way. I am Yehowah. (Leviticus 18:21)**
- **And you must not lie down with a male the same as you lie down with a woman. It is a detestable thing. (Leviticus 18:22)**

- **And you must not give your emission to any beast to become unclean by it, and a woman should not stand before a beast to have connection with it. It is a violation of what is natural. (Leviticus 18:23)**
- **Do not make yourselves unclean by any of these things, because by all these things the nations whom I am sending out from before you have made themselves unclean. (Leviticus 18:24)**
- **Consequently the land is unclean, and I shall bring punishment for its error upon it, and the land will vomit its inhabitants out. (Leviticus 18:25)**
- **Magic, spellbinding, spiritism, and sacrifice of their children by fire were also among the **Canaanites** detestable practices.**
- **When you are entered into the land that Yehowah your God is giving you, you must not learn to do according to the detestable things of those nations. (Deuteronomy 18:9)**
- **There should not be found in you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, anyone who employs divination, a practicer of magic or anyone who looks for omens or a sorcerer. (Deuteronomy 18:10)**
- **Or one who binds others with a spell or anyone who consults a spirit medium or a professional foreteller of events or anyone who inquires of the dead. (Deuteronomy 18:11)**
- **For everybody doing these things is something detestable to Yehowah, and on account of these detestable things Yehowah your God is driving them away from before you. (Deuteronomy 18:12)**
- **Baal was the most prominent of the deities worshiped by the **Canaanites**.**
- **Thus they abandoned Yehowah the God of their fathers who had brought them out of the land of Egypt and went following other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them and they began bowing down to them, so that they offended Yehowah. (Judges 2:12)**
- **Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving Baal and the**

Ashtoreth images. (Judges 2:13)

- **And it came about during that night that Yehowah went on to say to him; Take the young bull, the bull that belongs to your father, that is, the second young bull of seven years, and you must tear down the altar of Baal that is your fathers, and the sacred pole that is by it you should cut down. (Judges 6:25)**
- **And you must build an altar to Yehowah your God at the head of this stronghold, with the row of stones, and you must take the second young bull and offer it up as a burnt offering on the pieces of wood of the sacred pole that you will cut down. (Judges 6:26)**
- **Accordingly Gideon took ten men of his servants and went doing just as Yehowah had spoken to him, but it came about that, as he feared the household of his father and the men of the city too much to do it by day, he went doing it by night. (Judges 6:27)**
- **When the men of the city got up early in the morning as usual, why, look! The altar of Baal had been pulled down and the sacred pole that was beside it had been cut down, and the second young bull had been offered up on the altar that had been built. (Judges 6:28)**
- **And they began to say one to another; Who has done this thing? And they went inquiring and seeking. Finally they said; Gideon the son of Joash is the one that has done this thing. (Judges 6:29)**
- **So the men of the city said to Joash; Bring your son out that he may die, because he has pulled down the altar of Baal, and because he has cut down the sacred pole that was by it. (Judges 6:30)**
- **At this Joash said to all those who stood against him; Will you be the ones to make a legal defense for Baal to see whether you yourselves may save him? Whoever makes a legal defense for him ought to be put to death even this morning. If he is God, let him make a legal defense for himself, because someone has pulled down his altar. (Judges 6:31)**
- **And he began to call him Jerubbaal on that day, saying; Let Baal make a legal defense in his own behalf, because someone has**

- pulled down his altar. (**Judges 6:32**)
- **And Ahab the son of Omri proceeded to do worse in the eyes of Yehowah than all those who were prior to him. (1 Kings 16:30)**
 - **And it came about that, as if it were the most trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, he now took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal the king of the Sidonians and began to go and serve Baal and to bow down to him. (1 Kings 16:31)**
 - **Further, he set up an altar to Baal at the house of Baal that he built in Samaria. (1 Kings 16:32)**
 - **Canaanite goddess Ashtoreth,**
 - **Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving Baal and the Ashtoreth images. (Judges 2:13)**
 - **And the sons of Israel again proceeded to do what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah, and they began to serve the Baals and the Ashtoreth images and the gods of Syria and the gods of Sidon and the gods of Moab and the gods of the sons of Ammon and the gods of the Philistines. So they left Yehowah and did not serve him. (Judges 10:6)**
 - **And Samuel proceeded to say to all the house of Israel: If it is with all your heart you are returning to Yehowah, put away the foreign gods from your midst and also the Ashtoreth images, and direct your heart unswervingly to Yehowah and serve him alone, and he will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines. (1 Samuel 7:3)**
 - **At that the sons of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreth images and began serving Yehowah alone. (1 Samuel 7:4)**
 - **Asherah, and Anath are presented in an Egyptian text as both mother-goddesses and as sacred prostitutes who, paradoxically, remain ever-virgin, literally, the great goddesses who conceive but do not bear.**
 - **Their worship apparently was invariably involved with the services of temple prostitutes. These goddesses symbolized the quality not only of sexual lust but also of sadistic violence and warfare. Thus,**

the goddess Anath is depicted in the Baal Epic from Ugarit as effecting a general slaughter of men and then decorating herself with suspended heads and attaching men's hands to her girdle while she joyfully wades in their blood.

