

## GLOSSARY to the Book of NUMBERS

- Aaron**—"luminous" (?). First son of Amram and Jochebed, brother of Moses and Miriam. Selected by God to be spokesman for Moses, Aaron worked closely with his brother throughout the time of the exodus and subsequent history. He was made the first high priest by the Lord, although his character was weak and he fell into the sin of jealousy toward his brother. Death came to him at age 123 years on the top of Mt. Hor, at which time his robes were stripped from him and put upon his son and successor, Eleazar. The people mourned for him for thirty days.
- Abarim**—"a region on the other side". Site of one of the final encampments of the Israelites east of the Jordan. From one of the peaks of the mountains in this area, the Israelites viewed the Promised Land, as did Moses.
- Abel-shittim**—"meadow of the acacia trees." A plain in the land of Moab. Here the Israelites spent their last few days before crossing into Canaan.
- Abidan**—"father is judge." A prince selected from the tribe of Benjamin as their representative at the census in the wilderness. He also offered a sacrifice as one of the leaders of Israel when the tabernacle was dedicated.
- Abihail**—"father is strength." The head of the house of Merari; father of Zuriel.
- Abihu**—"the father is he." The second son of Aaron who, with his father, brother, and seventy elders, ascended Sinai part-way with Moses. Later killed along with his brother Nadab when they offered strange fire to Jehovah.
- Abiram**—"father of exaltation." One of the conspirators against Moses, along with Dathan and Korah, his brothers. He was struck dead by the Lord, who opened the earth to swallow them.
- Agag**—"violent, war-like," (?). A royal title given to the Amalekite princes. Its use is similar to that of 'Pharaoh' or 'Caesar', in that it is applied to the current ruler at the time of writing.

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- Ahiezer—"helping brother," (?). Head of the tribe of Dan in the wilderness.
- Ahihud—"brother of Majesty." Head of the tribe of Asher who assisted Moses in the division of the land of Canaan.
- Ahiman—"my brother is a gift." One of the three giant sons of Anak whom the Israelite spies saw at Mount Hermon.
- Ahiram—"exalted brother." A son of Benjamin. Not listed in Genesis, he is the third of five sons in Numbers.(26:38, 39).
- Ain—"fountain." A spring, or flowing water, located west of Riblah on the eastern border of the Promised Land. Perhaps to be identified with the source of the Orontes river.
- Akrabbim—"scorpions, or curves." The "ascent of the scorpions," a pass rising between the southwestern corner of the Dead Sea and the Wilderness of Zin; the boundary between Judah and Edom.
- Almon-diblathaim—"Almon of the two cakes of figs." One of the final camps of Israel—the eighth after Ezion-geber—situated between Dibon-gad and the mountains of Abarim.
- Alush—"wild place, or lion's lair," (?). One of the campsites of Israel between Dophkah and Rephidim.
- Amalekites—"laborious, war-like" (?). Descendants of Esau, the Amalekites were nomadic marauders living principally in the Negeb. They, together with the Canaanites, defeated Israel at Hormah.
- Ammiel—"God is my kinsman." Son of Gemalli, and Dan's spy among those sent into Canaan by Moses.
- Ammihud—"my kinsman is glorious." 1. An Ephraimite and father of Elishama. 2. A Simeonite and father of Shemuel. 3. A Naphtalite whose son, Pedahel, assisted in dividing the Promised Land.
- Amminadab—"my kinsman is generous." 1. Aaron's father-in-law; a Levite. 2. A prince of Judah.

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**Ammishaddai**—"my kinsman is the Almighty." A Danite, whose son was captain of the tribe of Dan.

**Ammonites**—"son of my relative." Descendants of Ben-Ammi, the son of Lot by his second daughter. Related to the Moabites, with whom they often joined against a common foe.

**Amorites**—"highlanders". Descendants of Canaan, these people, under king Sihon, took a large area from Moab and held it during the time of the Israelites' wanderings.

**Amram**—"exalted people." A Levite and father of Moses, Aaron and Miriam.

**Anak**—"long necked; giant." Descended from Arba, and the father of the Anakim. Three of their chiefs occupied Hebron at the time of the spies' visit.

**Ar**—"city". A city or district in Moab; at one time the capital. Located on the Arnon River.

**Arad**—"wild ass; fugitive" (?). A city in the Negeb, about seventeen miles south of Hebron.

**Ard**—"descender, or ruler." Son of Bela, descendant of Benjamin.

**Areli**—"valiant". A son of Gad and founder of the Arelites.

**Arnon**—"roaring stream." River rising in Arabia which flows into the Dead Sea through a high gorge from the east. During the time of the wilderness wandering, it formed the boundary between the Moabites and the Amorites.

**Arod**—"descendant". A son of Gad and head of the Arodites during Moses' day. (26:17).

**Aroer**—"poor, naked, helpless." 1. A town on a branch of the brook Jabbok, captured from Sihon. 2. A town on the north bank of the Arnon, held by the Reubenites.

**Ashbel**—"man of Baal." Second son of Benjamin, and father of the Ashbelites.

**Asher**—"happy". The second son of Zilpah, by Jacob; and the tribe descended from him.

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- Asriel**—"God binds together." Son of Gilead, and grandson of Manasseh.
- Asshur**—"level plain." Apparently Assyria in Balaam's prophecy. Asshur was a descendant of Ham, and builder of Nineveh. (24:22, 24).
- Ataroth**—"crowns". A city fortified by Gad, although in the original territory of Manasseh. (32:35).
- Atroth-shophan**—"crowns of nakedness". Either the full name of the city Atroth, or, if the names are intended to be separate in 32:35, it is the listing of separate cities taken by Gad.
- Azmon**—"strong". A city on the southern border of Judah. (34:4, 5).
- Azzan**—"strong". The father of Paltiel, prince of the tribe of Issachar. (34:26).
- Baal-Meon**—"Baal of Meon". An old city near the border of Moab, assigned to Reuben. (32:38). (Also called Beon in 32:3).
- Baal-peor**—"Baal of Peor". A Moabite god, probably Chemosh, worshipped on the top of Mount Peor. It was this god which the Israelites were enticed to worship by the Moabite women in Numbers 25:1-9.
- Baal-Zephon**—"lord of the north". An encampment of the Israelites before crossing the Red Sea. (33:7). Exact location is unknown.
- Balaam**—"devouring", or "devourer". Son of Peor, and a prophet used, when willing, to declare the counsel of Jehovah to Balak, king of Moab. Ultimately he yielded to selfish ambition, attempting both to speak for the Lord and to please Balak with his words. Although he uttered one of the great prophecies of the Messiah as the Star of Jacob and the scepter of Israel smiting her enemies, including Moab, he remained affiliated with the Moabites and eventually died in battle against Israel.

