

ethiopia and the bible

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Ethiopia holds a unique and profound place in biblical history, culture, and religious tradition. As one of the oldest nations in Africa, Ethiopia's connection to the Bible is deeply rooted in ancient history, religious texts, and cultural heritage. This relationship is marked by legendary stories, archaeological discoveries, and religious practices that continue to influence the region today. Exploring Ethiopia's biblical connection offers insight into its rich spiritual legacy and its significance within Christianity and Judaism.

The Historical Significance of Ethiopia in Biblical Narratives

Ethiopia's mention in biblical texts underscores its longstanding importance. Several key stories and references highlight Ethiopia's place in biblical history.

The Queen of Sheba and King Solomon

One of the most famous biblical connections between Ethiopia and the Bible involves the Queen of Sheba. According to biblical accounts, she traveled to Jerusalem to test King Solomon's wisdom.

- Biblical Reference: The story is primarily found in 1 Kings 10:1-13 and 2 Chronicles 9:1-12.
- Ethiopian Tradition: Ethiopian tradition uniquely identifies the Queen of Sheba as Makeda, the Queen of Ethiopia, emphasizing her origins from the region.

This story symbolizes the ancient diplomatic and cultural ties between Ethiopia and the biblical world. The narrative also signifies Ethiopia's role as a land of wealth, wisdom, and influence.

The Ark of the Covenant

Ethiopia's most legendary biblical association is with the Ark of the Covenant.

- **Ethiopian Claim:** According to Ethiopian tradition, the Ark of the Covenant was brought to Ethiopia by Menelik I, the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba.
- **The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church:** Claims that the Ark is housed in the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion in Axum, Ethiopia.
- **Historical Significance:** This belief makes Ethiopia one of the few countries with a strong tradition claiming possession of the Ark, reinforcing its spiritual importance.

Ethiopian Jews (Beta Israel)

Ethiopia is also home to the Beta Israel community, often called Ethiopian Jews.

- **Historical Roots:** Their origins are debated, but they maintain ancient Jewish traditions and scriptures.
- **Cultural Practices:** Their religious practices, including observing kosher laws and celebrating Jewish festivals, reflect the influence of biblical Judaism.
- **Modern Significance:** The community's migration to Israel in the late 20th century brought international attention to Ethiopia's biblical heritage.

Archaeological and Historical Evidence Linking Ethiopia and the Bible

Ethiopia's biblical connection is not only rooted in stories but also supported by archaeological findings and historical records.

The City of Axum and the Kingdom of Aksum

- **Historical Center:** The ancient city of Axum (Aksum) was the capital of the Aksumite Empire, a powerful civilization in Ethiopia from around the 1st to the 7th century CE.
- **Religious Significance:** It became a major center for Christianity after Emperor Ezana declared Christianity the state religion in the 4th century.
- **Obelisks and Ruins:** The towering obelisks and ruins in Axum serve as archaeological evidence of Ethiopia's ancient grandeur and its Christian heritage.

The Ge'ez Script and Biblical Manuscripts

- Language and Literature: The Ge'ez script, used in ancient Ethiopian manuscripts, is one of the oldest alphabets still in use.
- Biblical Translations: The Ethiopian Orthodox Church translated the Bible into Ge'ez early on, including the full canon of scriptures.
- Ethiopian Bible: The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Bible includes books not found in most Western Christian Bibles, highlighting its unique biblical tradition.

Ancient Christian Monuments and Churches

- Lalibela Churches: The rock-hewn churches of Lalibela, carved in the 12th century, are UNESCO World Heritage Sites and symbolize Ethiopia's deep Christian roots.
- Religious Pilgrimages: These sites attract pilgrims, emphasizing Ethiopia's ongoing spiritual connection to biblical Christianity.

The Role of Christianity and the Bible in Ethiopian Culture

Christianity, especially Ethiopian Orthodoxy, is central to Ethiopian identity. Its biblical traditions influence art, festivals, and daily life.

