

Hepher (Place)

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was located there (Num 26:33). Sometimes Tell el-Muḥaffar (1707.2054) has been identified as being the city of Hephher, a large tell with remains of the Late Bronze and Iron Ages, but Hephher could also be the name of a region. Jerome provides no information exceeding the biblical description (*Sit.* 141.23).

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Hepher (MT *Hēper*, LXX *Οφεο*), meaning "water-hole" or "place of pits," is a Canaanite city-state whose king, according to the Bible, was defeated by Joshua (Josh 12:17). It appears in the book of Kings as the third Solomonic district governed by Ben-Hesed along with Arruboth and Socoh (1 Kgs 4:10). Hepher was believed to be situated in the coastal plains at eṭ-Taiyibe (1514.1859) or Tell Ibšār (1415.1975). But the land of Hepher must have spanned the Manasseh hill country because the tribal allotment of the granddaughters of Hepher