

Nephilim / Giants in the Bible: Separating fact from fiction

WEBSITES RELATED TO THE SUBJECT OF GIANTS: I cannot vouch for veracity of the information on these sites but there is much data collected here that is factual even if the conclusions of the authors may be subjective.

Website Link	Website Address
Burlington News	http://www.burlingtonnews.net/giants.html
Steve Quayle	http://www.stevequayle.com/Giants/index2.html
Bible – UFO	http://www.bibleufo.com/humanphenom90.htm
Images / pictures of Giants	http://www.google.ca/images?q=giants+in+history&oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US:official&client=firefox-a&um=1&ie=UTF-8&source=univ&ei=7LvmS-8MsTflgfg6uysBw&sa=X&oi=image_result_group&ct=title&resnum=4&ved=0CDcQsAQwAw
Wikipedia	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nephilim
You Tube Videos	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N63lhtx2q8o

The existence of **‘Giants’** on Earth is an indisputable fact, there is Biblical, mythological, and archaeological evidence that there have existed in the past human like creatures of gigantic stature upon our planet. The Bible alone has dozens of references that are tabled at the bottom of this article. The question that divides people is not whether giants existed or not but how they originated. The **‘NEPHILIM’** school of thought insists that the giants originated as a result of the union between fallen angels and human women. This conclusion is based mainly on a single verse of Biblical scripture, [Genesis 6, verse 4](#) that I will analyze in some detail later on in this article. This would tend to imply that giants did not exist until sometime after man was formed on the earth. However this view is not supported by scriptural, mythological and archaeological evidence.

- **Mythologically** speaking the **‘Giants’** were created from [Uranus’ blood](#) as result of his castration by his son Cronos. This would imply some sort of genetic manipulation or mutation that originally gave rise to these creatures long before modern man was made custodian of the Earth. Giants have existed in all ages of mythology and therefore their origin is not as recent as the days of Noah; a mere 5000 or so years ago. Almost all cultures on all continents have myths of giants that predate their own civilization by hundreds and in some cases even by thousands of years. Many native myths of the Americas tell stories of their ancestors having witnessed and co – dwelt with giants for long periods of time. Such myths are also to be found in Africa, Asia, Europe, Australia and the Pacific islands.
- **Archaeological** evidence also suggests that most of the [megalithic structures](#) found all over the world, on the surface and underwater predate all modern civilizations beginning in Sumer about 4500 years ago. Click the link to watch [video evidence](#) of these amazing structures on every continent that mainstream academia conveniently ignores because it does not fit their severely distorted explanations of Earth’s past history. These structures could not possibly have been built by modern man even with modern technology in many cases. The sheer scale of construction points to **‘Giant’** builders. For example, the world famous [Baalbek](#) temple in Lebanon is a marvel of ancient engineering that could not be built today, even with modern machinery. According to Arab legends, Baalbek’s first city was built before the Great Flood by Cain, the son of Adam, whom God banished to the ‘land of Nod’ that lay ‘east of Eden’ for murdering his good brother Abel, and he called it after his son Enoch. The citadel, they say, fell into ruins at the time of the deluge and was much later **re-built by a race of giants** under the command of Nimrod, the ‘mighty hunter’ and ‘king of Shinar’ of the Book of Genesis. [Video of Megalithic structures around the world.](#)

- **Biblical** evidence would also suggest that ‘**Giant**’ civilizations predate modern civilizations, ever since the time of Adam. In [Genesis 6:4](#) we are told that ‘**there were giants in the earth in those days**’....Though many people attempt to misquote this scripture to prove the origin of giants, the Biblical account does not even make mention of how they originated, simply that they were here, when and from where they arrived we do not know. There were giant civilizations in the Middle East dating back to the time of Abraham, around 2000 BC. At the time of the conquest of Canaan, about 1500 BC there were many flourishing ‘**giant**’ civilizations, for example in [Petra in modern day Jordan](#), a technological wonder city carved out of the side of a mountain. By the time of the Canaanite conquest, many of these ‘**giant**’ civilizations had already been conquered, not by the Israelites but by the Edomites and the children of Lot. In almost all cases, Biblical and mythological ‘**giant**’ civilizations predate man; therefore it is incorrect to surmise that the giants were somehow an offspring or offshoot of modern man, that is of Adam and his children since they were on the Earth from almost the same time as Adam’s expulsion from the Garden of Eden.

