



QASR ANTAR

There is a sacred building made of hewn blocks of stone on the summit of Mount Hermon- Known as Qasr Antar, it was the highest temple of the ancient world, sitting at 2,814 feet (858 m) above sea level- It was documented by Sir Charles Warren in 1869- Warren described the temple as a rectangular building, sitting on an oval, stone plateau without roof- He removed a limestone stele from the northwest of the oval, broke it into two pieces and carried it down the mountain and back to the British Museum, where it currently resides- An inscription on the stele was translated by George Nickelsburg to read 'According to the command of the greatest a(nd) Holy God, those who take an oath (proceed) from here-'to Nickelsburg connected the inscription with oath taken by the angels under Semjaza who took an oath together, bound by a curse in order to take wives in the Book of Enoch (1 Enoch 6:6)- Hermon was said to have become known as 'the mountain of oath' by Charles Simon Clermont-

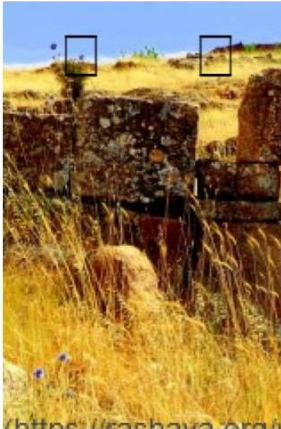
Ganneau. The name of God was supposed to be a Hellenized version of Ba'al or Hadad and Nickelsburg connected it with the place name of Baal-Hermon (Lord of Hermon) and the deity given by Enoch as "The Great Holy". Eusebius recognized the religious importance of Hermon in his work 'Onomasticon' saying "Until today, the mount in front of Panias and Lebanon is known as Hermon and it is respected by nations as a sanctuary"



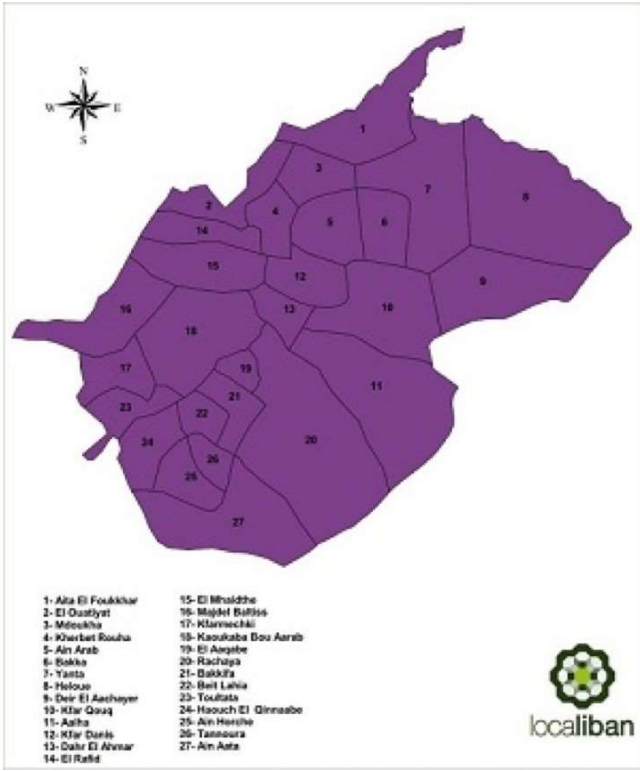
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