

Egyptians Aahpeti, but more commonly Amenemhe III. A king from his birth, he was the Pharaoh of Joseph, who was exalted to be the prime minister of a lad eight years old. As he reigned a hundred years, according to all accounts, he survived his faithful minister the space of twelve. In the Sallier Papyrus he is represented as putting down all heathen worship, and insisting on that of one god, Sutech, supposed to be the Shaddai of the patriarchs. All countries under the sway of Egypt in its most prosperous time seem to have felt the influence of this religious revival, for, besides the Biblical cases of pious foreigners, Job and his friends, Jethro and his clan, Caleb the Kenizzite, and men of knowledge without virtue, such as Balaam, there is a record on the rocks of the Sinaitic peninsula of an officer of the guard who served Sutech. The Bible name of Aahpeti, the wonderful boy who reigned a hundred years, is Jabez or, as we should read it, Yaabetz, and this is his brief record: "And Jabez was more honorable than his brethren; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying 'Because I bare him with sorrow.' And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, 'Oh, that thou wouldest bless me, indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me.' And God granted him that which he requested." This Bible record is brief, but it is the story of one of the most far-reaching revivals in the world, of which there are many dim echoes in history. He survived his son and his grandson, and was succeeded by his great-grandson, Har-em-hebi, or the Golden Horus, called Mezahab in the Old Testament, and Methosuphis in the Graeco-Egyptian chronicle. It was his daughter Matred, or Mytera, who married Thothmes II. of the old Horite line, and who became the mother, first of Mautemva or Mehetabel, the saviour of Moses, and afterwards of Rameses the great and first enslaver of Israel. By this time Egypt had lapsed back into idolatry, only a few faithful ones like Jethro the Kenite, retaining the religion of Aahpeti and Joseph. One may smile at the Zuzimite name, which enemies turned into Zamzummin or the Buzzers, but the memory of Aahpeti should make it illustrious for ever