Biblical, mythological, and archaeological evidence combined with legends and myths of various cultures leads to the conclusion that there existed on Earth in ancient times and past ages some rather large human like creatures, which were not descended from modern man and were not always friendly towards man although there is evidence of some co – operation between giants and man. My hypothesis is that they may have originated on Earth in an age prior to the current age or they came from another planet or planets. I am almost certain that they were not hybrids but rather genetic mutants of some sort. Somewhere along the line the genes of their ancestors were tinkered with to create these monsters but they were not hybrids: they were not a combination of two or more species. As discussed later in this article the giants were not just one single race but there were substantial differences, physiological and psychological between various types of giants. All of the giants were not a peaceable race; mythologies of all cultures describe the ferocious nature of some of these giants. It is possible that may all now be extinct although there are reports that they still exist in South America and remote South Pacific islands like the [Solomon Islands](#).

The Bible uses several Hebrew words that have been translated as ‘**Giant**’ in the King James Version of the English bible. The very first occurrence of the word ‘**Giant**’ is in the well known [chapter 6 of the book of Genesis](#). The word ‘**giant**’ in the previous verse of scripture is the Hebrew word **Nephilim**. This word, **Nephilim**, is used a total of 3 times only in just two verses of scripture; once in [Genesis 6:4](#), and twice in [Numbers 13:33](#). However there are literally thousands of **Nephilim** doctrines and theories that portray them in a variety of ways as giants, as hybrids, as spirits, as shades, and in too many other ways to catalogue here.

Nephilim is just one Hebrew word that is translated **giant** in the King James Bible, the two other words are **Anakim** (also known as Emim or Zamzummim), and **Rephaim**, a derivative of the Hebrew word **Rapha**, which actually has two different meanings that will be discussed later. A table at the bottom lists numerous Biblical references to giants, and the various Hebrew words used in these accounts. The rest of this article deals with the subject of **Biblical giants**, and whether the **Nephilim** were angel – human hybrids or merely large men like creatures, possibly 20 plus feet in height. Since all of the **Nephilim** mythos is based on [Genesis 6:4](#) a thorough analysis of this verse of scripture is in order to arrive at some logical conclusions, about their origin and nature.

[Genesis 6:4](#) / ‘**There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.**

A great deal of misinformation is floating around on the Internet and in print regarding the nature of these giants. Hundreds if not thousands of websites claim that the **Nephilim** (just one Hebrew word for giant) were a product of intercourse between fallen angels and earth women and therefore some sort of mutant **hybrids**. This interpretation, first of all assumes that the bible claims that the ‘**sons of God**’ referred to in [Genesis 6:2](#) and [Genesis 6:4](#) were angels whereas the bible makes no such claim. Secondly the assumption is made that the **Nephilim** were a product of the union between these ‘angelic’ sons of God and earthly women; this too is an incorrect assumption. Here’s what the bible actually says about both the giants (**Nephilim**) and the sons of God in [Genesis 6:4](#). I have broken this verse down to

make clearer what the Bible actually teaches about the ‘giants’ (and the ‘sons of God’.) My comments are italicised in parentheses.

- **There were giants in the earth in those days;** (*the Bible does not say where they came from; just that they were here.*)
- **and also after that,** (*indicates a time that comes after the arrival of the giants.*)
- **when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men,** (*the sons of God mated with the daughters of men; the Bible does not teach that the Nephilim or giants mated with the daughters of men, this mating occurred after the giants were already in the earth.*)
- **and they bare children to them,** (*the women bore children to the sons of God not to the giants.*)
- **the same became mighty men which were of old,** (*the children born to the sons of God and daughters of men were **MEN** not giants or Nephilim.*)
- **men of renown.** (*the Bible reiterates that these children were **MEN**, so how could they have been hybrids?*)

The ‘sons of God’ are commonly thought of as ‘fallen angels’; a false interpretation in my view that will be elaborated upon in a separate article. Regarding the giants (the Nephilim) all [Genesis 6:4](#) has to say: ‘**There were giants in the earth in those days**’. That’s it! There is nothing else that the Bible has to say about them in this verse of scripture, and the rest of the book of [Genesis](#) for that matter. The origin of the giants is not discussed in the Bible. Although it is commonly taught that they were a result of the union between angels and women, this is not a claim that can be proven Biblically. If we carefully parse the wording of [Genesis 6:4](#), we discover that it does not prove any of the following commonly reported myths:

