

Appendix 2A, Attachment 2

SAUL, DESCENDANCY OF

*Asterisks denote the only biblical use of those names or recognizable renditions.
Italics in quotations are supplied.*

I. Saul Lineage.

A. In General.

The ante and posthumous decedents of Saul and his near relatives are not clear. The following items are noted in reference to the verses involved (see part B below for source quotations):

(1) *Ner* is not included as a "son" of the [there-unnamed] "father of Gibeon" in quotation B(1)(a) below.

(2) *Ner* is included as a "son" of the "father of Gibeon, *Jeiel*"¹ in B(1)(b).

(3) *Jeiel* traditionally has been equated with *Abiel*,² an equation that appears supported by associating references (1)(a) and (b) and (3).

(4) It is indiscernible whether *Maachah* had children by anyone other than *Jeiel/Abiel*.

(5) Daughters of Eleazar were taken by sons of Kish.

(6) Abner's and Saul's maternal descendancies are not reported.⁴

B. Source Quotations.

(1) (a) "And in/at Gibeon lived the father of Gibeon, and the name of his wife Maachah. And his son firstborn Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Nadab, and Gedor, and Ahio, and Zecher. And Mikloth* fathered Shimeah/Shimeam."⁵ *1 Chronicles 8:29-32.*

(b) "And in/at Gibeon lived the father of Gibeon, Jeiel, and the name of his wife Maachah, and his son firstborn Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Ner, and Nadab, and Gedor, and Ahio, and Zechariah and Mikloth."⁶ *1 Chronicles 9:35-37.*

(c) "The sons of [Levi -] Merari: Mahli and Mushi; the sons of Mahli: Eleazar and Kish. And died Eleazar. And not were to him sons, but daughters. And took them the sons of Kish."⁷ *1 Chronicles 23:21-22.*

(d) "Of Kish, the son of Kish Jerahmeel."⁶ *1 Chronicles 24:29.*

¹ Refer to Appendix 3B, I, *Jehiel/Jehieli/Jeiel*, for all uses.

² Only one other use of *Abiel* is as a parallel name for one "Abi-Albon," a David warrior (Appendix 2B, "David's Military").

³ *Maachah*, a regional name of historical significance: see Appendix 1A, "Aramaean Associations." Other *Maachahs*: Appendix 1C, sub-part VI, C and 1C's Attachment 2, sub-part II, quotation, *1 Chronicles 7:15*; Attachment 3 to this appendix, "David Descendancy of," sub-parts I and IV.

⁴ A sole use of "Ner" as the linking name in Saul's parentage mirrors a sole use of "Neri" by *Luke*, seemingly between Josiah and Shealtiel-Zerubbabel, in *Lineage, David to Jesus--* Appendix 4C, Names/Places/ Relationships," and Appendix 3B, I, *Zerubbabel*. (Also concerning dual kinships on the distaff side, cf. Appendix 4C, *Elizabeth, Mary [A]*, and *Zechariah*.)

⁵ Other uses of names in the string: (a) *Abdon*, 1D, II, fn. 39, and Appendix 1C, Attachment 2, part I, C, *Shaharaim Descendancy*; (b) *Zur*, Midianite chief whose daughter was Cozbi--Appendix 1C, Attachment 1, fn. 23; (c) one other *Kish*: (Merari...Abdi-) *Kish*, a levitical assistant in King Hezekiah's time; (d) *Baal*, here at fn. 22 and Appendix 2A, *Deities, Miscellaneous*; (e) two other *Nadabs*: (1) (Elisheba -) *Nadab* (Appendix 1C.IV.A) and (2) *Nadab* in a complicated string of Hezron descendants at *1 Chronicles 2:25ff*; refer to Appendix 1A, Attachment 1, *Hezron*, et al.; (f) *Gedor*, Appendix 2A; (g) two other *Ahios*: (1) (Hushim + Shaharaim-Elpaal-Beriah-) *Ahio* in *1 Chronicles 8:1-14*'s list of Benjamin descendants, which includes the "Shupim and Muppim Puzzle" (Appendix 1C, VI, D and its Attachment 2, C); (2) (Abinadab-) *Ahio*, who accompanied his brother of Uzza in moving the ark from Kirjath-Jearim (Appendix 1E at fn. 40); (h) *Zachariah, etc.*, Appendix 3B, I; (i) one other *Mikloth*, chief officer of a David military division; (j) *Shammua/ Shammuah/Shimeah, etc.*, Appendix 2A.

⁶ Appendices 1A, Attachment 1, *Jerahmeel*, and 1C, Attachment 1, D, *Hezron Descendancy*.

- (1) Rizpah “bore” sons, Armoni* and Mephibosheth [A¹⁴] “to Saul.”
- (2) “...and the name [*sic.*] of two daughters his [Saul’s], the name of the firstborn Merab, and the name of the younger, Michal.” Their mother(s) is/are not specified. *1 Samuel* 14:49.
- (3) The mother(s) is/are not specified of Saul’s other sons, which five appear relatively clearly on the record as being Jonathan,¹⁵ Malchishua,* Abinadab,¹⁶ Ishvi/*sui*,¹⁷ and “Ish-baal”/“Ish-bosheth”/or/ “Eshbaal.”¹⁸
- (4) Available data:
- (a) [Certain Gibeonites said to victorious David,] “...let be given to us seven men of sons....And took [David] two the] sons of Rizpah...whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth....” *2 Samuel* 21:6 ff.
- (b) “...Ishbosheth the son of Saul....” *2 Samuel* 8 ff.
- (c) “Saul fathered Jonathan, and Malchishua, and Abinadab, and Eshbaal.” *1 Chronicles* 8:33; 9:39.
- (d) “[T]he sons of Saul, Jonathan, and Ishvi, and Malchishua....” *1 Samuel* 14:49.
- (e) “...and struck the Philistines Jonathan, and Abinadab, and Malchishua, ‘the sons of Saul.’” *1 Samuel* 31:2.