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- Balak**—"devastator". King of Moab who hired Balaam to curse the Israelites. When Balaam's words were anything but reassuring, the Israelites were brought to cohabit with the Moabite women in lustful idolatry. Consequently, a great judgment came upon the people of God.
- Bamoth-Baal**—"the high places of Baal". A place north of the Arnon River to which Balak took Balaam. Later a part of Reuben's territory. (21:19; 22:41).
- Bashan**—"smooth, fertile land". A plateau area east of the Sea of Galilee, north of Gilead, and extending to Mount Hermon, extremely fertile and rich. It was taken by the Israelites before crossing the Jordan, and was assigned to the half-tribe of Manasseh. (21:33-35).
- Bashan Havoth Jair**—"encampments of Jair in Bashan". Several unwallied towns, perhaps as many as 60, taken by Jair of the tribe of Manasseh. (32:41).
- Becher**—"first born", or "young camel". Son of Benjamin whose descendants are not registered among the families of Israel, perhaps because they were too few to form a tribe. (26:38).
- Beer**—"a well". One of the encampments of the Israelites in the wilderness. (21:16).
- Bela**—"destruction". Oldest son of Benjamin, and head of the Belaites. (26:38).
- Bene Jaakan**—"sons of intelligence". An encampment of Israel in the wilderness, shortly before Aaron's death. (33:31, 32).
- Benjamin**—"son of my right hand". Youngest son of Jacob; one of the tribes of Israel, immediately north of Judea.
- Beon**—"lord of On", or "house of On". Also: Baal-Meon. A town built by Reuben. (32:3).
- Beor**—"shepherd". The father of Balaam. (22:5, *et passim*).
- Beriah**—"gift" (?), "unfortunate" (?). A son of Asher and father of the Beriites. (26:44).

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- Beth-Haran**—"house of the high place". A fortified city built by Gad in Gilead. (32:36).
- Beth Jeshimoth**—"house of desolations". A city of Moab near the place where the Jordan enters the Dead Sea. (33:49).
- Beth Nimrah**—"house of the leopard". A fenced city in Gad. (32:3, 36).
- Bukki**—"mouth of Jah". A prince of Dan who helped divide the land under Joshua. (34:22).
- Caleb**—"dog", "impetuous". Son of Jephunneh of the tribe of Judah, appointed as one of the twelve spies sent into Canaan; and, with Joshua, one of the two who urged immediate occupation of the Promised Land. For his faithfulness, he was permitted to enter into Canaan, and received Hebron, with its surrounding hills.
- Canaan**—"low," "flat". Early name of Palestine, the land taken by the Israelites. The name is derived from the son of Ham and grandson of Noah who settled here.
- Canaanites**—"lowlanders". Generally, any of the pagan inhabitants in Palestine prior to, and together with the tribes of Israel. Specifically, the Tribe of the Canaanites occupied the Jordan Valley, portions of the valley of Jezreel and of the plain of Sharon.
- Carmi**—"fruitful". One of the sons of Reuben, and father of the Carmites. (26:6).
- Chemosh**—"fire", "hearth". The primary god of Moab. (21:29).
- Chinnereth**—"harp", "circuit". Early name for the Sea of Galilee. (34:11).
- Chislon**—"strong". Father of Elidad, Benjamite prince who assisted in division of the land of Promise. (34:21).
- Chittim**—"terrible", "giants". Descendants of Javan; this name was given to the Island of Cyprus and the islands and coasts of the Mediterranean. (24:24).

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- Cozbi**—"deceitful". A Midianite woman through whom the fiery plague came upon Israel in the wilderness. She was killed by Aaron's grandson, Phinehas. (25:16-18).
- Dan**—"judge". Fifth son of Jacob, and one of the twelve tribes. One of the largest of the tribes, (62,700), they were assigned rear guard duty during the Exodus.
- Dathan**—"fountain". Great-grandson of Reuben, he and his brothers, Abiram and Korah, led a rebellion against Moses, and both they and their families were swallowed up by the earth. (16:2-15; 16:31-35).
- Deuel**—"God knows". Father of Eliasaph, one of the princes, of the tribe of Gad.
- Dibon**—meaning unknown. Station of one of the encampments of Israel; in the high plain of Moab east of the Dead Sea. At first held by Sihon of the Amorites, it was taken by Israel, and became a city of Gad.
- Dophkah**—"cattle driving" (?). Encampment of the Israelites between the Red Sea and Sinai. (33:12).
- Eber**—"a shoot". Perhaps a patronymic designation of the descendants of Eber; or, perhaps referring to those "beyond the river".
- Ebronah**—"beach", "bank", "coast". Encampment of Israel just before arrival at Ezion-geber on the Gulf of Akaba. (33:34).
- Edom**—"red". Also called Seir, this territory consisted of a 100-mile long valley directly south of the Dead Sea reaching to the Gulf of Akaba. The king of this land refused permission to Israel to pass through his territory, necessitating a much longer march toward Canaan. (20:14-21).
- Edrei**—"strong". An important city of Og, king of Bashan, taken by the Israelites. The city and the territory came to the half-tribe of Manasseh. (21:33).

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**Egypt**—form and meaning uncertain. Land settled by the second son of Ham, who gave his name to the country. Here the Israelites were enslaved for 400 years; from this land they were led of God to Sinai, thence to the Land of Promise ultimately. From the land, the Israelites brought elements of a polytheistic religion, soon seen in the erection of the golden calf at Sinai. The Hebrews both hated and respected this land. They often formed unprofitable alliances with the Egyptians; they often feared the military prowess of this people. At the same time, they could not forget that Egypt had provided their forefathers with food when they otherwise might have succumbed to the severe famine in the time of Joseph. The Israelites remembered with favor the delicacies they had enjoyed in Egypt (see 11:5, 6); but they would be chronically infected with religious adulteries from the same source.

