

~PHILISTIA (1820)

(Phi-lis'ti-a)[Philistines, Phi-lis'tines]

.. History

.. In The Time Of Judges

.. From Solomon's Reign Onward

.. Prophetic References

- Covering an area from a point near Joppa in the North down to Gaza in the South, **Philistia** stretched for about 80 kilometers (50 miles) along the Mediterranean Sea.
- And I will fix your boundary from the Red Sea to the sea of the Philistines and from the wilderness to the River, because I shall give into your hand the inhabitants of the land, and you will certainly drive them out from before yourself. (**Exodus 23:31**)
- And extended some 24 kilometers (15 miles) inland. The sea of the **Philistines** evidently refers to the part of the Mediterranean that bordered the coast of **Philistia**.
- The sand dunes along the coast penetrate the land for a considerable distance, sometimes for as much as 6 kilometers (3.5 miles). Apart from this, the region is fertile and supports grain, olive groves, and fruit trees.
- During a major part of the Hebrew Scripture period, the Philistines occupied the coastal plain and were among Israel's avowed enemies.
- Syria from the east and the Philistines from behind, and they will eat up Israel with open mouth. In view of all this his anger has not turned back, but his hand is stretched out still. (**Isaiah 9:12**)
- And they must fly at the shoulder of the **Philistines** to the west, together they will plunder the sons of the East. Edom and Moab will be those upon whom they will thrust out their hand, and the sons of Ammon will be their subjects. (**Isaiah 11:14**)
- An uncircumcised
- Do not, you people, tell it in Gath; Do not announce it in the streets of Ashkelon, for fear that the daughters of the Philistines

may rejoice, for fear that the daughters of the **uncircumcised** men may exult. (**2 Samuel 1:20**)

- **Polytheistic people**
- As for the Philistine axis lords, they gathered together to sacrifice a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and for rejoicing, and they kept saying; Our god has given into our hand Samson our enemy! (**Judges 16:23**)
- Then Ahaziah fell down through the grating in his roof chamber that was in Samaria and got sick. So he sent messengers and said to them; Go, inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron whether I shall revive from this sickness. (**2 Kings 1:2**)
- The **Philistines** superstitiously consulted their priests and diviners to make decisions.
- And the **Philistines** proceeded to call the priests and the diviners, saying; What shall we do with the ark of Yehowah? Let us know with what we should send it away to its place. (**1 Samuel 6:2**)
- For you have forsaken your people, the house of Jacob. For they have become full of what is from the East, and they are practicers of magic like the **Philistines**, and with the children of foreigners they abound. (**Isaiah 2:6**)
- And their warriors, when going into battle, carried idols of their gods.
- Consequently they left their idols there, and so David and his men took them away. (**2 Samuel 5:21**)
- Within their land, known as **Philistia**.
- Peoples must hear, they will be agitated. Birth pangs must take hold on the inhabitants of **Philistia**. (**Exodus 15:14**)
- Moab is my washing pot. Over Edom I shall throw my sandal. Over **Philistia** I shall shout in triumph. (**Psalms 60:8**)
- I shall make mention of Rahab and Babylon as among those knowing me, here are **Philistia** and Tyre, together with Cush; This is one who was born there. (**Psalms 87:4**)

- Moab is my washing pot. Over Edom I shall throw my sandal. Over **Philistia** I shall shout in triumph. (**Psalms 108:9**)
- Do not rejoice, O **Philistia**, any one of you, just because the staff of the one striking you has been broken. For out of the root of the serpent there will come forth a poisonous snake, and its fruit will be a flying fiery snake. (**Isaiah 14:29**)
- Howl, O gate! Cry out, O city! All of you must become disheartened, O **Philistia**! For out of the north a smoke is coming, and there is no one getting isolated from his ranks. (**Isaiah 14:31**)
- Lay the cities of Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Ekron, and Gath. For centuries each of these cities was ruled over by an axis lord.
- 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**)
- And now return and go in peace, that you may not do anything bad in the eyes of the axis lords of the **Philistines**. (**1 Samuel 29:7**)

See Also AXIS LORDS
See Also BAAL-ZEBUB
See Also DAGON

· History

- The island of Crete, usually held to be identical with Caphtor, though not necessarily the original home of the **Philistines**, was the place from which they migrated to the coast of Canaan.
- On account of the day that is coming to despoil all the Philistines, to cut off from Tyre and from Sidon every survivor that was helping. For Yehowah is despoiling the **Philistines**, who are the remaining ones from the island of Caphtor. (**Jeremiah 47:4**)
- Are you not like the sons of the Cushites to me, O sons of Israel? is the utterance of Yehowah. Did I not bring Israel itself up out

of the land of Egypt, and the Philistines out of Crete, and Syria out of Kir? (**Amos 9:7**)

- **Just when this migration began is uncertain. However, as early as the time of Abraham and his son Isaac, **Philistines** resided at Gerar in southern Canaan. They had a king, Abimelech, and an army under the command of a certain Phicol.**
- **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**)**
- **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**)**
- **After that he planted a tamarisk tree at Beersheba and called there upon the name of Yehowah the indefinitely lasting God. (**Genesis 21:33**)**
- **And Abraham extended his residence as an alien in the land of the Philistines many days. (**Genesis 21:34**)**
- **Now there arose a famine in the land, besides the first famine that occurred in the days of Abraham, so that Isaac directed himself to Abimelech, king of the **Philistines**, to Gerar. (**Genesis 26:1**)**
- **Then Yehowah appeared to him and said; Do not go down to Egypt. Tabernacle in the land that I designate to you. (**Genesis 26:2**)**
- **Reside as an alien in this land, and I shall continue with you and bless you, because to you and to your seed I shall give all these lands, and I will carry out the sworn statement that I swore to Abraham your father. (**Genesis 26:3**)**
- **And I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and I will give to your seed all these lands, and by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves. (**Genesis****

26:4)

- **Due to the fact that Abraham listened to my voice and continued to keep his obligations to me, my commands, my statutes, and my laws. (Genesis 26:5)**
- **So Isaac went on dwelling at Gerar. (Genesis 26:6)**
- **Well, the men of the place kept asking with respect to his wife, and he would say; She is my sister. For he was afraid to say; My wife for fear that, to quote him, the men of the place should kill me because of Rebekah, because she was attractive in appearance. (Genesis 26:7)**
- **So it came about that as his days there extended themselves Abimelech, king of the Philistines, was looking out of the window and taking in the sight, and there was Isaac having a good time with Rebekah his wife. (Genesis 26:8)**
- **At once Abimelech called Isaac and said; Why, she is no other than your wife! So how is it that you said; She is my sister? At this Isaac said to him; I said it for fear I should die on her account. (Genesis 26:9)**
- **But Abimelech continued; What is this you have done to us? A little more and certainly one of the people would have lain down with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us! (Genesis 26:10)**
- **Then Abimelech commanded all the people, saying; Anybody touching this man and his wife will surely be put to death! (Genesis 26:11)**
- **Afterward Isaac began to sow seed in that land, and in that year he was getting up to a hundred measures to one, as Yehowah was blessing him. (Genesis 26:12)**
- **Consequently the man became great and went on advancing more and more and growing great until he got very great. (Genesis 26:13)**
- **And he came to have flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and a large body of servants, so that the Philistines began to envy him. (Genesis 26:14)**

- As for all the wells that the servants of his father had dug in the days of Abraham his father, these the Philistines stopped up and they would fill them with dry earth. (**Genesis 26:15**)
- Finally Abimelech said to Isaac; Move from our neighborhood, because you have grown far stronger than we are. (**Genesis 26:16**)
- So Isaac moved from there and encamped in the torrent valley of Gerar and took up dwelling there. (**Genesis 26:17**)
- And Isaac proceeded to dig again the wells of water that they had dug in the days of Abraham his father but which the Philistines went stopping up after Abraham's death, and he resumed calling their names by the names that his father had called them. (**Genesis 26:18**)

See Also ABIMELECH 1

See Also ABIMELECH 2

See Also CAPHTOR

See Also CRETE

- Some object to the Genesis references to **Philistine** residence in Canaan, arguing that the **Philistines** did not settle there until the **12th Century B.C.E.**
- But this objection does not rest on a solid basis. **The New Bible Dictionary** edited by J. Douglas [1985, p. 933] observes: **Since the Philistines are not named in extra-biblical inscriptions until the 12th Century BC, and the archaeological remains associated with them do not appear before this time, many commentators reject references to them in the patriarchal period as anachronistic.**
- However, in showing why such a position is not sound, mention is made of the evidence of a major expansion of Aegean trade reaching back to about the **20th Century B.C.E.**
- It is pointed out that a particular groups not being prominent enough to be mentioned in the inscriptions of other nations does not prove that the group did not exist.
- The conclusion reached in that **New Bible Dictionary** is: **There is no reason why small groups of Philistines could not have been among the**

early Aegean traders, not prominent enough to be noticed by the larger states.

