

# Bible Survey I

## Glossary of Terms

### Genesis

**Abel** -- Second son of **Adam** and **Eve**. Became a shepherd. Murdered by his older brother **Cain** because Abel's sacrifice was accepted by God but **Cain's** was not. (Abel's lamb involved shedding of blood, and was a picture of the Lamb of God who would be slain in our place. Cain's bloodless grain offering was inadequate.) A righteous man who acted by faith. Name means "meadow." (Gen. 4; Heb. 11)

**Abimelech** -- **Philistine** kings from **Gerar**, probably father and son. Perhaps a generic title of royalty, like "Pharaoh". Both **Abraham** and **Isaac** tried to deceive the Abimelechs regarding the identity of their wives. Name means "father of royalty" or "royal father." (Gen. 20-21, 26)

**Abraham** -- Son of **Terah**. Named **Abram** until God changed his name. Left **Ur** for **Haran**, then moved to **Canaan** in obedience to God's command. The ancestor of the Jews, and of Christ. An example of faith and obedience in leaving **Haran** and in offering his son **Isaac** as a sacrifice. Name means "father of a multitude." (Gen. 11-25; Heb. 11)

**Adam** -- The first human being and an ancestor of all people. Created by God from the dust of the ground. Made in God's image and given dominion over the rest of creation. Disobeyed God, bringing sin and death to all people. (God then killed an animal and made them clothing, typifying the robes of righteousness provided to us through Christ's death.) Name derived from the word "ground." (Gen. 1-5; Rom. 5)

**ark** of Noah -- A seagoing vessel built by **Noah** at the command of God. Saved animals and **Noah's** family as they went through the flood. A type of Christ, who saves us from judgment. (Gen. 6-8; 1 Pet. 3:20-21)

**Asher** -- The eighth son of Jacob. The second son by **Leah's** servant **Zilpah**. Name means "happy." Head of the tribe of Asher, which later settled on the seacoast in northern Palestine. Prophesied to be productive in agriculture and to provide rich food. (Gen. 30, 49)

**Babel** -- A city where men arrogantly tried to build a tower reaching to heaven. God judged them by confusing their language and causing them to scatter. Until this time all people had spoken a common language. Word means "gate of God" or "confusion." (Gen. 11)

**Beersheba** -- A town in the southern end of Palestine. The place where God spoke to **Hagar**, treaties were made with **Abimelech**, and **Isaac** had a well dug. **Abraham**, **Isaac**, and **Jacob** built altars and offered sacrifices to God here. (Gen. 21, 26, 46)

**Benjamin** -- The youngest (twelfth) son of Jacob. The second son by **Rachel**, who died as he was born. Name means "son at my right side." Head of the tribe of Benjamin, which later settled in the southern hill country of Palestine. Prophesied to be warlike. (Gen. 35, 42-45, 49)

**Bethel** -- A town north of Jerusalem. **Abraham** built an altar here. God spoke to **Jacob** in a dream of a ladder to heaven here. **Jacob** settled here after his sojourn in **Haran**. (Gen. 12, 28, 35)

**Bethlehem** -- A town south of Jerusalem. **Rachel** was buried here. King David would come from here, and Jesus would be born here. (Gen. 35)

**Bilhah** -- Slave of **Jacob's** wife **Rachel**. Bore **Dan** and **Naphtali** by **Jacob**. (Gen. 29-30, 35)

**Cain** -- First son of **Adam** and **Eve**. Became a farmer of crops. Murdered his brother **Abel** out of jealousy and anger when God accepted **Abel's** sacrifice (a lamb) but rejected Cain's (grain). Name means "acquisition" or "spear." (Gen. 4)

**Canaan** -- Region where descendents of Canaan (a descendent of **Ham**) settled, somewhat larger than modern-day Palestine. (Gen. 10-11)

**Chaldeans** -- A people group from southern Babylonia. **Abraham** was one. Chaldeans later became prominent as tribal warriors, magicians, and astrologers. (Gen. 11)

**circumcision** -- Removal of the foreskin of the male, generally when eight days old. Commanded by God for male descendents of Abraham, as a sign of His **covenant** with them. Incorrectly seen by some to be analogous to water baptism. (Gen. 17)

**covenant** -- A formal, solemn, binding agreement between two parties, common in the ancient Near East. Generally sealed by a sacrifice, and often accompanied by a common meal. Analogous to modern-day contracts. God made covenants with **Noah**, **Abraham**, Israel, and David, and a new covenant whose blessings we share. (Gen. 9, 12, 17; Ex. 34; 2 Sam. 7, 22)

**Dan** -- The fifth son of Jacob. The first son by **Rachel**'s servant **Bilhah**. Name means "judge" Head of the tribe of Dan, which later settled west of Jerusalem, then moved to the northern end of Palestine. Prophecied to bring justice but also treachery to Israel. The first tribe to fall into idolatry. (Gen. 30, 49)

**Dinah** -- A daughter of Jacob, by **Leah**. Raped by **Shechem**, prompting slaughter of the inhabitants of **Shechem** by Dinah's brothers. (Gen. 30, 34)

**Eliezer** -- **Abraham**'s servant. Possibly the servant sent to find a bride for **Isaac**. There are at least six other individuals by this name in Scripture. Name means "God of help." (Gen. 15, 24)

