

Event 11: Ahab's Claim

Event 11 is about the battles between Ben-hadad, the king of Damascus, and Ahab, king of Israel. Ben-hadad advanced from Damascus to Yarmuk plain just south of Lake Galilee. And Ahab advanced from Beth-Shan north to battle with Ben-hadad. The region here in the Rift Valley south of the lake is significant in that it bridges the plain of Bashan with the Jezreel Valley. In the second part of event 11, Ahab now sought to press beyond the Rift Valley and on to the plateau of Lower Gilead and southern Bashan. Ramoth-gilead is located in Lower Gilead where routes from Beth-shan intersect the Transjordanian Highway. If Ahab were to control the region of Ramoth-gilead he could reassert Israelite control in Bashan as in the days of Solomon. Unfortunately, Ahab lost his life in this battle.