Religious Festivals and Practices

- Timket (Epiphany): Celebrates the baptism of Jesus, involving processions and reenactments.
- Meskel: Commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena, with large bonfires and celebrations.
- Bible in Daily Life: Many Ethiopians memorize scriptures, participate in church services, and incorporate biblical themes into art and music.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church

- Ancient Institution: One of the oldest Christian churches in the world, dating back to the 4th century.
- Biblical Canon: Uses a broader canon than most Christian denominations, including several books considered apocryphal elsewhere.
- Relics and Icons: Houses numerous biblical relics, icons, and manuscripts

that reflect its biblical heritage.

Modern-Day Ethiopia and Its Biblical Legacy

Today, Ethiopia continues to celebrate its biblical heritage through various cultural, religious, and archaeological initiatives.

Preservation of Biblical Sites

- Axum Obelisks: Conservation efforts aim to preserve these ancient monuments.
- Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, believed to house the Ark of the Covenant.
- Religious Tourism: Pilgrimages and tours attract visitors interested in Ethiopia's biblical history.

Influence on Global Christianity

- Ethiopia's Christian traditions have influenced broader Christian thought and practice, especially within Oriental Orthodoxy.
- The Ethiopian Bible and its unique canon have contributed to the diversity of biblical interpretation worldwide.

Educational and Cultural Initiatives

- Universities and research centers promote the study of Ethiopia's biblical history.
- Cultural festivals celebrate Ethiopia's ancient Christian heritage, fostering awareness and pride.

Conclusion

Ethiopia's connection to the Bible is a tapestry woven with ancient stories, archaeological treasures, and enduring religious traditions. From the legendary Queen of Sheba and the Ark of the Covenant to its vibrant Christian culture, Ethiopia embodies a living testament to biblical history. Its unique biblical canon, archaeological sites, and religious practices not only

preserve its spiritual legacy but also enrich the global Christian and Jewish heritage. As Ethiopia continues to honor and explore its biblical roots, it remains a vital link to the ancient stories that have shaped faith and culture across millennia.

Meta Description: Discover the deep historical and religious connection between Ethiopia and the Bible, exploring legendary stories, archaeological sites, and Ethiopia's unique biblical traditions that have shaped its cultural identity.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the significance of Ethiopia in biblical history?

Ethiopia holds a prominent place in biblical history as the land of the Queen of Sheba, who visited King Solomon, and as the origin of the Ethiopian eunuch converted by Philip, highlighting Ethiopia's ancient biblical connections.

Who is the Ethiopian eunuch mentioned in the Book of Acts?

The Ethiopian eunuch was a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who is described in Acts 8:26-40. He is notable for being one of the first recorded non-Jewish converts to Christianity, baptized by Philip.

How does the Bible describe Ethiopia's role in biblical prophecy?

The Bible references Ethiopia in prophecies concerning the expansion of God's kingdom, such as in Isaiah 18, which speaks of Ethiopia (Cush) bringing offerings to God, symbolizing nations coming to worship the Lord.

What is the connection between the Ark of the Covenant and Ethiopia?

According to Ethiopian tradition and the Kebra Nagast, the Ark of the Covenant is believed to be housed in Ethiopia, specifically in the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion in Axum, making Ethiopia a significant biblical and religious symbol.

Are there any notable biblical figures from

Ethiopia?

Yes, the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts is a notable biblical figure, and some traditions also associate the Queen of Sheba with Ethiopia, highlighting the country's biblical importance.

How does Ethiopia's Christian heritage relate to the Bible today?

Ethiopia is one of the earliest nations to adopt Christianity as a state religion, with the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church emphasizing biblical teachings and traditions rooted directly in biblical history, making the Bible central to Ethiopian religious identity.

Additional Resources

Ethiopia and the Bible: A Deep Dive into Historical, Religious, and Cultural Connections

Ethiopia's relationship with the Bible is one of the most fascinating and enduring narratives in religious history. From ancient traditions to modern scholarship, this African nation holds a unique place as a land deeply intertwined with biblical stories, sacred texts, and spiritual heritage. This comprehensive exploration delves into the multifaceted aspects of Ethiopia's connection to the Bible, shedding light on historical origins, archaeological findings, religious practices, and cultural symbols that underscore this profound relationship.

