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**BIBLE STUDY**

**Straightway Church of Christ, Inc.**

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**“DESCENDANTS AND DESTINY”**

**1 Chronicles 2:27-55**

***I Chronicles 2:27 "And the sons of Ram the firstborn of Jerahmeel were, Maaz, and Jamin, and Eker."***

***I Chronicles 2:28 And the sons of Onam were, Shammai, and Jada. And the sons of Shammai; Nadab, and Abishur.***

The offspring of Jacob’s twelve sons eventually formed Israel’s tribes. Judah was not the first son in birth order, but he became prominent because God promised that Israel’s rulers would come from his line; this promise included the Messiah. This is why Judah and his descendants are discussed first and at length from chapter 2:3 all the way through chapter 4:23. Because Judah is the tribe of King David, we are introduced to Jesse and his sons, the last of whom was David. This Ram is the nephew of the one who the genealogy goes through. Some scholars group all of these sons under Ram.

***I Chronicles 2:29 "And the name of the wife of Abishur [was] Abihail, and she bare him Ahban, and Molid."***

The name "Abihail" means father of might, or mighty. "Ahban" means brother of the wise. "Molid" means begetter.

***I Chronicles 2:30 "And the sons of Nadab; Seled, and Appaim: but Seled died without children."***

***I Chronicles 2:31 "And the sons of Appaim; Ishi. And the sons of Ishi; Sheshan. And the children of Sheshan; Ahlai."***

***I Chronicles 2:32 And the sons of Jada the brother of Shammai; Jether, and Jonathan: and Jether died without children.***

***I Chronicles 2:33 "And the sons of Jonathan; Peleth, and Zaza. These were the sons of Jerahmeel."***

Ahlai was a daughter who married Jarha, an Egyptian slave. "Jonathan" means Jehovah has given. Jonathan will carry on the family of Jada, because his brother had no children. Very little is known of Peleth and Zaza.

***I Chronicles 2:34 "Now Sheshan had no sons, but daughters. And Sheshan had a servant, an Egyptian, whose name [was] Jarha."***

***I Chronicles 2:35 "And Sheshan gave his daughter to Jarha his servant to wife; and she bare him Attai."***

***I Chronicles 2:36 "And Attai begat Nathan, and Nathan begat Zabad,"***

***I Chronicles 2:37 "And Zabad begat Ephlal, and Ephlal begat Obed,"***

***I Chronicles 2:38 "And Obed begat Jehu, and Jehu begat Azariah,"***

***I Chronicles 2:39 "And Azariah begat Helez, and Helez begat Eleasah,"***

***I Chronicles 2:40 "And Eleasah begat Sisamai, and Sisamai begat Shallum,"***

***I Chronicles 2:41 "And Shallum begat Jekamiah, and Jekamiah begat Elishama."***

***I Chronicles 2:42 "Now the sons of Caleb the brother of Jerahmeel [were], Mesha his firstborn, which was the father of Ziph; and the sons of Mareshah the father of Hebron."***

This is a list of Sheshan's family through his daughter and his Egyptian servant. This list of names brings this family down to about the time of David. This reverts back to the family of Caleb. It is not connected with the verses we just read. You remember, that Caleb was brother to Jerahmeel and Ram. Caleb is the same as Chelubai. Caleb and his wife, Azubah, had two sons. Mesha, and Mareshah. Mesha had a son named Ziph, and Maresha had Hebron.

***I Chronicles 2:43 "And the sons of Hebron; Korah, and Tappuah, and Rekem, and Shema."***

***I Chronicles 2:44 "And Shema begat Raham, the father of Jorkoam: and Rekem begat Shammai."***

***I Chronicles 2:45 "And the son of Shammai [was] Maon: and Maon [was] the father of Beth-zur."***

The sons of Hebron lived sometime between 1300 and 1400 B. C. We must continue to remember that these people are descendents of Caleb and his wife Azubah.