**Enoch** -- Descendent of **Seth** and ancestor of **Noah**. He did not die, but was taken straight to heaven. Name means "initiated." (Gen. 5, 21, 24; Heb. 11)

**Ephraim** -- Second son of **Joseph**. Head of the tribe of Ephraim, which later settled in the central hill country of Palestine. Name means "fruitful." (Gen. 41, 48)

**Ephron** -- A Hittite. **Abraham** bought a cave from him to use as a burial place. (Gen. 23)

**Esau** -- Son of **Isaac**. The older twin brother of **Jacob**. He sold his birthright to **Jacob** in exchange for food. Name means "hairy." (Gen. 25, 26, 33; Rom. 9)

**Eve** -- The second human being. Created by God from a rib of **Adam** to be his helper. Name means "life giver." (Gen. 2-4)

**Gad** -- The seventh son of Jacob. The first son by **Leah**'s servant **Zilpah**. Name means "fortunate." Head of the tribe of Gad, which later settled on the east side of the Jordan River. Prophecied to be involved in skirmishes with raiders. (Gen. 30, 49)

**Gerar** -- A town on a major trade route near Gaza, in southwestern Palestine. **Abraham** and **Isaac** stayed here for periods of time with the **Abimelechs**. (Gen. 20, 26)

**Gomorrah** -- With **Sodom**, one of five cities near the southern end of the Dead Sea. Destroyed due to the wickedness of its inhabitants. (Gen. 10, 13)

**Goshen** -- A region in lower (northern) Egypt, probably in the northeast part of the Nile River delta. The Israelites spent about 400 years here. (Gen. 45)

**Hagar** -- Egyptian slave of **Sarah**, wife of **Abraham**. Given to **Abraham** by **Sarah** as a concubine. Mother of **Ishmael**. Driven away with **Ishmael** by **Sarah** due to jealousy. Name means "wandering." Used by Paul as a picture of Jerusalem and the Old Testament **covenant** of law. (Gen. 16-25; Gal. 4)

**Ham** -- Son of **Noah**. Ancestor of the **Philistines**, Canaanites, Egyptians, and north African peoples. Name means "hot." (Gen. 5-10)

**Haran** -- A city in northern Mesopotamia. **Abraham** and his father **Terah** moved here from **Ur**. After **Terah**'s death, **Abraham** left here for **Canaan** in obedience to God. **Rebekah**, Rachel and Leah came from this region. (Gen. 11-12, 24, 28-29)

**Isaac** -- Son of **Abraham** and **Sarah**. Father of **Jacob** and **Esau**. Taken to the land of **Moriah** by **Abraham** to be sacrificed, but God provided a substitute instead. Symbolic both of Christ, who was sacrificed for us, and of us, who were saved by the death of a substitute. Name means "laughter." Used by Paul as a picture of those who are free through living by grace. (Gen. 21-28, 35; Gal. 4)

**Ishmael** -- Son of **Abraham** by **Hagar**. Driven away with his mother by **Sarah** due to jealousy. Became an ancestor of the Arabs. Name means "God will hear." Used by Paul as a picture of those enslaved through living by law. (Gen. 16, 21, 25; Gal. 4)

**Israel** -- The new name given by God to Jacob after wrestling at the **Jabbok**. The name by which his descendents and their nation were known. Fathered twelve sons, who became heads of the twelve tribes of the nation of Israel. Name means "he who wrestles with God" or "God fights." (Gen. 32, 35)

**Issachar** -- The ninth son of Jacob. The fifth son by **Leah**. Name means "reward." Head of the tribe of Issachar, which later settled in northern Palestine. Prophecied to be strong, docile, and enslaved by others. (Gen. 29, 49)

**Jabbok** -- A major tributary of the Jordan River on its east side, about halfway between the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Jacob's name was changed to **Israel** here by God after a wrestling match. (Gen. 32)

**Jacob** -- Son of **Isaac** and **Rebekah**. Younger twin brother of **Esau**. Renamed **Israel** after wrestling with an angel. Married **Leah** and **Rachel**. Had twelve sons who became the leaders of the twelve tribes of **Israel**. Name means "heel-grabber" or "supplanter." (Gen. 25-50)

**Japheth** -- Son of **Noah**. Ancestor of the Indo-European peoples. Descendants settled along the southern coasts from Europe to Persia. Name means "widespreading." (Gen. 7-10)

**Joseph** -- The eleventh son of **Jacob**. The first son by **Rachel**. Name means "add." Allowed by God to be sold into slavery by his brothers so he could later save them from famine. A powerful example of righteous living in an unfair and unjust world through his dealings with his brothers and with **Potiphar**. Prophesied to be fruitful and prosperous. His two sons, **Ephraim** and **Manasseh**, became leaders of two of the tribes of **Israel** as a result of the double blessing given to **Joseph** by **Jacob**. [Note that the Scripture numbers the tribes in two different ways. One way includes **Levi** and treats **Joseph** as a single tribe. The other way excludes the tribe of **Levi**, which had no land allotted to it, and treats **Joseph's** two sons each as the head of a tribe.] (Gen. 29, 37-50)