NEPHILIM MYTHS

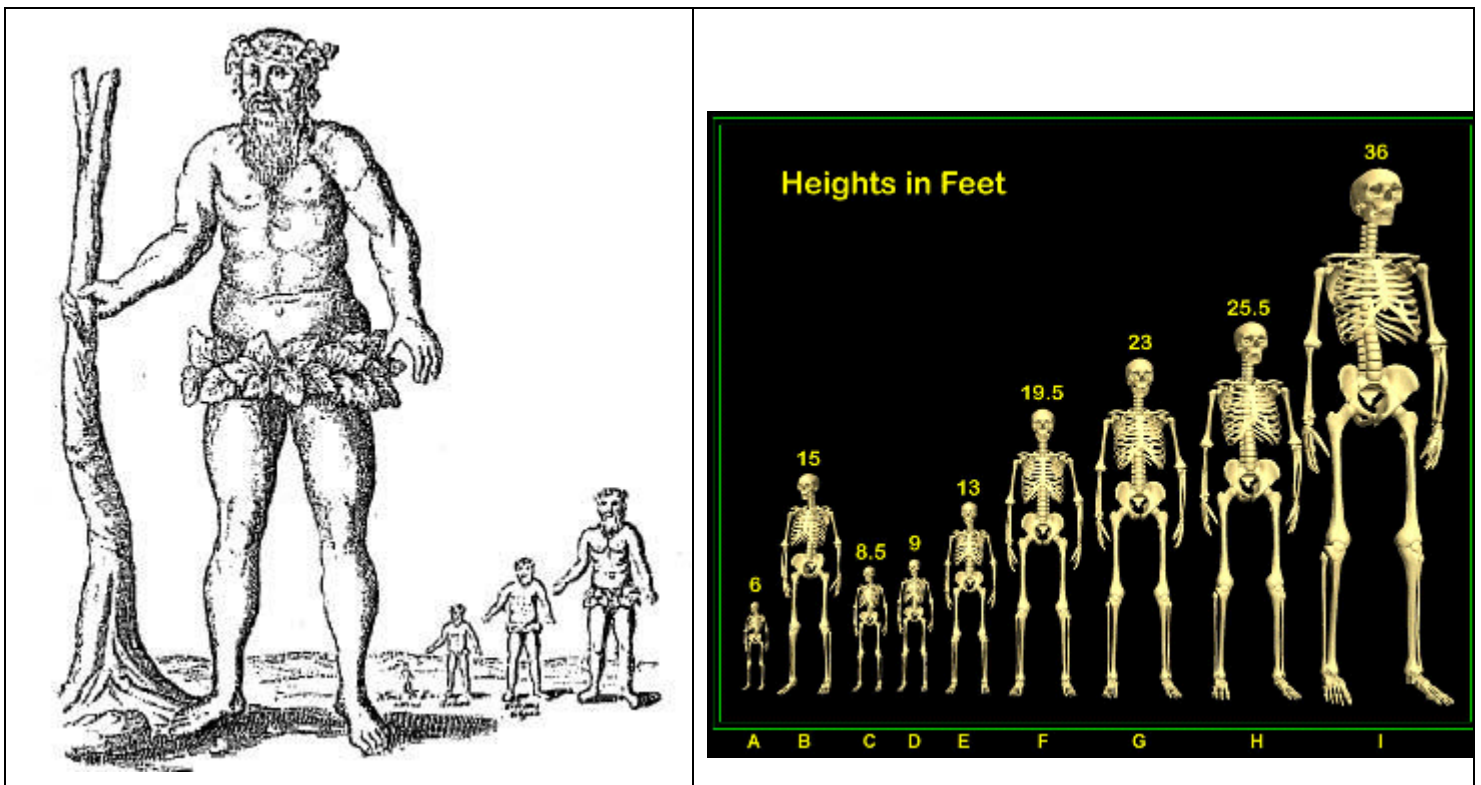
1. **Myth #1: The giants (Nephilim) mated with the daughters of men.** In no place does the Bible speak of any giant ever mating with women. As proven above, all the Bible tells us is that **the giants were in the earth in those days**. As a matter of fact it states in several places that the giant people and giant civilizations were generally separate from the civilizations of man. The term ‘[land of the giants](#)’ is used in more than one place to indicate that they did not mingle with the children of Adam but lived in separate civilizations.
2. **Myth # 2: The ‘Giants were the offspring of the ‘sons of God’ and human women.** Rather than proving that the Nephilim were the offspring of the ‘sons of God’, the Bible actually states that the giants came first and then came the ‘sons of God.’**and also after that**, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men...**After stating the fact that the giants were in the earth already, a new clause begins that places the time of the mating of the ‘sons of God’ and women after the arrival of the giants.** So how could the giants (the Nephilim) have been the offspring of the ‘sons of God’? Furthermore the Bible does not say that the children, the offspring, of the ‘sons of God’ and women were giants (Nephilim.) It states quite clearly that ‘when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty **men** which were of old, **men** of renown’. Not once but twice does this scripture state that the offspring of this union were **MEN**, not giants (Nephilim.) These **mighty men of renown** may have been **HEROES** like the heroes of the ‘**Age of Heroes**’ of Greek mythology. However these ‘Heroes’ such as Hercules or Odysseus were not giants; as a matter of fact heroes like Hercules did battle with the Nephilim giants. Nowhere in the Bible does it identify these ‘**men of renown**’ as Nephilim or giants.