The Historical Foundations of Ethiopia and the Bible

The Biblical Origins of Ethiopia: Cush and Sheba

Ethiopia's biblical roots are often traced back to the ancient kingdom of Cush, mentioned numerous times in the Bible. Cush is believed to have been located in what is now modern-day Ethiopia and Sudan, making Ethiopia one of the oldest continuous civilizations with deep biblical ties.

- Cush in the Bible: Referred to as a son of Ham and grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:6). The land of Cush is associated with a region south of Egypt, encompassing parts of modern Ethiopia.
- Kingdom of Sheba: Perhaps the most celebrated biblical connection is the

Queen of Sheba, who visited King Solomon in Jerusalem (1 Kings 10:1-13, 2 Chronicles 9:1-12). The biblical narrative suggests she hailed from a land in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula or Ethiopia.

- The Queen of Sheba's Visit: This story symbolizes Ethiopia's ancient ties to wisdom, wealth, and spirituality, and has inspired countless cultural and religious traditions within Ethiopia.

The Ark of the Covenant and Ethiopia

One of the most intriguing legends linking Ethiopia to the Bible involves the Ark of the Covenant.

- Ethiopian Claim to the Ark: Ethiopian tradition holds that the Ark of the Covenant has been housed in the Church of Our Lady Mary of Zion in Axum for centuries. This belief is rooted in the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church's teachings.

- Historical Significance: The story suggests that Menelik I, the son of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, brought the Ark to Ethiopia, establishing a spiritual lineage that continues to this day.

- Cultural Impact: The Ark symbolizes divine power and Ethiopia's unique role as a guardian of sacred relics, reinforcing national identity and religious continuity.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church: A Biblical and Cultural Institution

The Role of the Church in Preserving Biblical Heritage

Ethiopia's predominant Christian denomination, the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, is one of the oldest Christian institutions in the world, predating many Western churches.

- Historical Origins: Christianity was introduced to Ethiopia in the 4th century AD during the reign of King Ezana of Axum, making Ethiopia one of the earliest nations to officially adopt Christianity.

- Biblical Canon: The Ethiopian Orthodox Bible is distinct, containing books not found in most Western versions, such as Enoch, Jubilees, and the Book of the Covenant.

Unique Biblical Texts and Translations

- The Ge'ez Language: The sacred language of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, Ge'ez, is used in liturgy and biblical texts, preserving ancient translations.
- The Ethiopian Bible: An ancient manuscript tradition has preserved biblical texts in Ge'ez, dating back to the 4th or 5th centuries, making Ethiopia one of the earliest centers of biblical translation and preservation.

Religious Practices and Biblical Themes

- Liturgy and Rituals: The Ethiopian Orthodox liturgy incorporates numerous biblical stories, psalms, and hymns that emphasize themes of salvation, divine justice, and covenant.
- Festivals and Observances: Major religious festivals, such as Timket (Epiphany), celebrate biblical events like the baptism of Jesus, reinforcing biblical narratives within Ethiopian culture.

Archaeological and Historical Evidence Supporting Ethiopia's Biblical Links

Ancient Monuments and Inscriptions

- The Obelisks of Axum: These towering stone monuments are believed to mark tombs of ancient kings and serve as symbols of Ethiopia's ancient civilization, which is intertwined with biblical history.
- Inscriptions: Inscriptions in Ge'ez and other ancient scripts mention biblical kings and events, providing tangible links to biblical narratives.

Manuscripts and Literary Traditions

- The Kebra Nagast: This 14th-century Ethiopian text narrates the story of the Queen of Sheba, King Solomon, and the origins of the Solomonic dynasty, blending biblical stories with Ethiopian history.
- Other Manuscripts: Numerous biblical manuscripts in Ge'ez have been preserved, some dating back over a millennium, demonstrating a continuous tradition of biblical scholarship.

Historical Figures and Dynasties

- The Solomonic Dynasty: Ethiopia's imperial lineage claims descent from King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba, emphasizing a divine right rooted in biblical heritage.
- Emperor Haile Selassie: Known as the "Conquering Lion of the Tribe of Judah," Haile Selassie's monarchy was symbolically linked to biblical promises of a messianic figure.