**Judah** -- The fourth son of **Jacob**. The fourth son by **Leah**. Name means "praise." The spokesman in selling **Joseph** into slavery and in later dealing with him for grain. Head of the tribe of **Judah**, which later settled in southern Palestine and became the royal line. **Jesus** is a descendent. (Gen. 29, 37-38, 43-44, 49)

**Laban** -- Grandson of **Nahor**. Brother of **Rebekah**. Father of **Rachel** and **Leah**; manipulated **Jacob** into marrying them both. (Gen. 24-31)

**Leah** -- The eldest daughter of **Laban**. Became first wife of **Jacob** as a result of **Laban's** trickery. Bore six sons (**Reuben**, **Simeon**, **Levi**, **Judah**, **Issachar**, **Zebulun**), who became leaders of six tribes of **Israel**. (Gen. 29-30)

**Levi** -- The third son of **Jacob**. The third son by **Leah**. Name means "hold me close" or "attachment." Head of the tribe of **Levi**, which provided priests for the nation of **Israel** and had no earthly inheritance. Cursed for his treatment of **Shechem**. (Gen. 29, 49)

**Lot** -- Nephew of **Abraham**. Moved with him from **Haran** to **Canaan**. Settled in Jordan River valley. Fled due to imminent destruction of **Sodom** and **Gomorrah**. Became ancestor of Moabites and Ammonites. (Gen. 11-19)

**Mahanaim** -- A town east of the Jordan River. Angels met **Jacob** here as he traveled from **Haran** to **Canaan**. Later became a Levitical town and a capital of **Israel**. Name means "two camps." (Gen. 32; Josh. 21; 2 Sam. 2)

**Mamre** -- One of the places in **Canaan** where **Abraham** lived, near **Hebron**. Named after an Amorite friend of **Abraham's**. The Lord appeared to **Abraham** here and promised him and **Sarah** a son. (Gen. 14, 18, 23)

**Manasseh** -- Eldest son of **Joseph**. Head of the tribe of **Manasseh**, which later settled in northern Palestine. (Gen. 41, 48)

**Melchizedek** -- King of **Salem** and priest of the true God. Blessed **Abraham** and received a tithe from him. Name means "king of righteousness." A type of Christ in the New Testament. Both **Melchizedek** and Christ were priests, but not of the priestly tribe of **Levi**; both were superior to **Abraham**; both have mysterious beginning and end; both were kings. (Gen. 14; Heb. 7-10)

**Mizpah of Gilead** -- A location east of the Jordan River and north of the **Jabbok**. **Laban** and **Jacob** made a covenant here. Name means "a place from which to watch." (Gen. 31)

**Moriah** -- The land where **Abraham** went to sacrifice **Isaac**. Probably the same as "Mount **Moriah**," a hill in **Jerusalem** on which the temple was built by **Solomon** and where burnt offerings were made to the Lord. Name means "Jah (God) provides." (Gen. 22)

**Nahor** -- Son of **Terah**. Brother of **Abraham**. Grandfather of **Rebekah** and **Laban**. (Gen. 11, 24)

**Naphtali** -- The sixth son of **Jacob**. The second son by **Rachel's** servant **Bilhah**. Name means "struggle." Head of the tribe of **Naphtali**, which later settled west of the Sea of Galilee. Prophesied to be free like a doe. (Gen. 30, 49)

**Noah** -- A righteous man. Father of **Shem**, **Ham**, and **Japheth**. Told to make an **ark** for his family and for animals. Saved by God in the **ark** while the rest of mankind was destroyed. Name means "quiet," "rest," or "comfort." (Gen. 6-17)

**Padan-aram** -- A region of northern Mesopotamia. Included the city of **Haran**. **Rebekah**, **Laban**, **Rachel**, and **Leah** were from this region. (Gen. 25, 28)

**Philistines** -- Sea people who dwelt along the coast of southwestern **Canaan**. Palestine takes its name from them. (Gen. 21, 26)

**Rachel** -- The second daughter of **Laban**. Second and most favorite wife of **Jacob**, who served **Laban** 14 years for her. Bore **Joseph** and **Benjamin**, who became leaders of tribes of Israel. Died giving birth to **Benjamin**. Buried near **Bethlehem**. (Gen. 29-30, 35)

**Rebekah** -- Granddaughter of **Nahor**. Wife of **Isaac**. Mother of **Jacob** and **Esau**. Conspired with favorite son **Jacob** to get him **Esau's** birthright. Name means "flattering" or "noose." (Gen. 24-28)

**Reuben** -- Eldest son of **Jacob**. The first son by **Leah**. Name means "look, a son!" Tried to protect **Joseph** from the animosity of his brothers. Offered his sons as security for **Benjamin**. Head of the tribe of Reuben, which later settled east of the Jordan River. (Gen. 29, 37, 42, 49)

**Sabbath** -- The seventh day of the week (Saturday). Prescribed by God as a day of rest for the Jews. Modelled after the example of God's seventh day of rest after His six days of creation. Used in New Testament as a type of the rest of faith, but NOT of the Lord's Day (Sunday). (Ex. 16; Heb. 4)

**Sarah** -- Wife of **Abraham**. Mother of **Isaac**. Name Sarai until God changed her name. She gave her handmaid **Hagar** to **Abraham** as a concubine, producing **Ishmael**. Name means "princess." Used by Paul as a picture of the new covenant of grace. (Gen. 12-23; Gal. 4)

**Seth** -- Third son of **Adam** and **Eve**. Appears in the genealogy of Jesus. Name means "appointed." (Gen. 4-5; Lk. 3)

**Shechem** -- 1) Son of Hamor, whom **Jacob** bought land from upon returning to Canaan. Raped Jacob's daughter **Dinah**. Slaughtered with entire town by **Dinah's** full brothers, **Simeon** and **Levi**. (Gen. 33-34) 2) Town where Shechem lived. Inhabitants slaughtered by **Simeon** and **Levi**.

