

Judges Series

Lesson #06

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Dean Bible Ministries

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From Victory to Defeat
Judges 1:1–36



JUDGES

**Moral Relativism
Destroys a Nation**

2021 Series

Outline of “Judges” (Chieftains, Tribal Rulers, Leaders)

1:1–3:6

Introduction

How Israel went from
spiritual victory
to being worse than
the Canaanites.

**Incomplete
obedience**

compromise

failure

cycles of discipline

3:7–16:31

Paganization of the Leadership

Othniel (the best)

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah

Gideon

Tola, Jair

Jephthah

Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

Samson

(the worst)

17:1–21:25

Paganization of the Priests

Chap 17–18

**and the
People**

Chap 19–21

Jdg. 1:1, “Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass that the children of Israel asked the Lord, saying, ‘Who shall be first to go up for us against the Canaanites to fight against them?’ ”





Depiction of Asiatic traders, from the tomb of Khnumhotep II at Beni Hasan, 20th century BC

Jdg. 1:2, “And the Lord said, ‘Judah shall go up. Indeed I have delivered the land into his hand.’ ”





The hill country of Judah

Jdg. 1:3, “So Judah said to Simeon his brother, ‘Come up with me to my allotted territory, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I will likewise go with you to your allotted territory.’ And Simeon went with him.”



”Simeon Street” sign in Mevasseret

Jdg. 1:4, “Then Judah went up, and the Lord delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand; and they killed ten thousand men at Bezek.”



Depiction of scribes counting severed hands, from Medinet Habu, circa 1160 BC



Jdg. 1:5, “And they found Adoni-Bezek in Bezek, and fought against him; and they defeated the Canaanites and the Perizzites.

Jdg. 1:6, “Then Adoni-Bezek fled, and they pursued him and caught him and cut off his thumbs and big toes.”

Limestone toe from a votive offering, Cyprus, 4th or 3rd centuries BC



Jdg. 1:7, “And Adoni-Bezek said, ‘Seventy kings with their thumbs and big toes cut off used to gather scraps under my table; as I have done, so God has repaid me.’ Then they brought him to Jerusalem, and there he died.”

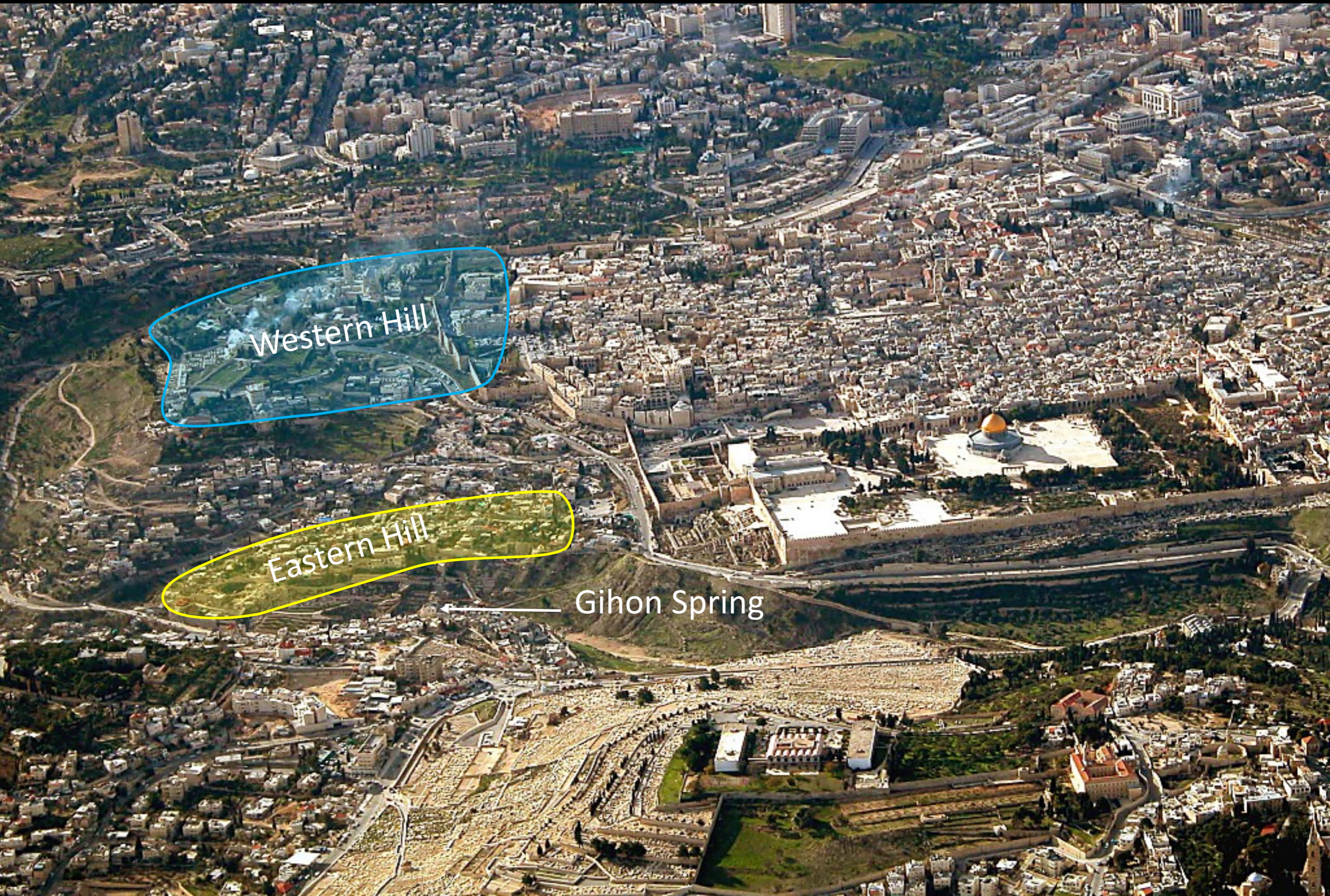
Jdg. 1:8, “Now the children of Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it; they struck it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire.”

