

SETTLE, SETTLED, SETTLEST

In the days immediately after the Flood, the descendants of Noah traveled from the east. (This seems to mean they traveled west of Ararat, where the ark **settled**.)

- **Genesis 11:2:** "And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there."

In the days immediately after the Flood, the descendants of Noah didn't scatter over the entire world. Instead they remained as a group and **settled** in the land of Shinar.

- **Genesis 11:2:** "And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there."

Hamor asked Jacob and his sons to **settle** into the land, and trade with them, and gain possessions. (Instead of doing that, Simeon and Levi slaughtered all the males in the city and then looted their possessions.)

- **Genesis 34:8-10, 25:** "And Hamor communed with them, saying, The soul of my son Shechem longeth for your daughter: I pray you give her him to wife. And make ye marriages with us, and give your daughters unto us, and take our daughters unto you. And ye shall dwell with us: and the land shall be before you; dwell and trade ye therein, and get you possessions therein. ... And it came to pass on the third day, when they were sore, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brethren, took each man his sword, and came upon the city boldly,

and slew all the males."

After the tribe of Dan **settled** in the city that they built, they set up the graven image they had stolen from Micah. (The Danites then worshiped that idol until God removed them from the promised land.)

- **Judges 18:27-30:** "And they took the things which Micah had made, and the priest which he had, and came unto Laish, unto a people that were at quiet and secure: and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and burnt the city with fire. And there was no deliverer, because it was far from Zidon, and they had no business with any man; and it was in the valley that lieth by Bethrehob. And they built a city, and dwelt therein. And they called the name of the city Dan, after the name of Dan their father, who was born unto Israel: howbeit the name of the city was Laish at the first. And the children of Dan set up the graven image: and Jonathan, the son of Gershom, the son of Manasseh, he and his sons were priests to the tribe of Dan until the day of the captivity of the land."

The woman who spoke to Joab (while he was besieging the city of Abel) said that in old times, people used to say that those who needed counsel should ask at the city of Abel and that would **settle** the matter. (Apparently that city was known for giving good advice.)

- **2 Samuel 20:18:** "Then she spake, saying, They were wont to speak in old time, saying, They shall surely ask counsel at Abel: and so they ended the matter."

When the temple was dedicated, Solomon said that he built a

settled place for God to abide in forever. (It seems Solomon thought that his temple would always exist and would never be destroyed. He was wrong.)

- **1 Kings 8:13:** "I have surely built thee an house to dwell in, a settled place for thee to abide in for ever."

The king of Assyria was told that the new nations he had **settled** in Samaria didn't know the manner of the God of the land.

- **2 Kings 17:26:** "Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land."

The king of Assyria believed that in order for the people who he **settled** in Samaria to live there in peace, they needed to be taught God's ways.

- **2 Kings 17:26-27:** "Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The nations which thou hast removed, and placed in the cities of Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they know not the manner of the God of the land. Then the king of Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him teach them the manner of the God of the land."

When the king of Assyria **settled** new pagan nations in Samaria, those people created idols and put them in high places and cities throughout the land.

- **2 Kings 17:29-31:** "Howbeit every nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities wherein they dwelt. And the men of Babylon made Succothbenoth, and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made Ashima, And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim."

Although the pagan nations who the king of Assyria **settled** in Samaria feared God, they also worshiped idols. They didn't walk in God's ways. (Their idolatry included burning their children alive as human sacrifices.)

- **2 Kings 17:31-32:** "And the Avites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites burnt their children in fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the gods of Sepharvaim. So they feared the LORD, and made unto themselves of the lowest of them priests of the high places, which sacrificed for them in the houses of the high places."

When the book of 2 Kings was written, the pagan nations who the king of Assyria **settled** in Samaria were still there (and were still worshiping idols).

- **2 Kings 17:41:** "So these nations feared the LORD, and served their graven images, both their children, and their children's children: as did their fathers, so do they unto this day."

God said that He would **settle** the son of David in His house forever. (This seems to be a Messianic reference.)

