Bible Name: Canneh   **Language:** Sumerian   **Pronunciation:** kan-neh'

Name Type: Place

Meaning: The name 'Canneh' means 'Fortress of Anu'. The actual meaning of this name is unknown to scholars, although there seems to be a mutual consensus on the 'Fortress of Anu', originally named after the ancient Sumerian sky-god, Anu. This meaning would certainly fit the time and place, but we cannot be sure it is the correct meaning. The name itself is most likely a Hebrew transliteration from an unknown Sumerian derivative. From a Hebrew perspective, the closest derivative is the word 'Kalah' meaning 'to complete', 'to finish' or 'to accomplish' (used in the sense of bringing a building project to its final completion). If indeed, 'Canneh' is derived from the Hebrew word 'Kalah', then it is entirely possible that it was never intended to be a proper name at all. Perhaps it was simply a Hebrew word used to signify 'All of Them' (i.e., the nations mentioned in Ezekiel 27.23). A third possible meaning for 'Canneh' is 'Fortified Dwelling' from the Hebrew word 'Navah' meaning 'to dwell' or 'to abide'. This would certainly tie in with the 'Fortress of Anu' (above), seeing as though a 'fortress' was a 'fortified dwelling' in ancient times. The Jewish people, at certain times, were also known to deliberately remove anything remotely pertaining to a foreign deity in proper name translations. This may have been the case here. It is also worthy to note that the name 'Canneh' is synonymous with the names 'Calneh' and 'Calno'.