

# Joshua 15:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerieth, and Hezron, which is Hazor,

## Analysis

**And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerieth, and Hezron, which is Hazor**—this verse demonstrates the complexity of ancient naming conventions. **Hazor, Hadattah** (הַחֲדַטָּה) likely means "New Hazor," with chadattah from chadash ("new"), distinguishing it from other settlements named Hazor. **Kerieth** (קִרְיֹת, "cities," plural of qiryah) may indicate a cluster of settlements or a city with multiple districts. **Hezron** (הֶזְרֹן, "enclosure" or "court") is identified as the same as Hazor, showing that some places had multiple names or underwent renaming.

The phrase "which is Hazor" (הֵיא חֲצֹר) clarifies that Hezron and Hazor refer to the same place, preventing confusion. This editorial note demonstrates Scripture's concern for historical accuracy and geographical precision. The inspired text doesn't obscure complexities but acknowledges them, helping readers understand ancient naming practices. This attention to detail builds confidence in Scripture's reliability.

## Historical Context

Multiple names for single locations were common in the ancient Near East. Cities might be renamed after conquest, significant events, or to honor new rulers. The specification "New Hazor" suggests the original Hazor was destroyed or abandoned, and settlers established a nearby replacement. This pattern appears throughout archaeological surveys—tells (ancient mounds) surrounded by later settlements built when original sites proved uninhabitable or too small for growing

populations.

Kerioth appears in Moabite territory in later texts (Jeremiah 48:24, 41; Amos 2:2), and some scholars identify this as Kerioth-hezron, possibly the birthplace of Judas Iscariot ("Iscariot" may derive from "ish Kerioth," "man of Kerioth"). If so, Judas came from Judah's inheritance, the only non-Galilean disciple. Such connections show how seemingly dry genealogies and city lists connect to broader biblical narratives.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Scripture's careful attention to geographical and historical details strengthen your confidence in its overall reliability and trustworthiness?
2. What does God's renaming of places (and people—Abram to Abraham, Jacob to Israel, Saul to Paul) teach about divine purposes transforming identity and meaning?
3. How can you approach seemingly tedious biblical passages (genealogies, city lists) with expectation that God included them for purposes worth discovering?

## Interlinear Text

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חָצוֹר:	חֲדַטָּה	וּקְרִי וֹת	חֲצֵר וֵן	הָ יָא	חָצוֹר:
<b>And Hazor</b>	<b>Hadattah</b>	<b>and Kerioth</b>	<b>and Hezron</b>	H1931	<b>And Hazor</b>
H2674	H2675	H7152	H2696		H2674

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