**Shem** -- Son of **Noah**. Ancestor of **Abraham** and the line of promise, including Jesus. Name means "name." (Gen. 7-10)

**Shinar** -- A country in southern Babylonia in Mesopotamia. It included the southern portions of the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys, and the city of Babylon. The Sumerians lived here. (Gen. 10, 14)

**Simeon** -- Second son of **Jacob**. The second son by **Leah**. Name means "someone who hears" or "hearing." Head of the tribe of Simeon, which settled in southern Palestine after the Exodus, but would later be scattered. Cursed for his treatment of **Shechem**. (Gen. 29, 33-34, 49)

**Sodom** -- With **Gomorrah**, one of five cities near the southern end of the Dead Sea. Destroyed due to the wickedness of its inhabitants. (Gen. 10, 13, 19)

**Tamar** -- Canaanite wife of two of **Judah's** sons. Prostituted herself to **Judah** when he refused his responsibility to marry her to his third son. Bore twins (**Perez** and **Zerah**) by **Judah**. In genealogy of Jesus. (Gen. 38; Mt. 1:3)

**Terah** -- Descendent of **Shem**. Father of **Abraham** and **Nahor**. Moved with his family from **Ur** to **Haran**. Appears in the genealogy of Jesus. (Gen. 11; Lk. 3)

**Ur** -- **Abraham's** hometown, in southern Babylonia. **Terah** with his sons **Abraham** and **Nahor** moved from here to **Haran**.

**Zebulun** -- The tenth son of **Jacob**. The sixth son by **Leah**. Name means "praise." Head of the tribe of Zebulun, which later settled in northern Palestine. Prophesied to be enriched through sea trade, which may still be future. (Gen. 29, 49)

**Zilpah** -- Slave of **Jacob's** wife **Leah**. Bore **Gad** and **Asher** by **Jacob**. (Gen. 29-30)

**Zoar** -- With **Sodom** and **Gomorrah**, one of five cities near the southern end of the Dead Sea. Spared from destruction by God so **Lot** could move here. Name means "small." (Gen. 13, 14, 19)

# Bible Survey I

## Glossary of Terms

### Exodus & Leviticus

**Aaron** -- Brother of and assistant to **Moses**. First high priest of Israel. A type of Christ, who is our high priest. (Ex. 4, 6, 24ff)

**Abihu** -- A son of **Aaron**. Became a priest of Israel. Struck dead for offering improperly. (Ex. 6; 24; Lev. 10)

**altar of incense** -- An item of furniture in the Holy Place of the tabernacle. Fragrant incense was offered here twice a day. A type of the position and prayers of believers today. (Lev.)

**Amalekites** -- Descendants of Esau, son of Abraham. Dwelt in the desert south of Palestine. Involved in a number of battles against Israel. (Ex. 17)

**ark of the Covenant** -- An item of furniture in the Holy of Holies of the tabernacle. Made of gold and acacia wood. Kept the law, manna, and Aaron's rod which budded. These are types of Christ, as the perfect law-keeper, the bread from heaven, and our great high priest. (Ex. 25)

**atonement** -- Covering over of sin. The Old Testament sacrifices effected a temporary covering. They were types of the sacrifice of Christ, which would effect a permanent covering and payment for sin. (Lev.)

**Bezalel** -- The chief architect of the tabernacle. Skilled in working with wood, metal, and precious stones. (Ex. 31)

**blue** -- A color used in the tabernacle. In Scripture, often used symbolically of heaven. (Lev.)

**brass (bronze)** -- A metal used in the tabernacle. In Scripture, often used symbolically of judgment. (Lev.)

**bronze altar** -- An item of furniture in the courtyard of the tabernacle. The place where animals were sacrificed for the sins of Israel. Pictures Christ's sacrifice on the cross for us. (Ex. 25)

**Burnt offering** -- A sacrifice of an unblemished male ox, sheep, goat, or bird. Performed on the **bronze altar** in the courtyard of the tabernacle. Animal was killed and cut in pieces, blood was sprinkled about the altar, and parts of the animal were completely burned on the altar. (Lev. 1,6)

**Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)** -- An annual feast of Israel. The 10th day of the seventh month. A solemn occasion. The high priest entered the Holy of Holies on this day to sprinkle blood on the **mercy seat** of the **ark of the covenant** and make **atonement** for Israel. The **scapegoat** was released on this day. (Lev. 16; 23)

**Eleazar** -- Third son of **Aaron**. Brother of **Nadab** and **Abihu**. Became high priest after Aaron's (and Nadab's and Abihu's) death. (Lev. 10)

