

LEBANON

1½ mill. Smallest of all Arab states. Yet harbors no particular hostility twd Is. About equally divided bet Xns and Mohammedans. Beirut about 600,000. Lebanon means white (from snow on peaks). Lebanon mts begin in NE at Hamath to Acre and low hills of Galilee. Av height is 6-8000. Highest 10,200. 1st mentioned Deut 1:7, ;;"24 as boundary for Is. Joshua conquered some of the independent tribes near Merom, Josh 11:2-18. Phoenicia is presently Lebanon. Supplied timber for Solomon, 1 Kg 5:9-11 and later Assyria used timber for military engines (sa. 14:8; 37:24; Ezek 31:16). In 4th c. BC incorporated in Seleucid territory. Beirut site of amphitheater built under Herod I. In middle of 3rd c A.D. law school there by Romans. Today Amer U. 1866 by Pres. Now in ch. comm. + liband

TYRE AND SIDON. Sidon is 30 mi S Beirut and 22 N of Tyre. Called Saida today. From seid=hunting or fishing or from name of Noah's grandson, Gen 10:15,19. Boundaries of tribe of Asher reached to Sidon, Josh 19:28. Is failed to expel Canaanites here, Jud 1:31, and they oppressed Is, Jud 10:1f., and led Is to worship their gods, Jud 10:6, chiefly Baal, 1 Kg 16:31. Isa predicted judgmt, 23:12; Jer judgmt by Babylon, 27:3, 6; Ezek 28:21f. Destroyed 678 BC by Assarhadon, glory restored by Persia and became capital of satrapy of Syria. Revolted and rather than surrender the kg of Sidon, Tames, perished with 40,000 in flames of city in 350 BC. People went from here and Tyre (60+mi) to hear Jesus in Galilee, Mk 3:8; Lk 6:17. Mt 11:21 (repentance). Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter, Mk 7:24. P landed here enroute to Rome, Acts 27:3. Sidonians were expert timber cutters, 1 Kg 5:6. Conquered by Alex Gt 330BC. Today 50,000. Fishing and farming. Oranges. Temple to Baal there.

On way to Tyre should pass Sarepta or Zarephath where Elijah came when Cherith dried up and widow gave him a home, 1 Kg 17:8-24 and Lk 4:26. Present city on hill tho old city along shore.

Tyre. From Hebrew, tsor=rock. 23 mi N Acre. City on shore and city on island, ½mi out. As early as 14th c. BC. In 7th c BC became mistress of seas. Tyrian merchants and seamen founded colonies incld Carthage. Josh 19:29, 2 Sam 24:7. Tyre's King Hiram I was friend of David and Sol and sent workers and wood for temple, 2 Sam 5:11; 1 Kg 5:1; 1 Chron 14:1; 1 Kg 9:10-14, 2 Chr 2:3-16. Later Tyrians sold Is as slaves and denounced for it, Joel 3:4-8; Amos 1:9-10. Prophecy against-Ezek 26:--28:19; 29:18-20. After 13-yr seige fell to Neb in 6th c BC. Rose again and defied Alex Gt who took after 7-mo seige and building causeway to island. Massacred all inhabitants. Alex built pier bet island and sea and this has turned into pferent isthmus. Mt 11:21; Mt 15:21. P there 7 days, Acts 21:3-7 on return from 3rd journey. Origen buried Tyre. Alex' causeway was 200 ft wide and 3000 ft long. Unger says 650 ft. Noted for purple dye made from mollusks found nearby.

DOG RIVER AND BIBLOS.

Dog River. Why? Romans named but don't know why. Fable of monster dog chained by demon at river's mouth that could be heard barking as far as Cyprus whenever region stormy. Valley is route of armies from Phoenicians, Assyr, Persians, Baby, Greeks, Romans. Inscriptions of their conquests. Ramses II (Pharaoh of Oppression). Another of Shalmaneser III Assyria. Practically effaced one of Tiglath-pileser. Sannacherib who is 701 returned to Nineveh leaving Jerus. unharmed. Hezekiah ruling. Modern inscriptions of Napoleon, British, Lebanon's independence. Statue of X over home for aged.

Býblos. One of world's oldest cities. Residence of pagan god El. Center of commerce and sacred city of Phoenicians. Tomb of King Ahiram (1250 BC) found in 1924 bearing oldest alphabetical inscription known (Phoenician lang). Called Jebel today. Castle essentially Crusader work of 12,13th c. 3 40ft high stone walls standing. City called Gebal (Ezek 27:9 only). Excavations of Egyptian temples (3000BC) and later Phoenician. 6 white columns from Roman time. Small marble theater from Araeco-Roman period. Greeks gave name Býblos. Cemetery where Phoenicians buried in clay jars. Vaults from 15-40 ft deep. In one was discovered sarcophagus of Kg Ahiram. Manufactured papyrus here from reeds imported from Egypt. Cedars in mts NE. 100 ft high, trunks 4-5 dia. Aech 11:2.