- When Israel left Egypt in **1513 B.C.E**, Yehowah chose not to lead the Israelites by way of **Philistia**, the most direct route from Egypt to the Promised Land, lest they become discouraged because of immediate warfare and decide to return to Egypt.
- And it came about at the time of Pharaoh's sending the people away that God did not lead them by the way of the land of the **Philistines** just because it was near, for God said; It might be the people will feel regret when they see war and will certainly return to Egypt. (**Exodus 13:17**)
- The **Philistines** likely would not view the approach of millions of Israelites as mere international traffic, which normally flowed through their land.
- They were then a settled people, whereas the Sinai region to which Yehowah directed Israel had largely nomadic tribes and many unsettled regions into which Israel could enter without provoking immediate conflict.
- At the time aged Joshua apportioned the land West of the Jordan, the **Philistine** territories were still untouched by the conquest.
- 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**)
- Later, however, the men of Judah did capture three of the main Philistine cities, Gaza, Ashkelon, and Ekron. But this was only a partial victory, for Judah could not dispossess the inhabitants of the low plain, because they had war chariots with iron scythes.
- 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**)

· In The Time Of Judges

- For years thereafter, the continuance of the **Philistines** and other peoples in Canaan served to test Israel's obedience to Yehowah.
- The five axis lords of the **Philistines**, and all the Canaanites, even the Sidonians and the Hivites inhabiting Mount Lebanon from Mount Baal-hermon as far as to the entering in of Hamath. (**Judges 3:3**)
- And they kept serving as agents to test Israel so as to know whether they would obey Yehowah's commandments that he had commanded their fathers by means of Moses. (**Judges 3:4**)
- Time and again they failed the test by adopting false worship. Therefore Yehowah abandoned the Israelites to their enemies, including the **Philistines**.
- 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**)
- At this Yehowah's anger blazed against Israel, so that he sold them into the hand of the **Philistines** and into the hand of the sons of Ammon. (**Judges 10:7**)
- Hence they shattered and heavily oppressed the sons of Israel in that year, for eighteen years all the sons of Israel that were on the side of the Jordan in the land of the Amorites that was in Gilead. (**Judges 10:8**)
- But when they cried to him for aid, he mercifully raised up judges to deliver them.
- 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**)
- **One of these judges, Shamgar, struck down 600 Philistines using a mere cattle goad.**
 - **And after him there proved to be Shamgar the son of Anath, and he went striking down the Philistines, six hundred men, with a cattle goad, and he too got to save Israel. (**Judges 3:31**)**
 - **Years later, as had been foretold before his birth, Samson took the lead in saving Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.**
 - **And the sons of Israel engaged again in doing what was bad in Yehowah's eyes, so that Yehowah gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. (**Judges 13:1**)**
 - **Meanwhile there happened to be a certain man of Zorah of the family of the Danites, and his name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had borne no child. (**Judges 13:2**)**
 - **In time Yehowah's angel appeared to the woman and said to her; Look, now, you are barren and have borne no child. And you will certainly become pregnant and give birth to a son. (**Judges 13:3**)**
 - **And now watch yourself, please, and do not drink wine or intoxicating liquor, and do not eat anything unclean. (**Judges 13:4**)**
 - **For, look! You will be pregnant, and you will certainly give birth to a son, and no razor should come upon his head, because a Nazirite of God is what the child will become on leaving the belly, and he it is who will take the lead in saving Israel out of the hand of the Philistines. (**Judges 13:5**)**
 - **Evidence of the extent of Philistine control early in Samson's judgeship can be seen in that, to avoid trouble, men of Judah on one occasion even delivered up Samson to them.**
 - **The prophet Samuel witnessed oppression from the Philistines and also shared in defeating them. While he was serving at the tabernacle in Shiloh during the final part of High Priest Elis judgeship, the Philistines struck down about 4,000 Israelites in the area of Aphek and Ebenezer.**

- The Israelites then had the sacred Ark brought to the battlefield, thinking that this would bring them victory. The **Philistines** intensified their efforts. Thirty thousand Israelites were slain, and the Ark was captured.
- And the word of Samuel continued to come to all Israel. Then Israel went out to meet the **Philistines** in battle, and they took up camping alongside Ebenezer, and the Philistines themselves encamped in Aphek. (1 Samuel 4:1)
- And the **Philistines** proceeded to draw up in formation to meet Israel, and the battle went badly, so that Israel was defeated before the **Philistines**, who went striking down about four thousand men in closed battle line in the field. (1 Samuel 4:2)
- When the people came to the camp the older men of Israel began to say; Why did Yehowah defeat us today before the **Philistines**? Let us take to ourselves from Shiloh the ark of Yehowah's covenant, that it may come into our midst and may save us from the palm of our enemies. (1 Samuel 4:3)
- So the people sent to Shiloh and carried from there the ark of the covenant of Yehowah of armies, who is sitting upon the cherubs. And the two sons of Eli were there with the ark of the covenant of the true God, namely, Hophni and Phinehas. (1 Samuel 4:4)
- And it came about that as soon as the ark of the covenant of Yehowah came into the camp, all the Israelites broke out into loud shouting, so that the earth was in a stir. (1 Samuel 4:5)
- The **Philistines** also got to hear the sound of the shouting and began saying; What does the sound of this loud shouting in the camp of the Hebrews mean? Finally they got to know that the ark of Yehowah itself had come into the camp. (1 Samuel 4:6)
- And the **Philistines** became afraid, because, they said; God has come into the camp! So they said; Woe to us, for such a thing as this never occurred before! (1 Samuel 4:7)
- Woe to us! Who will save us from the hand of this majestic God? This is the God that was the smiter of Egypt with every sort of slaughter in the wilderness. (1 Samuel 4:8)

- Show yourselves courageous and prove yourselves men, you Philistines, that you may not serve the Hebrews just as they have served you, and you must prove yourselves men and fight! (**1 Samuel 4:9**)
- Accordingly the **Philistines** fought and Israel was defeated, and they went fleeing each one to his tent, and the slaughter came to be very great, so that out of Israel there fell thirty thousand men on foot. (**1 Samuel 4:10**)
- And the ark of God itself was captured, and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died. (**1 Samuel 4:11**)
- The **Philistines** took the Ark to the temple of their god Dagon at Ashdod. Twice the image of this god fell on its face. The second time the idol itself was broken.
- As for the **Philistines**, they took the ark of the true God and then brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. (**1 Samuel 5:1**)
- And the **Philistines** proceeded to take the ark of the true God and bring it into the house of Dagon and station it beside Dagon. (**1 Samuel 5:2**)
- Then the Ashdodites got up early the very next day, and there Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of Yehowah. So they took Dagon and returned him to his place. (**1 Samuel 5:3**)
- When they got up early in the morning the very day after, there Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of Yehowah, with the head of Dagon and the palms of both his hands cut off, to the threshold. Only the fish part had been left upon him. (**1 Samuel 5:4**)
- That is why the priests of Dagon and all those going into the house of Dagon do not tread upon the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod down to this day. (**1 Samuel 5:5**)
- The Ark was then passed from one **Philistine** city to another. Wherever it went, there came to be panic and pestilence.
- And the hand of Yehowah came to be heavy upon the Ashdodites, and he began causing panic and striking them with piles, namely,

Ashdod and its territories. (1 Samuel 5:6)