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



Jerusalem (aerial view from the east)

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



Jerusalem (aerial view from the east)

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



Jerusalem and the Kidron Valley from Mt. Scopus (from the northeast)

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



Jerusalem and the Kidron Valley from Mt. Scopus (from the northeast)

1:8

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



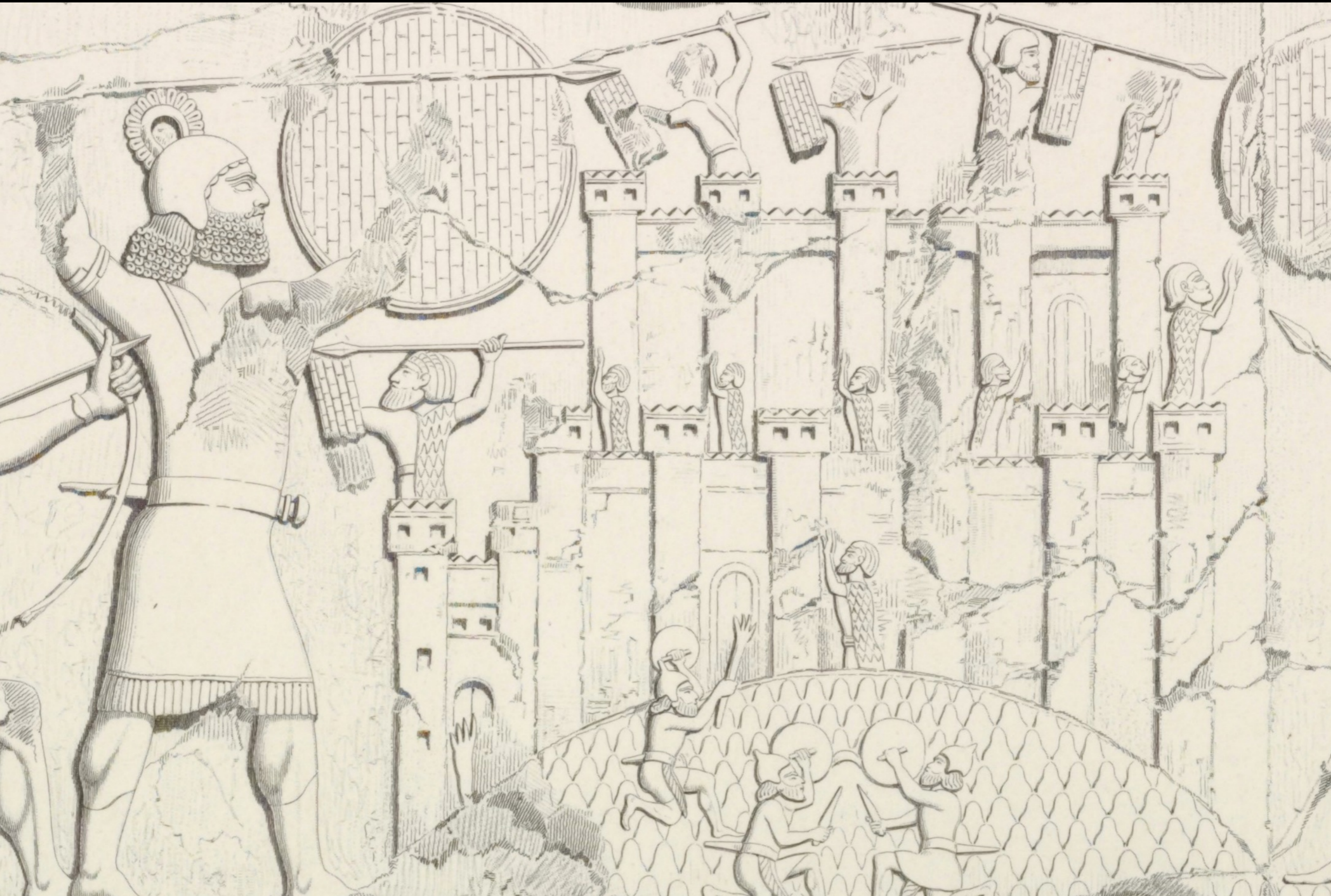
Model of Jerusalem in its early periods

Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it



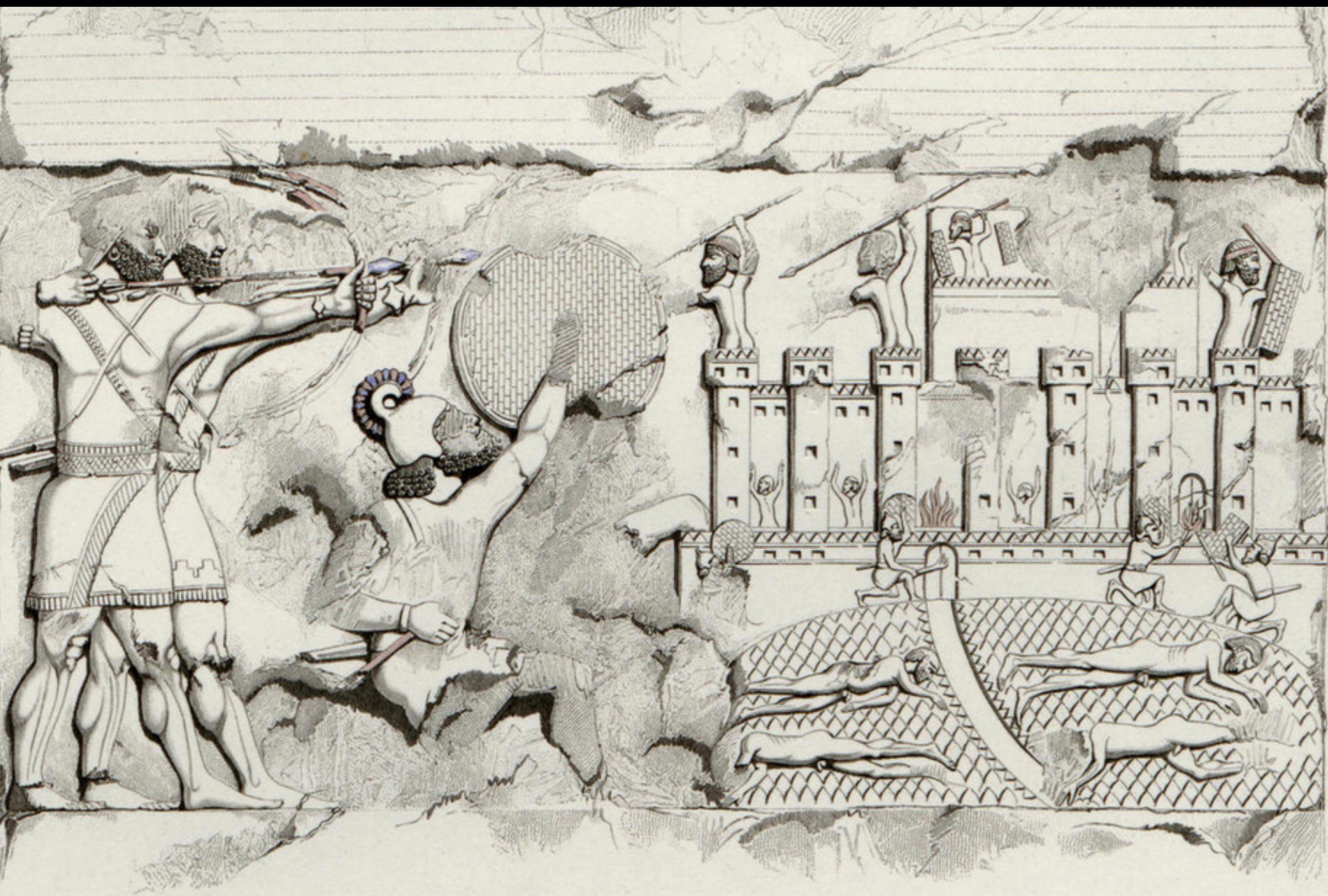
Eastern slope of the Eastern Hill of Jerusalem