***I Chronicles 2:46 "And Ephah, Caleb's concubine, bare Haran, and Moza, and Gazez: and Haran begat Gazez."***

***I Chronicles 2:47 "And the sons of Jahdai; Regem, and Jotham, and Gesham, and Pelet, and Ephah, and Shaaph."***

***I Chronicles 2:48 "Maachah, Caleb's concubine, bare Sheber, and Tirhanah."***

***I Chronicles 2:49 She bare also Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah, and the father of Gibea: and the daughter of Caleb [was] Achsa."***

The only distinction we can make here, is that these are sons and grandsons of Caleb, by his concubines. These particular people are not in the lineage that leads to David and ultimately to Jesus, so there is very little known of them.

***I Chronicles 2:50 "These were the sons of Caleb the son of Hur, the firstborn of Ephratah; Shobal the father of Kirjath-jearim,"***

Ephratah was another wife of Caleb. Hur was her son. He was a companion of Moses and Aaron. His son was named Caleb, for his grandfather Caleb. Shobal was the founding father of Kirjath-jearim. This was a city of forests. It lay on the western border of Benjamin. This was once the place the ark of the covenant stayed.

***I Chronicles 2:51 "Salma the father of Beth-lehem, Hareph the father of Beth-gader."***

Salma was the founding father of Bethlehem approximately 1400 B.C. Hareph was the founding father of Beth-gader. "Beth-gader" means house of the wall, and is, probably, the same as Geder.

***I Chronicles 2:52 "And Shobal the father of Kirjath-jearim had sons; Haroeh, [and] half of the Manahethites."***

Half the Manahethites, possibly, means that these descendents were from Shobal.

***I Chronicles 2:53 "And the families of Kirjath-jearim; the Ithrites, and the Puhites, and the Shumathites, and the Mishraites; of them came the Zareathites, and the Eshtaulites."***

Kirjath-jearim is a place. This just means that these various people lived in that place. Ithrites were the descendents living at Kirjath-jearim. The Puhites were descended from Shobal. The Shumathites, the Mishraites, Zareathites, and Eshtaulites were family tribes that lived in Kirjath- jearim. Very little else is known of any of them. They later were, probably, absorbed by other tribes.

***I Chronicles 2:54 "The sons of Salma; Beth-lehem, and the Netophathites, Ataroth, the house of Joab, and half of the Manahethites, the Zorites."***

Salma was the prince of Beth-lehem. "Bethlehem" means house of bread. This would be the city where the LORD Jesus would be born. The Netophathites lived around Beth-lehem, actually 3 1\2 miles south. Two of David's men are said to be of them. Ataroth was inhabited by the house of Joab. This Joab could be the same as the captain of the host for David. If he is the same, his mother was David's sister. The Zorites are connected in some way with Joab.

***I Chronicles 2:55 "And the families of the scribes which dwelt at Jabez; the Tirathites, the Shimeathites, [and] Suchathites. These [are] the Kenites that came of Hemath, the father of the house of Rechab."***

The Tirathites, Shimeathites, and the Suchathites were families of scribes. Ezra, who is thought to have compiled the Chronicles, was, also, a well known scribe. We discussed before, how well the records were kept. Perhaps, these scribes were, also, interested in keeping God's Word pure. They were very careful to have each word exact when copying the law of Moses. We all have a lot to thank the scribes for. There would be nothing to study of the Word had they not been dedicated to that task. The Kenites were a Nomadic tribe that lived near Bethlehem, mostly in the rocky country. The house of the Rechabites were part of the Kenites. David kept friendly relations with them. The Kenites were heavily intermarried with the Israelites. The Rechabites would not drink wine. These Nomadic people were people of high principles.

**QUESTIONS**

1. Who were the sons of Ram?

2. Who is the Ram in verse 27?

3. What does "Abihail" mean?

4. Who did Ahlai marry?

5. What does "Jonathan" mean?

6. The list of names, which end in verse 40, bring this group of people down to what time?  
7. Who were Caleb's brothers?  
8. Verses 46 through 49 are a list of whom?  
9. What, special, do we remember about Hur?  
10. What was Kirjath-jearim?  
11. Who were the families of Kirjath-jearim?  
12. Salma was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Beth-lehem.  
13. Who is the Joab, in verse 54?  
14. Who was his mother?  
15. What kind of families were the people in verse 55?

16. The Kenites were a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ tribe.  
17. What set the Kenites apart from the others?