**Egypt, River of**—the wadi of Mitsrayim. Probably the Wady el-Arish, which formed the border between Canaan and Egypt; certainly not the Nile. It was the southern boundary of Judah. (34:5).

**Eldad**—"God has loved". This man, along with Medad, remained in the camp when Moses and 70 elders were summoned to the Tabernacle to receive the gift of prophecy; they received the gift at their tents, and prophesied there. Despite Joshua's objection, Moses commended the two. (11:24-29).

**Elealeh**—"God ascends". A town associated with Heshbon. Located approximately one mile north of this city, it belonged to Reuben after the military exploits of Israel east of the Jordan. (32:3, 37).

**Eleazar**—"God has helped". Third son of Aaron, he was designated chief priest and was given several special tasks before the Lord, (3:32; 19:3, 4; 16:36-39). At Aaron's death, he was appointed chief priest, and he assisted in taking the second census, as well as in dividing the booty from conquest of the Midianites. He also assigned the 2½

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tribes to the land east of the Jordan and helped Joshua divide the Promised Land among the tribes. (34:17).

**Elim**—"terebinths". Second place of encampment after crossing the Red Sea. A fine oasis with a dozen springs and 70 palm trees was found here. (33:9, 10).

**Elishama**—"God has heard". Grandfather of Joshua; prince of Ephraim when the wilderness wanderings began. (1:10, 2:18, *et passim*).

**Elizaphan**—"God has concealed". Son of Uzziel, chief among the Kohathites when the census was taken. (3:30).

**Elizur**—"God is a rock". Son of Shedeur and prince of Reuben who helped in the census. (1:5, *et passim*).

**Elon**—"oak, strong". Second of Zebulun's three sons. (26:26).

**Enan**—"fountain". Father of Ahira, of Naphtali, who aided in the census at Sinai. (1:15; *et passim*).

**Ephod**—"oracular". The father of Hanniel, prince of Manasseh. (34:23).

**Ephraim**—"double fruit". The younger of Joseph's two sons. He received the right hand of Jacob in blessing, despite Joseph's protest. The Ephraimites marched and camped on the west side of the Tabernacle in the wilderness. Joshua was of this tribe. (2:18-24; 13:8).

**Er**—"watchful". First son of Judah by Shua, the Canaanite. Named in the genealogy of Judah. (26:19).

**Eran**—"watcher". Ephraim's grandson, by Shuthelah. (26:36).

**Eri**—"my watcher". Fifth son of Gad, and father of the Erites. (26:16).

**Eshcol**—"cluster". Valley near Hebron from which the Israelite spies brought back a large cluster of grapes. (13:23, 24).

**Etham**—meaning unknown. A wilderness area through which Israel wandered after leaving Succoth; perhaps on both sides of the north end of the Dead Sea. (33:6-8, see Ex. 13:20).

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- Ethiopia**—meaning unknown. Land from which Moses' wife had come (12:1, 2); named for Cush, son of Ham.
- Evi**—"desire". One of the five kings of Midian slain in battle against Israel on the plains of Moab. (31:8).
- Ezion-geber**—"backbone of a mighty one". City on the Gulf of Akaba, near Elath. Israel stopped here last on the way to Kadesh. (33:35, 36).
- Gad**—"fortune". Seventh son of Jacob. The tribe of the Gadites shrank more than 5,000 between the two censuses. They chose to occupy land east of the Jordan, and were granted the central portion, between Reuben to the south and the half-tribe of Manasseh to the north.
- Gaddi**—"belonging to fortune". Chosen from the tribe of Manasseh as one of the twelve spies. (13:11).
- Gaddiel**—"Gad brings a fortune". Representative from Zebulun as one of the twelve spies. (13:10).
- Gamaliel**—"reward of God". Chief of the tribe of Manasseh who helped Moses in the census. (1:10, *et passim*).
- Gemalli**—"camel owner", or "rider". Father of Ammiel, ruler of the tribe of Dan; one of twelve spies sent into Canaan. (13:12).
- Gershon**—"a stranger in that place". First son of Levi. During the wanderings, the family were assigned to care for the Tent itself. (3:17, 18, 21, 23-25, *et passim*).
- Geuel**—"God of salvation". A prince of Gad, also sent out with the twelve spies to Canaan. (13:15).
- Gideoni**—"one who cuts down". Prince of Benjamin who assisted in the census at Sinai. (7:60).
- Gilead**—"strong, rocky". Region in the Trans-Jordan country from about the southern tip of the Sea of Galilee to the northern end of the Dead Sea. At that time, it was very fertile, and much to be desired. Most of the area was claimed by Gad; the southern portion formed part of Reuben's claim. (32:1).

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- Guni**—"protected". A family of the tribe of Naphtali. (26:48).
- Haggi**—"festive". Son of Gad, and ancestor of the Haggites. (26:15).
- Hamath**—"fortification". City in upper Syria, on the Orontes river. Specified as the northern limit of Israel. (34:8).
- Hamul**—"pity". Grandson of Judah, and son of Perez. (26:21).
- Hanniel**—"God is gracious". Son of Ephod, prince of Manasseh, appointed to aid in dividing the land. (34:23).
- Hanoch**—"dedicated". First son of Reuben; head of the Hanochites. (26:5).
- Haradah**—"terror". An encampment of Israel in the wilderness after leaving Mount Shepher. Location is unknown. (33:24).
- Hashmonah**—"fruitfulness". Camping station in the wilderness; location unknown. (33:29, 30).
- Havoth-jair**—"villages of Jair". A group of villages taken by Jair, son of Manasseh. The term signifies a village of tents. (32:41).
- Hazar-addar**—"house of honor". Site on the southern border of Judah, west of Kadesh-barnea. (34:4).
- Hazar-enan**—"court of the fountains". Spot where the northern and eastern boundaries of the Promised Land intersect, approximately 60 miles east by northeast of Damascus. (34:9, 10).
- HazerOTH**—"courts, or villages". One of the stations on the journey from Mt. Sinai—approximately lying 45 miles distant from the peak. The people remained here for some time recuperating from the plague at Kibroth-hattaavah; here Miriam and Aaron rebelled against Moses. (11:35; 12).
- Hebron**—"league, confederacy". One of the world's most ancient cities, Hebron lies about 20 miles south and somewhat west of Jerusalem, at an altitude of nearly 3000 feet. The spies brought a huge cluster of grapes from the valley of Eshcol, near this city. (13:22-24).