- **And the men of Ashdod came to see that it was so, and they said; Do not let the ark of the God of Israel dwell with us, because his hand has been hard against us and against Dagon our god. (1 Samuel 5:7)**
- **Consequently they sent and gathered all the axis lords of the Philistines to them and said; What shall we do to the ark of the God of Israel? Finally they said; Toward Gath let the ark of the God of Israel go around. So they brought the ark of the God of Israel around to there. (1 Samuel 5:8)**
- **And it came about that after they had brought it around to there, the hand of Yehowah came to be upon the city with a very great confusion, and he began striking the men of the city, from small to great, and piles began breaking out on them. (1 Samuel 5:9)**
- **Hence they sent the ark of the true God to Ekron. And it came about that as soon as the ark of the true God came to Ekron, the Ekronites began to cry out, saying; They have brought the ark of the God of Israel around to me to put me and my people to death! (1 Samuel 5:10)**
- **Consequently they sent and gathered all the axis lords of the Philistines and said; Send the ark of the God of Israel away that it may return to its place and may not put me and my people to death. For a death-dealing confusion had occurred in the whole city, the hand of the true God had been very heavy there. (1 Samuel 5:11)**
- **And the men that did not die had been struck with piles. And the cry of the city for help kept ascending to the heavens. (1 Samuel 5:12)**
- **Finally, seven months after the capture, the Ark was returned to Israel.**
- **And the ark of Yehowah proved to be in the field of the Philistines seven months. (1 Samuel 6:1)**
- **And the Philistines proceeded to call the priests and the diviners, saying; What shall we do with the ark of Yehowah? Let us know with what we should send it away to its place. (1 Samuel 6:2)**

- **To this they said; If you are sending the ark of the God of Israel away, do not send it away without an offering, for you should by all means return to him a guilt offering. Then it is that you will be healed, and it must become known to you why his hand would not turn away from you. (1 Samuel 6:3)**
- **At this they said; What is the guilt offering that we ought to return to him? Then they said; According to the number of the axis lords of the Philistines, five golden piles and five golden jerboas, for every one of you and your axis lords have the same scourge. (1 Samuel 6:4)**
- **And you must make images of your piles and images of your jerboas that are bringing the land to ruin, and you must give glory to the God of Israel. Perhaps he will lighten his hand from off you and your god and your land. (1 Samuel 6:5)**
- **Also, why should you make your heart unresponsive just the way Egypt and Pharaoh made their heart unresponsive? Was it not as soon as He dealt severely with them that they proceeded to send them away, and they went their way? (1 Samuel 6:6)**
- **And now take and make a new wagon, and two cows that are giving suck, upon which no yoke has come up, and you must hitch the cows to the wagon, and you must make their young ones go back home from following them. (1 Samuel 6:7)**
- **And you must take the ark of Yehowah and place it on the wagon, and the golden articles that you must return to him as a guilt offering you should put into a box at the side of it. And you must send it away, and it must go. (1 Samuel 6:8)**
- **And you must look, if it is the road to its territory that it goes up, to Beth-shemesh, it is he that has done to us this great evil, but if not, we must know that it was not his hand that touched us, an accident it was that happened to us. (1 Samuel 6:9)**
- **And the men proceeded to do accordingly. So they took two cows that were giving suck and hitched them to the wagon, and their young ones they shut up at home. (1 Samuel 6:10)**
- **Then they put the ark of Yehowah upon the wagon, and also the box and the golden jerboas and the images of their piles. (1**

Samuel 6:11)

- **And the cows began to go straight ahead on the road to Beth-shemesh. On the one highway they went, lowing as they went, and they did not turn aside to the right or to the left. All the while the axis lords of the Philistines were walking after them as far as the boundary of Beth-shemesh. (1 Samuel 6:12)**
- **And people of Beth-shemesh were reaping the wheat harvest in the low plain. When they raised their eyes and saw the Ark, they gave way to rejoicing at seeing it. (1 Samuel 6:13)**
- **And the wagon itself came into the field of Joshua the Beth-shemite and kept standing there, where there was a large stone. And they went splitting up the wood of the wagon, and the cows they offered up as a burnt offering to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 6:14)**
- **And the Levites themselves took the ark of Yehowah down and the box that was with it, in which the golden articles were, and they proceeded to put it upon the large stone. And the men of Beth-shemesh, for their part, offered up burnt offerings, and they continued rendering up sacrifices on that day to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 6:15)**
- **And the five axis lords of the **Philistines** themselves saw it and went their way back to Ekron on that day. (1 Samuel 6:16)**
- **Now these are the golden piles that the Philistines returned as a guilt offering to Yehowah, for Ashdod one, for Gaza one, for Ashkelon one, for Gath one, for Ekron one. (1 Samuel 6:17)**
- **And the golden jerboas were to the number of all the cities of the Philistines belonging to the five axis lords, from the fortified city to the village of the open country. And the great stone upon which they rested the ark of Yehowah is a witness down to this day in the field of Joshua the Beth-shemite. (1 Samuel 6:18)**
- **And he went striking down the men of Beth-shemesh, because they had looked upon the ark of Yehowah. So he struck down among the people seventy men, fifty thousand men, and the people began mourning because Yehowah had struck down the people with a great slaughter. (1 Samuel 6:19)**
- **Further, the men of Beth-shemesh said; Who will be able to**

- stand before Yehowah this holy God, and to whom will he withdraw from off us? (1 Samuel 6:20)
- Finally they sent messengers to the inhabitants of Kiriath-jearim, saying; The **Philistines** have returned the ark of Yehowah. Come down. Take it up to yourselves. (1 Samuel 6:21)
 - Some 20 years later,
 - And it came about that from the day of the Ark's dwelling in Kiriath-jearim the days kept multiplying, so that they amounted to twenty years, and all the house of Israel went lamenting after Yehowah. (1 Samuel 7:2)
 - The **Philistines** marched against the Israelites who were, at Samuel's direction, assembled at Mizpah for worship. This time Yehowah threw the **Philistines** into confusion, enabling his people to subdue them. Later, the cities that the **Philistines** had taken from Israel kept coming back to Israel from Ekron to Gath.
 - Then Samuel said; Collect all Israel together at Mizpah, that I may pray in your behalf to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 7:5)
 - So they were collected together at Mizpah, and they went drawing water and pouring it out before Yehowah and kept a fast on that day. And they began saying there; We have sinned against Yehowah. And Samuel took up judging the sons of Israel in Mizpah. (1 Samuel 7:6)
 - And the **Philistines** came to hear that the sons of Israel had collected themselves together at Mizpah, and the axis lords of the Philistines got on their way up against Israel. When the sons of Israel heard of it, they began to be afraid on account of the **Philistines**. (1 Samuel 7:7)
 - So the sons of Israel said to Samuel; Do not keep silent for our sakes from calling to Yehowah our God for aid, that he may save us from the hand of the **Philistines**. (1 Samuel 7:8)
 - Then Samuel took a sucking lamb and offered it up as a burnt offering, a whole offering, to Yehowah, and Samuel began calling to Yehowah for aid in behalf of Israel, and Yehowah proceeded to answer him. (1 Samuel 7:9)

- And it came about that while Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the **Philistines** themselves drew near for battle against Israel. And Yehowah now caused it to thunder with a loud noise on that day against the **Philistines**, that he might throw them into confusion, and they got defeated before Israel. (**1 Samuel 7:10**)
- At that the men of Israel sallied forth from Mizpah and went in pursuit of the **Philistines** and kept striking them down as far as south of Beth-car. (**1 Samuel 7:11**)
- Then Samuel took a stone and set it between Mizpah and Jeshanah and began to call its name Ebenezer. Accordingly he said; Till now Yehowah has helped us. (**1 Samuel 7:12**)
- Thus the **Philistines** were subdued, and they did not come anymore into the territory of Israel, and the hand of Yehowah continued to be against the **Philistines** all the days of Samuel. (**1 Samuel 7:13**)
- 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**)
- **Saul's reign until subjugation by David. However, this did not end Israel's difficulties with the Philistines.**
- Tomorrow about this time I shall send to you a man from the land of Benjamin, and you must anoint him as leader over my people Israel, and he must save my people from the hand of the Philistines, because I have seen the affliction of my people, for their outcry has come to me. (**1 Samuel 9:16**)
- And Saul himself took the kingship over Israel and went warring round about against all his enemies, against Moab and against the sons of Ammon and against Edom and against the kings of Zobah and against the **Philistines**, and wherever he would turn he administered condemnation. (**1 Samuel 14:47**)
- **Apparently before Saul's reign they had established garrisons in Israelite territory.**

