

The Prophecy of Jacob regarding his Twelve Sons (Gen. 49)

May 20 and 27, 2018
At PSGH by RGL

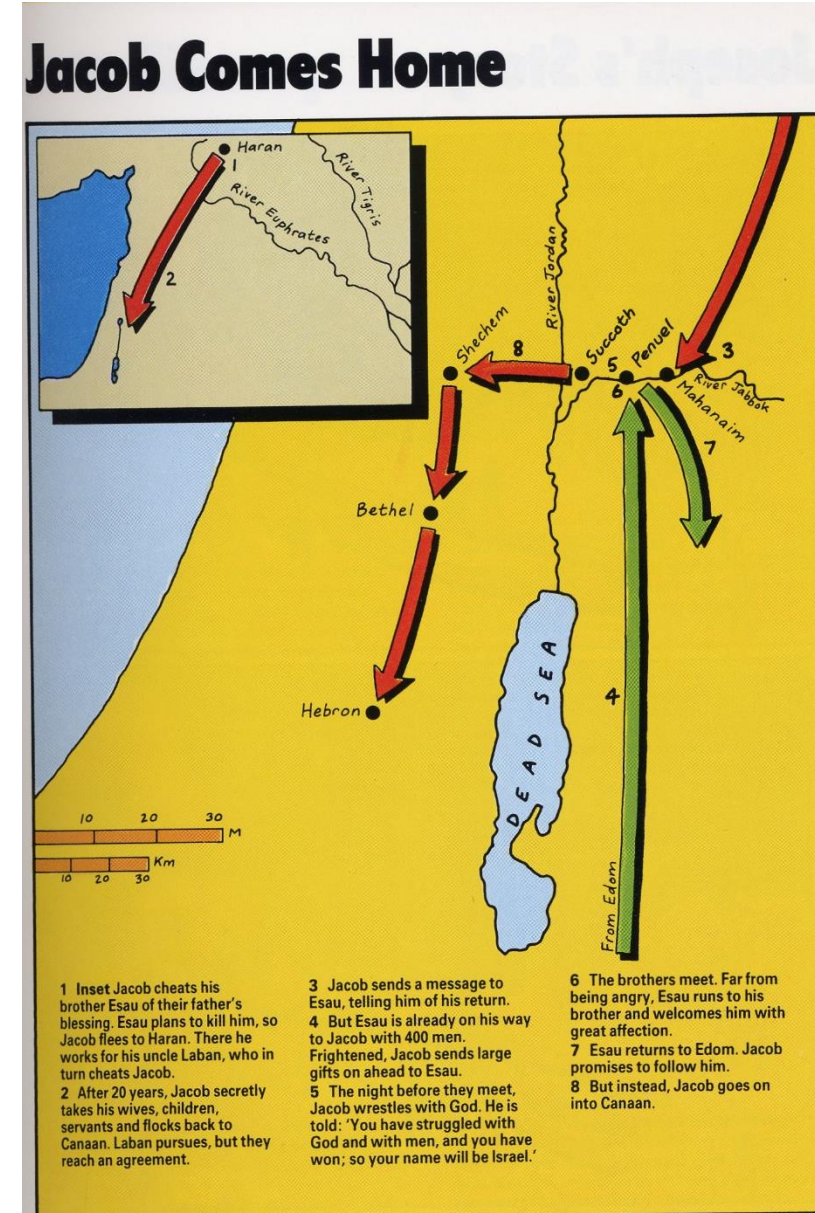
Jacob: The man who gives the prophecy

Jacob was a deceiver.....

Jacob's was a deceiver as a youth. He took advantage of Esau's hunger to trade his birthright for a mess of potage.

With his mother Rebecca's encouragement he clothed himself in the skin of an animal and posed as Esau in the presence of his blind, old father Isaac to receive the blessing.

LESSON: When people deceive others they dishonor God and can make enemies for a lifetime.