Religious Symbols and Cultural Expressions of Biblical Influence

Iconography and Religious Art

- Ethiopian religious art is rich with biblical themes, depicting scenes from the Old and New Testaments, saints, and angels.
- The Cross of Ethiopia: An ancient and uniquely Ethiopian form of the cross symbolizes faith rooted in biblical tradition and Ethiopian spirituality.

Festivals and Rituals

- Timket (Epiphany): Celebrates the baptism of Jesus, emphasizing biblical narratives about Jesus' baptism and divine affirmation.
- Meskel: Commemorates the discovery of the True Cross by Queen Helena, linking Ethiopia's cultural festivals directly to biblical history.

Literature and Oral Traditions

- Biblical stories are woven into Ethiopian oral traditions, including folk tales, proverbs, and hymns.
- These narratives serve to reinforce biblical morals, history, and spiritual lessons across generations.

Modern Perspectives and Interfaith Dialogue

Scholarly Research and Biblical Studies

- Modern scholars continue to explore Ethiopia's biblical connections through archaeology, linguistics, and history.
- Discoveries of ancient manuscripts, inscriptions, and artifacts have enriched understanding of Ethiopia's biblical heritage.

Interfaith Relations and Cultural Identity

- Ethiopia's Christian identity, rooted in biblical tradition, plays a significant role in national unity.
- The country's diverse religious landscape also includes Muslim and indigenous faiths, fostering interfaith dialogue grounded in shared respect for biblical and spiritual history.

Challenges and Preservation Efforts

- Preservation of ancient manuscripts and monuments faces challenges from environmental factors and modernization.
- Efforts by religious and cultural organizations aim to safeguard Ethiopia's biblical heritage for future generations.

Conclusion: Ethiopia's Enduring Biblical Legacy

Ethiopia's historical, religious, and cultural landscape is indelibly marked by its biblical connections. From ancient legends of the Queen of Sheba and the Ark of the Covenant to the enduring traditions of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, the country exemplifies a living heritage that bridges faith, history, and identity. Its unique biblical canon, archaeological treasures, and vibrant religious practices continue to inspire scholars, believers, and travelers alike, affirming Ethiopia's place as a cornerstone of biblical history in Africa and the world.

The rich tapestry of Ethiopia's biblical legacy underscores the profound way in which faith, history, and culture intertwine, creating a story that spans millennia and remains deeply relevant today. As ongoing research and preservation efforts unfold, Ethiopia's sacred heritage promises to continue illuminating the biblical narrative and its enduring significance for future generations.

Ethiopia And The Bible

ethiopia and the bible: Ethiopia and the Bible Edward Ullendorff, 1968 Traditionally Ethiopia has formed a bridge between civilizations, with Jerusalem as vital as Aksum in the national consciousness of the Ethiopians. In this volume, Professor Ullendorff investigates the relationship of Ethiopia to the Bible. He considers the historical background, translations of the Bible into Ethiopian languages, and the impact of the Old Testament, which goes beyond anything experienced in the other Oriental Christian Churches. The book concludes with an examination of the story of the Queen of Sheba, based on the Biblical account of the queen's visit to King Solomon. It shows how this account has undergone extensive Arabian, Ethiopian, Jewish and other elaborations, to become the subject of one of the most ubiquitous and fertile cycles of legends in the Near East.

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ethiopia and the bible: An Ethiopian Reading of the Bible Keon-Sang An, 2015-10-01 This book explores the biblical interpretation of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church (EOTC). In doing so, it illuminates the interpretation of the Bible in a particular historical and cultural context and presents a compelling example of the contextual nature of biblical interpretation. Those who visit Ethiopia experience its unique spirituality, which is significantly informed by the presence of the EOTC. The EOTC has existed from earliest years of the Christian church. It has also developed and maintained its own ecclesiastic tradition in the Ethiopian context and has its own distinctive way of reading the Bible. It is noteworthy, particularly in the African context, that it has its own commentaries on the Scriptures, which continue to serve as a vital tradition in the EOTC's interpretation of the Bible. This is evident in the contemporary hermeneutics and sermons of EOTC preachers. In its comprehensive consideration of the EOTC's past and present, this book examines the interplay between tradition and context in biblical interpretation and contributes to current biblical scholarship.