THREE CATEGORIES OF BIBLICAL GIANTS

The bible uses a variety of words such as Nephilim, Anakim, Emim, Zamzummim, and Rapha or Rephaim that have been translated **GIANT** in the KJV. However the words Emim, Zamzummim, Anakim and a couple of other words refer to the same type of creature – these are the same word in different languages. The tribes that dwelt in the land of Canaan in the days of Moses such as the Edomites, the Moabites, the Ammonites etc. used different words in their own

language to describe the same creatures that were giants. In the Hebrew language there are primarily three words translated as giant in the KJV – **NEPHILIM**, **ANAKIM**, AND **REPHAIM**.

In the historical portion of the Old Testament, the books from **Genesis to Job**, the word giant refers always to creatures of rather large size but very much shaped like man, that is they were biped intelligent flesh and blood creatures whose height may have ranged from 9–35 feet. The three different Hebrew words used for giant may refer to the difference in the size of the giants and in their disposition: the **Nephilim** were probably the biggest and tallest at 20 plus feet, the **Anakim** were shorter around 12-18 feet and the smallest giants were the **Rephaim** were around 8-12 feet tall. Goliath the Philistine whom David slew was a Rephaim and estimated to be around 10 feet tall. The [drawing](#) in the left column depicts the range of sizes these giants reportedly grew to in times past; they varied a great deal in their size and strength. The [diagram](#) in the right column depicts sizes of 'Giant' skeletons reportedly found over the centuries in various continents. Therefore the use of different words in the original Hebrew makes sense if they distinguished between various races of giants based on their size and mental disposition. The descriptions of the three races of giants that follows below are somewhat speculative and are not presented as scriptural or dogmatic. Please keep this in mind when perusing the rest of the article.



1. THE NEPHILIM would be comparable to, and may actually have been the [trolls](#) of myth and legend. They were almost certainly cannibals and mortal enemies of man not their mating partners. Their size may truly have been gigantic as tall as 35 feet. This matter of their size has not been deduced from the Bible but rather from the study of myths and legends of almost all cultures worldwide. Their origin is a bit of a mystery but a hypothesis can be presented that may answer the question as to where they came from. They may well have been genetic mutants like the Cyclops of Greek mythology and Rakshasas of Hindu mythology. According to Greek mythology the [Cyclops](#) that were a race of one eyed mythological giants sprang from the blood of Uranus. According to Hindu mythology, “In the world of the Ramayana and Mahabharata, [Rakshasas](#) (also know as Daityas or Asuras) are a populous race of supernatural humanoids who tend toward evil”. The Rakshasas purportedly grew from the foot of Brahma (the supreme Hindu deity) and grew to gigantic dimensions. Such myths that permeate every culture and tribe across the planet would suggest some type of genetic manipulation at some time in the distant past, long before Adam was formed on the Earth. So the origin of the **Nephilim** giants almost certainly predates modern man, therefore they could not have arisen from man.