- It is after that that you will come to the hill of the true God, where there is a garrison of the **Philistines**. And it should come about that at the time of your coming there to the city, you will certainly meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place, and ahead of them a stringed instrument and tambourine and flute and harp, while they are speaking as prophets. (**1 Samuel 10:5**)
- Saul was (?) years old when he began to reign, and for two years he reigned over Israel. (**1 Samuel 13:1**)
- And Saul proceeded to choose for himself three thousand men out of Israel, and two thousand came to be with Saul at Michmash and in the mountainous region of Bethel, and a thousand proved to be with Jonathan at Gibeah of Benjamin, and the rest of the people he sent away, each one to his tent. (**1 Samuel 13:2**)
- Then Jonathan struck down the garrison of the Philistines that was in Geba, and the Philistines got to hear of it. As for Saul, he had the horn blown throughout all the land, saying; Let the Hebrews hear! (**1 Samuel 13:3**)
- The **Philistines** were strong enough to prohibit the Israelites from having their own smiths, thereby keeping them disarmed. This also forced the Israelites to go to them to have their agricultural implements sharpened.
- Now there was not a smith to be found in all the land of Israel, because the **Philistines** had said; That the Hebrews may not make a sword or a spear. (**1 Samuel 13:19**)
- And all the Israelites would go down to the **Philistines** to get each one his plowshare or his mattock or his ax or his sickle sharpened. (**1 Samuel 13:20**)
- And the price for sharpening proved to be a pim for the plowshares and for the mattocks and for the three-toothed instruments and for the axes and for fixing fast the oxgoad. (**1 Samuel 13:21**)
- And it happened on the day of battle that not a sword or a spear was found in the hand of any of the people that were with Saul and Jonathan, but there could be found one belonging to Saul

and to Jonathan his son. (1 Samuel 13:22)

- The situation was so severe that even Hebrews sided with the **Philistines** against fellow Israelites.
- And the Hebrews that had come to belong to the Philistines as formerly and that had gone up with them into the camp round about, even they too were for proving themselves to be with Israel who was with Saul and Jonathan. (1 Samuel 14:21)
- Nevertheless, with Yehowah's help, Saul's first major campaign against the **Philistines** resulted in Israel's striking them down from Michmash to Aijalon.
- Saul was (?) years old when he began to reign, and for two years he reigned over Israel. (1 Samuel 13:1)
- And on that day they kept striking down the **Philistines** from Michmash to Aijalon, and the people got to be very tired. (1 Samuel 14:31)

See Also MICHMASH

- Later, upon recovering from this defeat, the **Philistines** assembled their forces to fight against Israel. The two armies took their position on opposite sides of the Low Plain of Elah, in Judah. Morning and evening, for 40 days, the warrior Goliath emerged from the **Philistine** camp, challenging Israel to supply a man to fight him in single combat.
- And the **Philistines** went collecting their camps together for war. When they were collected together at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, then they took up camping between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. (1 Samuel 17:1)
- As for Saul and the men of Israel, they collected themselves together and took up camping in the low plain of Elah, and they went drawing up in battle formation to meet the **Philistines**. (1 Samuel 17:2)
- And the **Philistines** were standing on the mountain on this side, and the Israelites were standing on the mountain on that side, with the valley between them. (1 Samuel 17:3)

- And a champion began to go out from the camps of the **Philistines**, his name being Goliath, from Gath, his height being six cubits and a span. (1 Samuel 17:4)
- And there was a helmet of copper on his head, and he was clad with a coat of mail, of overlapping scales, and the weight of the coat of mail was five thousand shekels of copper. (1 Samuel 17:5)
- And there were greaves of copper above his feet and a javelin of copper between his shoulders. (1 Samuel 17:6)
- And the wooden shaft of his spear was like the beam of loom workers, and the blade of his spear was six hundred shekels of iron, and the bearer of the large shield was marching ahead of him. (1 Samuel 17:7)
- Then he stood still and began to call to the battle lines of Israel and say to them; Why do you come out to draw up in battle formation? Am I not the **Philistine** and you servants belonging to Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. (1 Samuel 17:8)
- If he is able to fight with me and he does strike me down, we must then become servants to you. But if I myself am a match for him and I do strike him down, you must also become servants to us, and you must serve us. (1 Samuel 17:9)
- And the **Philistine** went on to say; I myself do taunt the battle lines of Israel this day. Give me a man, and let us fight together! (1 Samuel 17:10)
- And the **Philistine** kept coming forward at early morning and at evening and taking his position for forty days. (1 Samuel 17:16)
- This challenge was answered by the shepherd David, who struck Goliath to the earth with a stone from his sling and used Goliath's own sword to put him to death.
- And it occurred that the **Philistine** rose and kept coming and drawing nearer to meet David, and David began hurrying and running toward the battle line to meet the **Philistine**. (1 Samuel 17:48)

- Then David thrust his hand into his bag and took a stone from there and slung it, so that he struck the **Philistine** in his forehead and the stone sank into his forehead, and he went falling upon his face to the earth. (**1 Samuel 17:49**)
- So David, with a sling and a stone, proved stronger than the Philistine and struck the **Philistine** down and put him to death, and there was no sword in David's hand. (**1 Samuel 17:50**)
- And David continued running and got to stand over the **Philistine**. Then he took his sword and pulled it out of its sheath and definitely put him to death when he cut his head off with it. And the Philistines got to see that their mighty one had died, and they took to flight. (**1 Samuel 17:51**)
- The Israelites then pursued the fleeing **Philistines**, striking them down as far as the cities of Gath and Ekron.
- At that the men of Israel and of Judah rose and broke into shouting and went in pursuit of the **Philistines** clear to the valley and as far as the gates of Ekron, and the fatally wounded of the **Philistines** kept falling on the way from Shaaraim, both as far as Gath and as far as Ekron. (**1 Samuel 17:52**)
- Afterward the sons of Israel returned from hotly pursuing the **Philistines** and went pillaging their camps. (**1 Samuel 17:53**)
- Thereafter David continued waging successful warfare against the **Philistines**. When he would return from battle, the women, in celebration of the victory, would say; Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.
- And David began going out. Wherever Saul would send him he would act prudently, so that Saul placed him over the men of war, and it seemed good in the eyes of all the people and also in the eyes of the servants of Saul. (**1 Samuel 18:5**)
- And it came about that at their coming in, when David returned from striking the **Philistines** down, the women began coming out from all the cities of Israel with song and dances to meet Saul the king, with tambourines, with rejoicing and with lutes. (**1 Samuel 18:6**)
- And the women that were celebrating kept responding and

- saying; Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands. (1 Samuel 18:7)
- At that Saul said; This is what you men will say to David, The king has delight, not in marriage money, but in a hundred foreskins of the **Philistines**, to avenge himself on the enemies of the king. But as for Saul, he had schemed to have David fall by the hand of the **Philistines**. (1 Samuel 18:25)
 - So his servants reported these words to David, and the matter was to David's liking, to form a marriage alliance with the king, and the days had not yet expired. (1 Samuel 18:26)
 - So David rose and he and his men went and struck down among the **Philistines** two hundred men, and David came bringing their foreskins and giving them in full number to the king, to form a marriage alliance with the king. In turn Saul gave him Michal his daughter as a wife. (1 Samuel 18:27)
 - And the princes of the Philistines would go out, and it would happen that as often as they went out David acted most prudently of all the servants of Saul, and his name came to be very precious. (1 Samuel 18:30)
 - In time war broke out again and David went sallying forth and fighting against the **Philistines** and striking them down with a great slaughter, and they took to flight from before him. (1 Samuel 19:8)
 - This caused Saul to become jealous of David, finally resulting in David's having to run for his life. He fled to the **Philistine** city of Gath.
 - And Saul began to be very angry, and this saying was bad from his viewpoint, so that he said; They have given David tens of thousands, but to me they have given the thousands, and there is yet only the kingship to give him! (1 Samuel 18:8)
 - And Saul was continually looking suspiciously at David from that day forward. (1 Samuel 18:9)
 - At that Saul went hurling the spear at him to strike him, and Jonathan came to know that it had been determined upon by his father to put David to death. (1 Samuel 20:33)