- **The figurines of the goddess Ashtoreth that have been discovered in Palestine are of a nude woman with rudely exaggerated sex organs.**
- **Of their phallic worship, archaeologist W. F. Albright observes that: At its worst, the erotic aspect of their cult must have sunk to extremely sordid depths of social degradation. [Archaeology and the Religion of Israel, 1968, pp. 76,77]**

See Also ASHTORETH

See Also BAAL 4

- **Added to their other degrading practices was that of child sacrifice. According to Merrill F. Unger: Excavations in Palestine have uncovered piles of ashes and remains of infant skeletons in cemeteries around heathen altars, pointing to the widespread practice of this cruel abomination.**
- **Archaeology and the Old Testament, 1964, p. 279, Halley's Bible Handbook [1964, p. 161] says: Canaanites worshipped, by immoral indulgence, as a religious rite, in the presence of their gods, and then, by murdering their first-born children, as a sacrifice to these same gods.**
- **It seems that, in large measure, the land of Canaan had become a sort of Sodom and Gomorrah on a national scale. Did a civilization of such abominable filth and brutality have any right longer to exist? Archaeologists who dig in the ruins of Canaanite cities wonder that God did not destroy them sooner than he did.**
- **Yehowah had exercised his sovereign right to execute the sentence of death upon the wicked population of the entire planet at the time of the global Flood, he had done so with regard to the entire District of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah because of the loud cry of complaint about them and their very heavy sin**
- **Consequently Yehowah said; The cry of complaint about Sodom and Gomorrah, yes, it is loud, and their sin, yes, it is very heavy. (Genesis 18:20)**

- For we are bringing this place to ruin, because the outcry against them has grown loud before Yehowah, so that Yehowah sent us to bring the city to ruin. (**Genesis 19:13**)
- He had executed a decree of destruction upon Pharaoh's military forces at the Red Sea, he had also exterminated the households of Korah and other rebels among the Israelites themselves.
- However, in these cases, God had employed natural forces to accomplish the destruction. By contrast, Yehowah now assigned to the Israelites the sacred duty of serving as principal executioners of his divine decree, guided by his angelic messenger and backed by God's almighty power.
- Here I am sending an angel ahead of you to keep you on the road and to bring you into the place that I have prepared. (**Exodus 23:20**)
- Watch yourself because of him and obey his voice. Do not behave rebelliously against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, because my name is within him. (**Exodus 23:21**)
- However, if you strictly obey his voice and really do all that I shall speak, then I shall certainly be hostile to your enemies and harass those who harass you. (**Exodus 23:22**)
- For my angel will go ahead of you and will indeed bring you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the **Canaanites**, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I shall certainly efface them. (**Exodus 23:23**)
- And I shall send the fright of me ahead of you, and I shall certainly throw into confusion all the people among whom you come, and I shall indeed give the back of the neck of all your enemies to you. (**Exodus 23:27**)
- And I will send the feeling of dejection ahead of you, and it will simply drive the Hivites, the **Canaanites** and the Hittites out from before you. (**Exodus 23:28**)
- And you well know today that Yehowah your God is crossing before you. A consuming fire he is. He will annihilate them, and he himself will subdue them before you, and you must dispossess them and destroy them speedily, just as Yehowah has spoken to

- you. ([Deuteronomy 9:3](#))
- Do not say in your heart when Yehowah your God pushes them away from before you this, It was for my own righteousness that Yehowah has brought me in to take possession of this land, whereas it is for the wickedness of these nations that Yehowah is driving them away from before you. ([Deuteronomy 9:4](#))
 - That is the way you will do to all the cities very far away from you that are not of the cities of these nations. ([Deuteronomy 20:15](#))
 - It is only of the cities of these peoples that Yehowah your God is giving you as an inheritance that you must not preserve any breathing thing alive. ([Deuteronomy 20:16](#))
 - Because you should without fail devote them to destruction, the Hittites and the Amorites, the **Canaanites** and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, just as Yehowah your God has commanded you. ([Deuteronomy 20:17](#))
 - In order, that they may not teach you to do according to all their detestable things, which they have done to their gods, and you may indeed sin against Yehowah your God. ([Deuteronomy 20:18](#))
 - And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because it was Yehowah the God of Israel who was fighting for Israel. ([Joshua 10:42](#))
 - The results, nevertheless, were precisely the same to the **Canaanites** as if God had chosen to destroy them by some phenomenon such as a flood, fiery explosion, or earthquake, and the fact that human agents effected the putting to death of the condemned peoples, however unpleasant their task may seem, cannot alter the rightness of the divinely ordained action.
 - Cursed be the one that is carrying out the mission of Yehowah neglectfully, and cursed be the one that is holding back his sword from blood! ([Jeremiah 48:10](#))
 - By using this human instrument, pitted against seven nations more populous and mighty than they were, Yehowah's power was magnified and his godship proved.

- **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**)**
- **I am Yehowah your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of **Canaan**, to prove myself your God. (**Leviticus 25:38**)**
- **The **Canaanites** were not ignorant of the powerful evidence that Israel was God's chosen people and instrument.**
- **And she went on to say to the men; I do know that Yehowah will certainly give you the land, and that the fright of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have become disheartened because of you. (**Joshua 2:9**)**
- **For we have heard how Yehowah dried up the waters of the Red Sea from before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, namely, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. (**Joshua 2:10**)**
- **When we got to hear it, then our hearts began to melt, and no spirit has arisen yet in anybody because of you, for Yehowah your God is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath. (**Joshua 2:11**)**
- **And now, please, swear to me by Yehowah that, because I have exercised loving-kindness toward you, you also will certainly exercise loving-kindness toward the household of my father, and you must give me a trustworthy sign. (**Joshua 2:12**)**
- **And you must preserve alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all who belong to them, and you must deliver our souls from death. (**Joshua 2:13**)**
- **At that the men said to her; Our souls are to die instead of you people! If you will not tell about this matter of ours, it must also occur that when Yehowah gives us the land, we also shall certainly exercise loving-kindness and trustworthiness toward you. (**Joshua 2:14**)**

