

# ALL THE PLACES OF THE BIBLE

This article identifies all of the places named in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books. The place names are arranged alphabetically as they appear in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The suggested meaning of the names is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various places bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this [1] ; [2]; and so on. Then follows a description of each place, with several Bible references to it.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These place names are ancient, many are pre-Israelite, and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Often a Hebrew name refers to both a place and a person. In such cases, you will find the same name in "All the People of the Bible."

Different names were used to refer to certain sites in different periods of history (e.g., Accho and Ptolemais). We have grouped these names under the most familiar biblical name, cross-referencing the other names to it. Modern place names are given under most of the biblical names.

## N

**Naamah** ("beautiful"), a town in the southwestern lowlands of Judah (Josh. 15:41). It is probably modern Khirbet Fered near Arak Ma'aman. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Naaran** [**Naarath**] ("youthful"), a border town of Ephraim (1 Chron. 7:28). It was east of Bethel and near Jericho, and was also called Naarath (Josh. 16:7).

**Naarath.** *See* Naaran.

**Nachon.** *See* Chidon.

**Nahalal** [**Nahallal**; **Nahalol**] ("pasture"), a city of Zebulun assigned to the Levites (Josh. 19:15; 21:35; Judg. 1:30). It is probably modern Khirbet el-Teim, south of Accho.

**Nahaliel** ("valley of God"), an Israelite encampment north of the Arnon River and east of Moab (Num. 21:19). It may be modern Wadi el-Waleh or Wadi Zerka Ma'in.

**Nahallal.** *See* Nahalal.

**Nahalol.** *See* Nahalal.

**Nain** ("beauty"), a village in Galilee where Christ resurrected a widow's son (Luke 7: 11). It is located 3.2 km. (2 mi.) south of Mount Tabor and a little southwest of the Sea of Galilee.

**Naioth** ("habitation"), the place in Ramah where a community of prophets gathered around Samuel (1 Sam.

19:18-23; 20:1). Its location is not clearly identified. *See also* Ramah [2].

**Naphtali** [**Nephtalim**] ("that struggles"), a territory assigned to the tribe of Naphtali, located in mountainous northern Palestine (Josh. 19:32-39; Matt. 4: 13). It was bounded on the east by the Upper Jordan River and the Sea of Galilee and on the west by the territories of Zebulun and Asher. *See also* "All the People of the Bible."

**Nazareth** ("sanctified"), the hometown of Jesus in lower Galilee, north of the Plain of Esdraelon [Jezreel] (Matt. 4:13; Mark 1:9). It is 8 km. (5 mi.) west-southwest of Tiberias, 32.2 km. (20 mi.) southwest of modern Tell Hum [Capernaum] and 141.6 km. (88 mi.) north of Jerusalem.

**Neah** ("moved"), a landmark boundary of Zebulun (Josh. 19:13). It is probably modern Tell el-wawiyat.

**Neapolis** ("the new city"), a seaport of Philippi in Macedonia (Acts 16:11; cf. 20:6). It is on the Strymonian Gulf 16.1 km. (10 mi.) east-southeast of Philippi.

**Street Scene, Nazareth.** Nazareth was a small city of low repute, yet Jesus' parents lived here and it became the boyhood home of the Savior (Luke 2:39-51). This narrow, winding alley of Nazareth looks much as the streets of Jesus' times would have appeared.



**Neballat** ("prophecy"), a town of Benjamin repopulated after the Babylonian Captivity (Neh. 11:34). It is now Beit Nabala 6.4 km. (4. mi.) northeast of Lydda.

**Nebo** ("that prophesies"). [1] The mountain from which Moses saw the Promised Land (Deut.32:49;34: 1). It is a peak in the Abarim Mountains east of the Jordan, opposite Jericho; probably modern Jebel en Neba, 12.9 km. (8 mi.) east of the mouth of the Jordan. On a clear day, all of Palestine can be seen from this peak. [2] A city of Reuben that fell again to the Moabites (Num. 32:3, 38; 33:47). It is probably modern Khirbet el-Mekhayyet, south of Mount Nebo. [3] A city in Judah (Ezra 2:29; Neh. 7:33), probably modern Beth-Nube, near Lydda.

**Neiel** ("commotion of God"), a landmark boundary of Asher (Josh. 19:27). It is probably modern Khirbet ya'nin on the edge of the Plain of Acre [Accho].

**Neke** ("cave"), a town on the boundary of the territory of Naphtali (Josh. 19:33); perhaps the same as Adami (q.v.).

**Nephtalim.** *See* Naphtali.

**Nephtoah** ("open"), a spring that marks the boundary between Judah and Benjamin (Josh. 15:9). It is identified with modern Lifta, 3.2 km. (2 mi.) northwest of Jerusalem.

**Nezib** ("standing-place"), a city in the lowlands of Judah (Josh. 15:43). It is now Beit Nasib, near Ashna.

**Nibshan** ("prophecy"), a wilderness town of Judah (Josh. 15:62); possibly modern Khirbet el-Makari south of Jericho between Betharaban and En-gev.

**Nicopolis** ("the city of victory"). [1] A town in Epirus in western Greece about 6.4 km. (4 mi.) north of Actium. [2] A city on both sides of the Nestus River, the boundary between Thrace and Macedonia. Paul referred to one of the above in Titus 3: 12; the first is preferred.

**Nile** ("dark blue"), the greatest river of Egypt and the world's longest. It is simply referred to in Scripture as "the river" (Gen. 13:1; Exod. 2:3; 7:21). The Nile is about 6,669.3 km. (4,145 mi.) long.

**Nimrah.** *See* Beth-Nimrah.

**Nimrim** ("bitterness"), a brook in Moab (Isa. 15:6; Jer. 48:34). The name still exists in Wadi en-Nemeirah near the southeast end of the Dead Sea.

**Nineveh [Nineve]** (meaning unknown), the capital of the Kingdom of Assyria (Nah. 1: 1; cf. 3: 1; Luke 11:32; Zeph. 2: 13). It was located east of the Tigris River in the area north of the point the Tigris joins the Upper Zab. The ruins are now called Tell Kuyunjik and Tell Nebi Yunus.

**No** ("stirring up"), an Egyptian city better known as Thebes (Ezek. 30: 14-16; Jer. 46:25). It was the capital of Upper Egypt.

**Nob** ("prophecy"), a city of the tribe of Benjamin located northeast of Jerusalem, within sight of the city (1 Sam. 21: 1; 22: 19).

**Nobah** ("prominent"), a town of Gad east of the Jordan (Judg. 8: 11). Its site is a tell near Safut.

**Nod** ("vagabond"), an unidentified land east of Eden to which Cain fled after the murder of Abel (Gen. 4: 16). Some suppose it to be China, but this is speculation.

**Noph.** *See* Memphis.

**Nophah** ("fearful"), a city in Moab (Num. 21:30). It is not referred to elsewhere and may not be a place name. However, it may be another name for Nobah (q.v.).

End of the N's.

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