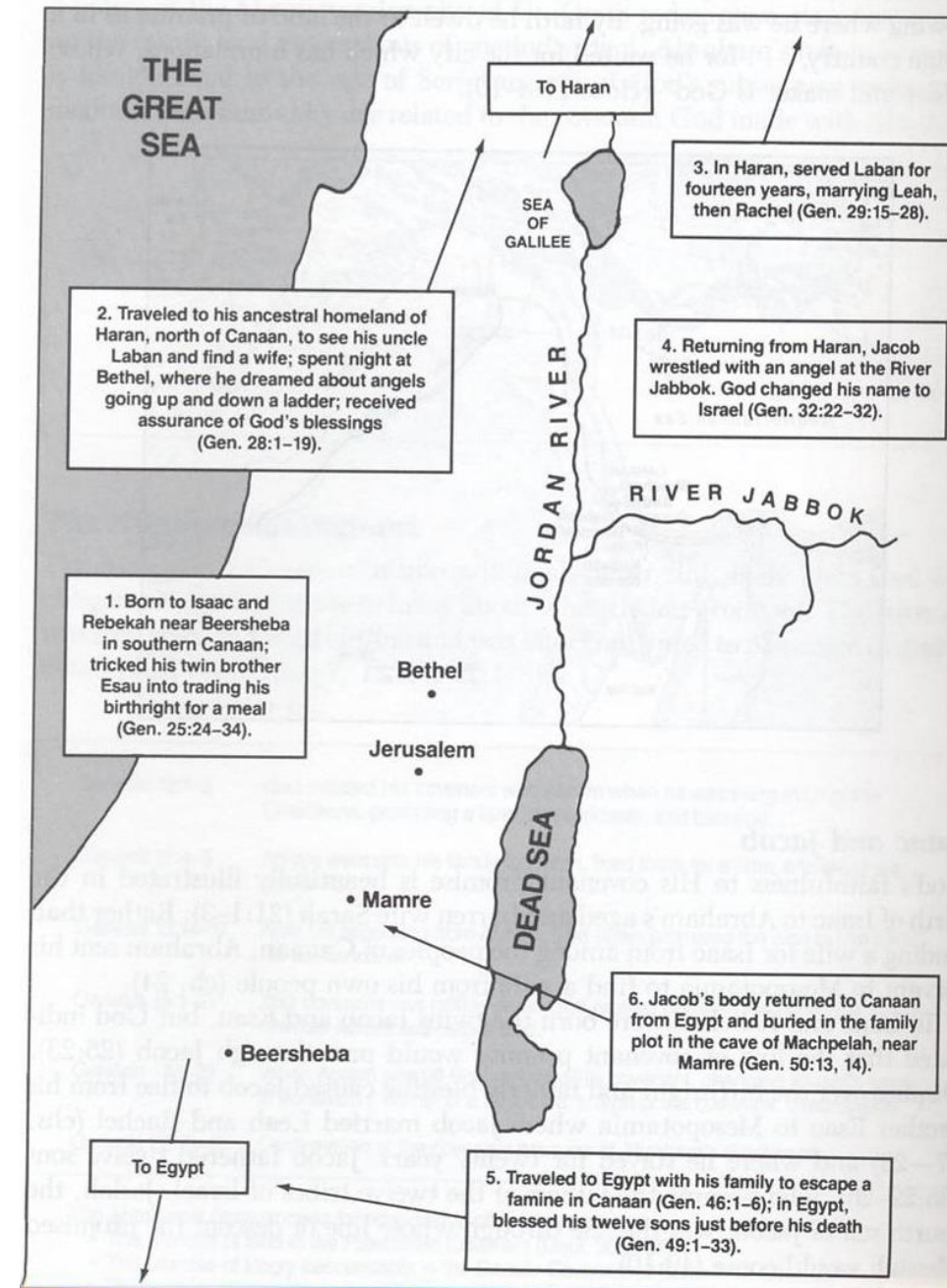


..... and he was deceived

Jacob toiled for Laban 7 hard years for Rachel. When the time for the wedding came, Laban insisted he marry Leah. Jacob toiled another 7 years for Rachel. Leah and Rachel engage in a life-long battle for Jacob's affection.

Jacob's 10 sons return from Shechem with Joseph's special coat dipped in blood. They lead him to believe Joseph has been killed by a wild animal. For decades Jacob lives with this sorrowful belief.

The Life of Jacob



The prophecy given by Jacob was for the last days.

It had applications to:

- The times when the tribes would be in the promised land
- The time when the Messiah would come unto his own
- The millennial reign of the Lord Jesus Christ

OVERVIEW

JACOB'S CHILDREN (Gen. 29,30)

By Leah

1. Reuben

2. Simeon

3. Levi

4. Judah*

9. Issachar

10. Zebulun*

By Bilhah

5. Dan*

6. Naphtali*

By Zilpah

7. Gad

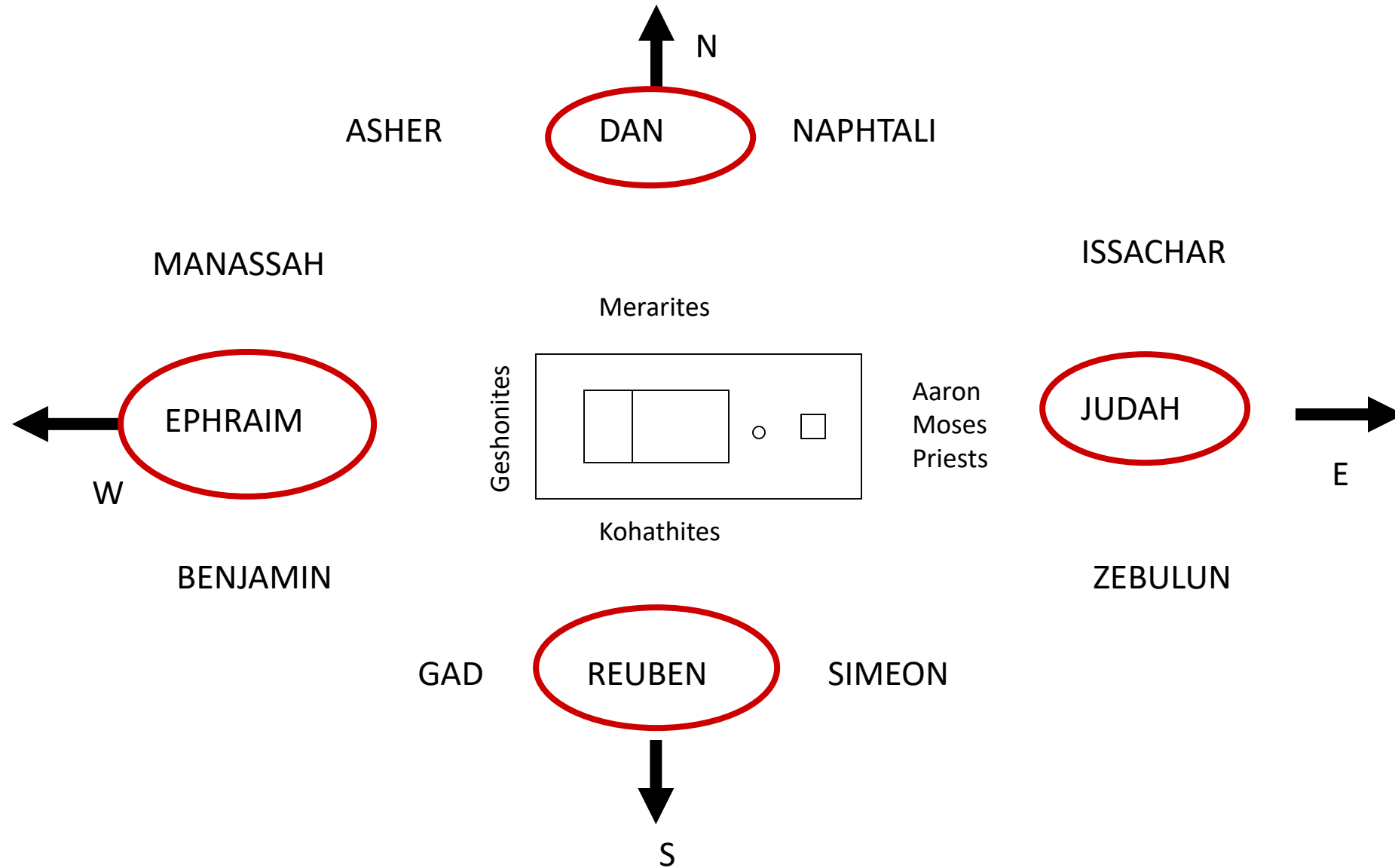
8. Asher

By Rachel

11. Joseph*

12. Benjamin*

WHO WAS WHO IN THE WILDERNESS



Departing Egypt (Num. 1)

1. Judah (74,600)*
2. Dan (62,700) *
3. Simeon (59,300)
4. Zebulun (57,400)
5. Issachar (54,400)
6. Naphtali (53,400)
7. Reuben (46,500) *
8. Gad (45,650)
9. Asher (41,500)
10. Ephraim (40,500) *
11. Benjamin (35,400)
12. Manasseh (32,200)

