The Antichrist & The Tribe of Dan, Mount Hermon, Fallen Angels & The Giants/Nephilim

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Teaching Overview: Several obscure prophecies in the Bible point to the possibility that the Antichrist may (in part) descend from the Tribe of Dan. The Merovingians claim to come from the tribe of Judah through Jesus Christ. However, the weight of evidence indicates that they descended from the tribe of Dan. Although Scripture states that Samson was “of the family of the Danites” [Judges 13:2], Yair Davidy of Brit-Am Israel claims that Sampson's lineage includes the Messianic tribe of Judah: “Samson...came from the Tribe of Dan but his mother was from Judah. Samson, in some respects, was considered a forerunner of the Messiah who will come from Judah but his mother will be of the Tribe of Dan.” [Brit-Am Israel newsletter, 2/9/99] The Tribe of Dan also is missing from Rev. 7 regarding the 12 tribes (144,000) sealed during the Tribulation and the half tribe of Manasses takes thier place: "And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel. Of the tribes of Juda... Reuben... Gad... Aser... Nepthalim... Manasses... Simeon... Levi... Issachar... Zabulon... Joseph... Benjamin were sealed..."
Revelation 7:4-8 According to the Encyclopedia Britannica, Hermon means "Forbidden Place." Mount Hermon may of been the port of entry for the wicked angels, who corrupted the human race in the days of Noah. Moses wrote: "The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose .... There were giants in the earth in those days, and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown” (Gen. 6:1-4).

THE LOST TRIBE OF DAN THE EARLY JEWISH & CHRISTIAN VIEW OF THE IDENTITY OF THE ANTICHRIST
Mount Hermon: Gate of the Fallen Angels
by J. R. Church

Caesarea Philippi, the Grotto of Pan & Mount Hermon

There are five niches hewn out of rock to the right of the cave. At one time they probably held statues. Three of the niches bear inscriptions in Greek mentioning Pan, Echo and Galerius (one of Pan's priests).

Spring-fed source of the Jordan River. Grotto of Pan in background
http://www.bibleistrue.com/qna/pqna45.htm

This grotto was considered the "abode of the shepherd god" Pan. Ritual sacrifices were thrown into this natural abyss which reached down to the underground waters fueling these upper springs of the Jordan. If the victim disappeared in the water, this was a sign that the god had accepted the offering. If blood appeared in nearby springs, it was believed that the sacrifice had been rejected.

Numerous temples were built in this town from the Hellenistic (Greek) period through to Roman times. The early name "Parias" (and variants) directly identifies this location with worship of one pagan Greek god, "Pan". It's later and current name (Banias and Banyas)
The grotto of Pan was a focal point in the worship of this half-man half-goat, flute playing deity. For at least two centuries before Christ, sacrifices were cast into the cave as offerings to Pan. **At that time the main spring emerged from this large cave (meaning that they drank from this sacrifice infected water afterwards). Earthquakes have since caused the water flow to emerge elsewhere.**

http://www.bibleistrue.com/qna/pqna45.htm

The spring emerged from the large cave which became the center of pagan worship. Beginning in the 3rd century B.C., sacrifices were cast into the cave as offerings to the god Pan. Pan, the half-man half-goat god of fright (thus "panic"), is often depicted playing the flute. There are several references to this area in the Old Testament. The northernmost conquest of Joshua is described as ranging from "the mountains of Israel and its lowlands, from Mount Halak and the ascent to Seir, even as far as Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon" (Joshua 11:17). In a description of the nations that were left to "test" Israel we read of "the Hivites who dwelt in Mount Lebanon, from Mount Baal Hermon to the entrance of Hamath" (Judges 3:3). In 1 Chronicles 5:23 we read that "the children of the half-tribe of Manasseh dwelt in the land. Their numbers increased from Bashan to Baal Hermon, that is, to Senir, or Mount Hermon."

**A cave near Caesarea Philippi is said to be the birthplace of the Greek god Pan**, the god of nature, fields, forests, mountains, flocks and shepherds. "**He is son of Hermes** by one or another nymph; his mother was so scared by his appearance that she abandoned him at birth and Hermes introduced him to Olympus. His name is probably related to the same root as Latin pasco, and thus means 'shepherd.'" (Richard Stoneman, *Greek Mythology*, p. 136). The cult of Pan originated in Arcadia, a pastoral region in Greece. Greek travelers, finding the landscape was like their homeland, established this area of worship to Pan. During the Hellenistic period, a sanctuary was built to Pan. There are five niches hewn out of rock to the right of the cave -- at one time they probably held statues -- three of the niches bear inscriptions in Greek mentioning Pan, Echo and Galerius (one of Pan's priests).