B. Saul Grandsons.

The texts state that Saul gave daughter Merab to one Adriel the Meholathite*¹⁹ after David rejected marrying her. What became of Merab is not said. Michal then was to be given to David by Saul, but then Saul gave her instead to one Phalti/Palti²⁰ (David possessed her later).

- (1) It is not said that Michal ever also belonged to Adriel. It is reported, however, that Michal “bore” “five sons...to Adriel,” while other text implies that she died without having had children ever [(d) below].
- (2) The five unnamed grandsons of Saul eventually were given over by David to certain Gibeonites, who killed them [(3)(a) above].
- (3) Relevant citations:
- (a) “And was it at the time to give Merab...to David, that she was given [instead] to Adriel the Meholathite for a wife.” *1 Samuel* 18:19.
- (b) “And took the king [David] two the sons of Rizpah...and five the [unnamed] sons of Michal, daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel, the son of Barzillai²¹ the Meholathite, and gave into the hand of the Gibeonites.” *2 Samuel* 21:8-9.
- (c) “And to Michal the daughter of Saul, not was there to her a child until the day of her death.” *2 Samuel* 6:20, 23.

¹⁴ *Mephibosheth* also being name of a (Saul-) Jonathan son (*at fn.* 22).

¹⁵ See C, below, for Jonathan descendancy, and Appendix 3B, I, *Jonathan*, for other uses of the name.

¹⁶ The name also of a Jesse son, *Abinadab* (who fought with Saul)—Attachment 1 to this Appendix, “Jesse, Descendancy of,” *at fn.* 4, where other uses of *Abinadab* also are given.

¹⁷ One other use: (Zilpah + Asher-) *Ishvi/sui*.

¹⁸ (based on one traditional theory of name alterations—*refer to fn.* 22, regarding *baal* and *bosheth*).

¹⁹ Geographers have not ascertained a site for *Abel* [meadow]-Meholah. A judge Gideon account places it “by Tabbath,” thought to have been about three miles east of the Jordan, some 16 miles SE of Beth-Shan/Shean/Scythopolis, with argument also made for a site west of the Jordan. (Involved also are [1] the unknown location of the home of prophet Elijah, the “Tishbite;” and [2] the possibility that Tabbath = Tubas (outside Tirzah) is interpretable as “opposite” Abel-Meholah, thus locating the home of prophet Elisha; see Appendix 2C, IV, *at fn.* 29.)

²⁰ See Appendix 1E *at fn.* 26.

²¹ It is not said directly that this Barzillai was the same Barzillai who helped sustain David during the Absalom conflict (Appendix 1E preceding *fn.* 69). A third use of *Barzillai* is at *Nehemiah* 7:63 (paralleled at *Ezra* 2:61ff.), where certain priests had taken “of the daughters of *Barzillai*, the Gileadite, to wife and was called by their name,” and were “polluted from the priesthood” because they were not found enrolled in genealogical records—*refer to Appendix 3B, II, sub-part IV, A, Chart A.*

C. (Saul-) Jonathan Descendants.

It is unclear but found generally acceptable that Jonathan had only one son, referred to by two names--"Merib-baal" and "Mephibosheth [B²²]"--which son had one son, Micah/Mica.

(1) Available data:

(a) When David asked who was left of the house of Saul, servant Ziba replied: "Yet a son to Jonathan, crippled in both feet. ... [at] house Machir's, the son of Ammiel,²³ in Lo-debar. Then sent King David and took him from house Machir's...and came Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, to David... [where David maintained him at table]". *2 Samuel 9:3-5.*

(b) "And the son of Jonathan, Merib-baal. And Merib-baal fathered Micah. And the sons of Micah:²⁴ Pithon*, and Melech*, and Tarea*, and Ahaz."²⁵ *1 Chronicles 8:34-36.*

(c) "And the son of Jonathan Merib-baal, and Merib-baal fathered Micah. And the sons of Micah: Pithon, and Melech, and Tahrea, and Ahaz..." *1 Chronicles 9:40-41.*

"And to Jonathan...a son crippled feet; a son of five years he was when came the news [of the death] of Saul and Jonathan from Jezreel; and took him up his nurse and fled, and it was while she hurried to flee that he fell and became lame; and his name Mephibosheth." *2 Samuel 4:4.*

(e) "...to Mephibosheth a little son, and his name Mica." *2 Samuel 9:12.*

²² The application of name 'alterations' using *baal* and *bosheth* makes for uncertainty here, as with Ish-bosheth; refer to Appendix 2A, Deities, Miscellaneous, Baal.

²³ *Machir + Maachah*, Appendix 1C, sub-part VI, C. *Ammiel* is one form of the name of Bath-Sheba's father--see Appendix 2A, Ammiel/Eliam.

²⁴ Appendix 3B, Attachment 1, Micah, etc.

²⁵ Refer to Appendix 2C, III, fn. 49.