- **After that she had them descend by a rope through the window, for her house was on a side of the wall, and it was on the wall that she was dwelling. (Joshua 2:15)**
- **And she proceeded to say to them; Go to the mountainous region, that those in pursuit may not come in contact with you, and you must keep hid there three days, until those in pursuit have come back, and afterward you may go in your own direction. (Joshua 2:16)**
- **In turn the men said to her; We are free from guilt respecting this oath of yours that you have made us swear. (Joshua 2:17)**
- **Look! We are coming into the land. This cord of scarlet thread you should tie in the window by which you have had us descend, and your father and your mother and your brothers and all the household of your father you should gather to yourself into the house. (Joshua 2:18)**
- **And it must occur that anyone who goes out of the doors of your house into the open, his blood will be upon his own head, and we shall be free from guilt, and everyone who continues with you in the house, his blood will be on our heads if a hand should come upon him. (Joshua 2:19)**
- **And if you should report this matter of ours, we shall also have become free from guilt respecting this oath of yours that you have made us swear. (Joshua 2:20)**
- **To this she said; According to your words so let it be. With that she sent them off, and they went their way. After that she tied the scarlet cord in the window. (Joshua 2:21)**
- **Then they answered Joshua and said; It was because your servants were plainly told that Yehowah your God had commanded Moses his servant to give you all the land and to annihilate all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and we became very much afraid for our souls because of you. So we did this thing. (Joshua 9:24)**
- **And now here we are, in your hand. Just as it is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do. (Joshua 9:25)**

- And he proceeded to do so to them and to deliver them from the hand of the sons of Israel, and they did not kill them. (**Joshua 9:26**)
- Accordingly Joshua constituted them on that day gatherers of wood and drawers of water for the assembly and for Yehowah's altar, down to this day, at the place that he should choose. (**Joshua 9:27**)
- However, with the exception of Rahab and her family and the cities of the Gibeonites, those who came in for destruction neither sought mercy nor availed themselves of the opportunity to flee, but instead they chose to harden themselves in rebellion against Yehowah.
- He did not force them to bend and give in to his expressed will but, rather, let their hearts become stubborn so as to declare war against Israel, in order, that he might devote them to destruction, that they might come to have no favorable consideration, but in order, that he might annihilate them in execution of his judgment against them.
- There proved to be no city that made peace with the sons of Israel but the Hivites inhabiting Gibeon. All the others they took by war. (**Joshua 11:19**)
- For it proved to be Yehowah's course to let their hearts become stubborn so as to declare war against Israel, in order, that he might devote them to destruction, that they might come to have no favorable consideration, but in order, that he might annihilate them, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Joshua 11:20**)
- Joshua wisely did not remove a word from all that Yehowah had commanded Moses as to the destruction of the **Canaanites**.
- Just as Yehowah had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He did not remove a word from all that Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Joshua 11:15**)
- But the Israelite nation failed to follow up his good lead and completely eliminate the source of pollution of the land. The continued presence of the **Canaanites** among them brought infection into Israel that, in the course of time, undoubtedly contributed toward more deaths, not to mention crime, immorality, and idolatry than the

decreed extermination of all the **Canaanites** would have produced had it been faithfully effected.

- **If, though, you will not drive the inhabitants of the land away from before you, then those whom you leave of them will certainly become as pricks in your eyes and as thorns in your sides, and they will indeed harass you on the land in which you will be dwelling. (Numbers 33:55)**
- **And it must occur that just as I had figured doing to them I shall do to you. (Numbers 33:56)**
- **Then Yehowah's angel went up from Gilgal to Bochim and said; I proceeded to bring you up out of Egypt and to bring you into the land about which I swore to your forefathers. Furthermore, I said; Never shall I break my covenant with you. (Judges 2:1)**
- **And for your part, you must not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of this land. Their altars you should pull down. But you have not listened to my voice. Why have you done this? (Judges 2:2)**
- **So I, in turn, have said; I shall not drive them away from before you, and they must become snares to you, and their gods will serve as a lure to you. (Judges 2:3)**
- **And the sons of Israel fell to doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah and serving the Baals. (Judges 2:11)**
- **Thus they abandoned Yehowah the God of their fathers who had brought them out of the land of Egypt and went following other gods from among the gods of the peoples who were all around them and they began bowing down to them, so that they offended Yehowah. (Judges 2:12)**
- **Thus they abandoned Yehowah and took up serving Baal and the Ashtoreth images. (Judges 2:13)**
- **At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he gave them into the hands of the pillagers, and they began to pillage them, and he proceeded to sell them into the hand of their enemies round about, and they were no longer able to stand before their enemies. (Judges 2:14)**

