

will get a good idea of the attitude of the people. Each city had its own king who admitted no overlord save perhaps the Pharaoh of Egypt. There was constant bickering and jealousy between the various cities. In the letters to the Pharaoh each king declares himself ~~that~~ to be utterly subservient to the Pharaoh and points out however, how the other kings of Canaan are untrue to Egypt and pleads that Pharaoh will send him some Egyptian troops in order that he might put an end to the disloyalty of the other cities. A letter like this is quite convincing until you read another letter, written by a different king, in practically the same tone, presenting rather convincingly that in the eyes of the second king, the first king is one of the most disloyal of the Canaanites. Thus this disunity and selfishness among the people which it made it difficult for them to unite. They could band together for a crisis, but once the crisis was over each city was entirely independent of all the others. (Feudal situation).

We must notice briefly the social life of the Canaanites. They were people of a rather advanced culture in many regards. They understood how to make powerful walls and well built houses. But socially and morally their life was on a very low plain. Prof. Kyle and Dr. Albright have shown by their discoveries at TBM that the Canaanites worshipped a serpent goddess. We read in the account of the destruction of Sodom in the time of Abram that the mob violence was so great that when the wicked men of Sodom wanted to seize the two men who were visiting Lot in order to mistreat them, they tried to force the door of the house in order to take them out. The men drew Lot inside the house and closed the door upon the mob. Evidently, people of wealth built their houses strongly with powerful doors in order to be able to resist such mob attacks. S. and G. were perhaps the first fruits of the Canaanites. That is to say their wickedness culminated sooner than that of the other cities and they were destroyed sometime before the rest, but at the time that the Israelites came in, it is probable that the situation in the Canaanite cities of the hill country of Palestine was much like that of