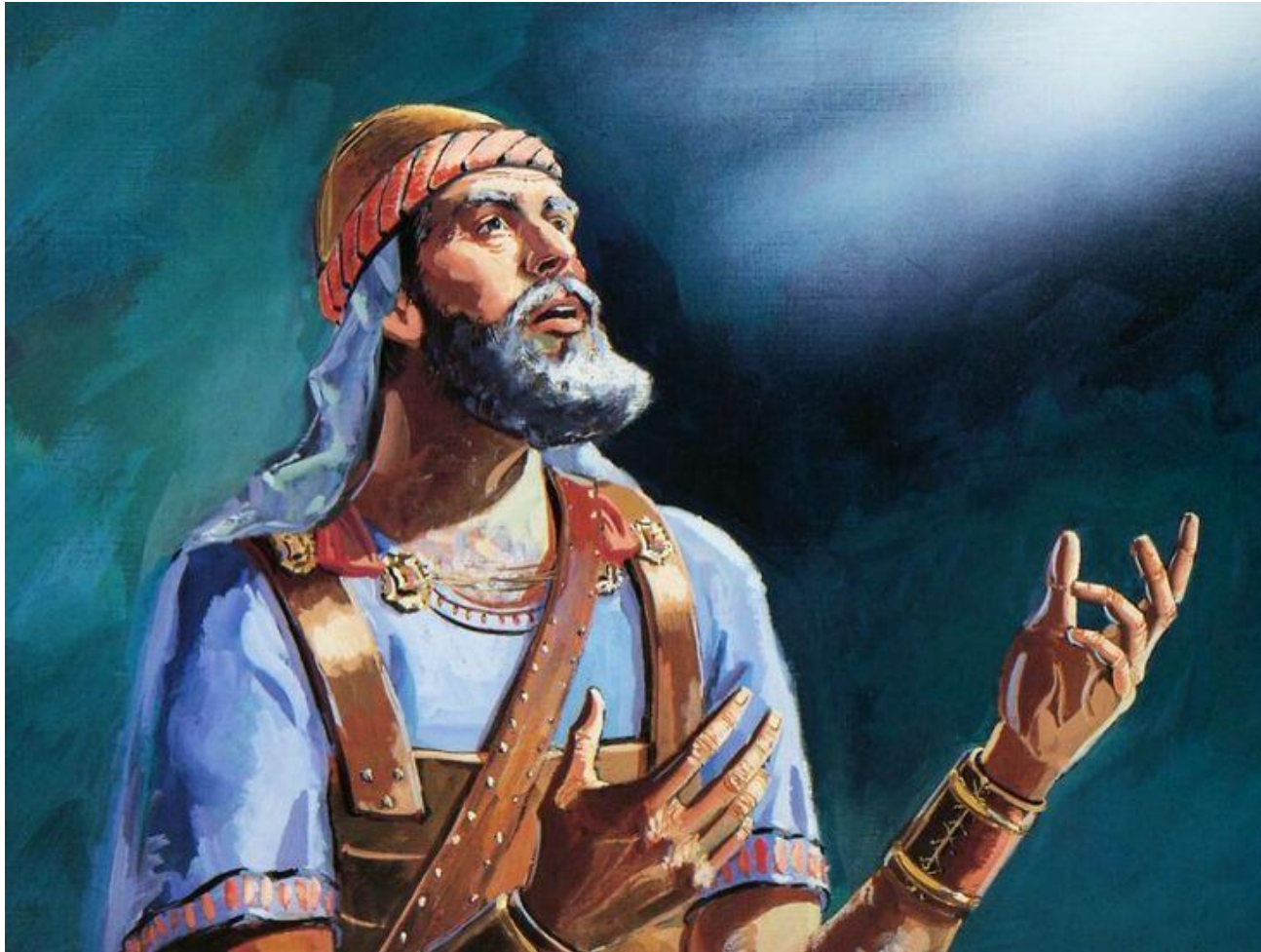


JOSHUA – An Overview

About 6 years covered, in the plains of Moab, and in the land of Canaan.