- **Everywhere that they went out, the hand of Yehowah proved to be against them for calamity, just as Yehowah had spoken and just as Yehowah had sworn to them, and they got to be in very sore straits. (Judges 2:15)**
- **So Yehowah would raise up judges, and they would save them out of the hand of their pillagers. (Judges 2:16)**
- **And even to their judges they did not listen, but they had immoral intercourse with other gods and went bowing down to them. They quickly turned aside from the way in which their forefathers had walked by obeying the commandments of Yehowah. They did not do like that. (Judges 2:17)**
- **And when Yehowah did raise up judges for them, Yehowah proved to be with the judge, and he saved them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge, for Yehowah would feel regret over their groaning because of their oppressors and those who were shoving them around. (Judges 2:18)**
- **And it occurred that when the judge died they would turn around and act more ruinously than their fathers by walking after other gods to serve them and bow down to them. They did not refrain from their practices and their stubborn behavior. (Judges 2:19)**
- **Finally Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel and he said; For the reason that this nation have overstepped my covenant that I commanded their forefathers and have not listened to my voice. (Judges 2:20)**
- **I too, for my part, shall not drive out again from before them a single one of the nations that Joshua left behind when he died. (Judges 2:21)**
- **In order by them to test Israel, whether they will be keepers of Yehowah's way by walking in it just as their fathers kept it, or not. (Judges 2:22)**
- **Accordingly Yehowah let these nations stay by not driving them out quickly, and he did not give them into Joshua's hand. (Judges 2:23)**
- **They did not annihilate the peoples, as Yehowah had said to them. (Psalms 106:34)**

- **And they went mingling with the nations and took up learning their works. (Psalms 106:35)**
- **And they kept serving their idols, and these came to be a snare to them. (Psalms 106:36)**
- **And they would sacrifice their sons and their daughters to demons. (Psalms 106:37)**
- **So they kept spilling innocent blood, the blood of their sons and their daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of **Canaan**, and the land came to be polluted with bloodshed. (Psalms 106:38)**
- **And they got to be unclean by their works and kept having immoral intercourse by their dealings. (Psalms 106:39)**
- **And the anger of Yehowah began to blaze against his people, and he came to detest his inheritance. (Psalms 106:40)**
- **And he repeatedly gave them into the hand of the nations, that those hating them might rule over them. (Psalms 106:41)**
- **And that their enemies might oppress them, and that they might be subdued under their hand. (Psalms 106:42)**
- **Many times he would deliver them, but they themselves would behave rebelliously in their disobedient course, and they would be brought low for their error. (Psalms 106:43)**
- **Yehowah had warned the Israelites that his justice and his judgments would not be partial and that for the Israelites to enter into relations with the **Canaanites**, intermarry with them, practice interfaith, and adopt their religious customs and degenerate practices would mean their inevitably bringing down upon themselves the same decree of annihilation and would result in their also being vomited out of the land.**
- **You are not to conclude a covenant with them or their gods. (Exodus 23:32)**
- **They should not dwell in your land, that they may not cause you to sin against me. In case you should serve their gods, it would become a snare to you. (Exodus 23:33)**

- **Watch yourself that you do not conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land to which you are going, for fear it may prove itself a snare in your midst. (Exodus 34:12)**
- **But their altars you people are to pull down, and their sacred pillars you are to shatter, and their sacred poles you are to cut down. (Exodus 34:13)**
- **For you must not prostrate yourself to another god, because Yehowah, whose name is Jealous, he is a jealous God. (Exodus 34:14)**
- **For fear that you may conclude a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, as they will certainly have immoral intercourse with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone will be certain to invite you, and you will certainly eat some of his sacrifice. (Exodus 34:15)**
- **Then you will have to take some of their daughters for your sons, and their daughters will be certain to have immoral intercourse with their gods and make your sons have immoral intercourse with their gods. (Exodus 34:16)**
- **You must not make molten idol gods for yourself. (Exodus 34:17)**
- **And you yourselves must keep my statutes and my judicial decisions, and you must not do any of all these detestable things, whether a native or an alien resident who is residing as an alien in your midst. (Leviticus 18:26)**
- **For all these detestable things the men of the land who were before you have done, so that the land is unclean. (Leviticus 18:27)**
- **Then the land will not vomit you out for your defiling it the same way as it will certainly vomit the nations out who were before you. (Leviticus 18:28)**
- **In case anyone does any of all these detestable things, then the souls doing them must be cut off from among their people. (Leviticus 18:29)**
- **And you must keep your obligation to me not to carry on any of**

- the detestable customs that have been carried on before you, that you may not make yourselves unclean by them. I am Yehowah your God. (**Leviticus 18:30**)
- **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**)**
 - **On the other hand, this is what you should do to them; Their altars you should pull down, and their sacred pillars you should break down, and their sacred poles you should cut down, and their graven images you should burn with fire. (**Deuteronomy 7:5**)**
 - **And you must not bring a detestable thing into your house and actually become a thing devoted to destruction like it. You should thoroughly loathe it and absolutely detest it, because it is something devoted to destruction. (**Deuteronomy 7:26**)**
 - **Now these are the nations that Yehowah let stay so as by them to test Israel, that is, all those who had not experienced any of the wars of **Canaan**. (**Judges 3:1**)**
 - **It was only in order for the generations of the sons of Israel to have the experience, so as to teach them war, that is, only those who before that had not experienced such things. (**Judges 3:2**)**
 - **States that Yehowah let some of the **Canaanite** nations stay so as by them to test Israel, that is, all those who had not experienced any of the wars of **Canaan**, it was only in order for the generations of the sons of Israel to have the experience, so as to teach them war, that is, only those who before that had not experienced such things. This does not contradict the earlier statement.**