Entering Canaan (Num. 26)

1. Judah (76,500)
2. Dan (64,400)
3. Issachar (64,300)
4. Zebulun (60,500)
5. Asher (53,500)
6. Manasseh (52,700)
7. Benjamin (45,600)
8. Naphtali (45,400)
9. Reuben (43,700)
10. Gad (40,500)
11. Ephraim (32,500)
12. Simeon (22,200)

PLACEMENT OF TRIBES ON THE BREASTPLATE OF THE HIGH PRIEST

CARBUNCLE
LEVI

TOPAZ
SIMEON

SARDIUS
REUBEN

DIAMOND
NAPHTALI

SAPPHIRE
DAN

EMERALD
JUDAH

AMETHYST
ISSAHCER

AGATE
ASHER

JACINTH
GAD

JASPER
BENJAMIN

ONYX
JOSPEH

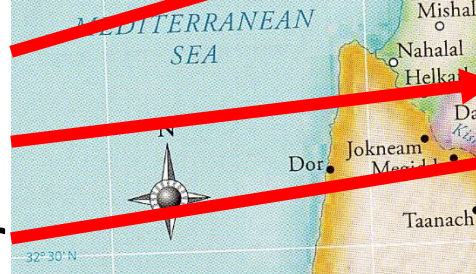
BERYL
ZEBULUN

WHERE THE TRIBES SETTLED WHEN THEY ENTERED THE LAND OF PROMISE

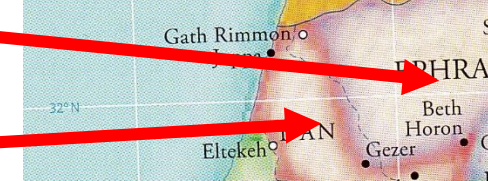
2. Simeon



8. Asher
10. Zebulun
9. Issachar



11b Ephraim
5. Dan



3. Levi throughout Israel
6. Naphtali



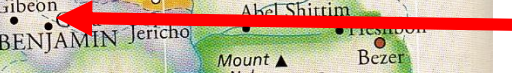
11a Manasseh



7. Gad



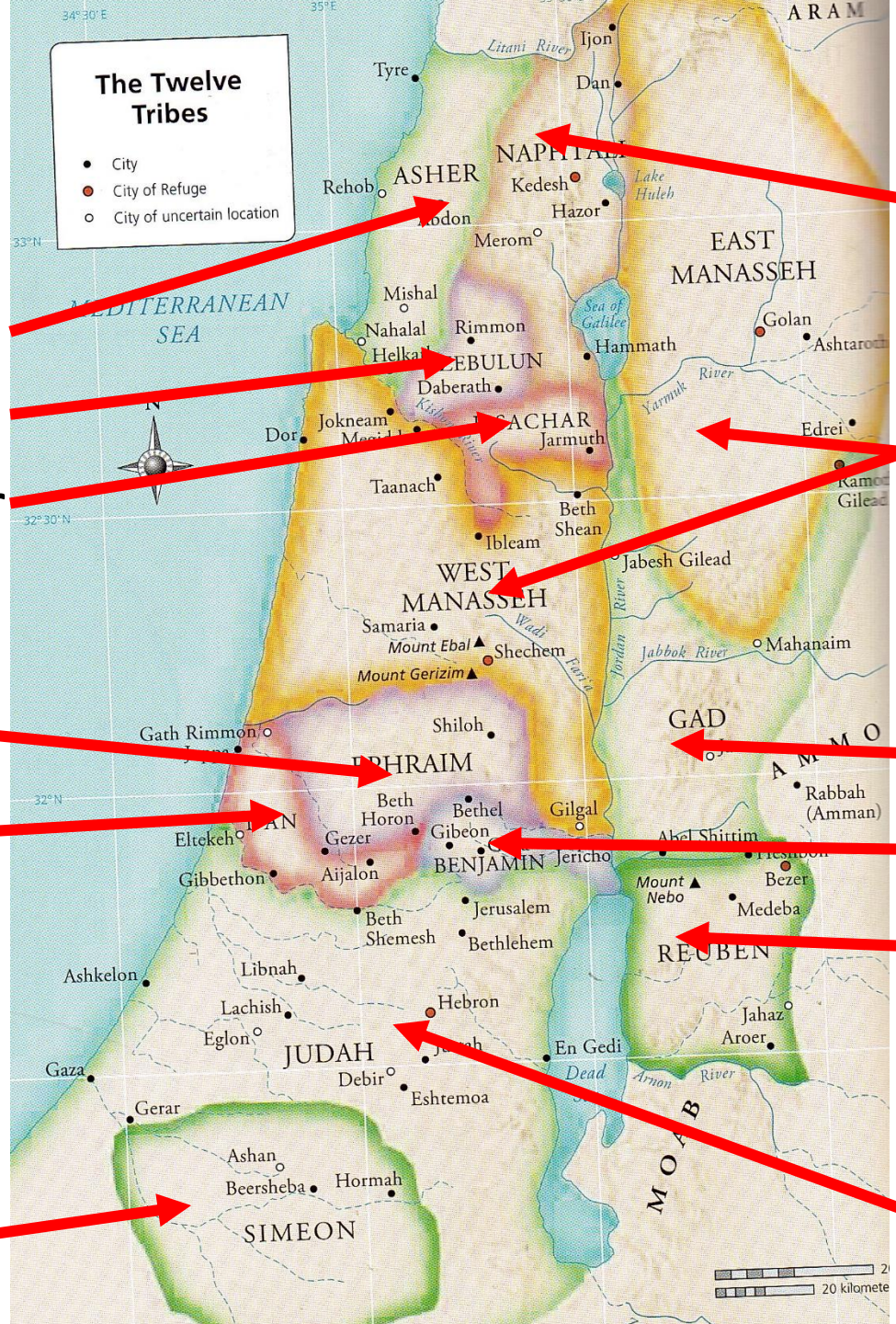
12. Benjamin



1. Reuben



4. Judah



Tribes who came to Hebron to make David King (1 Chron. 12)

Gad, Reuben, East Manasseh (120,000)

Zebulun (50,000)

Asher (40,000)

Naphtali (37,000)

Dan (28,600)

Ephraim (20,800)

West Manasseh (18,000)

Simeon (7,100)