And set the city on fire



Relief of Assyrian soldiers setting fire to a besieged city (sketch)

And set the city on fire



Relief of a city set on fire, from a relief of Sargon II at Khorsabad, circa 715 BC (sketch)

Jdg. 1:9, “And afterward the children of Judah went down to fight against the Canaanites who dwelt in the mountains, in the South, and in the lowland.

Jdg. 1:10, “Then Judah went against the Canaanites who dwelt in Hebron. (Now the name of Hebron was formerly Kirjath Arba.) And they killed Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai.”



Judah went against the Canaanites who lived in Hebron . . . the name was formerly Kiriath-arba



“Kiriath-arba” sign in the Judean hill country

Judah went against the Canaanites who lived in Hebron . . . the name was formerly Kiriath-arba



Hebron (aerial view from the south)

Judah went against the Canaanites who lived in Hebron . . . the name was formerly Kiriath-arba



Canaanite city wall of Hebron

And they defeated Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai



בלה לשימאנא
אבלו חלה טב לה
אנלורו

Mosaic of three defeated men, from a synagogue floor in Wadi Hamam, 3rd–4th centuries AD

Jdg. 1:11, “From there they went against the inhabitants of Debir. (The name of Debir was formerly Kirjath Sepher.)”



Jdg. 1:12, “Then Caleb said, ‘Whoever attacks Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give my daughter Achsah as wife.’

Jdg. 1:13, “And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother, took it; so he gave him his daughter Achsah as wife.

Jdg. 1:14, “Now it happened, when she came to him, that she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she dismounted from her donkey, and Caleb said to her, ‘What do you wish?’ ”





רח' עתניאל
ע"ש עתניאל בן קנז משבט יהודה
شارع عاتنييل
OTHNIEL STREET

He that strikes Kiriath-sepher . . . will I give Achsah . . . Othniel the son of Kenaz . . . took it



“Othniel Street” sign in Jerusalem

He that strikes Kiriath-sepher . . . will I give Achsah . . . Othniel the son of Kenaz . . . took it



“Cave of Othniel son of Kenaz,” sign in Hebron

She got off her donkey, and Caleb said, "What do you want?"



Girl on a donkey, near Maale Michmash

“Give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs



Lower springs of Debir (modern Khirbet Rabud)

“Give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs



Lower springs of Debir (modern Khirbet Rabud)

“Give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs



Covered well at Debir (modern Khirbet Rabud)

Jdg. 1:14, “Now it happened, when she came to him, that she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she dismounted from her donkey, and Caleb said to her, ‘What do you wish?’

Jdg. 1:15, “So she said to him, ‘Give me a blessing; since you have given me land in the South, give me also springs of water.’ And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.”

Jdg. 1:16, “Now the children of the Kenite, Moses’ father-in-law, went up from the City of Palms with the children of Judah into the Wilderness of Judah, which lies in the South near Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people.

Jdg. 1:17, “And Judah went with his brother Simeon, and they attacked the Canaanites who inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. So the name of the city was called Hormah.”

Jdg. 1:18, “Also Judah took Gaza with its territory, Ashkelon with its territory, and Ekron with its territory.

Jdg. 1:19, “So the Lord was with Judah. And they drove out the mountaineers, but they could not drive out the inhabitants of the lowland, because they had chariots of iron.”



Judah took . . . Ashkelon with its territory



Ashkelon (aerial view from the southwest)

1:18

Judah took . . . Ashkelon with its territory



Ashkelon (aerial view from the southwest)

1:18

Judah . . . could not drive out the inhabitants of the plain, because they had iron chariots



Model of an Egyptian chariot workshop

Judah . . . could not drive out the inhabitants of the plain, because they had iron chariots



Royal chariot of Tutankhamun (reconstruction), 14th century BC

**Jdg. 1:20, “And they gave Hebron to Caleb,
as Moses had said. Then he expelled from
there the three sons of Anak.”**