### ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE

This article identifies all of the people whose proper names occur in the Bible, excluding the deuterocanonical books.

The names are set out alphabetically as they are spelled in the King James Version, with variant spellings enclosed in brackets [ ]. The meaning of the name is then given in parentheses ( ). Under each entry, various individuals bearing this name are differentiated by boldface brackets, like this: [1]; [2]; and so on. Then follows a description of the character, with several Bible verses listed where the name occurs. (Not all verses could be given; so if the reader is considering a passage that is not cited in the section, he must choose the character that would most likely be identical with the person in his passage.)

We have made no attempt to designate each person as a Palite, Harodite, Gileadite, and so on. Many of these designations refer to the ancestor of an individual; in other cases, they refer to the person's city, district, or distinctive clan. It is often a guess as to which meaning is intended.

The meanings of the names are not infallibly accurate; they are simply interesting possibilities. These names are ancient and their history is obscure and uncertain.

Many people in Scripture bear the same name. In dozens of cases, we cannot determine whether an individual in one book is identical with someone having the same name in another book. In the ancient world, a person was often called by more than one name.

In the transmission of Scripture, copyists occasionally made errors. Surely Reuel was not also called Deuel, nor Jemuel called Nemuel, and so on. Yet which is original? Only in a few cases do we have any clues.

We find variant forms and contractions of names through the Bible. They probably presented little difficulty to an ancient reader. But this further complicates the identification problem for us.

The Hebrew genealogies are abbreviated at many points. At times it is difficult to distinguish a man from his ancestor. Consider also the problem of trying to match an abbreviated list with a fuller list. Either the names in the abbreviated list are independent of the longer list or they are already included in it. In other words, we may find the same person included in two lists or two different people in two lists.

In a few cases, our English versions use the same word to transliterate several similar Hebrew names. In these instances, we have recorded a separate entry for each Hebrew name (e.g., Iddo).

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<td><strong>Haahashtari</strong> (&quot;the courier&quot;), a son of Ashur listed in the descendants of Judah (1 Chron. 4:6).</td>
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<td><strong>Habail</strong> (&quot;Jehovah is protection&quot;), ancestor of a priestly family (Ezra 2:61; Neh. 7:63).</td>
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<td><strong>Habakkuk</strong> (&quot;love's embrace&quot;), a prophet during the reigns of Jehoiakim and Josiah (Hab. 1:1; 3:1).</td>
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<td><strong>Habaziniah</strong> (&quot;Jehovah's light&quot;), the grandfather of Jaa-zaniah, the founder of a Jewish sect (Jer. 35:3).</td>
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<td><strong>Hachmoni</strong> (&quot;the wise&quot;), father of Jehiel, the royal tutor (1 Chron. 27:32).</td>
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<td><strong>Hadadezer</strong> [<strong>Hadar-ezer</strong>] ([the god] Hadad is my help&quot;), the king of Zobah in Syria that warred against David and Joab (2 Sam. 8:312). His name is also written Hadarezer; perhaps this is a dialectal variant (2 Sam. 10:16; 1 Chron. 18:3-10).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hadar. See Hadad [1], [3].</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hadarezer. See Hadadezer.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Hadasah</strong> (&quot;myrtle&quot;), the Hebrew name of Esther (q.v.).</td>
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<td><strong>Hadai</strong> (&quot;resting&quot;), the father of Amasa, a chief man of the tribe of Ephraim (2 Chron. 28:12).</td>
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<td><strong>Hadoram</strong> (&quot;Hadar is high&quot;). [1] The son of Joktan, a descendant of Noah (Gen. 10:27; 1 Chron. 1:21). [2] The son of the king of Hamath; he bore presents to David (1 Chron. 18:10). He is called Joram in 2 Samuel 8:9-10, perhaps as a token to honor David's God (i.e., Joram means &quot;Jehovah is high&quot;). [3] The superintendent of forced labor under David, Solomon, and Rehoboam. He is variously called Adoniram (&quot;my lord is exalted&quot;), and Adoram, a contraction of the former (2 Sam. 20:24; 2 Chron. 10:18; 1 Kings 4:6; 12:18). See also Jehoram.</td>
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<td><strong>Hagab</strong> (&quot;locust&quot;), an ancestor of captives returning with Zerubbabel (Ezra 2:46). See Hagaba.</td>
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| **Hagaba** [**Hagabah**] ("locust"), an ancestor of some of the captives returning with Zerubbabel (Ezra 2:45;
A faithful Israelite placed Hagabah. See Hagab.