- Finally Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel and he said; For the reason that this nation have overstepped my covenant that I commanded their forefathers and have not listened to my voice. **(Judges 2:20)**
- I too, for my part, shall not drive out again from before them a single one of the nations that Joshua left behind when he died. **(Judges 2:21)**
- In order by them to test Israel, whether they will be keepers of Yehowah's way by walking in it just as their fathers kept it, or not. **(Judges 2:22)**
- That Yehowah allowed these nations to remain because of Israel's unfaithfulness and in order to test Israel, whether they will be keepers of Yehowah's way.
- Rather, it harmonizes with that reason and shows that later generations of Israelites would thereby be faced with the opportunity to demonstrate obedience to God's commands concerning the **Canaanites**, putting their faith to the test to the point of endangering their lives in war in order to prove obedient.
- In view of all of this, it is clear that the opinion held by some Bible critics that the destruction of the **Canaanites** by Israel is not in harmony with the spirit of the **Christian Greek Scriptures** does not accord with the facts, as a comparison of such texts as,
- When he caught sight of many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to the baptism, he said to them; You offspring of vipers, who has intimated to you to flee from the coming wrath? **(Matthew 3:7)**
- So then produce fruit that befits repentance. **(Matthew 3:8)**
- and do not presume to say to yourselves; As a father we have Abraham. For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. **(Matthew 3:9)**
- Already the ax is lying at the root of the trees. Every tree, then, that does not produce fine fruit is to be cut down and thrown into the fire. **(Matthew 3:10)**
- I, for my part, baptize you with water because of your

- repentance, but the one coming after me is stronger than I am, whose sandals I am not fit to take off. That one will baptize you people with Holy Spirit and with fire. ([Matthew 3:11](#))
- His winnowing shovel is in his hand, and he will completely clean up his threshing floor, and will gather his wheat into the storehouse, but the chaff he will burn up with fire that cannot be put out. ([Matthew 3:12](#))
 - In further reply Jesus again spoke to them with illustrations, saying; ([Matthew 22:1](#))
 - The kingdom of the heavens has become like a man, a king, that made a marriage feast for his son. ([Matthew 22:2](#))
 - And he sent forth his slaves to call those invited to the marriage feast, but they were unwilling to come. ([Matthew 22:3](#))
 - Again he sent forth other slaves, saying; Tell those invited; Look! I have prepared my dinner, my bulls and fattened animals are slaughtered, and all things are ready. Come to the marriage feast. ([Matthew 22:4](#))
 - But unconcerned they went off, one to his own field, another to his commercial business. ([Matthew 22:5](#))
 - but the rest, laying hold of his slaves, treated them insolently and killed them. ([Matthew 22:6](#))
 - But the king grew wrathful, and sent his armies and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ([Matthew 22:7](#))
 - Serpents, offspring of vipers, how are you to flee from the judgment of Gehenna? ([Matthew 23:33](#))
 - Then he will say in turn to those on his left; Be on your way from me, you who have been cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and his angels. ([Matthew 25:41](#))
 - For I became hungry, but you gave me nothing to eat, and I got thirsty, but you gave me nothing to drink. ([Matthew 25:42](#))
 - I was a stranger, but you did not receive me hospitably, naked, but you did not clothe me, sick and in prison, but you did not look

after me. (**Matthew 25:43**)

- Then they also will answer with the words; Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not minister to you? (**Matthew 25:44**)
- Then he will answer them with the words; Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of these least ones, you did not do it to me. (**Matthew 25:45**)
- And these will depart into everlasting cutting-off, but the righteous ones into everlasting life. (**Matthew 25:46**)
- Also, he started to speak to them with illustrations; A man planted a vineyard, and put a fence around it, and dug a vat for the winepress and erected a tower, and let it out to cultivators, and traveled abroad. (**Mark 12:1**)
- Now in due season he sent forth a slave to the cultivators, that he might get some of the fruits of the vineyard from the cultivators. (**Mark 12:2**)
- But they took him, beat him up and sent him away empty. (**Mark 12:3**)
- And again he sent forth another slave to them, and that one they struck on the head and dishonored. (**Mark 12:4**)
- And he sent forth another, and that one they killed, and many others, some of whom they beat up and some of whom they killed. (**Mark 12:5**)
- One more he had, a beloved son. He sent him forth last to them, saying; They will respect my son. (**Mark 12:6**)
- But those cultivators said among themselves; This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours. (**Mark 12:7**)
- So they took him and killed him, and threw him outside the vineyard. (**Mark 12:8**)
- What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the cultivators, and will give the vineyard to others.

(Mark 12:9)

- **But his citizens hated him and sent out a body of ambassadors after him, to say; We do not want this man to become king over us. (Luke 19:14)**
- **Moreover, these enemies of mine that did not want me to become king over them bring here and slaughter them before me. (Luke 19:27)**
- **For God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who are suppressing the truth in an unrighteous way. (Romans 1:18)**
- **Because what may be known about God is manifest among them, for God made it manifest to them. (Romans 1:19)**
- **For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made, even his eternal power and godship, so that they are inexcusable. (Romans 1:20)**
- **Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God nor did they thank him, but they became empty-headed in their reasonings and their unintelligent heart became darkened. (Romans 1:21)**
- **Although asserting they were wise, they became foolish (Romans 1:22)**
- **And turned the glory of the incorruptible God into something like the image of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed creatures and creeping things. (Romans 1:23)**
- **Therefore God, in keeping with the desires of their hearts, gave them up to uncleanness, that their bodies might be dishonored among them. (Romans 1:24)**
- **Even those who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and venerated and rendered sacred service to the creation rather than the One who created, who is blessed forever. Amen. (Romans 1:25)**
- **That is why God gave them up to disgraceful sexual appetites, for**

both their females changed the natural use of themselves into one contrary to nature. (**Romans 1:26**)