The original name for Caesarea Philippi was Pania (also spelt Paneas, Paneion and Paneias). The modern name is Banias -- an Arabic corruption of Pania.

The Jordan river has four main sources, and the cave at Caesarea Philippi is its' easternmost source -- this alone would make the area full of emotion for the Jews. "This is a very fine cave in a mountain, under which there is a great cavity in the earth; and the cavern is abrupt, and prodigiously deep, and full of water. Over it hangs a vast mountain, and under the cavern arise the springs of the River Jordan." *(The Works Of Flavius Josephus)*.

Israel: Caesarea Philippi: River Jordan (10 of 13)
The Jordan river has four main sources, and the cave at Caesarea Philippi is its' easternmost source.

With Caesarea Philippi as a backdrop we have a dramatic picture of Jesus of Nazareth surrounded by twelve ordinary men. The Jewish leaders were already plotting and planning on destroying Him as a dangerous heretic.

Jesus was standing on a road in an area littered with the temples of the Syrian gods, a place where the Greek gods looked down, a place where the most important river in Judaism sprang to life, a place where the white marble splendor of the home of Caesar-worship dominated the landscape. And here, of all places, He stands and asks men who they believe Him to be. Peter boldly answers that He is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). Someone suggested that it is as if Jesus deliberately set Himself against the background of the world's religions in all their splendor and glory and demanded to be compared with them.

Mat 16:15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?  
Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.  
Mat 16:17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed [it] unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.  
Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.  
Mat 16:19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

The Gates of Hell

Caesarea Philippi's location was especially unique because it stood at the base of a cliff where spring water flowed. At one time, the water ran directly from the mouth of a cave set in the bottom of the cliff.
The pagans of Jesus day commonly believed that their fertility gods lived in the underworld during the winter and returned to earth each spring. They saw water as a symbol of the underworld and thought that their gods traveled to and from that world through caves. To the pagan mind, then, the cave and spring water at Caesarea Philippi created a gate to the underworld. They believed that their city was literally at the gates of the underworld—the gates of hell. In order to entice the return of their god, Pan, each year, the people of Caesarea Philippi engaged in horrible deeds, including prostitution and sexual interaction between humans and goats.

When Jesus brought his disciples to the area, they must have been shocked. Caesarea Philippi was like a red-light district in their world and devout Jews would have avoided any contact with the despicable acts committed there. It was a city of people eagerly knocking on the doors of hell.

Mount Hermon

Mount Hermon Panoramic, from Manara on the Naftali heights

Mount Hermon Panoramic from Nimrod

The mountain has been known as Ba’al Hermon, Senir, Sirion, Sion, and by Josephus as Mt. Lebanon. Today the Arabs call it “Jabel A-talg” which translates as “the snow mountain.” More than twenty ancient temples have been found on the mountain or in its vicinity. Mt. Hermon is the southern tip of the anti-Lebanon mountain range. Its highest peak is 9230 feet and the highest point inside Israel's borders today is Mizpe Shelagim at 7295 feet. This summit is on the border between Syria and Lebanon, and is under Syrian control. The southern slopes of Mount Hermon have been in Israeli control since the Six-Day War in 1967. This part of the mountain, as well as the Golan Heights, was unilaterally annexed by Israel in 1981.
Mount Hermon was called Senir by the Amorites and Sirion by the Sidonians (Deuteronomy 3:9; Psalms 29:6; 1 Chronicles 5:23; Song 4:8; Ezekiel 27:5). The mountain served as the northern boundary of the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 3:8) and also was the northern limit of the conquest (Joshua 11:17, 12:1, 13:5).

The high places of Mount Hermon were apparently used by the Canaanites in Canaanite mythological rituals. They referred to the mountain as Mount Ba'al-Hermon (Judges 3:3). It is also called Mount Sion or Mount Siyon (Deuteronomy 4:48).

In the Book of Enoch, Mount Hermon is the place where the Grigori ("Watcher") class of fallen angels descended to Earth. They swore upon the mountain that they would take wives among the daughters of men and return (Enoch 6).