- Then David rose up and continued running away on account of Saul on that day, and at length came to Achish the king of Gath. (1 Samuel 21:10)
- There the servants of King Achish appear to have sought David's death. But by disguising his sanity, he was able to leave the city unharmed.
- Then David rose up and continued running away on account of Saul on that day, and at length came to Achish the king of Gath. (1 Samuel 21:10)
- And the servants of Achish began to say to him; Is not this David the king of the land? Was it not to this one that they kept responding with dances, saying; (1 Samuel 21:11)
- Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands?
- And David began to take these words to his heart, and he became very much afraid on account of Achish the king of Gath. (1 Samuel 21:12)
- So he disguised his sanity under their eyes and began acting insane in their hand and kept making cross marks on the doors of the gate and let his saliva run down upon his beard. (1 Samuel 21:13)
- Finally Achish said to his servants; Here you see a man behaving crazy. Why should you bring him to me? (1 Samuel 21:14)
- Sometime thereafter David, though still pursued by Saul, saved the Judean city of Keilah from **Philistine** pillagers.
- In time they came reporting to David, saying; Here the **Philistines** are warring against Keilah, and they are pillaging the threshing floors. (1 Samuel 23:1)
- And David proceeded to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Shall I go, and must I strike down these **Philistines**? In turn Yehowah said to David; Go, and you must strike down the **Philistines** and save Keilah. (1 Samuel 23:2)
- At this the men of David said to him; Look! We are afraid while

here in Judah, and how much more so in case we should go to Keilah against the battle lines of the **Philistines!** (1 Samuel 23:3)

- So David inquired yet again of Yehowah. Yehowah now answered him and said; Rise up, go down to Keilah, because I am giving the Philistines into your hand. (1 Samuel 23:4)
- Accordingly David went with his men to Keilah and fought against the **Philistines** and drove off with their livestock, but struck them down with a great slaughter, and David came to be the savior of the inhabitants of Keilah. (1 Samuel 23:5)
- Now it came about that when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech ran away to David at Keilah, there was an ephod that went down in his hand. (1 Samuel 23:6)
- In time the report was made to Saul; David has come to Keilah. And Saul began to say; God has sold him into my hand, for he has shut himself up by coming into a city with doors and bar. (1 Samuel 23:7)
- So Saul summoned all the people to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men. (1 Samuel 23:8)
- And David got to know that Saul was fabricating mischief against him. Hence he said to Abiathar the priest; Do bring the ephod near. (1 Samuel 23:9)
- And David went on to say; O Yehowah the God of Israel, your servant has definitely heard that Saul is seeking to come to Keilah to lay the city in ruin on my account. (1 Samuel 23:10)
- Will the landowners of Keilah surrender me into his hand? Will Saul come down just as your servant has heard? O Yehowah the God of Israel, tell your servant, please. To this Yehowah said; He will come down. (1 Samuel 23:11)
- And David went on to say; Will the landowners of Keilah surrender me and my men into Saul's hand? In turn Yehowah said; They will do the surrendering. (1 Samuel 23:12)
- A later **Philistine** raid in Israelite territory forced Saul to turn back temporarily from chasing David.

- **But there was a messenger that came to Saul, saying; Do hasten and go, for the **Philistines** have made a raid on the land! (1 Samuel 23:27)**
- **At that Saul turned back from chasing after David and went to meet the **Philistines**. That is why they have called that place the Crag of the Divisions. (1 Samuel 23:28)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as Saul returned from following the Philistines, they came reporting to him, saying; Look! David is in the wilderness of En-gedi. (1 Samuel 24:1)**
- **And Saul proceeded to take three thousand chosen men out of all Israel and to go looking for David and his men upon the bare rocks of the mountain goats. (1 Samuel 24:2)**
- **Because of continually being hunted by Saul, David again decided to take refuge in **Philistine** territory. Received favorably by King Achish of Gath, David was given the city of Ziklag.**
- **However, David said in his heart; Now I shall be swept away one day by Saul's hand. There is nothing better for me than that I should escape without fail to the land of the **Philistines**, and Saul must despair of me in looking for me any longer in all the territory of Israel, and I shall certainly escape from his hand. (1 Samuel 27:1)**
- **So David rose up and he and six hundred men that were with him passed over to Achish the son of Maach, the king of Gath. (1 Samuel 27:2)**
- **And David continued to dwell with Achish in Gath, he and his men, each one with his household, David and his two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail, Nabal's wife, the Carmelitess. (1 Samuel 27:3)**
- **In time report was made to Saul that David had run away to Gath, and so he did not go looking for him still another time. (1 Samuel 27:4)**
- **Then David said to Achish; If, now, I have found favor in your eyes, let them give me a place in one of the cities of the countryside, that I may dwell there, for why should your servant dwell in the royal city with you? (1 Samuel 27:5)**

- Accordingly Achish gave him Ziklag on that day. That is why Ziklag has come to belong to the kings of Judah down to this day. **(1 Samuel 27:6)**
- A year or two later, when the **Philistines** were preparing to fight against Saul's forces, King Achish, believing that David had become a stench among his people Israel, invited him to go along.
- But the other **Philistine** axis lords did not trust David, and at their insistence, he and his men returned to **Philistia**. In the ensuing conflict with Israel, the **Philistines** gained a decisive victory and Saul and three of his sons perished.
- Consequently Achish believed David, saying to himself; He has unquestionably become a stench among his people Israel, and he will have to become my servant to time indefinite. **(1 Samuel 27:12)**
- And it came about in those days that the Philistines began to collect their camps for the army to make war against Israel. So Achish said to David; You undoubtedly know that it is with me that you should go out into the camp, you and your men. **(1 Samuel 28:1)**
- At that David said to Achish; That is why you yourself know what your servant is to do. Accordingly Achish said to David; That is why guardian of my head I shall appoint you always. **(1 Samuel 28:2)**
- Now Samuel himself had died, and all Israel had proceeded to bewail him and bury him in Ramah his own city. As for Saul, he had removed the spirit mediums and the professional foretellers of events from the land. **(1 Samuel 28:3)**
- Subsequently the **Philistines** collected together and came and pitched camp in Shunem. So Saul collected all Israel together and they pitched camp in Gilboa. **(1 Samuel 28:4)**
- When Saul got to see the camp of the **Philistines** he became afraid, and his heart began to tremble very much. **(1 Samuel 28:5)**
- And the **Philistines** proceeded to collect all their camps together

- at Aphek, while the Israelites were camping by the spring that was in Jezreel. (1 Samuel 29:1)
- And the axis lords of the **Philistines** were passing along by hundreds and by thousands, and David and his men were passing along afterward with Achish. (1 Samuel 29:2)
 - And the princes of the Philistines began to say; What do these Hebrews mean? At this Achish said to the princes of the Philistines; Is this not David the servant of Saul king of Israel, who happened to be with me here a year or two, and I have not found in him a single thing from the day of his deserting to me until this day? (1 Samuel 29:3)
 - And the princes of the **Philistines** became indignant at him, and the princes of the **Philistines** went on to say to him; Make the man go back, and let him go back to his place where you assigned him, and do not let him go down with us into the battle, that he may not become a resister of us in the battle. And with what should this person put himself in favor with his lord? Is it not with the heads of those our men? (1 Samuel 29:4)
 - Is this not David to whom they kept responding in the dances, saying; Saul has struck down his thousands, and David his tens of thousands? (1 Samuel 29:5)
 - Consequently Achish called David and said to him; As Yehowah is living, you are upright, and your going out and your coming in with me in the camp has been good in my eyes, for I have not found badness in you from the day of your coming to me until this day. But in the eyes of the axis lords you are not good. (1 Samuel 29:6)
 - And now return and go in peace, that you may not do anything bad in the eyes of the axis lords of the **Philistines**. (1 Samuel 29:7)
 - However, David said to Achish; Why, what have I done, and what have you found in your servant from the day that I came to be before you until this day, that I should not come and actually fight against the enemies of my lord the king? (1 Samuel 29:8)
 - At this Achish answered and said to David; I well know that you have been good in my own eyes, like an angel of God. Only it is