- **And likewise even the males left the natural use of the female and became violently inflamed in their lust toward one another, males with males, working what is obscene and receiving in themselves the full recompense, which was due for their error. (**Romans 1:27**)**
- **And just as they did not approve of holding God in accurate knowledge, God gave them up to a disapproved mental state, to do the things not fitting. (**Romans 1:28**)**
- **Filled as they were with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, badness, being full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malicious disposition, being whisperers. (**Romans 1:29**)**
- **Backbiters, haters of God, insolent, haughty, self-assuming, inventors of injurious things, disobedient to parents. (**Romans 1:30**)**
- **Without understanding, false to agreements, having no natural affection, merciless. (**Romans 1:31**)**
- **Although these know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death, they not only keep on doing them but also consent with those practicing them. (**Romans 1:32**)**
- **This takes into account that it is righteous on God's part to repay tribulation to those who make tribulation for you. (**2 Thessalonians 1:6**)**
- **But, to you who suffer tribulation, relief along with us at the revelation of the Lord Jesus from heaven with his powerful angels (**2 Thessalonians 1:7**)**
- **In a flaming fire, as he brings vengeance upon those who do not know God and those who do not obey the Good News about our Lord Jesus. (**2 Thessalonians 1:8**)**
- **These very ones will undergo the judicial punishment of everlasting destruction from before the Lord and from the glory of his strength. (**2 Thessalonians 1:9**)**

- **Let no one seduce you in any manner, because it will not come unless the apostasy comes first and the man of lawlessness gets revealed, the son of destruction. (2 Thessalonians 2:3)**
- **And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. (Revelation 19:11)**
- **His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows but he himself. (Revelation 19:12)**
- **And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is **The Word of God**. (Revelation 19:13)**
- **Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen. (Revelation 19:14)**
- **And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. (Revelation 19:15)**
- **And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (Revelation 19:16)**
- **I saw also an angel standing in the sun, and he cried out with a loud voice and said to all the birds that fly in midheaven; Come here, be gathered together to the great evening meal of God. (Revelation 19:17)**
- **That you may eat the fleshy parts of kings and the fleshy parts of military commanders and the fleshy parts of strong men and the fleshy parts of horses and of those seated upon them, and the fleshy parts of all, of freemen as well as of slaves and of small ones and great. (Revelation 19:18)**
- **And I saw the wild beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to wage the war with the one seated on the horse and with his army. (Revelation 19:19)**
- **And the wild beast was caught, and along with it the false**

prophet that performed in front of it the signs with which he misled those who received the mark of the wild beast and those who render worship to its image. While still alive, they both were hurled into the fiery lake that burns with sulphur. **(Revelation 19:20)**

- But the rest were killed off with the long sword of the one seated on the horse, which sword proceeded out of his mouth. And all the birds were filled from the fleshy parts of them. **(Revelation 19:21)**

•• Later History

- Following the conquest, the situation between the **Canaanites** and the Israelites gradually became one of relatively peaceful coexistence, though this was to Israel's detriment.
- And the sons of Israel dwelt in among the **Canaanites**, the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. **(Judges 3:5)**
- And they proceeded to take their daughters as wives for themselves, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they took up serving their gods. **(Judges 3:6)**
- While they were close by Jebus, as the daylight had gone down considerably, the attendant now said to his master; O come, now, and let us turn aside to this city of the Jebusites and stay in it overnight. **(Judges 19:11)**
- But his master said to him; Let us not turn aside to a city of foreigners who are no part of the sons of Israel, and we have to pass on as far as Gibeah. **(Judges 19:12)**
- And he went on to say to his attendant; Come and let us approach one of the places, and we must stay overnight either in Gibeah or in Ramah. **(Judges 19:13)**
- So they passed along and kept on their way, and the sun began to set upon them when near to Gibeah, which belongs to Benjamin. **(Judges 19:14)**
- Syrian, Moabite, and Philistine rulers successively gained temporary domination over the Israelites, but it was not until the time

of Jabin, called the king of **Canaan**, that the **Canaanites** regained sufficient power to accomplish a 20-year subjugation of Israel.

- So Yehowah sold them into the hand of Jabin the king of **Canaan**, who reigned in Hazor, and the chief of his army was Sisera, and he was dwelling in Harosheth of the nations. (**Judges 4:2**)
- And the sons of Israel began to cry out to Yehowah, because he had nine hundred war chariots with iron scythes, and he himself oppressed the sons of Israel with harshness twenty years. (**Judges 4:3**)
- After Jabin's ultimate defeat by Barak, Israel's difficulties during the pre-kingdom period came principally from non-**Canaanite** sources, the Midianites, Ammonites, and Philistines. Likewise during the time of Samuel, of the **Canaanite** tribes only the Amorites are briefly mentioned.
- And the cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel kept coming back to Israel from Ekron to Gath, and the territory of them Israel delivered from the hand of the Philistines. And there came to be peace between Israel and the Amorites. (**1 Samuel 7:14**)
- **King David evicted the Jebusites from Jerusalem;**
- Consequently the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites inhabiting the land, and they began to say to David; You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame ones will certainly turn you away, they thinking; David will not come in here. (**2 Samuel 5:6**)
- Just the same, David proceeded to capture the stronghold of Zion, that is, the City of David. (**2 Samuel 5:7**)
- So David said on that day; Anyone striking the Jebusites, let him, by means of the water tunnel, make contact with both the lame and the blind, hateful to the soul of David! That is why they say; The blind one and the lame one will not come into the house. (**2 Samuel 5:8**)
- And David took up dwelling in the stronghold, and it came to be called the City of David, and David began to build all around from the Mound and inward. (**2 Samuel 5:9**)

