

# Ezekiel 47:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the border from the sea shall be Hazar-enan, the border of Damascus, and the north northward, and the border of Hamath. And this is the north side.

## Analysis

**And the border from the sea shall be Hazarenan, the border of Damascus, and the north northward, and the border of Hamath. And this is the north side**—Northern boundary summarized: מִן-הַיָּם (min-hayyām, 'from the sea') to חַצְרָה (ḥaṣrāh 'Enôn, Hazar-enan), גְּבוּל דָמְשָׁק (gēbūl Dammešeq, 'border of Damascus'), וְצִפּוֹנָה (wēṣāphōn šāphōnāh, 'and north northward'), וְגַבּוּל חָמָת (ûgēbūl ḥāmāt, 'and border of Hamath'). וְאַתְּ פָתַח צִפּוֹנָה (wē'ēt pē'at šāphōn, 'and this is the north side').

The repetition and summary ('this is the north side') confirms the description's completion. Biblical boundaries often listed systematically (north, east, south, west—Numbers 34:1-12), demonstrating orderly divine planning. God's sovereignty extends to geographical details—no territory outside His control. This comprehensive boundary description assures Israel: your inheritance is secure, defined, and guaranteed by divine oath.

## Historical Context

Boundary descriptions follow ancient Near Eastern treaty patterns—precise geographical markers prevented disputes. Modern archaeology uses these biblical descriptions to locate ancient sites. Ezekiel's boundaries, while similar to Numbers 34, include variations suggesting either updated geography or idealized millennial

distribution. Regardless, the precision demonstrates that God's promises aren't vague spiritual concepts but concrete realities.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. Why do biblical boundaries follow systematic patterns (north, east, south, west)?
2. How does geographical precision in prophecy demonstrate God's sovereignty?
3. What do land boundaries teach about God's attention to detail in promise fulfillment?

## Interlinear Text

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עִזְנָן | צָצֵר | מִן | וְגַבְּרֵל | וְפִנְהָה |  
H1961 H4480 H0 H2703  
And the border from the sea shall be Hazarenan

אֶפְרַיִם | אֶפְרַיִם | שָׂדֵה | שָׂדֵה |  
H1366 H1834 H6828 H6828  
And the border of Damascus And this is the north And this is the north

אֶפְרַיִם | תַּחַת | תַּחַת | אֶת | אֶת | אֶת |  
H1366 H2574 H853 H6285 H6828  
And the border of Hamath side And this is the north

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 48:1** (Parallel theme): Now these are the names of the tribes. From the north end to the coast of the way of Hethlon, as one goeth to Hamath, Hazar-enan, the border of Damascus northward, to the coast of Hamath; for these are his sides east and west; a portion for Dan.

**Numbers 34:9** (Parallel theme): And the border shall go on to Ziphron, and the goings out of it shall be at Hazar-enan: this shall be your north border.

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