ethiopia and the bible: An Ethiopian Reading of the Bible Keong-Sang An, 2016-06-30 In An Ethiopian Reading of the Bible, Keon-Sang An explores the distinctive biblical interpretation of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahido Church (EOTC). He illuminates the interpretation of the Bible in a particular historical and cultural context and presents a compelling example of the contextual nature of biblical interpretation. Since the earliest years of the Christian church the EOTC has significantly informed the unique spirituality of Ethiopia. Drawing on his own experience of teaching theology in Ethiopia, Keon-Sang An provides a comprehensive consideration of the EOTC's past and present, and examines the interplay between tradition and context in biblical interpretation. An Ethiopian Reading of the Bible contributes much to current biblical scholarship and equips readers with the tools for a future of mutual learning.

ethiopia and the bible: Books of the Ethiopian Bible Ethiopian Church, 2019-09-30 The Ethiopian Bible is the oldest and most complete bible on earth. Written in Ge'ez an ancient dead language of Ethiopia it's nearly 800 years older than the King James Version and contains over 100 books compared to 66 of the Protestant Bible. The Ethiopian Bible includes the Books of Enoch, Esdras, Buruch and all 3 Books of Megabyan (Maccabees), and a host of others that were excommunicated from the KJV. Books of the Ethiopian Bible features 20 of these books that are not included in the Protestant Bible.

ethiopia and the bible: The Bible in Ethiopia Curt Niccum, 2014-05-28 The Ethiopic version provides a window into the state of the Greek Bible as it circulated in East Africa at the end of the fourth century. It is, therefore, an extremely important witness to the Bible's early transmission

history, yet its testimony has typically been ignored or misunderstood by text critics. This study examines the history of the book of Acts in Ethiopia and reconstructs its earliest attainable text, which then is assessed using the latest text-critical methods. It therefore provides a solid base for interpreting the data of this key witness and lays the groundwork for future text-critical work in Ethiopic and other early versions.

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ethiopia and the bible: *Ethiopian Bible* Daniel Ogbonna, 2022-10-17 The Ethiopian Bible is The Most Complete Bible In History and The Oldest Of All Bible. The Ethiopian Bible is fully Illustrated, with pictures to help you back up your thought process; written in Ge'ez, it stands out as a compendium of complete scriptures never seen in any other Bible. In this Book, You Will See: Detailed History of The Ethiopian Bible. How The Bible was Translated into Ge'ez The Expository Garima Gospels The Orthodox Tewahedo Bible Canon. The Ethiopian Manuscript Collection. The Full Scope of Christianity In Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Bible is widely talked About in Christianity and the world at large. What is this Bible About that everyone wants to know?

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Yohannes Wolde Amanuel, 2018-12-29 NEW PRINTED EDITION!!! AVAILABLE (Outside of Ethiopia)! The official AMHARIC DICTIONARY OF THE HOLY BIBLE. Originally compiled as a study companion to the 1961-62' Authorized Revised Amharic Bible, during the times H.I.M. Haile Sellassie I of Ethiopia, sometimes referred to as the Emperor's Bible. This revised and reloaded edition printed from Valiancy Publishing continues the tradition of Ethiopian Orthodox-Tewahedo Christianity intense study & application of the Holy Bible.

ethiopia and the bible: Ethiopian Bible Marco Gottschalk, 2023-04-17 Ethiopian Bible: The Word of God in the Land of Origins is a captivating journey into the heart of Africa's ancient and rich spiritual heritage. In this book, readers will discover the fascinating story of the Ethiopian Bible, its history, and its importance in the development of African Christianity. The Ethiopian Bible is unique, not only for its rich content and language, but also for its deep connection to the land and people of Ethiopia. As the oldest complete Bible in existence, it holds a special place in the hearts of Ethiopians and has played a crucial role in shaping their faith and identity. Through engaging storytelling and insightful analysis, this book reveals the many hidden treasures of the Ethiopian Bible, including its prophetic messages, its deep wisdom, and its profound spiritual teachings. Readers will also gain a deeper understanding of Ethiopia's culture and traditions, as well as the role of the Ethiopian Church in the wider Christian world. With its powerful message of hope, faith, and love, Ethiopian Bible: The Word of God in the Land of Origins is a must-read for anyone interested in African spirituality, Christian history, or the power of ancient texts to inspire and transform lives.