Hagar [Agar] ("wandering"), an Egyptian servant of Sarah; she became the mother of Ishmael by Abraham (Gen. 16:1-16; 21:14-17).

Haggai ("festive"), the first of the prophets who prophesied after the Babylonian captivity (Ezra 5:1; Hag. 1:1,3, 12).

Haggai ("wanderer"), the father of one of David's mighty men (1 Chron. 11:38).

Haggai ("festive"), the second son of Gad (Gen. 46:16; Num. 26:15).

Haggiah ("feast of Jehovah"), a descendant of Levi (1 Chron. 6:30).

Haggith ("festival"), the fifth wife of David and mother of Adonijah (2 Sam. 3:4; 1 Kings 1:5, 11).

Hakkatan ("the little one"), the father of Johanan, who returned with Ezra (Ezra 8:12).

Hakkaz ("the nimble"), a priest and chief of the seventh course of service in the sanctuary (1 Chron. 24:10).

Hakupha ("incitement"), ancestor of a family returning from captivity (Ezra 2:51; Neh. 7:53).

Hallohesh [Hallohesh] ("the whisperer; the slanderer"). [1] The father of one who repaired the wall (Neh. 3:12). [2] A man or family that sealed the new covenant with God after the Exile (Neh. 10:24); some identify him with [1].

Hallohesh. See Hallohesh.

Ham, the youngest son of Noah. Because of his wickedness, his son Canaan was cursed (Gen. 5:32; 9:22-27).

Haman ("celebrated Human [Humban"]), the prime minister of Ahasuerus who plotted against the Jews (Esther 3-9).

Hammedatha ("given by the moon"), the father of Haman (Esther 3:1).

Hammelech. This is not a proper name. It is a general title that means "the king" (Jer. 36:26; 38:6).

Hammoleketh ("the queen"), an ancestor of Gideon. It may be a proper name or title (1 Chron. 7:18).

Hamor [Emmor] ("ass"), the prince of Shechem whose son Shechem brought destruction on himself and his family (Gen. 33:19; 34:2-26).

Hamran. See Hemdan.

Hamuel ("wrath of God"), a descendant of Simeon (1 Chron. 4:26).

Hamul ("pity"), the younger son of Pharez (Gen. 46:12; 1 Chron. 2:5).

Hamutal ("kinsman of the dew"), one of King Josiah's wives (2 Kings 23:31; 24:18; Jer. 52:1).


Hananeel ("God is gracious"), the builder of the tower near the Sheep Gate (Neh. 3:1; Jer. 31:38).


Hannah ("gift of grace of God"), a cousin of Jeremiah's who sold him a field (Jer. 32:6-9).


Hannah ("grace"), a prophetess, the mother of Samuel (1 Sam. 1).

Haniel. See Haniel.
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Harbona [Harbonah] ("ass-driver"), a chamberlain under Ahasuerus (Esther 1:10; 7:9).

Hareph ("early born"), a son of Caleb (1 Chron. 2:51), not to be confused with Hariph (q.v.).

Harhaiah ("Jehovah is protecting"), father of Uzziel, a builder of the wall of Jerusalem (Neh. 3:8).

Harhas [Hasrah] ("glitter"), grandfather of Shallum, the husband of the prophetess Huldah (2 Kings 22:14). Another form of the name is Hasrah (2 Chron. 34:22).

Harhur ("nobility; distinction"), ancestor of returned captives (Neh. 7:53; Ezra 2:51).