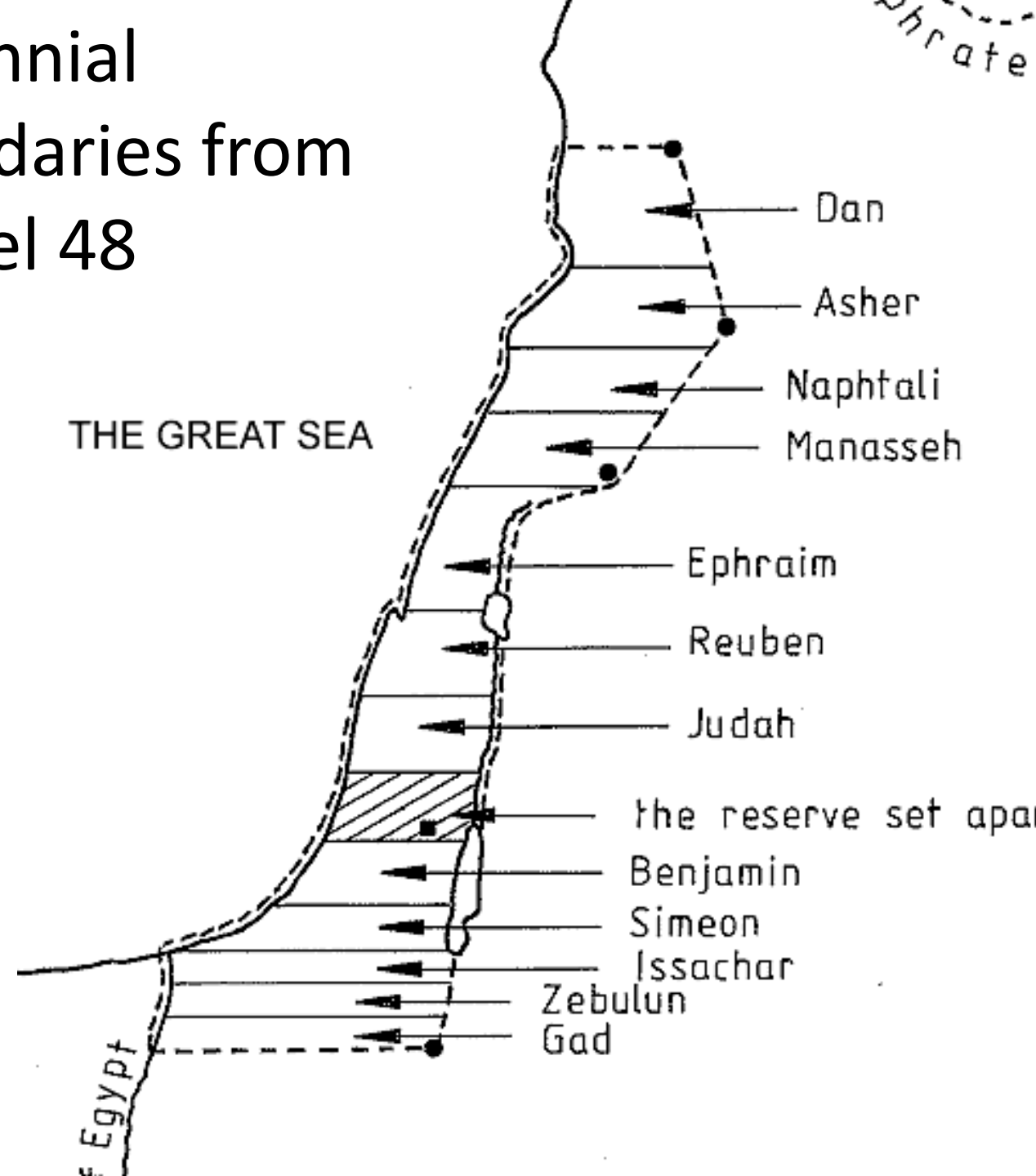
Judah (6,800)

Levi (4,600)

Benjamin (3000)

Issachar (200 plus many others)

Millennial Boundaries from Ezekiel 48



At different points in time in the Old Testament the 12 tribes are reviewed:

Gen. 49: The prophecy by Jacob for the last day.

Deut. 33: Moses blessing on the Children of Israel before his death

Judges 1: The actions of the various tribes in during the Canaanites out from the land

Judges 5: The readiness of the tribes to support each other during the attack of Sisera

1 Chronicles 12: The tribes that went to David in Hebron to support him in becoming king for all Israel

The Blessing and Judgment for each Son

Reuben

a) Mother: First son of Leah

b) Meaning: “See a son”

c) Jacob’s Prophecy (Gen 49):

Prospect: “thou art **my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:**”

Prophecy: ⁴ **Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel;** because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch.

d) Connections to Animals: Drawn by the bleating of the sheep

e) Positive Actions: Attempted (too late) to save Joseph

Reuben cont'd

f) Negative Actions: Sin with Bilhah

g) Significant Descendants:

Negative: Dathan and Abiram (aided Korah in his rebellion)

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): Let him live and not die and let not his men be few

i) Location of territory: East side of Jordan with good pasture land.

j) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): Likely helped in the initial invasion.

k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): Great thoughts of heart but he abode among the sheepfolds.

Reuben cont'd

l) Other interactions with the other Tribes:

m) Lesson(s):

- the terribleness of sin
- The need for self-control
- The need for single mindedness (James 1:6-8).

Simeon

a) Mother: Second son of Leah

b) Meaning of the Name: "the Lord hath heard"

c) Jacob's Prophecy:

Prospect: ⁵ Simeon and Levi **are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.** ⁶ **O my soul**, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, **be not thou united:** for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall. ⁷ Cursed be **their anger**, for it was **fierce;** and their **wrath**, for it was **cruel:**

Prophecy: I will **divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.**

d) Connections to Animals: None noted

e) Positive Actions: None noted

Simeon cont'd

f) Negative Actions: Simeon was involved in the murderous actions at Shechem. It seems that the tribe was involved with immorality and idolatry at Baal-peor which led to the death of 24,000 (Num. 25).

g) Important Descendants: None noted

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): No mention

i) Place in the Promised Land: Simeon was given 13 + 4 cities and their villages in the south (Negav desert) (in Judah). (Josh. 19:1-8)

j) Role in Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): Simeon joined Judah in fighting Canaanites in Judah's territory.

Simeon cont'd

k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): No mention

l) Other interactions with the other Tribes: People from Simeon migrated northward into the northern kingdom.

m) Lesson(s):

Self-control is very important. Unbridled anger cannot do the will of God. Zeal for righteousness must be channeled by pure motives and the glory of God.