1. After the death of Moses, God encourages Joshua, and Israel states their support of his leadership. (Joshua chapter 1, or c1)
2. Joshua sends 2 men to spy out Jericho, they are hidden by Rahab, they pledge to spare her family, and escape to the Israelite camp. (c2)
3. God parts the waters of Jordan, and Israel enters Canaan. (c3)
4. Israel put 12 land rocks into the Jordan River, brought 12 stones from the river out as a memorial. (c4)
5. Young Israelite men circumcised, manna ceased, the people ate of food from the promised land, and Joshua speaks with the Lord. (c5)
6. Jericho defeated.
7. The city of Ai defeats Israel in battle because of the disobedience of Achan, and he is punished. (c7)
12. Ai defeated. (c8)
13. The Gibeonites trick Israel. (c9)
14. Joshua defeats the kings of the mountains in the south, the sun and moon stand still. (c10)
15. Joshua defeats the kings of the plains in the north. (c11)
16. A list of Israel's victories, and the portions east of Jordan. (c12-13)
17. The inheritance of Caleb. (c14)
18. The portion of Judah. (c15)
19. The portion of Ephraim and Manasseh. (c16-17)
20. The lots of the other tribes. (c18-19)
21. Cities of refuge established. (c20)
22. The dwellings of the Levites. (c21)
23. A civil war averted. (c22)
24. Joshua gathers the Israelites, and gives them good counsel, and then dies at 110 years old. (c23-24)

God Speaks to Joshua (chapter 1)



- God reveals that Moses is dead, and encourages Joshua.
- God promises Joshua victory, and in verses 6, 7 & 9, God tells him to be strong, and of a good courage.
- Joshua is to meditate in the book of the law of Moses day and night.
- Joshua tells the people of Israel to prepare to enter the land of Canaan.
- The people of Israel say they will follow Joshua, and for him to be strong, and of good courage.

A Canaanite Woman of Faith (chapter 2)

- Joshua sent two spies into the Canaanite city of Jericho.
- The men of Jericho searched for the spies, but they were hidden by a harlot named Rahab, who feared the Lord and knew God would give Canaan to Israel.
- She told them when and how to escape the city, and asked them to spare her family.
- They said whoever was in her house, to be marked by a scarlet thread, would be spared.
- The spies made it safely back to the camp of Israel, and reported that the people of Canaan were afraid of the Israelites.



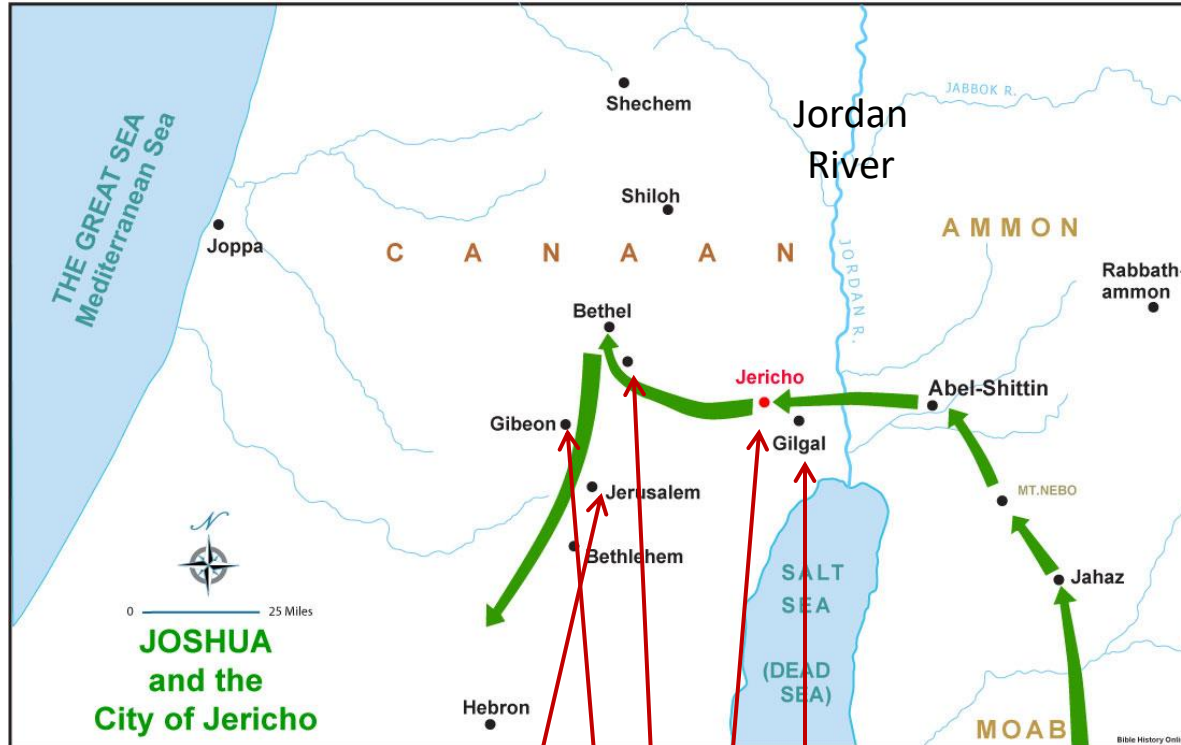
- In the New Testament, we find that Rahab was the mother of Boaz, who married Ruth, the great-grandmother of David, of whom was descended Jesus Christ.
- Hebrews chapter 11 calls Rahab a person of faith.