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- Helek**—meaning uncertain. Second son of Gilead, of the tribe of Manasseh, and head of a family. (26:30).
- Helon**—“valorous”. A leading man of the tribe of Zebulun at the census. (1:9).
- Hepher**—“pit, well”. The father of Zelophehad, whose daughters sought a ruling on the inheritance and their tribal properties; of the tribe of Manasseh. (26:32; 27:1-8, 36:1-9).
- Heshbon**—“reckoning”. Capital of the territory of the Amorites; taken by Israel (21:21-31), and held as part of Reuben’s land.
- Hezron**—“blooming”. (a) Son of Reuben, and father of the Hezronites. (26:6). (b) Descendant of Judah, through Perez. (26:21).
- Hittites**—“people of Heth”. Descendants of Ham, through Canaan and Heth. Listed along with the Jebusites, and Amorites as mountain-dwellers in the south of the land of Canaan, they were a powerful but peaceable people whose very existence was in dispute among Bible critics until archeological discoveries in 1871 fully substantiated the record of Scripture. (13:29).
- Hobab**—“beloved”. Brother of Zipporah, and hence a brother-in-law to Moses. Moses urged him to guide the people through the wilderness. At first declining, Hobab later agreed. (10:29).
- Hoglah**—“magpie”. One of the five daughters of Zelophehad, involved in the problem of familial inheritance of land. (26:33; 27:1-11; 36:1-12).
- Hor**—“mountain”. (a) Mountain where Aaron died, and from which the Israelites marched south toward the Red Sea (20:22-29; 31:4; 33:37-41). (b) Unidentified peak named as a landmark in the border of northern Israel, between the Mediterranean and the entrance of Hamath (34:7, 8).

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- Hor-hagidgad**—"hollow, or cavern of Gilgad". One of the camps of Israel in the wilderness. (33:32, 33).
- Hori**—"cave-dweller". Father of Shaphat, one of the spies. Of the tribe of Simeon. (13:5).
- Hormah**—"A devoted place". Scene of defeat of the rebellious Israelites, administered by the Amelkites. Situated midway between Gaza and Beer-sheba. (14:45; 21:1-3).
- Hoshea**—"salvation". Early name of Joshua; changed my Moses. (13:8, 16).
- Hupham**—Son of Benjamin and father of the Huphamites. (26:39).
- Hur**—"whiteness". One of five Midianite kings killed in battle against Israel at the time of Balaam's death.(31:1-8).
- Hushim**—Sons of Dan, called Shuham in 26:42.
- Igal**—"God redeems". One of the twelve spies sent into Canaan. (13:7).
- Ije-abarim**—"ruins of Abarim". An unidentified station of the Israelites in the vicinity of Moab. (33:44).
- Imnah**—"right hand, or good fortune". Head of a family of Asher. (26:44).
- Israel**—"prince of God". In Numbers, the name generally refers to the nation descended from Jacob—the twelve tribes under Moses. (1:2, 3, 45, 54; 10:12; 13:21; 14:2, *et passim*).
- Issachar**—One of the tribes of Israel. Between the first and second censuses, the tribe increased by nearly 10,000 warriors. (1:28, 29, cf. 26:25).
- Ithamar**—Youngest of Aaron's four sons. He was treasurer of the tabernacle offerings and superintendent of the Gershonites and Merarites. (4:28, 33).
- Izhar**—"the shining one". Son of Kohath. (3:19).
- Jaakan**—A camp during the wanderings (33:31, 32). The site of Aaron's burial (Deut. 10:6, 7).

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- Jaazer, Jazer**—"helpful". Fertile land taken from the Amorites under Moses. (21:32; 32:1-5).
- Jabbok**—"flowing". The largest river flowing into the Jordan from the east. It formed the border between the kingdoms of Sihon and Og, about midway between the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee. (21:21-25).
- Jabesh-Gilead**—"dry". Most important city in the area of the Gileadites; given to the half tribe of Manasseh. (32:33).
- Jachin**—"he will set up". Fourth son of Simeon and founder of the Jachanites.(26:12).
- Jahaz**—Stronghold north of the Arnon river, conquered by Israel, and given as a portion of the inheritance of Reuben. (21:21-25).
- Jahleel**—Son of Zebulun, and father of the Jahleel clan.(26:26).
- Jahzeel**—"God divides, or apportions". Son of Naphtali; descendants are named in 26:48.
- Jair**—"he enlightens". A leading warrior in the conquest of Gilead, Jair was the son of Manasseh. (32:40, 41).
- Jamin**—"right hand". A son of Simeon; later a tribe. (26:12).
- Jashub**—"he returns". A son and later a tribe descended from Issachar. (26:24).
- Jazer**—meaning unknown. Prominent city in Gilead, built by the Gadites. (21:31, 32).
- Jebusites**—meaning unknown. Of doubtful origin, the Jebusites occupied the area in and around Jerusalem. A mountain tribe, they seem also to have been small in number. (13:29).
- Jeezer**—meaning unknown. Head of a family of the tribe of Manasseh. (26:30).
- Jehoshua**—"the Lord is deliverance". Usual Hebrew form of "Joshua". (13:16).
- Jemuel**—meaning unknown. Son of Simeon, called "Nemuel" in 26:12.