- **1 Chronicles 17:14:** "But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore."

God said that He would settle the son of David in His kingdom forever. (This seems to be a Messianic reference.)

- **1 Chronicles 17:11-14:** "And it shall come to pass, when thy days be expired that thou must go to be with thy fathers, that I will raise up thy seed after thee, which shall be of thy sons; and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build me an house, and I will stablish his throne for ever. I will be his father, and he shall be my son: and I will not take my mercy away from him, as I took it from him that was before thee: But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore."

When the Jews returned to Judah after the Babylonian exile was over, they **settled** into the cities of Judah by the seventh month of the first year of the reign of Cyrus.

- **Ezra 1:1-3:** "Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The Lord God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged

me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the Lord God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem."

- **Ezra 3:1:** "And when the seventh month was come, and the children of Israel were in the cities, the people gathered themselves together as one man to Jerusalem."
- **Nehemiah 7:73:** "So the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities."

Asnapper **settled** pagan nations in cities throughout the land of Samaria, Israel, and Judah.

- **Ezra 4:9-10:** "Then wrote Rehum the chancellor, and Shimshai the scribe, and the rest of their companions; the Dinaites, the Apharsathchites, the Tarpelites, the Apharsites, the Archevites, the Babylonians, the Susanchites, the Dehavites, and the Elamites, And the rest of the nations whom the great and noble Asnapper brought over, and set in the cities of Samaria, and the rest that are on this side the river, and at such a time."

It seems the Apharsachites had **settled** in Israel on the east side of the Jordan river.

- **Ezra 5:6:** "The copy of the letter that Tatnai, governor on this side the river, and Shetharboznai and his companions the Apharsachites, which were on this side the river, sent

unto Darius the king:"

The word of God is forever **settled**. It will never change.

- **Psalm 119:89:** "For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."

Casting lots is a good and reasonable way to end disputes and **settle** matters.

- **Proverbs 18:18:** "The lot causeth contentions to cease, and parteth between the mighty."

When God spoke against Moab, He said that Moab had **settled** on its lees. (Moab was compared to wine that was allowed to rest.)

- **Jeremiah 48:11:** "Moab hath been at ease from his youth, and he hath settled on his lees, and hath not been emptied from vessel to vessel, neither hath he gone into captivity: therefore his taste remained in him, and his scent is not changed."

God said that the men of the east would **settle** into the territory of the Ammonites. (The Lord was going to punish them for rejoicing when the Jews went into captivity.)

- **Ezekiel 25:3-4:** "And say unto the Ammonites, Hear the word of the Lord God; Thus saith the Lord God; Because thou saidst, Aha, against my sanctuary, when it was profaned; and against the land of Israel, when it was desolate; and against the house of Judah, when they went into captivity; Behold, therefore I will deliver thee to

the men of the east for a possession, and they shall set their palaces in thee, and make their dwellings in thee: they shall eat thy fruit, and they shall drink thy milk."

The church at Antioch believed the apostles and elders in Jerusalem could **settle** the debate over whether circumcision was required for salvation.

- **Acts 15:1-2:** "And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, and said, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved. When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question."

It's both foolish and wrong for Christians to go to an unjust and wicked person and ask them to **settle** a dispute between the saints. That makes no sense.

- **1 Corinthians 6:1-6:** "Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints? Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life? If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church. I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the

unbelievers."

It's better to have a dispute **settled** by the least esteemed person in a church (who's a Christian) than to go before an unjust and wicked judge.

- **1 Corinthians 6:4:** "If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church."

Disputes should be **settled** by wise Christians, not by unjust and wicked judges.

- **1 Corinthians 6:5:** "I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?"

If a Christian can't **settle** his dispute with another Christian by having a wise believer judge between them, it's better to be defrauded. (This is because a Christian taking another Christian to court is a terrible testimony to the world.)

- **1 Corinthians 6:7:** "Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?"

It's good to pray that God will establish and **settle** Christians.

- **1 Peter 5:10:** "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you."