

# ALL THE PLACES OF THE BIBLE

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This article identifies all of the places named in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books. The place names are arranged alphabetically as they appear in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The suggested meaning of the names is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various places bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this [1] ; [2]; and so on. Then follows a description of each place, with several Bible references to it.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These place names are ancient, many are pre-Israelite, and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Often a Hebrew name refers to both a place and a person. In such cases, you will find the same name in "All the People of the Bible."

Different names were used to refer to certain sites in different periods of history (e.g., Accho and Ptolemais). We have grouped these names under the most familiar biblical name, cross-referencing the other names to it. Modern place names are given under most of the biblical names.

## K

**Kabzeel** ("the congregation of God"), a city in Judah (Josh. 15:21; 2 Sam. 23:20); probably modern Khirbet Hora. The city was also known as Jekabzeel (q.v.).

**Kadesh [Kadesh-barnea]** ("holy"), a wilderness on Palestine's southern frontier. It was on the border between the wilderness of Paran on the south and the wilderness of Zin on the north of the Sinai Peninsula (Num. 13:26; 32:8; 34:4; 20: 1).

**Kadesh-barnea.** *See* Kadesh.

**Kanah** ("of reeds"). [1] A stream that divided the territories of Ephraim and Manasseh; perhaps Wadi Kanah which enters the Mediterranean 6.4 km. (4 mi.) north of Joppa (Josh. 16:8; 17:9). [2] A city in Asher not far from Sidon, presently known as Ain Kanah (Josh. 19:28).

**Karkaa** ("floor; deep ground"), an unknown site on the southern boundary of the tribe of Judah (Josh. 15:3).

**Karkor** ("they rested; even or deep ground"), a city in Gad, east of the Jordan. The site of Gideon's victory over Zebah and Zalmunna (Judg. 8: 10). It is present-day Karkar.

**Kartah** ("city"), a city in Zebulun given to the Merarite Levites (Josh. 21:34). The site has been identified with Āilit on the seacoast 14.5 km. (9 mi.) south of the point where Carmel reaches the sea.

**Kartan** ("town; city"), city of Naphtali given to the Gershonite Levites (Josh. 21:32); it is the same as Kirjathaim in 1 Chronicles 6:76 and is modern Khirbet el-Kureizeh.

**Kattath** ("small"), a town in Zebulun (Josh. 19:15). It is probably identical with the Kitron in Judges 1:30.

**Kedemoth** ("antiquity; old age"), a Levitical town east of the Dead Sea (Josh. 13:18; 21:37; 1 Chron. 6:79).

**Kedesh** ("holy"). [1] A city of the Canaanites near the northern border, defeated by Joshua (Josh. 12:22; 19:37).

[2] Levitical city of refuge in Naphtali. It was sometimes called Kedesh Naphtali (Josh. 20:7; Judg. 4:6, 9). It is probably modern Kades, about 7.2 km. (4.5 mi.) northwest of Lake Huleh. [3] A Levitical city in Issachar (1 Chron. 6:72). [4] A city of Judah near Hazor and Ithan (Josh. 15:23).

**Kehelathah** ("a whole; a congregation"), a desert encampment of the Israelites (Num. 33:22, 23). It is probably Krintilet Krayeh, also called Ajrud.

**Keilah** ("fortress"), a town in the lowlands of Judah (1 Sam 23: 1,13; Josh. 15:44). It is 8.5 mi. north of Hebron at Khirbet Kila. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Kenath** ("possession"), a town on the extreme northeastern border of Israelite territory, the eastern most of the ten cities of the Decapolis (Num. 32:42). It is identified with Kanawat.

**Kerioth [Kiriath]** ("the cities"). [1] A town in extreme southern Judah (Josh. 15:25). [2] A city of Moab (Jer. 48:24, 41; Amos 2:2); possibly the same as Ar.

**Keziz** ("the angle; border; cassia tree"), a valley and town of Benjamin (Josh. 18:21).

**Kibroth-hattavah** ("the graves of lust"), a campsite on the Sinai Peninsula where the Israelites grew tired of manna (Num. 11:34-35). This may be Rueis el-Ebeirig, northeast of Jebel Mesa.