Harnepher ("panting"), a descendant of Asher (1 Chron. 7:36).

Haroch ("the seer"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 2:52); perhaps Reiah (1 Chron. 4:2).

Harsha ("artificer"), an ancestor of returning captives (Ezra 2:52; Neh. 7:54).

Harum ("elevated"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4:8).

Harumaph ("snub-nosed"), father of Jedeaiah the wall-builder (Neh. 3:10).

Haruz ("industrious"), mother of King Amon (2 Kings 21:19).

Hasadiah ("Jehovah is kind"), a descendant of Jehoiakim (1 Chron. 3:20).

Hasenah ("the violated"), a descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 9:7). The original name was probably Senuah, to which the Hebrew definite article (Ha-) is prefixed. See also Senuah.


Hashabniah ("Jehovah is a friend"), one who sealed the new covenant with God after the Exile (Neh. 10:25).

Hashabniyah ("Jehovah is a friend"). [1] Father of Hattush who helped to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem (Neh. 3:10). [2] A Levite who officiated at the fast under Ezra and Nehemiah when the covenant was sealed (Neh. 9:5).

Hashbadana ("judge"), an assistant to Ezra at the reading of the Law (Neh. 8:4).

Hashem ("shining"), father of several of David's guards (1 Chron. 11:34).


Hashubah ("association"), a descendant of Jehoiakim (1 Chron. 3:20).


Hashupha [Hasupha] ("stripped"), an ancestor of returning captives (Ezra 2:43; Neh. 7:46).

Hasrah. See Harhas.

Hassenaah ("the thorn hedge"), an ancestor of those who rebuilt the Fish Gate at Jerusalem (Neh. 3:3). The
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name is probably identical with the Sennaah of Ezra 2:35 and Nehemiah 7:38, which most English translators have understood to have the Hebrew definite article (Ha-) prefixed.

**Hashub.** See Hashub.

**Hasupha.** See Hashupha.

**Hatach.** a chamberlain of Ahasuerus (Esther 4:5-10).

**Hathath ("terror").** son of Othniel (1 Chron. 4:13).

**Hatipha ("taken; captive").** an ancestor of returning captives (Ezra 2:54; Neh. 7:56).

**Hatita ("exploration").** a temple gatekeeper or porter whose descendants returned from the Babylonian Captivity (Ezra 2:42; Neh. 7:45).

**Hattil ("decaying").** an ancestor of some who returned from the Babylonian Captivity (Ezra 2:57; Neh. 7:59).


**Hazael ("God sees").** the murderer of Ben-hadad II who usurped the throne of Syria (1 Kings 19:15; 17; 2 Kings 8:8-29).

**Hazaiah ("Jehovah is seeing").** a descendant of Judah (Neh. 11:5).

**Hazar-maveth ("court of death").** the third son of Joktan (Gen. 10:26; 1 Chron. 1:20).

**Hazelelponi ("protection of the face of").** a daughter of Etam in the genealogy of Judah (1 Chron. 4:3).

**Haziel ("God is seeing").** a descendant of Levi in the time of David (1 Chron. 23:9).

**Hazo ("vision; seer").** a son of Nahor and nephew of Abraham (Gen. 22:22).


**Hegai (Hege).** a chamberlain of Ahasuerus (Esther 2:3, 8, 15).

**Helah ("tenderness").** a wife of Asher (1 Chron. 4:5.7).

**Heldai (Helem) ("enduring").** [1] A captain of the temple service (1 Chron. 27:15). [2] An Israelite who returned from the Babylonian Captivity and was given special honors (Zech. 6:10); he is called Helem in verse 14.