- the princes of the **Philistines** that have said; Let him not go up with us into the battle. (**1 Samuel 29:9**)
- And now rise up early in the morning with the servants of your lord that came with you, and you men must rise up early in the morning when it has become light for you. Then go. (**1 Samuel 29:10**)
 - Accordingly David rose up early, he and his men, to go in the morning and return to the land of the **Philistines**, and the Philistines themselves went up to Jezreel. (**1 Samuel 29:11**)
 - Now the **Philistines** were fighting against Israel, and the men of Israel took to flight from before the **Philistines**, and they kept falling down slain in Mount Gilboa. (**1 Samuel 31:1**)
 - And the **Philistines** kept in close range of Saul and his sons, and the **Philistines** at last struck down Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchi-shua, Saul's sons. (**1 Samuel 31:2**)
 - And the fighting became heavy against Saul, and the shooters, the bowmen, finally found him, and he got severely wounded by the shooters. (**1 Samuel 31:3**)
 - Then Saul said to his armor-bearer; Draw your sword and run me through with it, that these uncircumcised men may not come and certainly run me through and deal abusively with me. And his armor-bearer was unwilling, because he was very much afraid. So Saul took the sword and fell upon it. (**1 Samuel 31:4**)
 - When his armor-bearer saw that Saul had died, then he too fell upon his own sword and died with him. (**1 Samuel 31:5**)
 - Thus Saul and his three sons and his armor-bearer, even all his men, came to die together on that day. (**1 Samuel 31:6**)
 - When the men of Israel that were in the region of the low plain and that were in the region of the Jordan saw that the men of Israel had fled, and that Saul and his sons had died, then they began to leave the cities and flee, after which the **Philistines** came on in and took up dwelling in them. (**1 Samuel 31:7**)
 - And it came about the next day that, when the **Philistines** came to strip the slain, they got to find Saul and his three sons fallen

upon Mount Gilboa. (1 Samuel 31:8)

- And they proceeded to cut off his head and strip off his armor and send into the land of the **Philistines** all around to inform the houses of their idols and the people. (1 Samuel 31:9)
- Finally they put his armor in the house of the Ashtoreth images, and his corpse they fastened on the wall of Beth-shan. (1 Samuel 31:10)
- And as regards him, the inhabitants of Jabesh-gilead got to hear what the **Philistines** had done to Saul. (1 Samuel 31:11)
- Immediately all the valiant men rose up and went all night long and took the corpse of Saul and the corpses of his sons off the wall of Beth-shan and came to Jabesh and burned them there. (1 Samuel 31:12)
- Then they took their bones and buried them under the tamarisk tree in Jabesh, and they went fasting for seven days. (1 Samuel 31:13)
- And the **Philistines**, for their part, made war upon Israel, and the men of Israel went fleeing from before the **Philistines** and kept falling slain in Mount Gilboa. (1 Chronicles 10:1)
- And the Philistines kept in close range of Saul and his sons, and the Philistines got to strike down Jonathan and Abinadab and Malchi-shua, sons of Saul. (1 Chronicles 10:2)
- And the fighting became heavy against Saul, and those shooting with the bow finally found him, and he got wounded by the shooters. (1 Chronicles 10:3)
- Then Saul said to his armor-bearer; Draw your sword and run me through with it, that these uncircumcised men may not come and certainly deal abusively with me. And his armor-bearer was unwilling, because he was very much afraid. So Saul took the sword and fell upon it. (1 Chronicles 10:4)
- When his armor-bearer saw that Saul had died, then he too fell upon the sword and died. (1 Chronicles 10:5)
- Thus Saul and three sons of his died, and all those of his house

died together. (1 Chronicles 10:6)

- When all the men of Israel that were in the low plain saw that they had fled and that Saul and his sons had died, then they began to leave their cities and flee, after which the **Philistines** came on in and took up dwelling in them. (1 Chronicles 10:7)
- And it came about the next day that, when the **Philistines** came to strip the slain, they got to find Saul and his sons fallen upon Mount Gilboa. (1 Chronicles 10:8)
- And they proceeded to strip him and take off his head and his armor and send into the land of the **Philistines** all around to inform their idols and the people. (1 Chronicles 10:9)
- Finally they put his armor in the house of their god, and his skull they fastened to the house of Dagon. (1 Chronicles 10:10)
- Thus Saul died for his unfaithfulness with which he had acted faithlessly against Yehowah concerning the word of Yehowah that he had not kept and also for asking of a spirit medium to make inquiry. (1 Chronicles 10:13)
- And there were some of Manasseh that deserted to David when he came with the **Philistines** against Saul for battle, but he did not help them, for on counsel the axis lords of the **Philistines** sent him away, saying; At the risk of our own heads he will desert to his lord Saul. (1 Chronicles 12:19)
- When David was finally anointed as king over all Israel, the **Philistines** invaded the Low Plain of Rephaim, Southwest of Jerusalem, but suffered humiliating defeat.
- And the **Philistines** got to hear that they had anointed David as king over Israel. At that all the **Philistines** came up to look for David. When David heard of it, then he went down to the place hard to approach. (2 Samuel 5:17)
- And the **Philistines**, for their part, came in and kept tramping about in the low plain of Rephaim. (2 Samuel 5:18)
- And David began to inquire of Yehowah, saying; Shall I go up against the **Philistines**? Will you give them into my hand? At this Yehowah said to David; Go up, for I shall without fail give the

Philistines into your hands. (2 Samuel 5:19)

- **So David came to Baal-perazim, and David got to strike them down there. At that he said; Yehowah has broken through my enemies ahead of me, like a gap made by waters. That is why he called the name of that place Baal-perazim. (2 Samuel 5:20)**
- **Consequently they left their idols there, and so David and his men took them away. (2 Samuel 5:21)**
- **And the **Philistines** got to hear that David had been anointed as king over all Israel. At that all the **Philistines** came up to look for David. When David heard of it, then he went out against them. (1 Chronicles 14:8)**
- **And the **Philistines**, for their part, came in and kept making raids in the low plain of Rephaim. (1 Chronicles 14:9)**
- **And David began to inquire of God, saying; Shall I go up against the **Philistines**, and will you certainly give them into my hand? At this Yehowah said to him; Go up, and I shall certainly give them into your hand. (1 Chronicles 14:10)**
- **So David went up to Baal-perazim and there got to strike them down. At that David said; The true God has broken through my enemies by my hand like a gap made by waters. That is why they called the name of that place Baal-perazim. (1 Chronicles 14:11)**
- **Consequently they left their gods there. Then David said the word, and so they were burned in the fire. (1 Chronicles 14:12)**
- **A later **Philistine** offensive likewise ended in victory for Israel.**
- **Later the **Philistines** came up once again and tramped about in the low plain of Rephaim. (2 Samuel 5:22)**
- **At that David inquired of Yehowah, but he said; You must not go up. Go around to the rear of them, and you must come against them in front of the baca bushes. (2 Samuel 5:23)**
- **And let it occur that, when you hear the sound of a marching in the tops of the baca bushes, at that time you act with decision, because at that time Yehowah will have gone out ahead of you to strike down the camp of the **Philistines**. (2 Samuel 5:24)**