Crossing the Jordan into Canaan (chapters 3-4)



- When Joshua commanded, the priests took up the ark of the covenant and stepped into the river Jordan, which was in flood stage.
- God parted the waters of Jordan.
- The people walked across the bed of the Jordan, into Canaan's land.
- They took 12 land rocks, and put them into the river, and took 12 stones from the river, and brought them out to land for a memorial.
- The people of Israel now had the respect for Joshua that they had for Moses.

Camping in Canaan (chapter 5)



Jerusalem
Gibeon
Ai
Jericho
Gilgal

- The children of Israel made camp in Canaan, and circumcised the younger men who had not yet been so.
- The place they camped was named Gilgal, meaning “rolled away,” for God had rolled the reproach of Egypt from off of them.
- Manna stopped falling on that day, and they ate of the produce of the land.
- Joshua then saw a person with a drawn sword, and confronted him, but was told to take off his shoes, for he stood on holy ground, and Joshua did so.

The Battle of Jericho (chapter 6)



- God gave Joshua unusual instructions to defeat Jericho, and Joshua gave them to Israel.
- The men of war were to silently march once around the city 6 days, followed by the priests carrying the ark, and blowing trumpets.
- On the 7th day they were to march 7 times around the city, then blow the trumpets, and then shout.

- Israel followed these instructions, and the walls of Jericho fell down flat.
- Except for some metal items to be used in the house of the Lord, Israel was instructed to take nothing at all as spoil from the city, and to spare no people except for those in the house of Rahab the harlot, to whom the Israelites kept their word.
- The victory of Israel in this battle was complete, and Joshua laid a curse on the city.
- Joshua became famous throughout the lands nearby.

The Battles of Ai (chapters 7-8)



- The next city, Ai, was small, and the scouts of Israel recommended a force of only 2000-3000 warriors to take it. When the battle began, Israel fled, and lost 36 men.
- Joshua mourned, and inquired of God, who told him that someone had disobeyed, and taken spoil from Jericho.
- Casting lots, it was shown that Achan, of the tribe of Judah, was guilty, and he confessed.
- Achan and his family were put to death, and they, their possessions, and the spoil, burned.
- Joshua sent 30,000 men into hiding behind Ai during the night.
- The next day, the rest of Israel began the battle, and then pretended to flee.
- The men of Ai came out after them to slay them. Joshua raised his spear, and the hidden men of Israel went into Ai and set the city on fire. When the men of Ai saw the smoke, the men of Israel turned again to face them, and the men of Ai were trapped and defeated.
- Israel took the city, and then kept God's commandment through Moses for them to proclaim the curse on Mt. Ebal, and the blessing on Mt. Gerizim.

The Wiles of Gibeon (chapter 9)

Manufactured Evidence

- