

Bible Dictionary for Third Quarter,
1901

A-bim'-e-lech The personal name or official title of the king of Gerar, where Abram sojourned on account of famine.

A'-bra-ham "Father of a multitude"; at first Abram, "father of elevation"; a Chaldean, son of Terah, a descendant of Shem and father of the Hebrew nation, and, figuratively, of all the faithful. (Gal. 3:7-9.)

Am'-or-ites "Highlanders." One of the strongest tribes of Canaan. The name is sometimes used to denote all the inhabitants of Canaan. They extended to both sides of the Jordan.

Ar'-a-rat A mountainous district of Armenia between the Caspian and the Mediterranean seas. It was on one of the mountains of this range that the ark rested.

Be'-er-she'-ba "Well of the oath"; the southern limit of the Holy Land; so called from the oath of peace between Abram and Abimelech, king of the Philistines. (Gen. 21:31.)

Beth'-el "House of God"; a town of Palestine twelve miles north of Jerusalem. Hai was five miles east. At Bethel Abram on his arrival in Canaan pitched his tent and built an altar. Here Jacob saw the vision of the ladder.

Ca'-na-an The name means "lowlands," and was at first given to the low-lying coast line of Palestine, but afterwards to all the lands west of the Jordan.

Dam-asc'-us The most ancient city of Syria. It lies 2,200 feet above the sea in the midst of a very fertile plain watered by the river Barada (the Abana of 2 Kings 5).

E'-dom "Red"; a name given to Esau in memory of his having sold his birthright for the red pottage. Also an extensive district south and east of Canaan, originally called Seir.

E'-gypt The country watered by the Nile, from the first cataract to the Mediterranean Sea; called Kem (black) by the natives, and Aigypsus by the Greeks.

E'-sau Son of Isaac and brother of Jacob. He took up his abode in Seir and became the father of the Edomites.

Eu-phra'-tes One of the great rivers of Western Asia. Named as one of the rivers of Paradise (Gen. 2:14). It was the north-east limit of the Hebrew dominion at the point of its greatest expansion.

Ge'-rar A Philistine city on the southwestern border of Palestine near Gazar.

Ha'-i A town five miles east of Bethel.

Ha'-ran A busy commercial city of Mesopotamia, 240 miles north-west of Nineveh. Here Terah, Abraham's father, died.

He'-bron A town in the hill country of Judaea twenty miles south of Jerusalem, where Abraham dwelt for a time and near which he was buried in the cave of Machpelah.

I'-saac The son of Abraham and Sarah; the "child of promise."

Is'-ra-el "Prince of God"; the name given to Jacob after wrestling with the angel at the ford of Jabbok. Later, a name applied to all his posterity.

Jab'-bok A stream traversing Gilead and emptying into the Jordan. It was here that Jacob wrestled with the angel.

Ja'-cob "Supplanter"; son of Isaac, brother of Esau, and father of the twelve patriarchs. He supplanted his brother Esau and gained possession of the birthright and his father's blessing.

Je'-ho-vah—ji'-veh "Jehovah will provide"; the name given by Abram to the place where God provided a ram for sacrifice instead of Isaac.

Jor'-dan "Descender" the chief river of Palestine, rising in the mountains of Lebanon and flowing southward to the Red Sea. It is 200 miles long and in many places its descent is very rapid.

Luz A Canaanite town, afterward called Bethel.

Mam'-re The grove of oaks near Hebron where Abraham sojourned.

Mo'-ri-ah The district on one of whose hills Abraham was about to sacrifice Isaac, his son. Possibly one of the hills where Jerusalem now stands.

No'-ah Son of Lamech, a descendant of Seth. Built the ark before the deluge, from which, with his family, he was saved.

Pe'-ni-el Also "Peniel"—"face of God"; an encampment east of Jordan where Jacob saw God face to face.

Phil'-ist-ines Descendants of Ham, who had migrated northward to the plain of Palestine by the Mediterranean Sea.

Re'-ho'-both A well dug by Isaac in Gerar.

Sa'-rah "Princess"; originally Sarai, "my princess"; wife of Abraham.

Si'-chem "Shechem"; a town in the hills of Ephraim, near which Abraham encamped on his entrance into Canaan.

Sod'-om A city in the vale of Siddim, chosen by Lot, Abraham's nephew, for a residence after his separation from Abraham.

Zo'-ar A small town of the vale of Siddim, where Lot found shelter after the destruction of Sodom.