

- I. Canaanites
  - A. Origin
    - 1. Noah's grandson - Canaan
      - a) Ham's son (Gen 9:18)
      - b) Canaan and Ham cursed for their sin against Noah (Gen 9:20-25)
  - B. Area
    - 1. Israel, Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan
    - 2. Land of rich produce (Num 13:23)
  - C. Population
    - 1. Highly diverse - mixed cultures
    - 2. On trade routes
  - D. Religion
    - 1. Polytheistic
    - 2. Worshipped Molech with child sacrifice - causing their children to pass through the fire (Lev 18:21)
    - 3. Took many customs from Egypt
      - a) Sun worship - sun disc
    - 4. Wicked and idolatrous people
  - E. Reputation
    - 1. Thieves
    - 2. Disorderly - constant conflicts
    - 3. Large and fierce people - not easily defeated - descendants of Anak - giants (Num 13:28, 33)
      - a) Fortified cities
      - b) Iron chariots (Joshua 17:16-18)
        - (1) Advanced society - chariots would break ranks and scatter the enemy
- II. Moabites
  - A. Origins
    - 1. Moab - son of Lot
      - a) Incestuous relationship with his eldest daughter (Gen 19:37)
    - 2. Moabites became another name of an enemy of God
  - B. Area
    - 1. Southeastern border of Dead Sea - spread east of the Jordan
    - 2. Driven back by the Amorites - lived south of the Arnon Valley (Num 21:26-30)
  - C. Encounters with Israel
    - 1. Wouldn't let them pass through their land (Judges 11:18)
    - 2. Balak hired Balaam to curse the people (Num 22-25)
    - 3. Sought Midian for help with Israel
    - 4. Israel camped in the plains of Moab before crossing into Canaan (Num 22:1; Joshua 13:32)
    - 5. Ruth was from Moab - in the lineage of Christ
  - D. Religion
    - 1. Chief god - Chemosh
      - a) Name means destroyer
      - b) Worshipped through human sacrifice (II Kings 3:27)
      - c) Solomon built a sanctuary for him east of Jerusalem (I King 11:7)
    - 2. Along with Baal, Molock, Thammuz, Baalzebub - all linked to sun worship

### III. Amorites

#### A. Origins

1. One of the sons of Canaan (Gen 10:15-16)

#### B. Area

1. Syria and Israel
2. Southern mountains of Judea

#### C. Encounters with Israel

1. Kings Sihon and Og were defeated under Moses (Dt 31:4)
2. 5 Amorite kings were defeated by Joshua (Josh 10:10; 11:8)
3. Forced the sons of Dan into the hill country and didn't let them come down to the valley (Judges 1:34)
4. Time of peace during Samuel's time (I Sam 7:14)
5. Solomon drafted them to be slaves (I Kings 9:20-21)
6. They are last mentioned in the book of Amos (2:10)
  - a) Died out or were absorbed into culture

#### D. People

1. Fierce warriors
  - a) Picture shepherds as calm sitting by the stream with their sheep
  - b) Ancient world - war torn semi arid desert seeking land to graze large flocks - kill for it
2. Og - very tall man - bed was 13.5 feet long (Dt 3:11)
3. Troublesome nomads who preyed on anyone who was weak
  - a) Thought to have brought the downfall of Ur of the Chaldeans
4. Their name meant "horrible barbarians"

#### E. Religion

1. Worshipped many false gods
2. Amurru - Lord of the Mountains
3. His wife Belit-Seri - Lady of the Desert

### IV. Perizzites

#### A. Origins

1. Name means villagers
  - a) Live in open country
  - b) Don't dwell in walled cities
2. South, southwest of Mt Carmel
  - a) Fertile, central portion of Canaan

#### B. Encounters with Israel

1. Lot's herdsmen argues over territory (Gen 13:7)
2. They were stronger than Israel (Dt 7:1-3)
3. They continued to live in the forested hill country of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Judah (Josh 11:3; 17:15)
4. Israel intermarried with them and allowed themselves to become morally polluted by them
5. Solomon used them as slave labor (I Kings 9:20-21)

#### C. Religion

1. Pagan nation - enemies of God
2. Israel was told to expel them out of the land (Ex 23:23-24)

## V. Jebusites

### A. Origins

1. Descended from Noah's son Ham, through Canaan (Gen 10:15-16)

### B. Encounters with Israel

1. Dealt in the all country with Jerusalem (called Jebus) as one of their key cities (Num 13:29; Judges 19:10-11)
2. Fought against Israel (Joshua 10:5; 11:3)
  - a) Held the hill country/high ground (Josh 15:63)
3. Israel intermarried with them and brought the judgment of God (Judges 3:5-6)
4. David attacked and conquered the city (II Sam 5:6) - City of David
  - a) They lived under terms of peace
  - b) Purchased land from Araunah to build the temple (II Sam 24:18-25)

### C. Religion

1. They were detestable to the Lord (Dt 20:17-18)
2. Worship may have included child sacrifice - Molech

## VI. Sidonians

### A. Origins

1. Sidon was first born son of Canaan who was a son of Ham

### B. Area

1. Sidon was a seaport area
  - a) Tyre and Sidon known for the purple dye - sign of royalty - came from small shell of the Murex
  - b) Glass manufacturing
  - c) Very wealthy
2. Modern day Lebanon