James 1:19,20

Levi

a) Mother: Third son of Leah.

b) Meaning of the Name: joined (Gen. 29:36)

c) Jacob's Prophecy: Prospect: ⁵ Simeon and Levi **are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations.** ⁶ **O my soul,** come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, **be not thou united:** for in their anger they slew a man, and in their self-will they digged down a wall. ⁷ Cursed be **their anger,** for it was **fierce;** and their **wrath,** for it was **cruel:** I will **divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.**

d) Connections to Animals: None noted

Levi cont'd

e) Positive Actions: Levi's response to the challenge of Moses "Who is on the Lord's side" when he saw the idolatrous worship of the calf at the foot of Mt Sinai. Levi came forward and slew about 3000 men. As a result the children of Levi were set aside for bearing the tabernacle and for standing before the Lord.

f) Negative Actions: None apart from Shushen.

g) Significant Descendants:

Positive: Moses, Aaron, Samuel, Zechariah, John the Baptist

Name of the Tribe: Levi

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33:8-11): Levi had proven God and His ability to provide hence he asks that the instruments they use for guiding the nation may be guided by the Holy One (Jehovah).

i) Place in the Promised Land: Levi was given 48 cities and their suburbs placed around Israel in all 12 tribes. God said they were most blessed than the other tribes because the Lord was their inheritance.

j) Role in Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): None

k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): None

Levi cont'd

l) Other interactions with the other Tribes: Levi ministered to their spiritual needs by leading their worship.

m) Lesson(s): Zeal, when used for righteousness and for God is a good thing especially when it is combined with wisdom. God blesses those who step out courageously to serve Him. Zeal and confidence should be focused on God and his service. Warning: Rom. 10:1-2; Phil. 3:4-6.

Judah

a) Mother: Fourth son of Leah. Leah praised the Lord for what he had done

b) Meaning of the Name: praise

c) Jacob's Prophecy:

Prospect: ⁸ Judah, thou art he whom **thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee.** ⁹ Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up?

Promise: ¹⁰ **The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.**

The History of the Lion

Authority rested with Judah and the Lion as the King of Beasts was an apt representation of Judah

The lion would be seen as:

lion's whelp – a young lion: from the prey, my son,

thou art gone up – a lion seeking its prey:

he stooped down – the lion lying in wait for prey,

he couched as a lion – the lion lying after slaying prey

an old lion – resting and waiting for younger ones to bring him flesh

Judah cont'd

¹¹ Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

¹² His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

d) Connections with Animals: lion, foal, donkey's colt

e) Positive Promises: 1) Judah would be the leader of his brothers; 2) He would be a great conqueror; 3) Judah will produce a royal line of kings; 4) Judah would provide the parents who will be the family for the Messiah and the Savior; Judah would exercise judgement (Isa. 63: 1-3)

f) Positive actions: Before Joseph the ruler he spoke for his brethren and said he would stand for Benjamin. He led the tribes as they marched through the wilderness.

Judah cont'd

g) Negative Actions: Judah was far from perfect but his father viewed him in grace because of the wonderful things that would come from his descendants. g) Significant Descendants:

Positive: David, Solomon, Josiah

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33:7): He asked the Lord to hear Judah, to bring him to his people whom he would lead, to give his hands power and to save him from his enemies.

i) Role in Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): Went with Simeon to drive out Canaanites in southern Israel

j) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): None mentioned

Judah cont'd

k) Other interactions with the other Tribes: Judah became the leader for the nation because Reuben had failed. Many took the name Jew which came from the name Judahite.

l) Lesson(s): Grace overcomes all of our faults just as God chose Judah to be the leader of the nation and establishing him as the authority. A group or nation requires a leader with authority if it is to work in unison for God. David was such a leader.

God's promises of peace can only be fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ who has come and revealed himself as the prince of peace. We should not lose our confidence in Him nor look to another source for peace or comfort.

5. Zebulun

a) Mother: Sixth son (10th overall) born to Jacob and Leah

b) Meaning: Dwelling – Leah thought Jacob would dwell with her because of Zebulun's birth.

c) Jacob's Prophecy (Gen 49):

Zebulun shall dwell at the **haven of the sea**; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

d) Connections to Animals: None mentioned

e) Positive Actions: Zebulun as a result of his commercial prosperity contributed to Israel's success. **Nazareth the childhood home of the Lord Jesus was in this territory.**

f) Significant Descendants: Elon, a judge in Israel (Judges 12:11)

Zebulun cont'd

g) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33):

“Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, And Issachar in your tents!

¹⁹ They shall call the peoples *to* the mountain; There they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness; For they shall **partake of the abundance of the seas** and *of* treasures hidden in the sand.”

h) Location of territory: In the northwestern part of Israel – north of Issachar and just to the southeast of Asher. Although there is a reference to “seas” his territory was land-locked

i) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): ³⁰ Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries.

Zebulun cont'd

j) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): out of **Zebulun** they that handle the pen of the writer <literate, educated>.

¹⁸ **Zebulun** and Naphtali were a people that jeopardized their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

k) Other interactions with the other Tribes: When men of Zebulun went to battle they kept rank and had a single purpose (1 Chron. 12:33)

l) Lesson(s):

To be victorious in our service for the Lord we must learn to keep rank and to have singleness of heart with devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ (see Phil. 3:13). We may ask ourselves, What is the one thing we are committed to?

6. Issachar

a) Mother: Fifth son of Jacob and Leah (9th overall)

b) Meaning: “hire” or “wages”

c) Jacob’s Prophecy (Gen 49): “Issachar is a **strong ass crouching <lying> down between two burdens:** ¹⁵ And he saw that rest was good, and **the land that it was pleasant;** and **bowed his shoulder to bear,** and became a servant unto tribute.” (Some suggest that he was comfortable in his lot, had unrealized potential and wasn’t ready to fight for his inheritance)

d) Connections to Animals: Compared to an ass or donkey (important service animal in Israel)

Issachar cont'd

e) Positive Actions: Applied the Word of God to the lives on the people (1 Chron. 12:32 – had understanding of the times; knew what Israel ought to do) and were noted as valiant men (1 Chron. 7:1-5)

f) Significant Descendants: Tola who judged Israel for 23 years; Four descendants were kings of the northern kingdom.

g) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): “**Rejoice**, Zebulun, in your going out, And **Issachar in your tents!** ¹⁹ They shall **call the peoples to the mountain**; There they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness; For they shall partake *of* the abundance of the seas and *of* treasures hidden in the sand.”