- **But his major campaigns were against the Philistines, Ammonites, Moabites, Edomites, Amalekites, and the Syrians. Thus, the **Canaanites**, though still possessing cities and holding land in Israel's territory**
- **Then they came to the fortress of Tyre and all the cities of the Hivites and of the **Canaanites** and came to the terminating point in the Negeb of Judah at Beer-sheba. (2 Samuel 24:7)**
- **And the angel kept his hand thrust out toward Jerusalem to bring it to ruin, and Yehowah began to feel regret over the calamity, and so he said to the angel that was bringing ruin among the people; It is enough! Now let your hand drop. And Yehowah's angel himself happened to be close by the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. (2 Samuel 24:16)**
- **And David proceeded to say to Yehowah, when he saw the angel that was striking the people down, yes, he proceeded to say; Here it is I that have sinned and it is I that have done wrong, but these sheep, what have they done? Let your hand, please, come upon me and upon the house of my father. (2 Samuel 24:17)**
- **Later Gad came in to David on that day and said to him; Go up, set up for Yehowah an altar on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. (2 Samuel 24:18)**
- **Had evidently ceased to be a threat militarily. Two Hittite warriors are mentioned among David's fighting force.**
- **Then David answered and said to Ahimelech the Hittite and Abishai the son of Zeruiah, the brother of Joab. Who will go down with me to Saul into the camp? To this Abishai said; I myself shall go down with you. (1 Samuel 26:6)**
- **Uriah the Hittite, thirty-seven in all. (2 Samuel 23:39)**
- **During his rule Solomon put the remnants of the **Canaanite** tribes to forced labor in his many projects.**
- **As for all the people remaining over from the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, who were no part of the sons of Israel. (1 Kings 9:20)**

- Their sons who had been left over after them in the land whom the sons of Israel had been unable to devote to destruction, Solomon kept levying them for slavish forced labor until this day. **(1 Kings 9:21)**
- Extending his building work even to the far northern **Canaanite** city of Hamath.
- Then he rebuilt Tadmor in the wilderness and all the storage cities that he had built in Hamath. **(2 Chronicles 8:4)**
- But **Canaanite** wives later contributed to Solomon's downfall, the loss of much of the kingdom for his heir, and the religious corruption of the nation.
- And King Solomon himself loved many foreign wives along with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian and Hittite women. **(1 Kings 11:1)**
- Only it will not be all the kingdom that I shall rip away. One tribe I shall give to your son, for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem which I have chosen. **(1 Kings 11:13)**
- And he went on to say to Jeroboam; Take for yourself ten pieces, for this is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Here I am ripping the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and I shall certainly give you ten tribes. **(1 Kings 11:31)**
- And the one tribe is what will continue his for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. **(1 Kings 11:32)**
- The reason why is that they have left me and begun to bow down to Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, to Chemosh the god of Moab and to Milcom the god of the sons of Ammon, and they have not walked in my ways by doing what is right in my eyes and my statutes and my judicial decisions like David his father. **(1 Kings 11:33)**
- From Solomon's reign, **1037-998 B.C.E**, down to the rule of Jehoram of Israel circa **917-905 B.C.E**, only the Hittites appear to have maintained a considerable measure of prominence and strength as a tribe, though evidently located to the North of Israel's territory and adjacent to or in Syria.

- **And a chariot customarily came up and was exported from Egypt for six hundred silver pieces, and a horse for a hundred and fifty, and that was the way it was for all the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Syria. It was by means of them that they did the exporting. (1 Kings 10:29)**
- **And Yehowah himself had caused the camp of the Syrians to hear the sound of war chariots, the sound of horses, the sound of a great military force, so that they said to one another; Look! The king of Israel has hired against us the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to come against us! (2 Kings 7:6)**
- **Intermarriage with **Canaanites** still was a problem among the returned Israelites after the Babylonian exile.**
- **And as soon as these things were finished, the princes approached me, saying; The people of Israel and the priests and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands as regards their detestable things, namely, the **Canaanites**, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians and the Amorites. (Ezra 9:1)**
- **For they have accepted some of their daughters for themselves and for their sons, and they, the holy seed, have become mingled with the peoples of the lands, and the hand of the princes and the deputy rulers has proved to be foremost in this unfaithfulness. (Ezra 9:2)**
- **But the **Canaanite** kingdoms, including those of the Hittites, had evidently disintegrated under the impact of Syrian, Assyrian, and Babylonian aggression. The term **Canaan** came to refer primarily to Phoenicia, as in Isaiah's prophecy concerning Tyre.**
- **The pronouncement of Tyre! Howl, you ships of Tarshish! For it has been despoiled from being a port, from being a place to enter in. From the land of Kittim it has been revealed to them. (Isaiah 23:1)**
- **His hand he has stretched out over the sea, he has caused kingdoms to be agitated. Yehowah himself has given a command against Phoenicia, to annihilate her strongholds. (Isaiah 23:11)**