**Elim** -- An oasis with a number of springs and palm trees. The fourth stop of the Israelites after crossing the **Red Sea**. Israel stayed for about one month. Modern name is Wadi Gharandel. (Ex. 15, 16)

**Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles or Booths)** -- An annual fall harvest feast of Israel. Began on the 15th day of the seventh month, five days after the **Day of Atonement**. A time of rest and vacation, spent as a week-long campout. (Ex. 23; Lev. 23)

**Feast of Passover** -- An annual feast of Israel. Commemorative of God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt through the Passover. Held in the Spring, at the end of the 14th day of the first month. (Ex. 23; Lev. 23)

**Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah)** -- An annual feast of Israel. A special day of rest. Marked the beginning of the civil year. The first day of the seventh month. (Lev. 23)

**Feast of Unleavened Bread** -- A seven-day annual festival of Israel. From the 15th through the 21st day of the first month. (Ex. 12; Lev. 23)

**Feast of Weeks (Harvest, Firstfruits, Shavuot, or Pentecost)** -- An annual feast of Israel. Held 50 days after Passover, in the third month. A harvest festival at the time of the wheat harvest. (Ex. 23; Lev. 23)

**fire** -- The means of consuming animal offerings. Often symbolic of judgment or of the Holy Spirit in scripture. (Lev.)

**flour (fine)** -- On the **table** of the bread of Presence in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle. The fineness is symbolic of the perfection of Christ. (Lev.)

**frankincense** -- On the **table** of the bread of Presence in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle. Symbolic of the devotion of Christ. (Lev.)

**gold** -- A precious metal used in the tabernacle. In Scripture, often used symbolically of great value and of divinity. (Lev.)

**Grain (Meal) offering** -- An offering of grain, with **salt** added. May also have **oil** or frankincense added. Eaten by priest. Accompanied by a drink-offering of **wine**. Offered for thanksgiving to God. (Lev. 2; 6)

**Guilt (Trespass) offering** -- An animal offering, similar to the Sin offering. Usually a ram, to which money was added, apparently to recompense the sin. Used in cases of breaking oaths. (Lev.)

**Horeb** -- A mountain region containing **Mount Sinai**. (Ex. 3, 17, 33)

**Hur** -- A man who assisted **Aaron**. He helped to hold up **Moses'** hands in battle with the **Amalekites**, and helped to govern Israel. (Ex. 17, 24)

**Jethro** -- The father of **Zipporah** and father-in-law of **Moses**. A priest of **Midian**. Advised **Moses** to set up a hierarchical system to govern Israel. (Ex. 2-3, 18, 24)

**Jubilee** -- Every 50th year. A time when slaves were freed, land was returned to its original owners, and land enjoyed an extra year of lying fallow. (Lev. 25)

**lampstand** -- An item of furniture in the Holy Place of the tabernacle. Pure **gold**. Designed like an almond tree. A type of the resurrection of Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit. (Ex. 25)

**laver** -- An item of furniture in the courtyard of the tabernacle. Used for ceremonial washing, initially for full body, later for only hands and feet. A type of our full cleansing at the point of salvation, and our repeated cleansing from sin. (Ex. 30)

**leaven** -- Yeast. Able to cause bread to turn sour, and to spread rapidly and invisibly. Hence, often used symbolically of sin, evil, or hypocrisy. (Lev.)

**leprosy** -- A skin disease or uncleanness. Probably different from modern leprosy (Hansen's disease). Symbolic of sin and uncleanness of the soul. (Lev. 13-14)

**Marah** -- A place in the desert with bitter water. **Moses** sweetened it by throwing a tree in it. Name means "bitterness." (Ex. 15)

**Massah** -- A place in **Horeb** near Rephidim where the Israelites complained about lack of water, and

**Moses** struck a rock, drawing water from it. The rock is a picture of Christ, who was afflicted for us and provides us living water. Name means "testing." (Ex. 17)

**mercy seat** -- An item of furniture in the Holy of Holies of the tabernacle, above the **ark of the covenant**. Pure **gold**. The place where God met Israel, and where blood was sprinkled once per year, on the **Day of Atonement**. A type of Christ, who is our meeting place with God. (Ex. 25)

**Meribah** -- Two separate places in the desert where the Israelites complained about lack of water and God caused water to flow from a rock. The first is the same as **Massah**. The second is a place near Kadesh Barnea where **Moses** was told to speak to the rock, but struck it instead. Because of his disobedience, he was not allowed to enter the Promised Land. Name means "quarrel." (Ex. 17; Num. 20; Deut. 32)

**Midian** -- A desert region south of Palestine, including the modern day Negev desert and southwestern Jordan. Named after the Midianites, descendants of Midian, a son of Abraham and Keturah. **Moses** spent 40 years here with **Jethro** after killing an Egyptian. **Zipporah** came from here. (Ex. 2-3)

**Miriam** -- Sister of **Moses** and **Aaron**. A prophetess. Later instigated rebellion against **Moses** and was punished with a temporary case of **leprosy**. (Ex. 2, 15; Num. 12)

**Moses** -- The primary deliverer, leader, lawgiver, and prophet of Israel. A Levite raised in Pharaoh's court. Fled after killing an Egyptian. Returned at God's command to deliver Israel by leading them out of Egypt. A type of Christ, a prophet who would deliver us from sin. Name means "drawn out" in Hebrew, "child" in Egyptian. (Ex. - Deut.)