Issachar cont'd

h) Location of territory: The eastern end of Jezreel valley between two large mountains including Mount Tabor (suggested Mount of Transfiguration).

i) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): No Mention

j) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): Princes of Issachar; even Issachar, and also Barak: they were sent on foot into the valley.

k) Lesson(s):

1) Prosperity is not the result of spiritual contributions (see Prov. 30:8,9; Deut. 32: 15). Prosperity can be a trap that limits spiritual growth.

2) They had the insight to act at the right time for they had understanding of the times and knew what Israel ought to do. We should be in touch with God so we understand the circumstances and we know what we and the people of God ought to do.

3) Issachar bore burdens – do we create burdens or bear burdens? (Gal. 6:2 – Bear ye one another's burdens,...)

7. Dan

a) Mother: First son to Jacob and Bilhah (5th overall)

b) Meaning of Name: Judgment

c) Jacob's Prophecy (Gen 49): ¹⁶ Dan shall judge his people, as **one of the tribes of Israel** <position>. ¹⁷ Dan shall be a **serpent by the way**, an adder in the path, that **biteth the horse heels** <poison>, so that his rider shall fall backward. ¹⁸ I have waited for **thy salvation** <pardon>, O LORD.

d) Connections to Animals: Serpent, Adder, Lion's whelp (Satan is likened to both a serpent and a lion who seeketh whom he may devour. Gen. 3:15 provided a promise of one who would bruise the serpent's head and would be known as God's salvation)

e) Positive Actions: Samson killed many Philistines during his life and death in the period when he was a judge.

Dan cont'd

f) Negative Actions: When Dan moved to the north he took a renegade Levite to be a priest and he instituted idol worship. He then supported Jeroboam by having one of the two golden calves at his capital city. (Also see Gen. 37:2)

g) Significant Descendants:

Samson, a judge in Israel, who gained victories over the Philistines more by craftiness than by might.

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): “Dan *is* a lion’s whelp; He shall leap from Bashan.” (Moses foresaw Dan at the base of Mount Hermon pouncing on others)

Dan cont'd

- i) Location of territory: Along the west coast of Israel down to Joppa and next to the areas of the Philistines. Dan was dissatisfied and when opportunity arose in the days of Jeroboam they attacked Laish and used that as their capital city.
- j) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): ³⁴ And the Amorites **forced the children of Dan into the mountain:** for they would not suffer them to come down to the valley:
- k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): why did **Dan** remain in ships?
- l) Other interactions with the other Tribes: Thinking of Dan, caused Jacob to long for God's salvation.

Dan cont'd

m) Lesson(s):

1) God's unconditional love is based on the Lord's salvation: In spite of Dan's many failures he is given pardon; still considered as a tribe and given a territory in the millennial kingdom.

2) Dan did not honour God in spite of his blessings. He was not satisfied with his portion and without consulting God went to establish himself in another area. He practiced idolatry and encouraged others to do the same. If we wish to receive God's blessing then we must honour Him and reject the idols of the world.

3) God allows people like Dan in this world so that we will long more deeply for God's salvation.

8. Gad

a) Mother: first son of Jacob and Zilpah, (7th overall)

b) Meaning of Name: a troop or good fortune. Leah felt more sons would come.

c) Jacob's Prophecy (Gen 49): Gad, **a troop shall overcome him** <vanquished>; but **he shall overcome at the last** <vanquisher>.

d) Connections to Animals: "He dwells as a lion." (He is ready to attack those who would encroach on his territory)

e) Positive Actions: 1 Chron. 12:8: These fierce warriors had a special role in defending David as he was pursued by Saul.

f) Negative action: They went into captivity first (Zeph. 2: 8,9)

g) Significant Descendants: Jair, a judge in Israel; Jephthah, a mighty man of valour; Elijah the prophet, Brazillai

Gad cont'd

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): “Blessed *is* he who enlarges Gad; **He dwells as a lion**, And tears the arm and the crown of his head. ²¹ He provided the first *part* for himself, because a lawgiver’s portion was reserved there. He came *with* the heads of the people; He **administered the justice of the LORD**, and His judgments with Israel.”

i) Location of territory: East side of Jordan in the area of Gilead. They were subject to attack by the Ammonites. (see Psa. 119:71)

j) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): They fought for Israel in Canaan and then returned to their land (Josh. 22: 1-3)

Gad cont'd

k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): No mention

l) Other interactions with the other Tribes:

m) Lesson(s):

Just as Gad had the promise that he would be an overcomer we can also be overcomers. For Gad this entailed: 1) defending what God had given them, 2) standing for what was right and just, and 3) maintaining faith in the God of Israel. For us this entails: faith (1 John 5:4) and overcoming the multitude of trends and influences that intrude upon our lives and on the local assembly (as noted in Rev. 2,3).

9. Asher

a) Mother: He was the second son born to Zilpah (8th overall)

b) Name: Happy or provider – Leah felt Jacob would be happy.

c) Jacob's Prophecy (Gen 49): ²⁰ Out of Asher **his bread shall be fat** <shemen – olive oil>, and **he shall yield royal dainties.**

d) Connections to Animals: None mentioned

e) Positive Actions: While other tribes mocked, some from Asher listened to the call to keep the passover in Jerusalem in the days of Hezekiah (2 Chron. 30:11)

f) Significant Descendants:

Widow of Zarephath who kept Elijah (1 Ki. 17:9); Ana who came into the temple and praised God for the coming of the Lord Jesus: Israel's Messiah and our salvation (Lk. 2:36-38).

Asher cont'd

g) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33) “Asher *is* most blessed of sons; Let him be favored by his brothers, And let him **dip his foot in oil** <shemen – olive oil>. ²⁵ Your sandals *shall be* iron and bronze; As your days, *so shall* your strength *be*.

h) Location of territory: His territory stretched northward from Mount Carmel along the west coast of Israel including Sidon.

i) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): ³¹ Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon, nor of Ahlab, nor of Achzib, nor of Helbah, nor of Aphik, nor of Rehob:

j) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): **Asher** continued on the sea shore, and abode in his breaches.

Asher cont'd

k) Lesson(s):

Asher would be blessed and would share those blessings. We are challenged to share what we have been given with others, especially those who have a need.

The tribe of Asher was marked by oil which reminds us of the Holy Spirit. Each of us can display the fruits of the Spirit and bring blessing into the lives of others (Gal. 5:22,23).

