

Appendix 1B

**EPHRATH/EPHRATHAH/EPHRATAH¹
and EPHRATHITES**

Ephrath and *Ephrathah/Ephratah* appear as both:

- (1) The name of a woman who was wife first of Hezron and then of Caleb, during the 'Hezronic period' complex.

Pertinent verses related to this item (some of awkward construction) are unclear in the official lineage transmission as paternally reported, specifically, as to the descendancies of Hur and Caleb.²

- (2) The place Bethlehem-Judah or its region.

A second "Bethlehem" was located in Zebulun territory.³

The term *Ephrathite* appears to denote persons with distinguishing physical or linguistic characteristics, apart from their area of residence.

Translations of *Ephrath* and *Ephrathah* in the referenced text are not uniform, as shown below:

Citation	<i>Per Hebrew Characters</i>	English Interlineal translation	English Margin rendition	<i>Translation per Hebrew Letters</i>
A. <i>Genesis</i> 35: 16 and 19:	<i>Ephrathah</i>	Ephrath	Ephrath	"As the Jacobites moved southward from Bethel to <i>Ephrathah</i> ," "...died Rachel and was buried on the way to <i>Ephratah</i> ."
B. <i>Genesis</i> 48:7, two uses: First	<i>Ephrathah</i>	Ephrath	Ephrath	"...died...Rachel...when still a little way to come to <i>Ephrathah</i> ; and I [Jacob] buried her there in the way of <i>Ephrath</i> , it Bethlehem."
Second	<i>Ephrath</i>	Ephrath	Ephrath	
C. <i>1 Chronicles</i> 2:19	<i>Ephrath</i>	Ephrath	Ephrath	"Caleb took to himself <i>Ephrath</i> and she bore to him Hur."
D. <i>1 Chronicles</i> 2:24	<i>Ephrathah</i>	Ephratah	Ephratah	After Hezron was dead "in Caleb- <i>Ephrathah</i> ..."

¹The root meaning of the Hebrew word, *Ephrath*, is "fruitfulness" or "fertility."

²Including Miriam's relationship to Hur (Introductory Summary *at and following* fn. 43). Refer also to Appendix 1C, Attachment 1, Charted Explorations of Familial Relationships.

³Refer to Appendix 4C, Bethlehem. (A modern-day "Efrata" is situate a short distance W/SW of Jerusalem--see Appendix 2A, Geba, etc., under *Gibeah*.)

Citation	<i>Per Hebrew Characters</i>	English Interlineal translation	English Margin translation	<i>Translation per Hebrew Letters</i>
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E. 1 Chronicles

2:50-51 *Ephrathah*

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* The underlined words are omitted both interlineally and in the margin English of the referenced text:

"These were the sons of Caleb, the son of Hur, the firstborn of [*Ephrathah; Shobal*] the father of Kirjath-jearim, Salma the father of Bethlehem, Hareph the father of Beth Gades."

F. 1 Chronicles

4:1-4 *Ephrathah*

Ephratah

Ephratah

"The sons of Judah: Pharez, Hezron, and Carmi, and Hur, and Shobal. And Reaiah the son of Shobal fathered Jahath. And Jahath fathered Ahumai, and Lahad. These the families of the Zorathites. And these the father of Etam--Jezreel, and Ishma, and Idbash, and the name of their sister Hazeleponi--and Penuel the father of Gedor, and Ezer the father of Hushah. These the sons of Hur, the firstborn *Ephrathah*, the father of Bethlehem."

G. Ruth 1:2

Ephrathites

Ephrathites

Ephrathites

In the days of the Judges a man went from Bethlehem in Judah with his wife, Naomi...to live in the fields of Moab, and they were "...*Ephrathites* from Bethlehem Judah."

H. Ruth 4:12

Ephrathah

Ephratah

Ephratah

"May...the woman who is coming into your house [be] as Rachel and as Leah, of whom built both the house of Israel; and may you act ably in *Ephrathah*...."

I. Judges

12:5-6

Ephrathite

Ephraimite

Ephraimite

"And captured Gilead the fords of the Jordan before Ephraim; and it was, when said the fugitives from Ephraim, 'Let me pass over,' then said to him the men of Gilead, 'An *Ephrathite* you are!' And he said, 'No!' Then they said to him, 'say please *Shibboleth*. And he said, *Sibboleth*; was not was able to speak so. And they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan...."

J. 1 Samuel

1:1

Ephrathite

Ephrathite

Ephrathite

There was a certain Leviite man of the hill country of Ephraim, "...Elkanah ⁴...an *Ephrathite*...."

K. 1 Samuel

17:12

Ephrathite

Ephraimite

Ephrathite

"Now David the son of a man, an *Ephrathite* of Bethlehem of Judah, and his name Jesse...."

⁴ Samuel's mother, Hannah, was the favored second wife of Elkanah (a prominent name in the Leviite families of Kohath and Korah; see Appendix 3B, I, "Elkanah").

Citation	<i>Per Hebrew Characters</i>	English Interlineal translation	English Margin translation	<i>Translation per Hebrew Letters</i>
L. 1 Kings 11:26	<i>Ephrathite</i>	Ephrathite	Ephrathite	"And Jeroboam, ⁵ the son of Nebat, an <i>Ephrathite</i> of Zereda, and the name of his mother Zeruah, ⁶ a woman widow, a servant to Solomon...."
M. <i>Micah</i> 5:2	<i>Ephrathah</i>	Ephratha	Ephratah	"And you, Bethlehem <i>Ephrathah</i> ..."
N. <i>Psalms</i> 132:6	<i>Ephrathah</i>	Ephratah	Ephratah	"Lo, we have heard of it at <i>Ephrathah</i>"

On comparison,

(a) A, B, H, M and N (*Ephrath/Ephrathah*) reasonably can be taken as geographical references.

(b) E and F appear definitely to refer to an individual named *Ephrathah*.

(c) C and D admit ambiguity when considered in the light of Moses' promised bestowal of the Hebron area to Caleb; Caleb's acquisition also of Hezron wife, Abiah (together with the question of her lineage), the denoting of Hur as "father/founder of Bethlehem," and the relationship of Hur to Miriam.⁷

(d) G and K and I and J, together, allow *Ephrathite* to denote bloodline rather than area of residency, *i.e.* Ephrathites not of Bethlehem areas.⁸

⁵ Who later would be the seceded North's first king (book two and appendices 2C).

⁶ Only use in this form. For the only "Zeruah," see Appendix 2A, Attachment 3, "Jesse, Descendancy of."

⁷ See also Appendix 1A, Attachment 1, Abiah, Caleb, Hezron and Miriam.

⁸ In this vein is the *New Testament* report of the denial by Cephas/Peter of association with Jesus (book four), when the remark was made to Peter: "Truly also you out of them [the Galilaeans] are, and for the speech of you evident you it is making." *Matthew* 26:73. (*Luke* 22:56ff. reports the scene without mention of speech.)