**Mount Sinai** -- A mountain and wilderness region which the Israelites reached three months after leaving Egypt. God gave the **Ten Commandments** to **Moses** here. (Ex. 16-20)

**Nadab** -- A son of **Aaron**. Became a priest of Israel. Struck dead for offering improperly. (Ex. 6; 28; Lev. 10)

**oil** -- Could be added to burnt offering observance. Often used symbolically of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. (Num. 28)

**Passover Lamb** -- The lamb slain by Israelite households at the tenth plague of Egypt. Its blood, put above and beside the doorway of a house, caused the death angel to “pass over” the house, saving the firstborn son from death. A picture of Christ; those who are under His blood are saved from spiritual death. (Ex. 12; 1 Cor. 5:7)

**Peace (Fellowship) offering** -- An offering of an ox, sheep, or goat. Used to express thanks or devotion to God, or to fulfill a vow. (Lev. 3; 7)

**purple** -- A color used in the tabernacle. Obtained from crushed mollusks at great cost; only worn by kings and the wealthy. Hence, often used symbolically of royalty in Scripture. (Lev.)

**Red Sea** -- More correctly “Reed Sea” or “Sea of Reeds.” The place where God miraculously delivered the Israelites, allowing them to cross on dry ground while drowning the Egyptian army. Probably north of the modern Suez Canal, not south where the modern Red Sea is. (Ex. 13, 15)

**Sabbath Year** -- The final year of a seven-year cycle. The land was to lie fallow (to be given a Sabbath) for this year. (Lev.)

**salt** -- A food preservative. Could be added to burnt offering observance. Often used symbolically of preservation, faithfulness, or good testimony. (Lev.)

**scapegoat** -- An unblemished goat. On the **Day of Atonement**, the sins of Israel were symbolically placed on the goat, and it was released to die in the wilderness. (Lev.)

**scarlet** -- A color used in the tabernacle. In Scripture, often used symbolically of blood, suffering, or **atonement**. (Lev.)

**shekel** -- A unit of weight; between 10 and 13 grams. Also a unit of currency; a one-shekel weight of **silver**. (Lev.)

**silver** -- A precious metal used in the tabernacle. The primary medium of currency in Scripture. Hence, often used symbolically of payment, ransom, or redemption. (Lev.)

**Sin offering** -- An offering of an animal. For forgiveness of either individuals or the nation. (Lev. 4-6)

**table and bread of Presence** -- An item of furniture in the Holy Place of the tabernacle. Made of **gold** and **acacia wood**. Typical of fellowship and communion with Christ. (Ex. 25)

**Ten Commandments** -- The basic laws given to **Moses** by God at **Mount Sinai**. The first set of commands concerns man’s relationship to God, the remainder his relationship to his fellow man. Though given to Israel as terms of God’s covenant with them, all but one of the commands (keeping the Sabbath) are restated for the Church in the New Testament. (Ex. 20; Deut. 5)

**Urim and Thummim** -- Two objects (probably stones), which were worn on the breastplate of the high priest, and which God used to communicate His will with the people of Israel. (Ex. 28)

**white (linen)** -- A color used in the tabernacle. In Scripture, often used symbolically of purity. The fineness of the linen in the Tabernacle is also symbolic of Christ’s perfection. (Lev.)

**wine** -- Fermented grape juice. Often used symbolically of Christ’s blood, spiritual blessing, the work of the Holy Spirit, or judgment. (Lev.)

**wood (acacia)** -- A material used in construction of the tabernacle. In Scripture, wood is often used symbolically of man or humanity. (Lev.)

**Zipporah** -- **Moses’** wife. Daughter of **Jethro**. An Egyptian. (Ex. 2-4)

# Bible Survey I

## Glossary of Terms

### Numbers-Ruth

**Abimelech** -- One of Gideon's sons. Had his brothers murdered and himself proclaimed king. Mortally wounded when a woman dropped a millstone on his head. (Judg. 9)

**Achan** -- A man who disobeyed took spoils from Jericho. This resulted in the loss of the first battle of Ai, and the stoning of Achan and his family. Name means "troublesome." (Josh. 7)

**Ai** -- A small city west of Jericho, near Bethel, where Israel suffered defeat due to the sin of Achan. The city was destroyed after Achan's sin was dealt with. Name means "ruin." (Josh. 7)

**Ammon** -- The region inhabited by the Ammonites, a nomadic group of people descended from Lot's youngest daughter. Northeast of Moab, and closely associated with it. (Deut. 2; Judg. 3)

**Asherah** -- A pagan goddess, widely worshipped in the ancient Near East. Associated with Baal. Represented by a wooden pole or tree; often translated "grove" in KJV. Worship was encouraged by Jezebel and Manasseh. (Judg. 3, 6; 1 Kings 18; 2 Kings 21)

**Baal** -- Name means "lord" or "possessor." Originally a number of distinct local pagan deities, each seen as ruling over a specific area. Later recognized as one god, and widely worshipped in the ancient Near East. (Num. 25, 33; 1 Kings 18)

**Balaam** -- A Mesopotamian wise man called by Balak to curse the Israelites as they entered Canaan from Egypt. Though not a follower of the true God, he obeyed God and blessed rather than cursed the Jews. (Num. 22-24; 31)

