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The Sons of Seir the Horite

36: 20-30



The Horites were the original inhabitants of the land of **Edom**. **These were the sons of Seir the Horite, who were living in the region before it became known as Edom.** We don't know a lot about **their** history, but we do know the word **Horite** means *cave dwellers*. **They** lived in the caves found in the mountain range of Mount Seir. Outside the Bible they are known as the *Hurrians*. Originally they were an independent nation, as we know from **14:6**. **They** were partially exterminated, but also partially subjugated by Esau according to **Deuteronomy 2:22**. **The Horites** who survived intermarried with **the Edomites** and were absorbed by them. Two are mentioned in this chapter. **Esau's son Eliphaz had a concubine named Timna and Oholibamah became Esau's wife.**

The **seven sons** of **Seir the Horite** were named **Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, Dishon, Ezer and Dishan**. These sons of Seir in Edom were Horite chiefs (36:20-21).

The first son, Lotan, produced two sons **Hori and Homam**. **Timna,** the concubine of Esau's son Eliphaz, **was Lotan's sister (36:22)**. So here was the direct connection between **the Horites** and **the Edomites**. **Hori and Homam** were **the grandsons of Seir the Horite**.

The second son, Shobal, produced five sons; their names were **Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho and Onam (36:23)**.

The third son, **Zibeon**, produced two sons **Aiah** and **Anah**. This is the **Anah** who discovered the hot springs in the desert while he was grazing the donkeys of his father **Zibeon** (36:24). From that discovery **Anah** received the surname **Berri** (26:34) meaning *spring man*.

The fourth son, **Anah**, produced two children named **Dishon** and **Oholibamah**, daughter of **Anah**, the great-granddaughter of **Seir the Horite**, who became the wife of **Esau** (36:25).

The fifth son, **Dishon**, produced four sons named **Hemdan**, **Eshban**, **Ithran** and **Keran** (36:26).

The sixth son, **Ezer**, produced three sons named **Bilhan**, **Zaavan** and **Akan** (36:27).

The seventh son, **Dishan**, produced two sons named **Uz** and **Aran** (36:28).

All **seven sons** of **Seir the Horite** became the heads of clans. Their names were **Lotan**, **Shobal**, **Zibeon**, **Anah**, **Dishon**, **Ezer** and **Dishan**. These were the **Horite** heads of clans, according to their divisions, in the land of **Seir** (36:29-30).