In all likelihood, these **Nephilim** giants arrived here shortly after Adam and Eve's expulsion from Eden and preceded the arrival of the sons of God as stated in [Genesis 6:4](#). They may well have been the first 'other worldly' creatures that mankind came in contact with after the serpent in the Garden of Eden. **As evidenced by the tales of mythology such as that of Odysseus and the Cyclops, the Nephilim were a ferocious and cannibalistic race, not gentle giants.**

2. THE ANAKIM of which Og, king of Bashan is the most famous member seem to be smaller in size although still very large compared to the average size of modern man. They also seem to have had a more sophisticated culture than the **Nephilim**. Unlike the Nephilim trolls, Cyclops or Rakshasas, they lived in large cities and had kings and rulers over them. [Petra](#) in modern Jordan and even ancient Jericho would be examples of Anakim giant cities. They seem to have appeared shortly after the flood and established the first civilizations in the Middle East contemporaneously with the descendants of Noah after the flood. They occupied the land to the west of Shinar (modern day Iraq) while Nimrod and company were busy trying to build the tower and ancient city of Babel (Babylon) towards the East. All over the Middle East and Mediterranean islands are scattered megalithic remains that testify to the fact that giant civilizations were common in that part of the world around 2000 BC.

The size of the Anakim can be guessed at fairly accurately because the bible does give us measurements that suggest that Og the king of Bashan was about 14 feet tall and slept on a bed that measured approximately 7.5' wide by 16.5' long. Although the bible does not state clearly what sort of abominable activities these Anakims were involved in, it is apparent that because of God's judgment they were being driven out of the land even in the times of Abraham ([Genesis 14:5](#)). Long before Moses and the children of Israel destroyed Og the king of Bashan and his kingdom; a lot of Anakim kings had already lost their kingdoms to Edom and Moab and other descendants of Abraham and Lot. ([Deuteronomy, Chapter 2](#)).

Interestingly enough there is really no record of how and when these 'giants' whether the **Nephilim** or the **Anakim** arrived in the Middle East. However in South America almost every culture has a legend of 'giants' arriving by sea to their shores. Furthermore it was about the time of Abraham around 2000 BC that this first wave of giants seems to have landed in Central and South America, and perhaps North America. Did these Anakim giants start leaving their original abode to points west because of their continued destruction at the hands of the descendants of Noah? As the children of Noah began to multiply and spread westwards from Shinar they started doing battle with these Anakim and started displacing them. That would be a valid reason to pack up and move – after all survival is a natural instinct and if their very survival was threatened why would they stick around? Is this how they ended up in South America and build megalithic structures such as those at [Machu Picchu](#), [Tiahuanaco](#) and numerous others across Central and South America?

3. THE REPHAIM were the smallest of the giants and lasted until the days of King David and some of his descendants before becoming extinct. These giants were extant in the old world till at least 1000 BC and may have continued even longer in the Americas, perhaps even till the time of the Spanish conquest. Goliath was the most famous of the Rephaim and in size he was around 10 feet tall and weighed over 500 pounds. These giants, unlike the wild Nephilim and the more civilized Anakim did not dwell separate from man but were a part of human civilizations, as for example Goliath not only dwelt amongst but was revered as a champion by the Philistines. It would appear that by the time of King David, there were not enough of them left to form separate civilizations.

There are two identical Hebrew words **Rapha** that mean **GIANT** or **DEAD, SPIRIT, and SHADE**. The reason I bring this up is that many 'scholars' try to prove that the Rapha or **Rephaim** giants were spirits or angels or hybrids, and therefore 'giants' or Nephilim are hybrid spirits not flesh and blood. First of all the Nephilim and Rephaim were not the same race of creatures, and may not even have been the same species although they were giants, of gigantic stature. Secondly the **Rapha** or **Rephaim**, namely Goliath that David slew was very much flesh and blood as were all the **GIANTS** in the bible and in mythology. The KJV correctly translates the word as **Giant or Dead** in context. For example in [Isaiah 14:9](#) the KJV correctly translates the word **Rapha** as **DEAD** not as **GIANT** because this is the correct translation in context. The Hebrew word Rapha (7496 in Strong's concordance) which is the root word for Rephaim means DEAD. The same word Rapha

(7497) also means **Giant**. Though the word is the same, the meanings are entirely different and not interchangeable, and must be understood in context. For example the English word **LET** has more than one meaning: Let means to **ALLOW** but it also means to **RENT, HIRE or LEASE**. The two meanings are not interchangeable and the meaning must be understood in context. However if we conclude, as evidence would suggest, that the Bible teaches that there are three races of giants detailed in the Bible, then it becomes apparent that the word Rapha or Rephaim cannot apply to the Nephilim as many scholars attempt to apply.

