

BIBLE DICTIONARY FOR THIRD
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[For additional information in regard to certain of the places, see Geography Lessons.]

Ab'-i-gail. The wife of Nabal, and after his death one of the wives of David. She was a wise and beautiful woman.

A'-gag. An Amalekite king spared by Saul and slain by Samuel.

A-hin'-o-am. A woman of Jezreel, a town in the hill country of Judah, and one of David's wives.

A-mal'-ek-ites. The descendants of Esau, Gen. 36:12. They attacked the Israelites soon after the latter had left Egypt (Ex. 17:8-16), and were doomed to destruction, Deut. 25:17-19. They suffered a crushing defeat from Saul, and soon after disappear from the Bible history.

Ash'-tar-oth. The plural of Ashtoreth, goddess of the Philistines and other Canaanish nations (the Greek Venus).

Be'-li-al. Ungodliness. "Men of Belial" means ungodly men.

Ben'-ja-min. The youngest son of Jacob and head of one of the tribes.

Beth'-le-hem. A town in the hill country of Judah; the place of Rachel's death and burial, the home of Ruth, the birthplace of David, and afterwards of our Lord.

Beth'-shan. A city at the eastern end of the valley of Jezreel, on whose walls the Philistines fastened the bodies of Saul and his sons.

Car'-mel-ite. An inhabitant of a town in the mountainous part of Judah. Its name still appears in Kurnul, a ruin about 7 miles southeast of Hebron.

Da'-vid. The youngest son of Jesse, a Bethlehemite, and the second king of Israel.

E'-gypt. A country watered by the Nile, and in which the Israelites spent four hundred years of slavery.

El-i'-ab, A-bin'-a-dab, Shamm'-ah. Sons of Jesse and elder brothers of David.

Gib'-e-ah. A town of Benjamin, the residence of Saul when he was called to be king, and afterwards his capital. It was about 2½ miles to the north of Jerusalem, where there is now a hill known as Tell-el-Fâl.

Gil-bo'-a. A mountain lying to the east of the plain of Esdraelon. On it Saul was defeated by the Philistines and met his death.

Gil'-e-ad. A country on the east side of the Jordan. From the mountains of Western Palestine, the entire length of Gilead can be seen, and a large portion of its territory brought under the eye at once. It appears thence like a vast mountain range vary-

ing from 3,000 to 4,000 feet in height. To make up this height the depression of the Jordan valley is reckoned, which is from 700 to 1,300 feet below the level of the Mediterranean.

Gil'-gal. A town between the Jordan and Jericho, which Samuel visited on his yearly circuit, 1 Sam. 7:16. Here Saul was crowned (1 Sam. 11:14, 15); and rejected, 1 Sam. 15:12, 26; and here Agag was hewn in pieces, 1 Sam. 15:33.

He'-bron. A town in Judah which became David's first capital.

Is'-ra-el. A name given to the whole body of Jacob's descendants; afterwards the name of the kingdom formed by the tribes which separate from Judah after the death of Solomon.

Ja'-besh-gil'-e-ad. A town of Gilead rescued by Saul from the hands of the Ammonites, whose inhabitants afterwards showed their gratitude by giving an honorable burial to the bodies of Saul and his sons. For this David, after he had become king at Hebron, sent messengers with commendations, 2 Sam. 2:5.

Jes'-se. An inhabitant of Bethlehem, father of David.

Jez-reel-i'-tess. See under Ahinoam.

Jon'-a-than. Eldest son of King Saul, and bosom friend of David, a brave warrior who died with his father and his brothers **A-bin'-a-dab** and **Melch'-i-shu'-a** on Mount Gilboa.

Ju'-dah. The tribe descended from Judah, son of Jacob and Leah, and the territory assigned to them in Canaan. This tribe, on the death of Saul, chose David as king, and warred on his behalf, until he became king of all Israel.

Kish. A member of the Benjaminite family of Matri and father of King Saul.

Miz'-peh. "Watchtower". A small town on an elevation, some 3,000 feet above sea level, 5 miles northwest of Jerusalem.

Na'-bal. A sheepmaster dwelling near Mount Carmel, the husband of Abigail.

Phil'-is-tines. A nation of Canaan which was frequently at war with the Israelites until its power was broken by David after many years of conflict.

Ra'-mah. The birthplace and residence of Samuel. It was probably situated about 5 miles north of Jerusalem, where there is now a large Christian village.

Sam'-u-el. The last of the judges and the earliest of the great Hebrew prophets. He ruled over Israel for thirty years.

Saul. The first king of Israel, anointed by Samuel at God's command, on the demand of the people.