

The Amorites and Canaanites

This is a summary of these people who are mentioned in Joshua 5:1. They were a significant force in the land that God promised the Father's of Israel. These powerful people were godless and pagan to the point where God wanted them exterminated. One day all those who live in violation of God's Order will be exterminated, exemplified in Sodom, Gen. 19 and finally at the end of time, Rev. 21:8.

The Amorites: Kings of the Amorites were Sihon and Og. They lived in the land east of the Jordan taken by Moses by the time of the events in Joshua 5. The information is recorded in Numbers 21 and Deut. 1. The information of these bully Kings being destroyed helped to further the fear of the nations still in existence in the Promised Land. Deut. 1-3 gives a fair amount of information regarding the area possessed by these godless people. Og king of Bashan lived in Ashtaroth also the name of a heathen religion. Og's bed was 13.5 feet long a demonic and physical giant, Deut. 3; it is interesting that the Spirit recorded this detail. These people were intractable (not easily ruled). Mentioned in the Apocrypha, these people were the main representatives of heathen superstition, sickening idolatry and in whose ways and laws the Children of Israel were forbidden to walk or live, Lev. 18:3. One Syriac writer of old mentioned that their religion was like "black water." They were into witchcraft, and impure mysteries by which they spiritually contaminated Israel during the time of the Judges (after Joshua).

A writing not in the Bible, legends of these people of old told in the "Chronicle of Jerahmeel" told how the tribes of Israel learned the wickedness of the Amorites and kept their books hidden under Mt. Abarim and Mt. Shechem, read Psalm 10:3-11. The end of the story is that there is prevalent belief that the Jewish people were involved in Amorite witchcraft. The sons of Esau sided with the Amorite and were defeated in some physical battles with the Sons of Israel. When battles were over the Son's of Israel would take to themselves the religious artifacts of the heathen. They were mysterious and seductive and thus intrigued by the contaminated and evil, Israel entered into common practices of the heathen. Often the women would become wives in the camp of Israel though forbidden by the Lord.

The Canaanites: In Gen. 9, 18 and 22, Ham appears as the father of Canaan. Canaan was cursed and departure from God ensued.

Baal was the power worshipped by the Canaanites. To them Baal was god. Baal is the bull god. He is half man and half bull, the god of fertility associated with the sun god. In Egypt Baal was known as the Son of the Nile or Ra. He possessed Akhnaton (meaning... who is pleasing to Aton), the husband of Nefertiti... Nefertiti is the originator of the Rosicrucians and Masons. The Rosicrucians doctrine is a godless religion that is the root of the New Age Movement which is deeply affecting our society today. Baal promotes false religion and religious prostitution, (*Mysterious Secrets of the Dark Kingdom* by Timmons).

Moloch was a Canaanite deity associated with human sacrifice, (Mostly child sacrifice and an ancient form of abortion.) A bronze statue with the head of an ox and body of a man was erected by a heathen altar. Infants would be placed in it's hands to burn. Moloch means "lord of the altar of incense." Moloch was a form of the sun-god worshipped by the inhabitants of Sepharvaim (2 Kings 17:31), named Adrammelech. This god inhabited Samaria with its half breed Israelites. Adrammelech was one of ten archdemons and appeared in various animal forms.

Touch of Evil... a Poem by Milton

The Amorites and Canaanites

Touch of Evil
On the faithful bestowed
Burn for Moloch
Sacrificial Inferno
Submitting the offspring
Swallowed in flames
Baptismal immolation
Another soul claimed.

Hell on earth
The Pagan returns
To please the deity
Children shall burn
“Your children are mine
Placate me with them
You worshiped before
You will kneel again.”
As the young are scorched
We welcome the end
The lord of the altar of incense unleashed
Apocalypse begins.

Ham was persuaded by his consort Naamah to practice ritual murder and cannibalism. The word cannibalism comes from Canaan and the demon god Baal. It was thought by eating fair-skinned persons, his descendants would regain their superior qualities.

