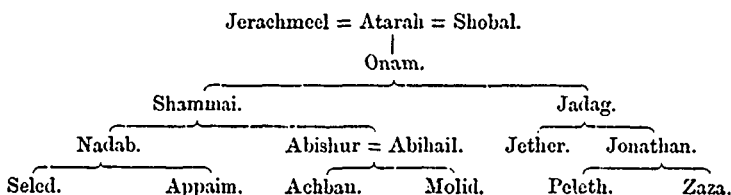


etymology of the word I have no time to deal, farther than to state that the Scripture and Greek names, Beth-Shemesh and Heliopolis, clearly exhibit its solar character. The Onites, like the other members of the Horite family, were pre-eminently a solar people. As for Onam himself, he was what the mythologies call a twice born hero. We have found him connected with two lines. "Jerachmeel had another wife whose name was Atarah, and she was the mother of Onam." But it is not said that Jerachmeel was his father, while he is counted as the youngest son of Shobal, the Horite. The genealogies of Onam are given in the following table down to the fourth generation from him, ascending no higher than his reputed parents. The 2nd chapter of 1st Chronicles gives us twenty generations in one line of his descendants, but on the consideration of them beyond the fourth I forbear at present to enter. Yet I desire to call attention to these twenty generations as evidence of the great importance of the family of this remarkable man.³⁵



The first point to engage our attention is the peculiarity which appears in the parentage of Onam. I am convinced that a passage in the Phœnician history of Sanchoniatho refers to this. There it is stated that Ilus—whom, in my paper on the Horites, I have identified with Alvan or Reaiah (Il or Ra), the eldest son of Shobal—made war upon Ouranos (Jerachmeel), and drove him out of his kingdom, taking from him Anobret (the beloved of Anu), a well-beloved concubine, whom he gave in marriage to Dagon, in whose house Demaroon, her son by Ouranos, was born.³⁶ There is much confusion in this passage, as in all the statements of Sanchoniatho; but the main facts bear the impress of truth. The lunar associations of the name Ouranos favour its connection with the lunar Jerah-

³⁵ I have not been able to pursue my investigations in this line much beyond the fourth generation, and cannot, therefore, tell in whom it is to terminate. I should not be astonished to find that Cyrus is the goal to which it points. It may, however, be a record of a Gentile family in Palestine, some of the members of which occupied the throne of Israel.

³⁶ Sanchoniatho's Phœnician History, by Cumberland.