**Heleb (Heled) ("fat").** one of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:29; 1 Chron. 11:30).

**Helek ("portion").** a descendant of Manasseh (Num. 26:30; Josh. 17:2).


**Helkai ("Jehovah is my portion").** the head of a priestly family (Neh. 12:15).

**Helon ("valorous").** the father of Eliab, the prince of Zebulun (Num. 1:9; 2:7; 7:24; 10:16).

**Heman.** See Homam.


**Hemath (Hamath) ("warmth").** father of the house of Rechab (1 Chron. 2:55); also called Hamath (Amos 6:14).

**Hemdan ("pleasant").** a descendant of Seir (Gen. 36:26). The KJV wrongly rendered this name Amram as Hamran in 1 Chronicles 1:41—the reading is either a copyist's mistake or a form of the above.

**Hen ("favor").** a son of Zephaniah (Zech. 6:14); he is probably the same as Josiah in verse 10.

**Henadad ("Hadad is gracious").** a head of a Levite family that helped to rebuild the temple (Ezra 3:9; Neh. 3:18, 24:10:9).

**Henoch.** See Hanoch.


**Hephi-ah ("my delight is in her").** the mother of King Manasseh (2 Kings 21:1).

**Heresh ("work; silence").** head of a Levite family (1 Chron. 9:15).

**Hermas ("Mercury; interpreter").** a Christian to whom Paul sent greetings (Rom. 16:14).
The last strong ruler of the Hasmonean family was Alexander Jannaeus, who dismissed the Jews' charges and extended Herod's governorship to Coele-Syria and Samaria. When Cassius, one of Julius Caesar's murderers, became ruler of the eastern sector of the Roman Empire, Herod and his father Antipater gave him their full cooperation. Many Jewish groups opposed their rule, and Antipater died of poisoning in 43 B.C. just after he paid a large tax to Cassius.

Then Mark Anthony assumed control of the eastern provinces, and Jewish leaders clamored to denounce Herod as a tyrant. But Anthony confirmed Herod and Phasael tetrarches (i.e., each was ruler of one fourth of the region) of Judea.

In 40 B.C., the Hasmonean leader Antigonus (a nephew of John Hyrcanus I) ousted Herod from power and was proclaimed king of Judea. He ordered his men to cut off the ears of Hyrcanus II, so that he could no longer be high priest. (It was unlawful for a mutilated person to serve as priest.) Herod appealed to Anthony for aid. Octavian and Anthony advised the Roman senate to appoint Herod king of the Jews, but it took him three years of hard fighting to regain his kingdom. From that time until his death 33 years later, Herod governed his realm as a loyal ally of Rome.

When Octavian defeated Antony and Cleopatra at Actium in 31 B.C., Herod wisely surrendered his kingdom to his new master. Octavian confirmed Herod as king of Judea and added still more territory to his domain. Herod the Great married a total of ten women—Doris, Mariamne I, Mariamne II, Malthace, Cleopatra, Pallas, Phaedra, Elpis, and two whose names are unknown (in that order). In all, they bore him at least 15 children.

Herod divorced Doris in order to marry Mariamne (known historically as Mariamne I). She was a member of the Hasmonean family, and Herod hoped to gain political status through this marriage. Eventually, Herod ordered his men to execute Mariamne I and her grandfather John Hyrcanus II. By doing this, Herod exterminated the Hasmonean family. Herod the Great tried to win the Jews' favor by rebuilding their temple on a magnificent scale. Yet he also built temples dedicated to pagan gods. The Jewish people resented Herod's Idumean ancestry and his marriage to Malthace, a Samaritan.

The last years of Herod's life were dismal and full of grief; he deteriorated mentally and physically. His mad
jealousy caused him to order many executions. Three of his sons—Antipater II, Alexander, and Aristobulus I—were among the victims.

Herod’s death in 4 B.C. brought a new era to Judea. Just before his death, Herod formally gave the Roman emperor power to supervise his kingdom. (Rom had been the real ruler of Palestine since the overthrow of Aristobulus in 63 B.C., but it now exerted its control more directly.) In his will, Herod the Great divided his kingdom among three of his sons. Archelaus received Judea, Samaria, and Idumea; Antipas II received Galilee and Perea; and Herod Philip II received the northeastern territories.

