

# Enrogel

## Names (also known as)

En Rogel or En-rogel (English).

Ein Rogel (Hebrew).

Also known incorrectly as the fountain of the virgin.

## Etymology

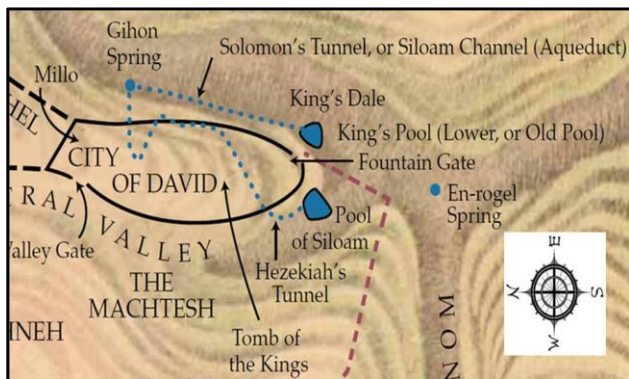
Strong – “fountain of a traveller.”

BDB - “fount of the fuller.”

Hitchcock’s Bible Names – “the well of searching.”

## Location/Description

Enrogel is a spring that formed one of the landmarks on the boundary line between Judah and Benjamin. Its exact location is disputed. Some have identified it with the spring Gihon or Virgin’s Fountain, but the evidence is very strong that it was separate from Gihon and further to the south at the junction of the Kidron Valley and the Valley of Hinnom.



## Scriptural references

### Old Testament

Josh. 15:7; 18:16; 2 Sam. 17:17; 1 Kings 1:9

## Famous characters

Jonathan and Ahimaaz  
Adonijah

## Brief history

The view which places En-rogel at Bir Eyyub in every way harmonizes with Biblical facts. The neighbourhood at the junction of two deep valleys is a natural place for a spring. Enrogel was an important point on the boundary line between Judah and Benjamin (Josh. 15:7; 18:16). The line passed down the lower end of the Kidron Valley, past Enrogel (Bir Eyyub) and then up the Valley of Hinnom (Wady er Rababi) – a boundary well adapted to the natural terrain.

With regard to David's spies (2 Sam. 17:17), whereas the Virgin's Fountain, the source of the city's water supply just below the city walls, was an impossible place for hiding, this lower source at Enrogel was out of sight of almost the whole city and removed some distance from its nearest point, was at least a possible place to hide. Furthermore, Jonathan and Ahimaaz hid in a well covered with a cloth (2 Sam. 17:19), and the water source at Enrogel is a deep well.

Additionally, the fact that it was off the main road, that it afforded a supply of one of the main necessities of life – water – and that there were, as there are today, many natural caves in the neighbourhood, greatly added to its suitability.

Enrogel was a most appropriate place for Adonijah's plot to seize the throne (1 Kings 1:9). He and his confederates dared not go to Gihon, the original sacred spring, but had to content themselves with a spot more secluded, though doubtless still sacred. Enrogel cannot be Gihon because David commanded that Solomon be taken there and anointed king (1 Kings 1:33-34), while Adonijah was still at Enrogel and heard the shouting of the people (1 Kings 1:40-41).

## Sources:

Smiths Bible dictionary  
Wikipedia  
Strong's Concordance  
E. W. G. Masterman Bibliography Information  
Easton Bible dictionary  
Hitchcock's Bible Names Dictionary

(Compilers – Greg and Yvonne Pipe)