### C. Encounters with Israel

1. Jezebel was from Sidon (I Kings 16:31)
2. Was given to Asher (Josh 19:28) but they never subdued it and drove the people out (Judges 1:31)
3. Obtained materials from them to build the temple (I Chron 22:4)
4. Idolatrous influence on Israel

### D. Religion

1. Very heart of Baal worship
  - a) He was the storm god - over the seas (since they were sailors) as well as bringing rain to the land - fertility
2. It was synonymous with wickedness
3. Worshipped many gods
  - a) Ashtoreth - goddess of fertility
  - b) Dagon - the fish-god (popular with the Philistines - part man - part fish) - another fertility god
4. God judged the people because of their idolatry and corrupt immoral practices

## VII. Hivites

### A. Origins

1. Descendant of Canaan (Gen 10:17)
2. Name means "tent dweller"

### B. Area

1. Hilly region of Lebanon from Lebo Hamath to Mt Hermon (Judges 3:3; Joshua 11:3)

2. Held 4 major cities - Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, Kirjath-jearim (Josh 9:17)
- C. Encounters with Israel
  1. Solomon chose them to be servants in his temple (I Kings 9:20-21)
  2. Fooled Joshua into making a peace treaty with them (called Gibeonites) (Josh 9 - pay attention to verse 7; 11:19)
- D. Religion
  1. Idolatrous
  2. Made children pass through the fire of Moloch
  3. Worshipped Baal and Ashtaroth
    - a) Temple prostitution

## VIII. Hittites

The Hittite are mentioned more than 50 times in the Bible. For years, critics of the Bible used the Hittites as proof of the mythology contained in the Bible. This big and important of a culture, if it truly did exist, would have evidence. It never existed! The Bible is wrong! In 1876 - they began discovering the Hittite culture with many artifacts, writings, governmental decrees, etc. over 10,000 clay tablets. They were a powerful people in the 15th and 16th century. Yes, the Bible is right, and yes, the skeptics are wrong!

- A. Origins
  1. Descended from Heth, the son of Canaan (Gen 10:15)
- B. Area
  1. Ruled in the area of Syria and eastern Turkey
    - a) Battled with Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon
  2. Iron and silver were abundant
- C. Encounters with Israel
  1. Abraham bought the burial cave for Sarah from them (Gen 23:1-16)
  2. Esau took 2 wives from the Hittites (Gen 26:34)
  3. Uriah was a Hittite - one of David's mighty men - married to Bathsheba (II Sam 11:3)
  4. Hittites are still there when the Jewish people return from captivity (Ezra 9:1)
- D. The People
  1. Great warriors
    - a) Hunted and fought on horseback
  2. Skilled in building and using chariots
    - a) Three person chariots
  3. Made weapons out of iron
  4. Traded iron and silver with other nations
  5. Made caravan routes that connected the towns in the empire
  6. They were agricultural - barley, wheat, grapes, olives
  7. Raised horses, cattle, sheep, and goats and kept bees
- E. Religion
  1. Pluralistic worship of nature
    - a) gods of the elements - earth, sky, weather
      - (1) Worshipped many of the Babylonian gods
    - b) This worship brought the wrath of God on their heads
    - c) When the people took the land they were to destroy the inhabitants to eliminate these pagan practices which would ensnare Israel (Ex 23:28-33)

## IX. Philistines

### A. Origins

1. Ham's son Mizraim (Gen 10:13)
2. Mizraim's son Casluhim brought forth the Philistines (Gen 10:14)
3. Thought to have first lived in Crete - and traded by sea - then moved to the mainland

### B. Area

1. Coastline of Mediterranean Sea heading east toward Jordan River
2. Major cities - Gaza, Ashkelon, Ashdod, Gath, Ekron
  - a) Each city ruled by a king or lord - word rendered tyrant

### C. Encounters with Israel

1. Abraham and Isaac - Abimelech - who wanted their wives (Gen 21:32-34; 26:1-8, 18)
2. When the people left Egypt God didn't take them up the coastline into Philistine territory because they may have turned back due to war (Ex 13:17)
  - a) That road is called the Via Maris "the Way of the Sea"
  - b) One of 3 major trade routes controlled by the Philistines
3. During Samuel and Samson, Saul and David's time - their biggest enemy or an ally
4. For nearly 200 years they harassed and oppressed the Israelites

### D. The People

1. Known as mariners - "sea people"
2. Aggressive and ready for war
3. Innovative use of iron - far superior to the bronze used for Israel's implements and weapons
  - a) Israel relied on the Philistines to sharpen or repair their iron tools (I Sam 13:19-21)
4. Produced and consumed alcoholic beverages - especially beer
  - a) Many breweries and wineries
  - b) Samson's wedding feast - Philistine practice of holding a week-long drinking party - in Hebrew word "misteh" translated feast in Judges 14:10 means drinking feast
5. Highly cultured, civilized, advanced people - years ahead of Israel

### E. Religion

1. Worshiped three gods
  - a) Ashtoreth
  - b) Dagon
  - c) Baal-Zebub
2. Had shrines to the gods in various cities (Jud 16:23; I Sam 31:10; II Kings 1:2)
3. They carried their images of their gods into battle
  - a) They were happy to take the ark of the covenant (Israel's image) so they could have their strength too (I Sam 5:1-12)
4. Referred to as the uncircumcised (Jud 15:18; I Sam 14:6; II Sam 1:20) - those who had no relationship with God - contaminated with evil