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- Jephunnah**—"it will be prepared". The father of Caleb, of the tribe of Judah. (13:6).
- Jeshimon**—"waste, desert". Barren land or desert in the southeastern portion of Judah, between Hebron and the Dead Sea. (21:20; 23:28).
- Jesui**—"the Lord is satisfied". Otherwise, Ishvi. Son of Asher, and head of a tribe. (26:44).
- Jezer**—"form, purpose". Son of Naphtali and head of a tribe. (26:49).
- Jimna**—"good fortune". Son of Asher (26:44).
- Jochebed**—"Jehovah is glory". Mother of Moses, Aaron and Miriam, and sister of Kohath. (26:59).
- Jogbehah**—"lofty". City in Gilead given to Gad. (32:35).
- Jogli**—"led into exile". Father of Bukki, a chief among the Danites. (34:22).
- Jordan**—"flowing downward". The great river of Palestine, flowing from the environs of Mount Hermon in Syria to its ultimate receptacle, the Dead Sea. Crossing this river would symbolize Israel's entrance into the Promised Land. (13:29, *et passim*).
- Joseph**—"he will add". Eleventh, and favored son of Jacob; his name was not given to one of the twelve tribes, but the inheritance was passed through two of his sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. (1:10, *et passim*).
- Joshua**—"Jehovah is deliverer". Son of Nun, and the man selected to succeed Moses as leader of the Israelites. (11:28, *et passim*).
- Jotbathah**—meaning unknown. An unidentified camp of the Israelites in the desert. (33:33, 34).
- Judah**—"praise". The fourth son of Jacob by Leah. The tribe was given a favored area in the Promised Land. (1:7 *et passim*).

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- Kadesh, Kadesh-Barnea**—"holy". A region immediately south of the Promised Land in which Israel remained as the twelve spies were sent into that Land. The death of Miriam was the first of several incidents here (20:1; 13:26; 20:14; *et passim*).
- Khelathah**—"gathering, assembly". Unidentified camp of Israel during their wanderings. (33:22, 23).
- Kemuel**—"God's mount". A prince of the tribe of Ephraim, consulted in the division of Canaan. (34:24).
- Kenath**—"possession". An Amorite city conquered by Nobah, along with surrounding villages of the area. (32:42).
- Kenezite**—"belonging to the side or flank". A tribe which descended from Esau, but who may have become quickly absorbed into the tribe of Judah. Caleb was of the Kenezites, through Jephunneh. (32:12).
- Kenite**—"smith". A nomadic tribe among the tribes of Canaan; perhaps dispersed among the Amalekites. (24:21, 22).
- Kibroth-hattaavah**—"graves of lust". Camp of Israel one day after leaving Sinai. Here the people lusted for flesh, and a great quantity of quails came upon them. This was followed by a plague and widespread death. (11:34; 33:16).
- Kirjathaim**—"two cities". A city in the hills of Moab, formerly held by Sihon and given to Reuben. (32:37).
- Kohath**—"assembly". The second son of Levi, and ancestor of Moses and Aaron. One of the three divisions of the Levites, they were given special duties over the ark, the table, the candlestick and the vessels of the sanctuary, along with the screen and the service. (3:17ff, *et passim*).
- Korah**—"baldness". Along with Dathan and Abiram, Korah rebelled against the authority of Moses in the wilderness. Along with them and all their families, he was swallowed up by the earth in punishment. (16:11-32; 26:9; 27:3).
- Lael**—"belonging to God". A Levite of the family of Gershon. (3:24).

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- Levi**—"joined unto". Third son of Leah and Jacob, from whom the priestly tribe descended, and whose name they bore. (1:49 *et passim*).
- Libnah**—"whiteness, transparent". The fifth camp of Israel after leaving Sinai. (33:20, 21).
- Libni**—"white, distinguished". Son of Gershon, and head of the Libnites. (3:18, 21; 26:58).
- Machi**—meaning uncertain. One of the twelve spies; of the tribe of Gad. (13:15).
- Machir**—"salesman". Son of Manasseh to whom Moses pledged the territory of Gilead. (26:29; 32:39, 40).
- Mahli**—"sickness or weakness". Son of Merari of the Levites. (3:20).
- Makheloth**—"assemblies". Camp of the Israelites of uncertain location. (33:25, 26).
- Malchiel**—"God is king". Son of Beriah and grandson of Asher. (26:45).
- Manasseh**—"causing to forget". Tribe descended from the first son of Joseph. They were given a share of the land east of the Jordan. (27:1).
- Marah**—"bitter". The first camp of Israel after crossing the Red Sea; Moses healed the brackish waters of the area. (33:8ff).
- Mattanah**—"gift". An unidentified station of the Israelites in the wilderness. (21:18ff).
- Medad**—"affectionate". An elder who remained in the camp apart from the other elders, but upon whom, along with Eldad, the spirit of prophecy fell. (11:26,27).
- Medeba**—"gently flowing waters". A city conquered by the Israelites at the same time they took Heshbon and Dibon. (21:30).
- Merari**—"bitter". The third son of Levi. This family of priests cared for the curtains, covers, hangings and other similar items of the tabernacle. (3:17, 20, 25, 26, 33, 36, 37, *et passim*).

## GLOSSARY

- Meribah**—"strife, contention". Site of the rock where Moses brought forth water presumptuously. Located in Rephidim near Kadesh-Barnea. (20:13, 24; 27:14).
- Michael**—"who is like God?" Father of Sethur, who was sent as Asher's representative among the spies. (13:13).
- Midian**—"contention". Land east of Edom whose people were at first friendly toward the Israelites in the desert, but who later were numbered with the Moabites in warfare. (22:4, *et passim*).
- Milcah**—"counsel". One of the daughters of Zelophehad. (26:33; 27:1; 36:11).
- Miriam**—"fat, thick". Sister of Moses and Aaron. She opposed Moses at Hazeroth, was smitten with leprosy, and was cured upon Aaron's intercession. She died and was buried at Kadesh. (12:1-5; 10-15; 20:1).
- Mithcah**—"sweetness". One of the wilderness camps of Israel. (33:28ff.)
- Moab**—"water of a father". Land east of the Dead Sea and north of Edom through which the Israelites passed. Worshipers of Chemosh and the Baalim, the inhabitants lured Israel into grave sin, resulting in a war in which Moab was defeated. (21:11, *et passim*).
- Moseroth**—"bonds". Camp of the Israelites in the desert; it was here that Aaron died and was buried. (33:30, 31).
- Moses**—"drawn out". The great leader and prophet of Israel. This book chronicles many of the most important events in the life of Moses: he is directed to take the census of his people (1:2ff); he encounters the murmuring of his brother and sister, Aaron and Miriam about his Ethiopian wife, with the consequent punishment to Miriam (12:1-15); the twelve spies are sent into Canaan, but the children of Israel refuse to march forward into the land (13:1-14:9); Moses utters one of his great intercessory prayers (14:13-19); Korah,