ethiopia and the bible: *Complete Ethiopian Bible in English - Original Version - 88 Books* Edward Jones, 2023-10-01 The Complete Ethiopian Bible in English - 88 Sacred Books including Old Testament, New Testament, Enoch, Jubilees & Meqabyan - Original Ethiopian Orthodox Bible Translation By buying the original version of the Complete Ethiopian Bible in English, you receive the only authentic and faithful translation of the ancient Ethiopian Orthodox canon by the biblical scholar Edward Jones. □ OVER 10,000 COPIES SOLD □ BUY THE ORIGINAL VERSION WRITTEN BY BIBLICAL SCHOLARS For centuries, many sacred texts have been excluded from traditional Bibles. The Original Ethiopian Bible offers a unique perspective on spirituality and biblical history, compiling 88 sacred books, including Enoch, Jubilees, and Meqabyan. Uncover the full richness of God's Word with the Original Ethiopian Bible — now faithfully translated into clear, beautiful English. This Ethiopian Bible is an authentic and faithful translation of the original texts with language that is natural, clear, and emotionally resonant. Unlike older, formal translations that can feel distant or confusing, this edition flows smoothly and is engaging to read. The translators worked to preserve the spiritual depth, poetic rhythm, and ancient beauty of the Ethiopian Bible while ensuring it is easily understood by today's readers. Whether you're a Bible scholar, a seeker of truth, or someone who wants to explore lesser-known Christian traditions, this faithful translation of the Ethiopian Bible will allow you to: □ Discover sacred books excluded from the Western canon □ Understand the origins of Scripture and its deeper meaning □ Explore doctrines and traditions rarely studied in biblical history More Than a Book - A Key to Unlock Hidden Truths If you want to expand your biblical knowledge and explore texts rarely studied, this Bible is the perfect guide for your journey. Don't miss the opportunity to own this remarkable Bible—begin your journey into the fuller story of God's Word today! Click "Buy Now" to begin your journey!

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ethiopia and the bible: Holy Names Markos Desta, 2017-03-07 This dictionary introduces a list of about 2,500 names from the Bible. The names given to our lord Jesus (Iyesus), prophets, apostles, people and places are most of the time relates to the role of those characters in biblical events. The dictionary is based on a search on the origins and secret messages of spiritual languages. Ancient Ethiopian languages, understanding and interpretations are the base of this research. As an outline it may help you to pay attention that...The English word 'The' has the same meaning as the Ethiopish

'ረ' (Ze), which is an article; example the (ረ) Ethiopia, ረረ 'ረ' ረረረረረረ 'ረ' ረረረ ረረረረ etc; Words like 'Alphabet ~ ረረረረረረ Ambassador ~ ረረረረረረረ Feastival ~ ረረረ ረረረ and so on' are originated from the Ethiopish languages. The English word 'Mystery' and the Ethiopish 'mistir' (ረረረረ) have the same meaning- secret. The name 'Andrፈa's' and the word 'enderasie' (ረረረ ረረ) have the same meaning-'manly'. Most biblical names, like 'Abimelik ~ ረረ ረረረረ Ebenezer ~ ረረረ ረረረ Elisabeth ~ ረረ ረረረረ Emmanuel ~ ረረረ ረረረ Gabriel ~ ረረረ ረረረ Israel ~ (ረ) ረረ ረረረ Melkisadic ~ ረረረ ረረረ and so on' are Ethiopish rooted names. The English word 'Call' is derived from the Ethiopish 'Qal' (ረረ) meaning voice, word, message... The name 'Simon' is from the word 'smane' (ረረረ) meaning hears me, listen... The word 'Amen' is from the word, Aman (ረረረ); the meaning is faithful and peaceful unity. The word 'Wine' is drived from the Ethiopish word 'Weyn' (ረረረ), an alcoholic drink. The name 'Zechariah' is derived from the words 'Zkre' (ረረረ) and 'yah' (ረረ), meaning remembrance of Jehovah. And so on...

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