**Balak** -- King of Moab at the time the Israelites entered Canaan from Egypt. Upon hearing of their military successes, he tried to get Balaam to curse the Israelites. (Num. 22-25)

**Barak** -- A judge of Israel. Led a successful revolt against the Canaanites in northern Palestine, with the help of Deborah. (Judg. 4-5; Heb. 11)

**Boaz** -- A man from the tribe of Bethlehem who married Ruth the Moabitess after her husband's death. An ancestor of David and Jesus. (Ruth 4; Mt. 1)

**bronze serpent** -- Erected at God's command on a pole in the wilderness. After being bitten by fiery serpents, the Israelites were healed when they looked up at the bronze serpent. A type of Christ on the cross; those who look to His sacrifice are healed from sin. (Num. 21; John 3)

**Caleb** -- One of the twelve spies sent by Moses from Kadesh-Barnea to spy out the land of Canaan. Only he and Joshua brought back good reports, and only they of the twelve were allowed to enter the land. (Num. 13-14; Josh. 14-15)

**Chemosh** -- The god of the Moabites. Worship included the sacrifice of children. Perhaps a title for Athtar, and the same deity as Molech. Solomon supported worship of Chemosh. (Num. 21; 1 Kings 11)

**Cities of refuge** -- Six of the 48 cities assigned to the tribe of Levi. These cities were safe havens for the protection of those guilty of manslaughter. (Num. 35; Josh. 20-21)

**Dagon** -- An ancient Mesopotamian god of the sea and of agriculture. Represented as a male mermaid. The national god of the Philistines. (Judg. 15-16)

**Deborah** -- A prophetess and judge of Israel. She encouraged the tribes under Barak to revolt against the Canaanites. (Judg. 4-5)

**Delilah** -- A Philistine woman who seduced Samson into revealing to her the secret of his strength, then sold him into bondage. (Judg. 16)

**Edom** -- The region settled by Esau (Edom) in the southeast of Palestine, south of Moab. Also called the land or mountain of Seir. The Israelites traversed this land on their way from Sinai to Canaan. (Deut. 1-2)

**Ehud** -- The second judge of Israel. Through deception killed king Eglon of Moab, then led a revolt against the Moabites. Gained eighty years of peace for Israel. (Judg. 3)

**Gershon** -- The first son of Levi. His descendants were in charge of the coverings of the tabernacle. (Num. 3-4)

**Gibeon** -- A city in the central hill country of Israel. Became a Levitical town. The sun and moon stood still for Joshua here. The tabernacle was housed here by Saul and remained until the building of the temple. Name means "hill city." (Josh. 9-10, 18, 21; 1 Chron. 16)



**Gibeonites** -- The people of Gibeon. They deceived Joshua (who did not inquire of the Lord) into signing a treaty with them by disguising themselves as ambassadors from afar, and thus escaped destruction. They were cursed to be perpetual bondmen. Saul later massacred many of them, and they killed seven of his descendants. (Josh. 9; 2 Sam. 21)

**Gideon (Jerubbaal)** -- A judge of Israel. Though greatly outnumbered and weaponless, he defeated the Midianites. Name means "tree-feller" or "warrior." Jerubbaal means "let Baal plead." (Judg. 6-8)

**Gilgal** -- A place near Jericho. The first camp of the Israelites after entering Canaan. Twelve stones were set here as a memorial. Samuel judged and Saul was made king here. Saul acted as a priest here, angering God. (Josh. 4; 1 Sam. 7, 11, 13)

**Hebron** -- A town in the mountains of Judah, between Beersheba and Jerusalem. Also called Kiriath-Arba and Mamre. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob all stayed in this region. Sarah was buried here. Taken by Joshua and Caleb. Royal residence of David and of Absalom. (Josh. 10, 14, 15; Gen. 13, 23, 35; 2 Sam. 2, 5, 15)

**Jebusites** -- A clan descended from Canaan. Lived in the hill country of Palestine before the conquest of Joshua. Finally driven out of Jerusalem by David. (Josh. 3, 11-12, 15; Judg. 1, 19; 2 Sam. 5)

**Jephthah** -- The ninth judge of Israel. Led successful battles against the Ammonites and the Ephraimites. Vowed to devote (sacrifice?) to the Lord the first thing coming from his house upon returning from battle, which turned out to be his daughter and only offspring. (Judg. 11)

**Jericho** -- An oasis west of the Jordan River. One of the oldest cities in the Middle East. Taken spectacularly by Joshua upon the entry into Canaan. Rebuilt at the time of King Ahab. (Josh. 6; 1 Kings 16)

**Jerusalem** -- A city in the hill country of Judah. In this region Abraham offered a tithe to Melchizedek. Moriah (where Isaac was offered as a sacrifice) is probably Jerusalem. Captured from the Jebusites by David and made the capitol. Solomon built the temple here, making this the center of Israelite worship for the next 1000 years. Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised here. (Josh. 10; Judg. 1; 2 Sam. 5)

**Jordan River** -- The main river of Palestine. Runs from Lake Huleh to the Sea of Galilee to the Dead

Sea. Miraculously crossed by Israel upon entry into Canaan. (Josh. 3)

**Joshua** -- One of the twelve spies sent by Moses from Kadesh-Barnea to spy out the land of Canaan. Only he and Caleb brought back good reports, and only they of the twelve were allowed to enter the land. Became the successor to Moses and led the Israelites in the conquest of Canaan. (Num. 13-14; Joshua)

**Judges** -- Leaders of Israel after the time of Joshua and before the institution of kingship. They were divinely appointed to deliver from oppression and to lead. Their judicial duties were generally minor.