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Dathan, and Abiram lead a rebellion of the people, and suffer the consequences (16:1-35); acting rashly, Moses strikes the rock at Meribah, and is told that his disobedience will prevent his entering into Canaan (20:2-13); Miriam dies (20:1), as does Aaron (20:24-29); Israel defeats Sihon and Og in great battles (ch. 21); the people sin flagrantly with Baal-Peor (ch. 25); the second census (26:1-63); Joshua is appointed to succeed Moses (27:18-23); the Midianites are slaughtered (ch. 31); Reuben, Gad, and one-half of Manasseh are conditionally allowed to settle east of the Jordan (ch. 32); all the journeys of the people are listed (ch. 33); the borders of Canaan are established (34:1-12); the Levitical cities are set forth as cities of refuge (ch. 35). Throughout all the forty years of this period of Moses' life, he is the unquestioned leader of Israel. Rebellions from within his own family, as well as among the priests, are quickly and effectively put down. The Lord speaks to him directly and frequently, as evidenced by the repeated phrase, "The Lord spake unto Moses," (1:1; 2:1; 3:1, *et passim*).

Perhaps the climax of all this book is reached, however, with Moses' rash action at Meribah. At one and the same time it demonstrates the humanness of this giant of a man, and the indiscriminating character of the judgment of our great God.

**Mushi**—perhaps "withdrawn". One of the sons of Merari. (3:20).

**Naaman**—"pleasantness". A son of Bela, grandson of Benjamin. (26:38, 40).

**Nadab**—"noble". Aaron's firstborn son (3:2). Suffered the death penalty, along with his brother Abihu, for offering 'strange fire'—an unauthorized sacrifice—before the Lord. (26:61).

**Nahaliel**—"torrent valley of God". One of the camps of Israel between the Arnon and Jericho; probably a tributary of the Arnon. (21:19).

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- Nahshon—"oracle". Of the tribe of Judah, Nahshon was a brother-in-law of Aaron, and an ancestor of David. (1:7).
- Naphtali—"mighty wrestlings". The tribe descended from Jacob's fifth son. They numbered 53,400 in the first census; but they had decreased to 45,400 at the time of the second (1:43, 2:30; 26:48ff). They encamped on the north side of the tabernacle under the standard of Dan, together with Asher (2:25ff). When on the march, Naphtali brought up the rear (2:31).
- Nebo—"height". One of several cities assigned to Reuben, along with Heshbon and Elealeh (32:3).
- Nebo—"height". High mountain in Moab near the northeastern tip of the Dead Sea, from which Moses viewed the Promised Land, and later, died (33:47).
- Nemuel—"God is spreading". 1. Brother of Dathan and Abiram, and of the tribe of Reuben (26:9). 2. Son of Simeon (26:12).
- Nethanael—"God has given". One of the princes of the tribe of Issachar (1:8; 2:5; 7:18, 23; 10:15).
- Noah—"movement". One of the daughters of Zelophehad (26:33; 27:1; 36:11).
- Nobah—"prominent". 1. A Manassite who conquered Kenath, an Amorite city in the Transjordan (32:42). 2. Name given to Kenath after it was conquered by Nobah of Manasseh (31:20).
- Nophah—"height". City in the kingdom of Sihon, near Medeba (21:30).
- Nun—"fish". Father of Joshua (11:28, *et passim*).
- Oboth—"waterbags". The third wilderness encampment of Israel after leaving Mt. Hor; near the border of Moab (21:11; 33:43, 44).
- Ocran—"trouble". Father of Pagiel, prince of the tribe of Asher (1:13; 2:27, *et passim*).

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- Og**—"long-necked, or giant". The king of Bashan, which boasted 60 cities. Conquered by Moses and the army of Israel after the defeat of Sihon and the Amorites. The battle was fought at Edrei. (21:33).
- Onan**—"vigorous". Son of Judah by Tamar; mentioned only in the genealogy of Numbers 26 (v. 19).
- Oshea**—"God saves". Another form of 'Joshua'—his original name was Hoshea (13:8, 16).
- Ozni**—"the Lord hears". One of the sons of Gad (26:16).
- Pagiel**—"God meets". A prince of the tribe of Asher; son of Ocran. He led the tribe during their journeying with Israel. (1:13; 2:27; 7:72; 10:26; 14, 22, 25).
- Pallu**—"distinguished". Son of Reuben; perhaps to be identified with Peleth of 16:1. (See also 26:5, 8).
- Palti**—"the Lord delivers". From the tribe of Benjamin, the spy sent to search out the land of Canaan by Moses. (13:9).
- Paltiel**—"God's deliverance". A prince of Issachar. (34:26).
- Paran**—"full of caverns". A wilderness area southwest of the Dead Sea, consisting of a high limestone plateau. Much of the wandering of Israel during the forty years occurred in this area, which stretches broadly between Mt. Sinai and Canaan. (10:12; 13:21, *et passim*).
- Parnach**—"gifted". The father of Elizaphan, prince of Zebulun. (34:25).
- Pedahel**—"whom God redeems". A prince of Naphtali who aided in apportioning the land of Canaan. (34:17, 28).
- Pedahzur**—"the rock delivers". Father of Gamaliel and head of the tribe of Manasseh when the exodus began. (1:10; 2:20, *et passim*).
- Peleth**—"swiftness". The father of On, and one of those who rebelled against Moses and Aaron. (16:1).

