

conferred his name upon one of their chief cities, more ancient than the famous Tyre. But the Phœnicians themselves were merely an offshoot of the Sidonian line. The name of Sidon as an eponym was soon submerged by that of his more illustrious descendant Hor, from whom all that branch of Canaan was called Horite. This is the first Gentile race of which the Old Testament, in Genesis and Chronicles, condescends to give particulars; and it was these particulars, met with by me in the course of Hebrew studies, that first led to my researches into Palestinian ethnology.

Abram found them at Shechem and at Mamre, where they came to bear the Hivite and Amorite names. But Melchizedek, priest of the Most High God, was of their race, with Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre, the warrior brethren, and such were the kings of the cities of the Plain, one of whom, Shemeber, has left his name on a monument in Arabia Petraea. They were also the primitive occupants of Mount Seir, and of Hazezon Tamar on the western shore of the Dead Sea. More important still, the Pharaoh who entertained Abram at Zoan in Egypt was a Horite, belonging to the first historical dynasty of that ancient empire, for the pure Egyptians were neither Mizraites, Chemi, nor Copts, but Hor-shesu, the successors of Hor, and this Hor was at once the descendant of Sidon and the heathen god whom the Greeks called Horus Apollo.

A brother of Zoan or Zaavan, who gave name to the first Egyptian city, was Akan or Yaakan. His descendants were driven out of Egypt, at least in part, and were met by Moses in Arabia Petraea at a place called Beeroth Bene Yaakan. They had exchanged their Egyptian or Horite speech for the Semitic lingua franca, closely akin to the Hebrew, and from the Semitic compound Bene Yaakan, or sons of Akan, came the Phœnician name which they carried at a later period to the sea-coast north of Palestine. So important a stock as the Phœnician, regarded as furnishing a colony to Bœotia, could not remain unknown to the ancient Greeks. Adding the Horite designation to that of Akan, they made of him their Agenor, father of Cadmus. Cadmus himself finds mention in the Bible in a form which our English version reads Etam,