**Kadesh-Barnea** -- A site in the southern desert of Israel (desert of Zin). The Israelites camped here after leaving Mount Sinai, and the twelve spies were sent from here. This was also the departure point for Canaan after the forty years of wandering. (Deut. 2, 9; Num. 33; Josh. 10: 14; Judg. 11)

**Kinsman-Redeemer** -- The nearest living male relative. He had responsibilities to his next of kin, including redemption of land which may have been sold through poverty, and ransom of one who may have sold himself into slavery. (Ruth 4)

**Kohath** -- The second son of Levi. Descendants were responsible for the ark and the sacred vessels of the tabernacle. (Num. 4, 7; Ex. 6)

**Korah** -- A Levite who led a revolt against Moses in the wilderness, and was swallowed up by the earth. His descendants were the doorkeepers and musicians of the tabernacle and temple. (Num. 16, 26)

**Manoah** -- The father of Samson. (Judg. 13-14)

**Merari** -- The third son of Levi. Descendants were responsible for the boards and furnishings of the tabernacle. (Josh. 21; Ex. 6; Num. 3)

**Moab** -- The region where the Moabites lived, descendants of Lot's oldest daughter. To the east of the Dead Sea, north of Edom and southwest of Ammon. The Israelites traversed Moab on their way to enter the promised land. Ruth was from Moab. (Num. 20; Deut. 2, 23; Ruth)

**Molech** -- The god of the Ammonites. Also called Milcom and Moloch. Worship included the sacrifice of children. Perhaps a title for Athtar, and the same deity as Chemosh. Worshipped by Solomon. (Lev. 20, 1 Kings 11)

**Mount Nebo** -- A mountain east of Jericho, in northern Moab. Moses viewed the promised land from here, and was buried here. (Deut. 32, 34)

**Mount Seir** -- A range of mountains running southward from the Dead Sea. Part of the land of Edom. Settled by Esau, the ancestor of the Edomites. (Gen. 35-36; Deut. 1-2)

**Naomi** -- Wife of Elimelech and mother-in-law of Ruth. Helped Ruth find Boaz so he could act as kinsman-redeemer. (Ruth 1-4)

**Nazirite vow** -- A vow of special dedication to God. Nazirites renounced wine and all grape products, use of razors, and contact with dead bodies. John the Baptist was probably a Nazirite. (Num. 6)

**Nephilim** -- A group of people whose exact identity is a mystery. Translated “giants” in the KJV; also called “sons of Anak.” (Gen. 6; Num. 13)

**Othniel** -- The first judge of Israel. Led Israel to defeat their Mesopotamian oppressors, gaining peace for forty years. (Judg. 1-3)

**Peor** -- A high mountain peak in Moab. Balaam was to curse Israel from here, but blessed it instead. (Num. 23)

**Phinehas** -- Grandson of Aaron. Praised for decisive action when the Israelites were involved in adultery in the wilderness. Settled at Gibeah after the Israelite conquest of Canaan, and ministered as high priest at Bethel. (Num. 25; Josh. 22, 24; Judg. 20)

**Rahab** -- A harlot from Jericho who hid two Israelite spies from their pursuers. For this she was saved at the defeat of Jericho. An ancestor of David and of Jesus. (Josh. 2, 6; Mt. 1)

**red heifer** -- Ashes of a red heifer were mixed with water. The mixture was sprinkled in the ceremonial cleansing of those who had defiled themselves by contact with the dead. (Num. 19)

**rock in the desert** -- A rock was struck at Masah and at Meribah to provide water for the Israelites. A type of Christ, who was smitten by God at Calvary and by this provided spiritual water for believers. (Ex. 17; Num. 20)

**Ruth** -- A Moabitess. Daughter-in-law of Naomi. Traveled with Naomi from Moab to Bethlehem. Married Boaz; became an ancestor of David and Jesus. (Ruth 1-4; Mt. 1)

**Samson** -- A judge of Israel. A mighty man. Led Israel for twenty years, and dealt a number of serious blows to the Philistines, but accomplished no true deliverance for Israel. His inability to control his passions limited his accomplishments. (Judg. 13-15)

**Shekinah glory** -- The “glory of the Lord,” indicating the presence of God. The primary manifestation was the pillar of cloud and fire which led the Israelites and stood over the holy place of the tabernacle. Other manifestations are the burning bush of Moses and the cloud at the transfiguration of Christ. (Ex. 13-14; Num. 9-12; Mt. 17)

**Shiloh** -- A site north of Bethel in central Palestine. The first home of the tabernacle after the conquest. The center of worship for the Israelites in the time of the Judges and Samuel. (Josh. 18; Judg. 18)

**Sidon** -- An ancient Phoenician coastal city in far northern Palestine. The northernmost end of the promised land. (Gen. 10, 49; Josh. 11, 19)