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- Peor**—"opening". 1. A high mountain in the land of Moab, to which Balaam was sent by Balak in order to curse Israel; located about seven miles from Heshbon (23:28). 2. The name of Moab's god whose worship required gross immorality; participation in this exercise brought a grave plague upon the Israelites. (25:1-18).
- Pethor**—"extension". Home of Balaam, on the Euphrates river. (22:5).
- Pharez**—"breaking forth". Same as Perez; the older son of Judah by Tamar, and ancestor of the Pharzites. (26:20, 21).
- Phinehas**—"oracle". Grandson of Aaron and son of Eleazar, he led the attack against Zimri, who had brought evil into the camp through a Midianite woman: both were killed, ending the licentiousness at Shittim (25:6-18). He went against the Midianites (31:6), and was promised that his descendants would hold a place of service among the priests. (25:11-13).
- Pi-hahiroth**—"the place of the meadows" (?). An unidentified place on the Israelites' journey toward the Red Sea. Probably about ten miles from the site of modern Suez, along the old shore line of the Sea.
- Pisgah**—"the peak". Another name for Nebo. From this peak, whose name always bears the article in Hebrew, Moses viewed the Promised Land; here he died.
- Pua**—"utterance". The second son of Issachar, and father of the Punites, who were counted in the census by Moses and Eleazar.
- Punon**—"ore-pit". Second camp of the Israelites after leaving Mount Hor; east of Edom, between Selah and Zoar.
- Raguel**—"Jah is a friend". Another form of Reuel, Moses' father-in-law; also called Jethro. (10:29).
- Rameses**—"son of the sun". City of Egypt, of uncertain location; built by Hebrew labor (Ex. 1:11). Named as one of the cities from which the Israelites fled Egypt. (33:3, 5).

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**Raphu**—"feared", or, "one healed". Father of Palti, who was selected as a spy from the tribe of Benjamin. (13:9).

**Reba**—"sprout", or "one-fourth". One of five chieftains of the Midianites slain in battle with the Israelites under Moses. (31:8).

**Red Sea**—"sea of rushes or seaweeds", or, simply *yam* "the sea". An arm of the Indian Ocean extending approximately 1,350 miles in a northwesterly direction, separating the continents of Africa and Asia. At its widest, it is 250 miles across; near its northern extremity the Sea is divided into the Sea of Aqaba, which lied almost due north-south beneath the Dead Sea and the Land of Edom; and the Gulf of Suez, which separates the peninsula of Sinai from Egypt. Strangely, not one river empties into its waters, which are derived from the Indian Ocean. In the northern portion of the Gulf of Suez, lush bulrushes have grown. The term 'red' is of uncertain origin with reference to the Sea. Some have speculated the term to have originated because of the presence of red coral, or of zoophytes in the waters; others associate the color with mountains on the western coast.

**Rehob**—"broad". The term may be applied to a road or a plain; it was the northernmost penetration of the Promised Land by the twelve spies (13:21).

**Rekem**—"friendship". One of the five kings or chieftains of Moab killed in battle with the Israelites under Moses (31:8).

**Rephidim**—"rests". A station where the Israelites encountered and defeated Amalek; here they anticipated finding water, but the streams were dry. God miraculously supplied the element, as Moses struck a rock as instructed by the Lord. The location is near Horeb, in a fertile valley.

**Reuben**—"behold, a son". The first son of Jacob, and father of the Reubenites. 46,500 men were counted in the first census; they had decreased to 43,730 men of war at the second counting. The Reubenites requested, and received

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permission to stake their claim to land east of the Jordan, and were granted the southernmost portion, which lay east of the northern half of the Dead Sea, above the Arnon River.

**Riblah**—"bare place". Site mentioned in 34:11 as located on the eastern boundary of Israel. Such a location is not known; there are variants which would allow this as a reference to Harbel, in the vicinity of Mt. Hermon.

**Rimmon-parez**—"twin pomegranates" (?). A camp of Israel in the wilderness; unidentified; fourth stop after leaving Sinai. (33:19).

**Rissah**—"dew". The sixth camp of Israel after leaving Sinai. (33:21, 22).

**Rithmah**—"broom". The third Israelite camp after leaving Sinai; may be the same as Kadesh. (13:26).

**Salu**—"miserable, unfortunate". A prince and head of a house of the tribe of Simeon; father of Zimri, slain by Phinehas and the Midianite woman he had brought into the camp. (25:14).

**Sarah**—"princess". Daughter of Asher. (26:46).

**Seir**—"rough, wooded". Mountain, and also a hilly region south of the Dead Sea in Edom. (24:18).

**Sered**—"escape". The first son of Zebulun. (26:26).

**Sethur**—"hidden". Son of Michael, of the tribe of Asher; chosen as the spy from that tribe. (13:13).

**Shammua**—"famous". Son of Zacchur, of the tribe of Reuben; chosen as their spy. (13:4).

**Shaphat**—"judge". Son of Hori, of the tribe of Simeon; chosen as that tribe's spy. (13:5).

**Shapher**—"fair". A mountain near one of the camping sites of Israel. (33:23).

**Shaul**—"asked". A son of Simeon, sometimes also referred to as

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- “the son of a Canaanitish woman.” (26:13).
- Shebam**—“balsam”. Once a Moabite city, later taken by the Reubenites. Near the capital city of Heshbon. (32:3).
- Shechem**—“shoulder”. Son of Gilead, son of Manasseh; ancestor of the Shechemites. (26:31).
- Shedeur**—“day-break”. Father of Elizur, chief of the tribe of Reuben. (1:5; 2:10; 7:30).
- Shelah**—“peace”. Ancestor of the Shelanites (26:20), of the tribe of Judah by Shua the Canaanite’s daughter.
- Shelomi**—“Jah is peace”. The father of Ahihud, a chieftain of the Asherites, who was appointed to help divide the land of Canaan. (34:27).
- Shelumiel**—“God is peace”. Son of Zurishaddai, of the tribe of Simeon; appointed to help Moses in the census. (1:6ff).
- Shemida**—“fame of knowing”. A son of Gilead, of the tribe of Manasseh. (26:32).
- Shemuel**—“name of God”. A chieftain of the Simeonites, appointed to help divide the land of Canaan. (34:20).
- Shephan**—“fruitful”. Named as a point on the eastern boundary of Israel; perhaps a city in the hill country. (34:10).
- Sheshai**—“free, noble”. One of the sons of Anak—a clan living in Hebron at the time Israel came into the land. (13:22).
- Sheth**—“appointed”. An unidentified tribe, probably Moabites, named in the parable of Balaam. (24:17).
- Shibmah**—“balsam”. A Moabite city taken by the Reubenites, near Kirjathaim. (32:38).
- Shillem**—“recompense”. Fourth son of Naphtali, and ancestor of the Shillemites. (26:49).
- Shimei**—“fame”. A son of Gershon, son of Levi. (3:18).
- Shimron**—“watch”. The fourth son of Issachar, and ancestor of the Shimronites. (26:24).
- Shiphtan**—“judge”. Father of Kemuel, a prince of the Ephraimites appointed to divide the land of Canaan. (34:24).

