

-Save This Page as a PDF-

## Esau's Sons and Grandsons

### 36: 9-14



This is the account of Esau the father of the Edomites in the hill country of Seir (36:9). He had **five sons** and **ten grandsons**. Esau's daughters (36:6) probably married Horite men and presumably **his granddaughters** did also. First, there is a summary statement about Esau's first two wives. These are the names of Esau's sons: **Eliphaz**, the son of Esau's wife **Adah**, and **Reuel**, the son of Esau's wife **Basemath** (36:10). First, the sons of **Eliphaz** are mentioned. They were **Teman**, **Omar**, **Zepho**, **Gatam** and **Kenaz** (36:11). Later one of **Jobs three friends** was named **Eliphaz the Temanite** (Job 2:11, 4:1 to 7:21). It very well could have been this **son** because they lived about the same time. These were **grandsons of Esau's wife Adah** (36:12).

Then, as a side note, Moses tells us that **Esau's son Eliphaz also had a concubine named Timna, who bore him Amalek** who was to play a key role in the future history of Isra'el. Because **Amalek was the son of a concubine**, he was looked down upon by the other **sons of Eliphaz** and seen as inferior. This may have forced **him** to live in a separate region and to develop **his** own nation. The descendants of **Amalek** became the notorious Amalekites, who settled in the area of the Sinai and the Negev (**Genesis 14:7, Numbers 13:29,**

**14:43-45).** The Amalekites were the first nation to oppose the entrance of Isra’el into the Promised Land after their deliverance from Egypt (**Exodus 17:8-16**), and they later subjugated Isra’el in the period of the judges (**Judges 3:13, 6:3, 7:12**). However, they were slaughtered under King Sha’ul (**First Samuel 14:48, 15:1-9**), and later attacked by King David (**First Samuel 27:8, 30:1**). Finally the tribe of Simeon exterminated them in the days of Hezekiah (**First Chronicles 4:42-43**).

Next, **the sons of Esau’s second son Reuel** are mentioned. They were **Nahath, Zerah, Shammah and Mizzah**. These were grandsons of Esav’s wife **Basemath** (36:13). Therefore, these were **Esav’s grandsons** through **his son Reuel**.

Lastly, **the sons of Esau’s wife Oholibamah** daughter of Anah and granddaughter of Zibeon, who bore three sons to Esav: **Jeush, Jalam and Korah** (36:14). At that point no **grandchildren** were recorded.