In conclusion, the variations in interpretation of the Biblical accounts of '**giants**', [Genesis 6:4](#) in particular, is a result of the incorrect use of the Hebrew word **Nephilim**. If people used the correctly translated English word '**Giant**' to refer to them rather than the original Hebrew word '**Nephilim**', these misinterpretations would not be possible. If we stick to the English word **GIANT** when reading the English Bible rather than use Hebrew words the meaning is not so confusing. The Hebrew word for King is Melekh; we don't go around saying the Melekh David or Melekh Solomon, we correctly use the English word King, King David, King Solomon etc. to keep the meaning plain. Unless the word has been transliterated into our language there is no need to use the words from the original language; the meaning is much clearer when we use the correctly translated word such as king to describe a king in the English language rather than Melekh or Roi or another word from a different language. Those who insist on using the word **Nephilim** instead of the correctly translated English word **Giant** do so to prove a pre-conceived notion. Their theories on hybridization or angel – human mating etc. can simply not be proven by using the simple word **Giant** so they give their theories a garb of scholarliness by using the Hebrew word **Nephilim**. However it is nothing more than smoke and mirrors. If it is that important to use original Hebrew words to understand the Bible, then we should just give up the English Bible and all of us should learn Hebrew. Where deemed necessary by the translators, certain Hebrew and Greek words were transliterated into the English Bible, but none of the words for '**Giant**'; **Nephilim, Anakim, or Rephaim**, were transliterated because the English word '**GIANT**' adequately translates all three of the Hebrew words for giant so there was no need for transliteration. Using the Hebrew word **Nephilim** when the English word '**Giant**' would suffice does not prove anything about their origin or nature.

The following is a list of some of the verses in the Bible that describe **Giants**; there are yet many more so this is just a sampling. The Bible is quite detailed not just in the description of the giants but also in mapping the geographical locations that they inhabited. It seems that they were quite widespread in the land of Canaan, from Egypt to Babylon as well as all over the Mediterranean coast and islands. Megalithic structures such as the Great Pyramids and Baal's temple in Baalbek, Lebanon are just two examples of anomalous buildings that would seem impossible to have been built by modern sized man. There also have been reported discoveries of giant skeletons and bones in the Middle East that would support the Biblical account. As opposed to mythological accounts such as that found in Homer's Odyssey and other Greek myths, the Biblical account is very straightforward, as it would be reported by a historian who witnessed firsthand that which he wrote. Moses and Joshua and Samuel, authors of the Biblical accounts of giants did indeed witness them firsthand, and therefore provided straightforward accounts of their cities, their size and dimensions and other facts that any good historian would take note of in his accounts.

Scripture references for '**Giants**' in the Bible

Bible Book	Chapter, Verse	Reference
Genesis	6:4,	there were GIANTS in the Earth in those days...(Nephilim)
Genesis	14:5	and smote the Rephaims ..., and the Zuzims ..., and the Emims ... all three highlighted words mean GIANT
Genesis	15:20	And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims ..
Numbers	13:33	And there we saw the giants , the sons of Anak, which come of the giants : and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight (Nephilim)

Deuteronomy	1:28	The people is greater and taller than we...and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there
Deuteronomy	2:10, 11, 20	The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims ; 11 Which also were accounted giants , as the Anakims...
Deuteronomy	2: 20, 21	That also was accounted a land of giants : giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims; 21 A people great, and many, and tall , as the Anakims; but the LORD destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead: (the Ammonites destroyed the Zamzummims)
Deuteronomy	3:11	For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of giants ; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron...nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man. ...all the region of Argob, with all Bashan, which was called the land of giants .
Deuteronomy	9:2	A people great and tall , the children of the Anakims , whom thou knowest, and of whom thou hast heard say, Who can stand before the children of Anak!
1 Samuel	17:4	And there went out a champion out of the camp of the Philistines, named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. <i>(This is probably the most famous Giant in history whom David defeated in battle., his height is estimated to be between 10 and 11 feet)</i>