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- Shittim**—"the acacias". The final camping place of Israel before crossing the Jordan. Here the people fell to the evil counsel of Balaam, committing great sins with the Moabites, and incurred divine wrath and retribution. (25:1ff).
- Shophan**—"nakedness". Or, Atroth-Shophan. A city in the territory of Gad. (32:35).
- Shuham**—"pit". Son of Dan, and ancestor of the Shuhamites. (26:42ff).
- Shupham**—"serpent". Gentilic form of a name given one of the families of Benjamin, whose original form is not known. (26:39).
- Shuni**—"fortunate". The third son of Gad. (26:15).
- Shuthelah**—"setting of Telah". A son of Ephraim. (26:35, 36).
- Sihon**—"bold". A king of the Amorites against whom Israel fought successfully. King of Heshbon, his defeat was essential to the advance and occupation of the Israelites east of the Jordan. (21:21, *et passim*).
- Simeon**—"hearing". Second son of Jacob by Leah; his descendants numbered 59,000 in the census. (1:6, *et passim*).
- Sin**—"loamy, clay". Desert area between Elim and Sinai, east of the Gulf of Suez. (33:11, 12).
- Sinai**—"pointed, or peaked". Both a desert and a mountain, the south-central portion of the peninsula between the Gulf of Suez and the Gulf of Aqaba. The same area is also often called 'Horeb', without any apparent distinction between the terms. Three peaks rise in parallel pillars from the valley to the north; the central one has been called *Jebel Musa* ('the mountain of Moses'), and is traditionally that one the great prophet ascended to receive the tablets of the Law. (1:1, *et passim*).
- Sodi**—"Jah decides". A Zebulonite, father of Gaddiel, who was one of the twelve spies sent into Canaan. (13:10).

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- Succoth**—"booths". The first camp of the Israelites after leaving Rameses. (33:5, 6).
- Susi**—"horsemen". Father of Gaddi, and one of the spies who was sent into Canaan; of the tribe of Manasseh. (13:11).
- Taberah**—"burning". An unidentified camping place of the Israelites, three days' journey north of Sinai, where the people murmured and were punished, (11:3).
- Tahan**—"graciousness". A son of Ephraim. (26:35).
- Tahath**—"below, humility". One of the stations of the Israelites in the wilderness, (33:26, 27).
- Talmai**—"spirited". One of the sons of Anak in Hebron, (13:22).
- Tarah**—"turning". A station of the Israelites after leaving Sinai, (33:27, 28).
- Tirzah**—"delight". Zelophehad's youngest daughter. (26:33ff).
- Tola**—"worm; crimson". One of the sons of Issachar. (26:23).
- Uzziel**—"God is my strength". One of the descendants of Levi through Kohath (3:19, 27, 30).
- Vophsi**—"rich". Father of Nahbi, spy from the tribe of Naphtali, (13:14).
- Zacchur**—"ventriloquist". (?). One of the spies sent into the land of Canaan; he was a Reubenite, and the father of Shammuah, (13:4).
- Zalmonah**—"gloomy". The third station of the Israelites from Ezion-geber; near the southern area of the Salt Sea. (33:41, 42).
- Zared**—"willow bush". A valley and brook forming the boundary between Moab and Edom at the southeastern tip of the Salt Sea, (21:12).
- Zebulun**—"dwelling". The tenth son of Jacob, and Leah's sixth. He moved with Judah when marching, and was first in the marching order (1:9, *et passim*).
- Zedad**—"sloping place". A place in northern Canaan, named as a

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- point of identification for the border, near Hamath. (34:8).
- Zelophehad**—meaning unknown. Grandson of Gilead, and son of Manasseh. He died without sons, and his land was allocated to his daughters. (26:33ff).
- Zephon**—“dark” (?). A son of Gad. (26:15).
- Zerah**—“sprout”. Younger of the twin sons of Judah and Tamar; ancestor of the Zerahites. (26:20).
- Zimri**—“celebrated”, or “wild sheep”. A prince of the Simeonites who was killed, along with the Midianite woman, Cozbi, by Phinehas, son of Aaron. (25:14).
- Zin**—“low land”. A wilderness identified with the wilderness of Kadesh; the two names appear to be interchangeable. The spies were sent northward from this area, which is south of Judah, and southwest of the Salt Sea, (13:21, *et passim*).
- Ziphron**—“beautiful top”. A place in northern Palestine. (34:9).
- Zippor**—“sparrow, bird”. The father of Balak, Moabite king, who procured Balaam to curse Israel. (22:2ff).
- Zoan**—“Imigration”. Capital of Egypt, located on the eastern side of the Nile delta. The only certainly fixed site in Egypt which is positively identified with the Israelites in that country. (13:22).
- Zophim**—“field of watchers”. A spot on top of Mt. Pisgah to which Balak brought Balaam. (23:14).
- Zuar**—“little one”. Father of Nethanel, who was the head of the tribe of Issachar. (1:8, *et passim*).
- Zur**—“rock”. A chief among the Midianites, and father of the woman slain with Zimri. (25:14; 31:8).
- Zuriel**—“my God is a rock”. Son of Abihail, a Merarite, and the head of the families of Merari. (3:35).
- Zurishaddai**—“my rock is the Almighty”. The father of Shelumiel, head of the tribe of Simeon. (1:6, *et passim*).