- Accordingly David did that way, just as Yehowah had commanded him, and he went striking down the **Philistines** from Geba to as far as Gezer. (**2 Samuel 5:25**)
- Later the **Philistines** once again made a raid in the low plain. (**1 Chronicles 14:13**)
- At that David inquired again of God, and the true God now said to him; You must not go up after them. Go around from directly against them, and you must come at them in front of the baca bushes. (**1 Chronicles 14:14**)
- And let it occur that, when you hear the sound of the marching in the tops of the baca bushes, then you go out into the fight, because the true God will have gone out before you to strike the camp of the **Philistines** down. (**1 Chronicles 14:15**)
- So David did just as the true God had commanded him, and they went striking down the camp of the Philistines from Gibeon to Gezer. (**1 Chronicles 14:16**)
- During his reign David fought numerous other battles with the **Philistines** and succeeded in subduing them. On one occasion, however, he nearly lost his life.
- And it came about afterward that David proceeded to strike the Philistines down and subdue them, and David got to take Metheg-ammah out of the hand of the **Philistines**. (**2 Samuel 8:1**)
- And the **Philistines** came to have war again with Israel. Accordingly David and his servants with him went down and fought the **Philistines**, and David grew tired. (**2 Samuel 21:15**)
- And Ishbi-benob, who was among those born of the Rephaim, the weight of whose spear was three hundred shekels of copper and who was girded with a new sword, got to think of striking David down. (**2 Samuel 21:16**)
- At once Abishai the son of Zeruiah came to his help and struck the **Philistine** down and put him to death. At that time the men of David swore to him, saying; You must not go out with us to the battle anymore, that you may not extinguish the lamp of Israel! (**2 Samuel 21:17**)

- And it came about after this that war arose once more with the **Philistines** at Gob. Then it was that Sibbecai the Hushathite struck down Saph, who was among those born of the Rephaim. (2 Samuel 21:18)
- And war arose once again with the **Philistines** at Gob, and Elhanan the son of Jaare-oregim the Bethlehemite got to strike down Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like the beam of loom workers. (2 Samuel 21:19)
- And war arose yet again at Gath, when there happened to be a man of extraordinary size, with six fingers on each of his hands and six toes on each of his feet, twenty-four in number, and he too had been born to the Rephaim. (2 Samuel 21:20)
- And he kept taunting Israel. Finally Jonathan the son of Shimei, David's brother, struck him down. (2 Samuel 21:21)
- These four had been born to the Rephaim in Gath, and they came to fall by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. (2 Samuel 21:22)
- And it came about afterward that David proceeded to strike down the Philistines and subdue them and take Gath and its dependent towns out of the hand of the Philistines. (1 Chronicles 18:1)
- And it came about after this that war began breaking out at Gezer with the **Philistines**. It was then that Sibbecai the Hushathite struck down Sippai of those born of the Rephaim, so that they were subdued. (1 Chronicles 20:4)
- And there came to be war again with the **Philistines**, and Elhanan the son of Jair got to strike down Lahmi the brother of Goliath the Gittite, the shaft of whose spear was like the beam of loom workers. (1 Chronicles 20:5)
- And there came to be war again at Gath, when there happened to be a man of extraordinary size whose fingers and toes were in sixes, twenty-four, and he, too, had been born to the Rephaim. (1 Chronicles 20:6)
- And he kept taunting Israel. Finally Jonathan the son of Shimea

the brother of David struck him down. (1 Chronicles 20:7)

- These were the ones that had been born to the Rephaim in Gath, and they came to fall by the hand of David and by the hand of his servants. (1 Chronicles 20:8)

• From Solomon's Reign Onward

- For years after that there is no record of warfare with the **Philistines**. David's son Solomon enjoyed a peaceful reign, **1037-998 B.C.E**, and his dominions extended as far as the Philistine city of Gaza.
- As for Solomon, he proved to be ruler over all the kingdoms from the River to the land of the **Philistines** and to the boundary of Egypt. They were bringing gifts and serving Solomon all the days of his life. (1 Kings 4:21)
- And Solomon's food for each day regularly proved to be thirty cor measures of fine flour and sixty cor measures of flour. (1 Kings 4:22)
- Ten fat cattle and twenty pastured cattle and a hundred sheep, besides some stags and gazelles and roebucks and fattened cuckoos. (1 Kings 4:23)
- For he was holding in subjection everything this side of the River, from Tiphseh to Gaza, even all the kings this side of the River, and peace itself became his in every region of his, all around. (1 Kings 4:24)
- And Judah and Israel continued to dwell in security, everyone under his own vine and under his own fig tree, from Dan to Beer-sheba, all the days of Solomon. (1 Kings 4:25)
- And he came to be ruler over all the kings from the River down to the land of the **Philistines** and down to the boundary of Egypt. (2 Chronicles 9:26)
- Some 20 years after the ten-tribe kingdom came into existence, the **Philistines** occupied Gibbethon, a city in Dan. While trying to take the city, Israel's King Nadab was killed by Baasha, who subsequently began to reign as king.
- It was for the tribe of the sons of Dan by their families that the

seventh lot came out. (**Joshua 19:40**)

- **And Eltekeh and Gibbethon and Baalath. (**Joshua 19:44**)**
- **And Baasha the son of Ahijah of the house of Issachar began to conspire against him, and Baasha got to strike him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the **Philistines**, while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon. (**1 Kings 15:27**)**
- **So Baasha put him to death in the third year of Asa the king of Judah and began to reign in place of him. (**1 Kings 15:28**)**
- **Gibbethon was still under **Philistine** control some 24 years later when Omri, army chief of Israel, encamped against it.**
- **In the twenty-seventh year of Asa the king of Judah, Zimri became king for seven days in Tirzah, while the people were encamping against Gibbethon, which belonged to the **Philistines**. (**1 Kings 16:15**)**
- **In time the people that were encamped heard it said; Zimri has conspired and also struck down the king. So all Israel made Omri, the chief of the army, king over Israel on that day in the camp. (**1 Kings 16:16**)**
- **Omri and all Israel with him now went on up from Gibbethon and began to lay siege to Tirzah. (**1 Kings 16:17**)**
- **While Jehoshaphat reigned, **936-911 B.C.E**, the **Philistines** were evidently subject to him, for they brought gifts and tribute.**
- **And from the **Philistines** they were bringing to Jehoshaphat presents and money as tribute. The Arabs also were bringing to him flocks, seven thousand seven hundred rams and seven thousand seven hundred he-goats. (**2 Chronicles 17:11**)**
- **But, during the rule of his son Jehoram, the **Philistines** and Arabs invaded Judah and carried away considerable spoil from Jerusalem. They also took captive Jehoram's wives and sons all except the youngest, Jehoahaz.**
- **Accordingly Yehowah aroused against Jehoram the spirit of the Philistines and the Arabs that were by the side of the Ethiopians. (**2 Chronicles 21:16**)**

- So they came up into Judah and forced it open and took captive all the goods that were to be found in the king's house and also his sons and his wives, and there was not left to him a son but Jehoahaz, his youngest son. (2 Chronicles 21:17)
- Decades later Judean King Uzziah successfully warred against the Philistines, capturing Gath, Jabneh, and Ashdod. He even built cities in **Philistine** territory.
- And he proceeded to go out and fight against the **Philistines** and break through the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod, after which he built cities in Ashdod territory and among the **Philistines**. (2 Chronicles 26:6)
- And the true God continued to help him against the Philistines and against the Arabians that were dwelling in Gurbaal and the Meunim. (2 Chronicles 26:7)
- And the Ammonites began to give tribute to Uzziah. Eventually his fame went even as far as Egypt, for he displayed strength to an extraordinary degree. (2 Chronicles 26:8)
- However, the reign of Uzziah's grandson Ahaz saw the **Philistines** capture, and take up residence in, a number of Israelite cities all the way from the Negeb up to the northern border of the kingdom of Judah.
- As for the **Philistines**, they made a raid upon the cities of the Shephelah and the Negeb of Judah and got to capture Bethshemesh and Aijalon and Gederoth and Soco and its dependent towns and Timnah and its dependent towns and Gimzo and its dependent towns, and they took up dwelling there. (2 Chronicles 28:18)
- Ahaz son Hezekiah, in fulfillment of a prophecy uttered by,
- In the year that King Ahaz died this pronouncement occurred. (Isaiah 14:28)
- Do not rejoice, O **Philistia**, any one of you, just because the staff of the one striking you has been broken. For out of the root of the serpent there will come forth a poisonous snake, and its fruit will be a flying fiery snake. (Isaiah 14:29)