**Kibzaim** ("double gathering"), a city of Ephraim given to the Levites (Josh. 21:22). It may be the same as Jokmeam.

**Kidron [Cedron]** ("obscure; making black or sad"), a valley in Jerusalem between the Mount of Ophel and the Mount of Olives (2 Sam. 15:23; John 18:1). Today it is called Wadi Sitti Maryan.

**Kinah** ("buying; dirge; lamentation"), a city on the extreme southern boundary of Judah (Josh. 15:22).

**Kir** ("a city; wall; meeting"). [1] An eastern country whose location has not been determined (2 Kings 16:9; Amos 9:7). The Arameans migrated from this place to Syria. It may have been the area between the Caspian and Black Seas, the modern Georgia. [2] *See* Kir-haraseth.

**Kir-haraseth [Kir-hareseth, Kir-haresh, Kir-heres]** ("city of the sun; wall of burnt brick"), a fortified city, probably the same as Kir (2 Kings 3:25; 16:9; Isa. 16:7, 11; Jer. 48:31). Its modern name is Kerak and it is located about 17.7 km. (11 mi.) east of the south bay of the Dead Sea.

**Kir-heres.** *See* Kir-Haraseth.

**Kirioth.** *See* Keriioth.

**Kirjath** ("city; vocation; meeting"), a city belonging to the tribe of Benjamin (Josh. 18:28). It is probably Kirjath-jearim (q.v.).

**Kirjathaim [Kiriathaim]** ("double city"). [1] A Moabite city on the east of the Jordan (Num. 32:37); probably Khirbet-el-Kureiyat, north of the Arnon. [2] A town in Naphtali given to the Levites (1 Chron. 6:76). It is identical with Kartan.

**Kirjath-arba** ("fourth city"), an early name for the city of Hebron (Gen. 23:2; Josh. 14:15). *See* Hebron.

**Kirjath-arim.** *See* Kirjath-jearim.

**Kirjath-baal.** *See* Kirjath-jearim.

**Kirjath-huzoth** ("city of streets"), a town of Moab (Num. 22:39). Its location is unknown, but Kirjathaim and Keriioth are possibilities.

**Kirjath-jearim** ("city of woods"), originally one of the cities of the Gibeonites located at the northwestern boundary of Judah (Josh. 9: 17; Judg. 18:14). It is identical with Baalah (Josh. 15:9), Kirjath-arim (Ezra 2:25), Kirjath-baal (Josh 18: 14), and Baale-judah (2 Sam 6:2). It is thought to be modern Deir el-Azhar, about 13.4 km. (8.3 mi.) northwest of Jerusalem. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Kishion [Kishon]** ("hardness"), a city on the boundary of the tribe of Issachar (Josh. 19:20; 21:28). It is probably modern Tell el-Ajjul, 20.1 km. (12.5 mi.) northeast of Megiddo.

**Kishon [Kison]** ("bending; crooked"), a river in central Palestine which rises in Mount Tabor and, flowing westward, drains the valley of Esdraelon [Jezreel] (Judg. 4:7, 13; 1 Kings 18:40; Psa. 83:9). Next to the Jordan, it is the most important river in Palestine.

**Kithlish** ("it is a wall"), a city located in the lowlands of Judah, perhaps the same as Dilean (Josh. 15:40); identified with Khirbet el-Makhaz.

**Kitron** ("making sweet"), one of the towns of Zebulun (Judg. 1:30); perhaps the same as Kattath. It is identified with modern Tell el-Far, about 9.7 km. (6 mi.) southeast of Haifa.

**Lachish letter.** This is one of 21 *ostraca* (broken pottery pieces) discovered at Tell ed-Duweir, located on the site of ancient Lachish. Messages dating from the beginning of Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Judah (ca. 586-87 B.C.) are scribbled on the potsherds. In this letter, a subordinate officer at an outpost near Azekah states: "... we are watching for the fire-signals of Lachish...for we cannot see Azekah." The message implies that Azekah had already fallen to the Babylonians.



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