Footnote

- **And in the case of the Phoenician, literally, **Canaanite Greek**, *Khanna-nai'a* woman from the region of Tyre and Sidon who approached Jesus.**
- **And, look! A Phoenician woman from those regions came out and cried aloud, saying; Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David. My daughter is badly demonized. (**Matthew 15:22**) Footnote**
- **The woman was a Grecian, a Syrophenician nationally, and she kept asking him to expel the demon from her daughter. (**Mark 7:26**)**

•• **Commercial And Geopolitical Importance**

- **Canaan formed a land bridge connecting Egypt with Asia and, more particularly, Mesopotamia. Though the economy of the country was basically agricultural, commercial trade was also engaged in, and the seaport cities of Tyre and Sidon became major trade centers with fleets of ships that were renowned throughout the then-known world. (**Ezekiel Chapter 27**)**
- **Thus, as far back as Job's time, the word **Canaanite** had become synonymous with tradesman, and is so translated.**
- **Will partners barter for it? Will they divide it up among tradesmen? (**Job 41:6**)**
- **Howl, you inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the people who are tradesmen have been silenced, all those weighing out silver have been cut off. (**Zephaniah 1:11**)**
- **Babylon as the land of **Canaan**,**
- **He plucked off the very top of its young shoots and came bringing it to the land of **Canaan**, in a city of traders he placed it. (**Ezekiel 17:4**)**
- **Say, please, to the rebellious house, Do you people actually not know what these things mean? Say; Look! The king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and proceeded to take its king and its princes and bring them to himself at Babylon. (**Ezekiel 17:12**)**
- **Canaan thus occupied a very strategic place in the Fertile Crescent and was the target of the great empires of Mesopotamia, Asia**

Minor, and Africa that were seeking to control military passage and commercial traffic through **Canaan's** confines.

- **God's placing of his chosen people in this land, therefore, was certain to draw the attention of the nations and have far-reaching effects, in a geographic sense, though more importantly in a religious sense, the Israelites could be said to dwell in the center of the earth.**
- **It will be to get a big spoil and to do much plundering, in order to turn your hand back upon devastated places re-inhabited and upon a people gathered together out of the nations, one that is accumulating wealth and property, those who are dwelling in the center of the earth. (Ezekiel 38:12)**

•• Language

- **Although the Bible record clearly shows the **Canaanites** to be Hamitic, the majority of reference works speak of them as of Semitic origin. This classification is based on the evidence of a Semitic language spoken by the **Canaanites**. The evidence most frequently appealed to is the large number of texts found at Ras Shamra or Ugarit, written in a Semitic language or dialect and considered to date from as far back as the **14th Century B.C.E.****

- **However, Ugarit apparently did not come within the Biblical boundaries of Canaan. An article by **A. F. Rainey in The Biblical Archaeologist [1965, p. 105]** states that on ethnic, political, and, probably, linguistic bases it is now clearly a misnomer to call Ugarit a Canaanite city. He gives further evidence to show that Ugarit and the land of Canaan were separate and distinct political entities. Hence, these tablets provide no clear rule by which to determine the language of the Canaanites.**

- **Many of the Amarna Tablets found in Egypt do proceed from cities in **Canaan** proper, and these tablets, predating the Israelite conquest, are written mainly in cuneiform Babylonian, a Semitic language.**

- **This, however, was the diplomatic language of the entire Middle East at that time, so that it was used even when writing to the Egyptian court. Thus, it is of considerable interest to note the statement in [**The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, edited by G. A. Buttrick, 1962, Vol. 1, p. 495**]; that the Amarna Letters contain evidence for the opinion that non-Semitic ethnic elements settled in Palestine and Syria**

at a rather early date, for a number of these letters show a remarkable influence of non-Semitic tongues.

- The facts are that there is still uncertainty as to the **original** language spoken by the first inhabitants of **Canaan**.
- It is true, however, that the Bible account itself appears to show that Abraham and his descendants were able to converse with the people of **Canaan** without the need of an interpreter, and it may also be noted that, while some place-names of a non-Semitic type were used, most of the towns and cities captured by the Israelites already bore Semitic names. Still, Philistine kings in Abraham's time and also, evidently, David's time, were called Abimelech
- And Abraham repeated concerning Sarah his wife: She is my sister. With that Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. (**Genesis 20:2**)
- So they concluded a covenant at Beersheba, after which Abimelech got up together with Phicol the chief of his army and they returned to the land of the Philistines. (**Genesis 21:32**)
- A thoroughly Semitic name, **or title**, whereas it is nowhere contended that the Philistines were a Semitic race. So, it would appear that the **Canaanite** tribes, over a period of some centuries from the time of the confusion of tongues at Babel.
- Accordingly Yehowah scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth, and they gradually left off building the city. (**Genesis 11:8**)
- That is why its name was called Babel, because there Yehowah had confused the language of all the earth, and Yehowah had scattered them from there over all the surface of the earth. (**Genesis 11:9**)
- Apparently changed over to a Semitic tongue from their original Hamitic language. This may have been because of their close association with the Aramaic-speaking peoples of Syria, as a result of Mesopotamian domination for a period of time, or for other reasons not now apparent.
- Such a change would be no greater than that of other ancient nations, such as the ancient Persians, who, though of Indo-European,

or Japhetic stock, later adopted the Semitic Aramaean language and writing.

- The language of **Canaan** referred to at;
- In that day there will prove to be five cities in the land of Egypt speaking the language of **Canaan** and swearing to Yehowah of armies. The City of Tearing Down will one city be called. (**Isaiah 19:18**)
- Would by then **Eighth Century B.C.E.** be the **Hebrew** language, the principal language of the land.