10. Naphtali

a) Mother: Second Son by Bilhah (6th overall)

b) Meaning of Name: “Communicator” or “Wrestling”

c) Jacob’s Prophecy (Gen 49): Naphtali is **a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words**. <Others: that bears beautiful fawns>

d) Connections to Animals: Described as a hind (doe) freed from confinement in swiftness, the joy of liberty and bravery.

e) Significant Descendants:

Positive: Barak <means lightning> came from Naphtali. He came swiftly upon Sisera (Judges 4:14). The Lord called most of his disciples from the territory of Naphtali and did much of his teaching and many of his miracles there.

Naphtali cont'd

f) Location of territory: An area elongated in the North-South direction on the west side of the Sea of Galilee and stretching northward to modern day Lebanon.

g) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): “O Naphtali, satisfied with favor, and full of the blessing of the LORD, Possess the west and the south (with reference to area around the Sea of Galilee).”

h) Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): ³³ Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Bethshemesh, nor the inhabitants of Bethanath; but he dwelt among the Canaanites, the inhabitants of the land: nevertheless the inhabitants of Bethshemesh and of Bethanath became tributaries unto them.

Naphtali cont'd

i) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): ¹⁸ Zebulun and **Naphtali** were a people that jeopardized their lives unto the death in the high places of the field.

j) Lesson(s): We have been liberated from captivity to the god of this world and from the bondage of sin. We should be swift in our service for the Lord and in the spread of the Gospel message (Rom. 10:15).

11. Joseph

a) Mother: The first son of Jacob and Rachel (11th overall)

b) Meaning: Rachel named him Joseph meaning “may he add” (she hoped for more sons)

c) Jacob’s Prophecy: ²² Joseph is a **fruitful bough**, even a fruitful bough **by a well**; whose **branches run over the wall**

<fruitfulness>: ²³ The archers **have** sorely **grieved him**, and **shot**

at him, and **hated** him <foes>: ²⁴ But **his bow abode** in strength,

and the **arms of his hands were made** strong by the hands of

the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the

stone of Israel:) <faith> ²⁵ Even by the God of thy father, who **shall**

help thee; and by the Almighty, who **shall bless** thee with

blessings **of heaven** above, blessings **of the deep** that lieth

under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb: <fullness>

Joseph cont'd

²⁶ The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the **utmost bound of the everlasting hills:** they **shall be on the head of Joseph,** and **on the crown of the head** of him that was **separate from his brethren.**

d) Connections with Animals: bull, wild ox.

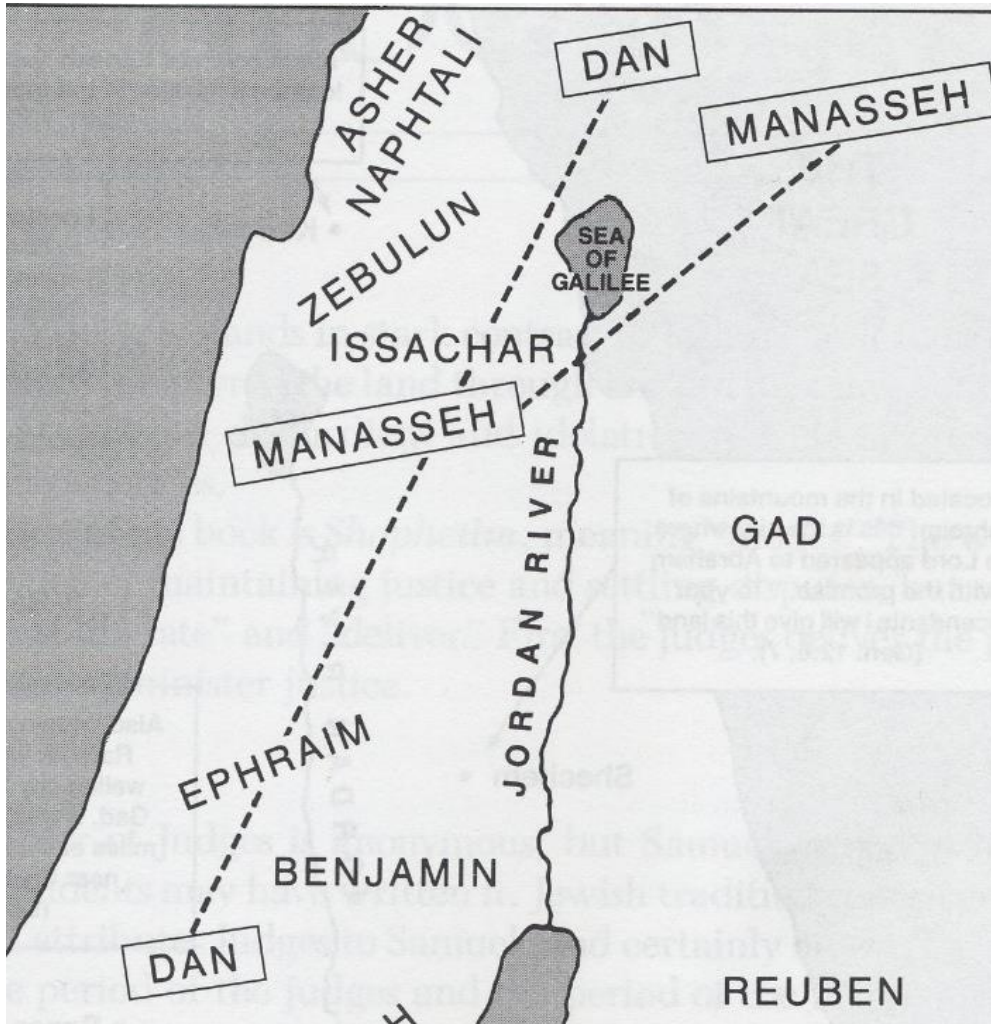
e) Positive Actions: Many in Joseph's life in Egypt.

f) Negative actions: None for Joseph but Ephraim allowed Jeroboam to set up a golden calf as an idol in Bethel.

g) Significant Descendants:

Positive: Ephraim, Joshua

h) Location of territory: Joseph was given a double portion as land was allocated to his sons Manasseh and Ephraim.



Manasseh, the older son, mean
“Causing to forget”
They received the largest land
allocation of any tribe.