Cain “who was of the evil one” (1 Jn. 3:12) was the first to use his devilish ability to murder his brother Able. The “synagogue of Satan” (Rev. 2:9 and 3:9) used evil clairvoyant practice to harm the people of God. This synagogue believed that the birthright that Jacob stole from their forefather Esau should be theirs. Esau grieved his parents by marrying the daughter of Geeri the Hittite and Bashemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite. This was a great grief to Isaac and Rebekah, Genesis 26 and 36.

The Jewish Encyclopedia informs us that Edom is in Modern Jewry. There is connection between modern Jews and Edom, they believe. Esau and Edom are part of the Canaanite people and are a part of the Armenians and Hittites of Mesopotamia. Strongs concordance gives the meaning of Canaan as “trader or merchant”. Thus the Canaanites became the Phoenicians, the Philistines and are derived from the incestuous relationship with Naamah the sister of Tubalcain, mentioned in the genealogies of Genesis. The vile blood of the Canaanite contaminates the blood of Israel to this day, Judges 3:5ff. Even in Jesus’ day the Jews claimed to never have been in bondage, Jn. 8:32 and 33 but they were through their ancestors and Rome of the present.

Phoenician is a Greek word denoting a “palm tree” and is not in the O.T. These people were the Canaanites. These people were the most powerful of all peoples of the P.L. during Joshua’s invasion. The people of Carthage in North Africa called themselves Canaanites. These people were great world traders and colonized other parts of the ancient world. The Romans used the Greek word phoenix, Acts

The Amorites and Canaanites

27:12 as poenus and eventually called these Carthaginian Canaanites, “punic” people, a term to this day. But the nation Israel is corrupted with the nations of the world. Can it be assumed that Mary, mother of Jesus was of pure Abrahamic descent, no. It is only by God’s grace and anyone can be purified spiritually in and by the blood of the sacrificial Lamb of God.

The **Phoenicians were pantheistic**, always lending a hand to polytheism and idolatry. It was popular because it was evilly sensuous and attractive to the carnal nature of man. When Israel invaded the land of Palestine they probably looked on the Canaanite as more versatile and enlightened. Many no doubt thought that their devotion to one God, Jehovah was dull, gloomy or morose.

Solomon the wisest man who ever lived whom God appeared to twice (once not long after he had married an Egyptian princess) who scarified 1000 burnt offerings at Gibeon and who consecrated the temple became a polytheist and worshiped other pagan deities, even Ashtaroth yet he regarded himself to be a loyal worshiper of Jehovah but died in the squalor of idolatry. Doesn’t this seem to be an oxymoron? One might expect this from a lowly uneducated half baked citizen of the country, but Solomon?

The moral of all this pollution is that we as people of God today should be devoted to God on a higher plain. Devotion to the Christ of the cross and the God of all comfort and mercy is stressed in 2 Cor. 6:17. This verse warns us to come out from the world and be separate from the world and not touch the unclean... The world contaminates and defiles the life of the divine child of God. It says in Rev. 2:5 in connection with remembering the former way of life in sin we must truly repent and repent again and return to our God it we have tendency to return to t he old paths of sin: do it now and not later. In I John 2:15 we are reminded to hate the world nor are we loath the things and ways in the world and if we do we are to understand our false lifestyle as a Christian. For the true and faithful believer we are to realize that the world does not know us because they do not understand us if we walk in the light as He is in the light, I Jn. 3:1. This all should be evident for all true believers in Christ.

Stephen dumped hurtful words on the dark leaders of Israel and can be read about, Acts 7.35-45, you can tell he knew the Israel of the past. Isn’t the meaning of the name Israel true... One who struggles with God. Don’t we struggle in similar ways with our Savior and Lord as well?

Footnote: This material has no listed resource for information. It is encouraged that you do your own follow-up inquiry with Bible in hand and t he fear of the Lord guiding the thoughts of your mind and heart.

This review by Doug Crabb