Herod Archelaus ruled "in the room of his father Herod" (Matt. 2:22), although without the title of king. He was Herod’s oldest son by Malthace and had the worst reputation of all Herod's children. He angered the Jews by marrying Gaphrya, the widow of his half-brother Alexander. Rival Jews and Samaritans sent a united delegation to Rome, threatening to revolt if Archelaus were not removed. Accordingly, in A.D. 6, he was deposed and banished. Judea then became a Roman province, administered by governors appointed by the emperor.

Herod Antipas II was Herod's younger son by Malthace. The Gospels depict him as wholly immoral. He divorced his first wife to marry Herodias, the wife of his half-brother Herod Philip I; since Herodias was also his niece, their union was doubly sinful. He imprisoned John the Baptist for denouncing this marriage (Mark 6:17-18). Herodias made full use of her husband's pledge to give her daughter (possibly Salome II) anything that she wished (Mark 6:19-28). She demanded John's head on a platter, and so Antipas had him executed. However, Herod Antipas II was the ablest of Herod’s sons; in A.D. 22 he built the city of Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee. Emperor Caligula exiled him in A.D. 39 after Herod Agrippa I accused him of plotting against Rome.

Herod Philip II was unlike the rest of the Herodian clan, for he was dignified, moderate, and just. He ruled for 37 years as the "tetrarch of Iturea, and of the region of Trachonitis" (Luke 3:1). He married Salome II, the daughter of Herod Philip I, his half-brother.

Herod Agrippa I was the son of Aristobulus I and a grandson of Herod the Great. In A.D. 37, Emperor Caligula gave Agrippa the title of king, with territories northeast of Palestine. When Antipas II was banished in A.D. 39, Galilee and Perea were added to Agrippa’s kingdom. Emperor Claudius further extended Agrippa's territory by giving him Judea and Samaria in A.D. 41. Agrippa I killed the apostle James and persecuted the early church. Because of his arrogance, God took his life (Acts 12). Among his children were Bernice II, Herod Agrippa II, and Drusilla (who married Felix, the Roman governor of Judea—cf. Acts 24:24).

Emperor Claudius gave Herod Agrippa II the title of king, with territories north and northeast of Palestine; these territories were increased by Emperor Nero in A.D. 56. His incestuous relationship with his sister Bernice II was a scandal among the Jews; the New Testament mentions that he and Bernice heard Paul (Acts 25:1326:32). He urged his countrymen to remain loyal to Rome during the Jewish revolts; when the nation fell he moved to Rome, where he died in about A.D. 100.

Herod Philip I was the Herod the Great's son by Mariamne II. For a time, he was included in Herod’s will; but the king later revoked this grant. Philip remained a private citizen and his life story is unclear. His wife, Herodias, left him to live with his half-brother Antipas II (cf. Mark 6:17-18).

Christ, the apostles, and the early Christians lived during the turbulent days of the Herods. While the Herods built many splendid edifices and strengthened Judea militarily, the verdict of their subjects was that they were guilty—of oppression, tyranny, and burden in the highest degree.

Herod ("heroic"). [1] Herod the Great, the sly king of Judea when Christ was born. In order to maintain power, he murdered the children of Bethlehem, thinking that he would be killing the Messiah (Matt. 2:1-22; Luke 1:5).

Herodias ("heroic"), granddaughter of Herod the Great, wife of Antipas, and ultimate cause of John the Baptist's death (Matt. 14:3-9; Luke 3:19).

Hesed ("kindness"), father of one of Solomon's officers (1 Kings 4:10); not to be confused with Jushabhesed (q.v.).

Heth (a personification of the Hittites), the ancestor of the Hittites (Gen. 10:15; 1 Chron. 1:13).

Hezeki ("Jehovah is strength"), a descendant of Benjamin (1 Chron. 8:17).
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Hezion ("vision"), the grandfather of Benhadad, king of Syria (1 Kings 15:18). Many scholars identify him with Rezon (q.v.).


Hezrai [Hezro] ("blooming; beautiful"), one of David's warriors (2 Sam. 23:35). He is also called Hezro (1 Chron. 11:37).