Although the youngest,
Ephraim had the largest
impact. His names means “I
shall be doubly fruitful
The northern tribes became
known as Ephraim (Jer. 48)

Joseph cont'd

i) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): Let *the blessing* come 'on the head of Joseph, And on the crown of the head of him *who was separate from his brothers.*' ¹⁷ His glory *is like* a firstborn bull, And his horns *like* the horns of the wild ox; Together with them He shall push the peoples to the ends of the earth; They *are* the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they *are* the thousands of Manasseh."

Joseph cont'd:

j) Role in Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1):

²² And the house of Joseph, they also went up against Bethel: and the LORD was with them. ²³ And the house of Joseph sent to descry Bethel. (Now the name of the city before was Luz.) ³⁵ But the Amorites would dwell in mount Heres in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim: yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became tributaries.

Ephraim and Manasseh: ²⁷ **Neither did Manasseh drive out the inhabitants** of Bethshean and her towns, nor Taanach and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Ibleam and her towns, nor the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns: but the Canaanites would dwell in that land. ²⁹ **Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites** that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them.

Joseph cont'd:

k) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5):

Ephraim: there was a root of them against Amalek;

Manasseh: No mention.

l) Lesson(s):

Joseph was faithful to God in 1) rejection by brethren, 2) temptation by the owner's wife, 3) jailed because of false accusation and 4) forgotten by those he provided for. Joseph did not seek revenge or self-advancement. In due time God exalted him and blessed him for the things he had sacrificed so he could be a blessing to his family.

Joseph as a type of the Lord Jesus Christ

Joseph

The Lord Jesus Christ

1. Joseph was his father's delight

The Lord Jesus was the well beloved son (Matt. 3:17)

2. Joseph was rejected by his brethren

**The Lord Jesus came unto his own and his own received him not.
(John 1:11)**

3. Joseph was sold into Egypt

The Lord Jesus went to Egypt under duress (Mat. 2: 14-15)

4. Joseph withstood temptation to sin

The Lord Jesus withstood Satan (Mat. 4: 1-11)

5. Joseph went into death of the prison and came forth to a place of glory and power.

The Lord Jesus went into death, was raised and is exalted at God's right hand (Acts 2: 32-33)

6. Joseph forgave his brethren who had wronged him.

The Lord Jesus prayed for forgiveness for those who treated him so cruelly (Lk. 23:34) and has forgiven us whose sins caused his suffering

7. Joseph took a gentile bride

The Lord Jesus is calling Jew and Gentile to be part of the bride of Christ. (Col. 1:24-27)

12. Benjamin:

- a) Mother: Second son of Jacob and Rachel (12th overall)
- b) Meaning: son of my pain (Rachel); son of my right hand (Jacob)
- c) Jacob's Prophecy: ²⁷ Benjamin shall **ravin as a wolf**: in the morning he shall **devour the prey**, and at night he shall **divide the spoil**.
- d) Connections with Animals: wolf (noted for ferocity)
- e) Negative Actions: Battles between David's men and those loyal to the house of Saul. The folly of the men of Gibeah and the destruction of tens of thousand as a result (Judges 19-20). People of Jerusalem hated the Lord Jesus Christ and had him crucified.

Benjamin:

f) Significant Descendants: King Saul, Ishbosheth, Abner, Shimei, Sheba, Esther, Mordecai, Paul the apostle

g) Place in the Promised Land: Benjamin dwelt in a small area just to the north of Judah in the east part of Israel (but west of Jordan). It is generally agreed Jerusalem was in the territory of Benjamin in those days.

h) Moses Assessment (Deut. 33): “The beloved of the LORD shall dwell in safety by Him, *Who* shelters him all the day long; And he shall dwell between His shoulders.”

i) Role in Driving out Canaanites (Judges 1): ²¹ And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day.

Benjamin cont'd

j) Role in Battle with Sisera (Judges 5): **Benjamin**: among thy people; out of Machir came down governors,

k) Other interactions with the other Tribes: Esther and Moredai act bravely for the preservation of the nation.

l) Lesson(s):

Only God can change the heart of individuals and members of the tribe. The people of Benjamin were selfish and cruel.

However, when God worked with them, they became useful for God and through their bravery brought victory and deliverance to Israel. The same is true for our hearts- it is only as Christ fills our hearts that our service for Him will be blessed and used to bless others.

A Few Final Thoughts

CHANGING FORTUNES OF THE TRIBES

TRIBES WITH LAND IN CANAAN

JUDAH

REUBEN (E)

GAD (E)

ASHER

NAPHTALI

MANASSEH (E/W)

SIMEON *

ISSACHAR

ZEBULUN

EPHRAIM

BENJAMIN

DAN (TRIBE OF LEVI NOT
ALLOCATED LAND)

TRIBES SEALED IN TIME OF JACOB'S TROUBLE

JUDAH

REUBEN

GAD

ASHER

NAPHTALI

MANASSEH

SIMEON

LEVI

ISSACHAR

ZEBULUN

JOSEPH

BENJAMIN (DAN AND
EPHRAIM NOT SEALED)

TRIBES ALLOCATED LAND IN THE MILLENIUM

DAN

ASHER

NAPHTALI

MANESSAH

EPHRAIM

REUBEN

JUDAH

RESERVE (LEVITES/PRINCE)

BENJAMIN

SIMEON

ISSACHAR

ZEBULUN

GAD

ARE THERE REALLY TEN LOST TRIBES?

SOME OF THE TWO SOUTHERN TRIBES, JUDAH AND BENJAMIN, RETURNED TO THEIR HOMELAND AFTER CAPTIVITY IN BABYLON DURING THE DAYS OF ZERUBABEL, THERE IS NO RECORD THAT THE TEN NORTHERN TRIBES EVER DID.

Speculation:

British-Israelites (and Herbert Armstrong) said they are became the Anglo-Saxons

Some archaeologists said they are the Aborigines of America

- MANY FAITHFUL FROM THE NORTHERN TRIBES JOINED THE TRIBE OF JUDAH (2 CHRON. 11: 14,16)
 - NOT ALL ISRAELITES FROM NORTHERN TRIBES WENT INTO CAPTIVITY (2 CHRON. 34:9; 35: 17-18)
 - JEWS RETURNING FROM BABYLON WERE VIEWED AS ISRAELITES FROM ALL ISRAEL (1 CHRON. 9:2,3)
 - REFERENCE TO THE TRIBES OF ASHER (LK. 2:36) AND BENJAMIN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT
 - TRIBAL DISTINCTIONS GIVEN IN REV. FOR THOSE IN ISRAEL.
- The tribes are not lost, they are awaiting the day of revelation in the millennium.**

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