- Struck down the **Philistines** clear to Gaza.
- It was he that struck down the **Philistines** clear to Gaza and also its territories, from the tower of the watchmen clear to the fortified city. (**2 Kings 18:8**)

·· Prophetic References

- The prophecy of Joel indicated that because of their selling the sons of Judah and the sons of Jerusalem to the sons of the Greeks, the Philistines would experience like treatment.
- And, also, what do you have to do with me, O Tyre and Sidon and all you regions of **Philistia**? Is it the treatment that you are giving me as a reward? And if you are giving such treatment to me, swiftly, speedily I shall pay back your treatment upon your heads. (**Joel 3:4**)
- Because you men have taken my own silver and my own gold, and you have brought my own desirable good things into your temples. (**Joel 3:5**)
- And the sons of Judah and the sons of Jerusalem you have sold to the sons of the Greeks, for the purpose of removing them far from their own territory. (**Joel 3:6**)
- Here I am arousing them to come from the place where you have sold them, and I will pay back your treatment upon your own heads. (**Joel 3:7**)
- And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they must sell them to the men of Sheba, to a nation far away, for Yehowah himself has spoken it. (**Joel 3:8**)
- Since the words of the prophet Joel appear to have been recorded in the **Ninth Century B.C.E**, the defeats of the **Philistines** at the hands of Uzziah.
- And he proceeded to go out and fight against the Philistines and break through the wall of Gath and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod, after which he built cities in Ashdod territory and among the **Philistines**. (**2 Chronicles 26:6**)

- And the true God continued to help him against the **Philistines** and against the Arabians that were dwelling in Gurbaal and the Meunim. (**2 Chronicles 26:7**)
- And the Ammonites began to give tribute to Uzziah. Eventually his fame went even as far as Egypt, for he displayed strength to an extraordinary degree. (**2 Chronicles 26:8**)
- **And Hezekiah**
- It was he that struck down the **Philistines** clear to Gaza and also its territories, from the tower of the watchmen clear to the fortified city. (**2 Kings 18:8**)
- **Could have been included in the fulfillment of this prophecy.**
- **However, a larger fulfillment evidently came after the Israelites returned from Babylonian exile. Notes commentator C. F. Keil: Alexander the Great and his successors set many of the Jewish prisoners of war in their lands at liberty, the promise of King Demetrius to Jonathan, I will send away in freedom such of the Judaeans as have been made prisoners, and reduced to slavery in our land, Josephus, *Ant.* xiii. 2,3, and portions of the **Philistian** and Phoenician lands were for a time under Jewish sway. [Commentary on the Old Testament, 1973, Vol. X, Joel, p. 224]**
- **And they must take possession of the Negeb, even of the mountainous region of Esau, and of the Shephelah, even of the Philistines. And they must take possession of the field of Ephraim and of the field of Samaria, and Benjamin must take possession of Gilead. (Obadiah 1:19)**
- **And as for the exiles of this rampart, to the sons of Israel will belong what the Canaanites possessed as far as Zarephath. And the exiles of Jerusalem, who were in Sepharad, will take possession of the cities of the Negeb. (Obadiah 1:20)**
- **Noteworthy, too, is the fact that Alexander the Great took the **Philistine** city of Gaza. Many of the inhabitants were slain, and the survivors were sold into slavery. A number of other prophecies likewise pointed to the execution of Yehowah's vengeance upon the Philistines.**
- **Howl, O gate! Cry out, O city! All of you must become**

disheartened, O **Philistia!** For out of the north a smoke is coming, and there is no one getting isolated from his ranks. (**Isaiah 14:31**)

- Here I am sending and I will take all the families of the north, is the utterance of Yehowah, even sending to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about, and I will devote them to destruction and make them an object of astonishment and something to whistle at and places devastated to time indefinite. (**Jeremiah 25:9**)
- And all the mixed company, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines and Ashkelon and Gaza and Ekron and the remnant of Ashdod. (**Jeremiah 25:20**)
- This is what proved to be the word of Yehowah to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the Philistines before Pharaoh proceeded to strike down Gaza. (**Jeremiah 47:1**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Look! Waters are coming up from the north and have become a flooding torrent. And they will flood the land and what fills it, the city and those inhabiting it. And the men will certainly cry out, and everyone dwelling in the land must howl. (**Jeremiah 47:2**)
- At the sound of the stamping of the hoofs of his stallions, at the rattling of his war chariots, the turmoil of his wheels, the fathers will actually not turn around to the sons, because of the dropping down of their hands. (**Jeremiah 47:3**)
- On account of the day that is coming to despoil all the Philistines, to cut off from Tyre and from Sidon every survivor that was helping. For Yehowah is despoiling the Philistines, who are the remaining ones from the island of Caphtor. (**Jeremiah 47:4**)
- Baldness must come to Gaza. Ashkelon has been put to silence. O remnant of their low plain, how long will you keep making cuts upon yourself? (**Jeremiah 47:5**)
- Aha, the sword of Yehowah! How long will you not stay quiet? Be shoved into your sheath. Take your repose and keep silent. (**Jeremiah 47:6**)

- How can it stay quiet, when Yehowah himself has given a command to it? It is for Ashkelon and for the coast of the sea. There is where he has designated it to be. (**Jeremiah 47:7**)
- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that the Philistines have acted with vengeance and they kept avenging themselves with a vengeance with scorn in the soul, in order to cause ruin, with an indefinitely lasting enmity. (**Ezekiel 25:15**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am stretching out my hand against the **Philistines**, and I will cut off the Cherethites and destroy the rest of the seacoast. (**Ezekiel 25:16**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Gaza, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of their taking into exile a complete body of exiles to hand over to Edom. (**Amos 1:6**)
- And I will send a fire onto the wall of Gaza, and it must devour her dwelling towers. (**Amos 1:7**)
- And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and the holder of the scepter from Ashkelon, and I will turn my hand back upon Ekron, and the remaining ones of the **Philistines** must perish, the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said. (**Amos 1:8**)
- Woe to those inhabiting the region of the sea, the nation of Cherethites! The word of Yehowah is against you people. O Canaan, the land of the **Philistines**, I will also destroy you, so that there will be no inhabitant. (**Zephaniah 2:5**)
- Ashkelon will see and get afraid, and as for Gaza, she will also feel very severe pains, Ekron also, because her looked-for hope will have to experience shame. And a king will certainly perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon herself will not be inhabited. (**Zechariah 9:5**)
- And an illegitimate son will actually seat himself in Ashdod, and I shall certainly cut off the pride of the **Philistine**. (**Zechariah 9:6**)
- And I will remove his bloodstained things from his mouth and his disgusting things from between his teeth, and he himself also

will certainly be left remaining for our God, and he must become like a sheik in Judah, and Ekron like the Jebusite. ([Zechariah 9:7](#))

See Also ASHDOD

See Also ASHKELON

See Also EKRON

See Also GATH

See Also GAZA 1

- **And, look! I shall certainly stretch out my hand against you and I shall diminish your allowance and give you to the soulful desire of the women hating you, the daughters of the Philistines, the women humiliated on account of your way as regards loose conduct. ([Ezekiel 16:27](#))**
- **And, look! I shall certainly stretch out my hand against you and I shall diminish your allowance and give you to the soulful desire of the women hating you, the daughters of the Philistines, the women humiliated on account of your way as regards loose conduct. ([Ezekiel 16:27](#))**
- **The daughters of the **Philistines** are depicted as being humiliated on account of Jerusalem's loose conduct.**
- **Son of man, make known to Jerusalem her detestable things. ([Ezekiel 16:2](#))**
- **The reason for this appears to be that Jerusalem's unfaithfulness to her God Yehowah was without parallel, for the **Philistines** and other peoples had held fast to the worship of their false gods.**
- **But pass over to the coastlands of the Kittim and see. Yes, send even to Kedar and give your special consideration, and see whether anything like this has happened. ([Jeremiah 2:10](#))**
- **Has a nation exchanged gods, even for those that are no gods? But my own people have exchanged my glory for what can bring no benefit. ([Jeremiah 2:11](#))**