Hiddekel ("mighty; chief"), one of David's mighty men (2 Sam. 23:30). He is called Hurai ("free; noble") in 1 Chronicles 11:32.

Hod ("majesty"), one of the sons of Zophah (1 Chron. 7:37).

Hodaviah ("Jehovah is honor"). [1] A chief of the tribe of Benjamin (1 Chron. 9:7). [2] An ancestor of returning captives (Ezra 2:40). He is also called Hodevah ("Jehovah is honor") in Nehemiah 7:43. See also Hodaviah.

Hodaviah. See Hodaviah.

Hodaviah. See Hodaviah.

**Pool of Siloam.** The pool is located in the Kidron Valley and was connected to the spring of Gihon by the Siloam Tunnel. King Hezekiah of Judah knew that the Assyrians would lay siege to Jerusalem. In order to assure a free flow of water into the city, he ordered that the waters of Gihon be diverted underground into a tunnel hewn out of stone (2 Chron. 32:1-5, 30). These waters flowed into the pool of Siloam, located within the city walls.
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Hodijah. See Hodiah.

Hoglah ("partridge"), a daughter of Zelophehad (Num. 26:33; 27:1; Josh. 17:3).

Hoham ("whom Jehovah impels; Jehovah protects the multitude"), an Amorite king slain by Joshua (Josh. 10:1-27).

Homam [Hemam] ("raging"), a Horite descendant of Esau (1 Chron. 1:39). He is called Hemam in Genesis 36:22 (probably a copyist's error).

Hophni ("strong"), the unholy son of Eli slain at the battle of Aphek (1 Sam. 1:3; 2:22-24,34).

Horam ("height"), a king of Gezer defeated by Joshua (Josh. 10:33).


Hosah ("refuge"), one of the first doorkeepers of the ark of the covenant (1 Chron. 16:38; 26:10-11, 16).

Hosea [Osee] ("help; i.e., Jehovah is help"), a prophet of Israel; he denounced the idolatries of Israel and Samaria (Hos. 1:1-2).

Hoshama ("whom Jehovah heareth"), a son or descendant of Jeconiah or Jehoiakim (1 Chron. 3:18).


Hotham. See Hotham.

Hothir ("abundance"), son of Heman in charge of the twenty-first course of the tabernacle service (1 Chron. 25:4,28).

Hul ("circle"), grandson of Shem (Gen. 10:23; 1 Chron. 1:17).

Huldah ("weasel"), a prophetess in the days of King Josiah (2 Kings 22:14; 2 Chron. 34:22).

Humpham ("coast-inhabitant; protected"), the head of a family descendant from Benjamin (Num. 26:39). In Genesis 46:21 and 1 Chronicles 7:12, his name is listed as Huppim ("coast-people" or "protection").

Huppah ("protection"), a priest in the time of David who had charge of one of the courses of service in the sanctuary (1 Chron. 24:13).

Huppim. See Humpham.


Hurai. See Hiddai.

Huran. See Hiram.

Huri ("linen weaver"), a descendant of Gad (1 Chron. 5:14).

Hushah ("haste"), a descendant of Judah (1 Chron. 4:4).

Hushai ("quick"), a friend and counselor of David (2 Sam. 15:32,37; 16:16-18; 17:5-15).

Husham ("hasting; alert"), a descendant of Esau who became king of Edom (Gen. 36:3435; 1 Chron. 1:45-46).


Hzu ("firm"), the eldest son of Nahor and Milcah (Gen. 22:21). Elsewhere listed as Uz.

Hymenaeus ("nuptial"), an early Christian who fell into apostasy and error (1 Tim. 1:20; 2 Tim. 2:17).

End of the H's.

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The prophet Hosea predicted that God would punish the tribe of Ephraim, which lived in these fertile hills north of Jerusalem (cf. Hosea 12-13). Hosea said, "Now they sin more and more, and have made them... idols according to their own understanding..." (Hosea 13:2).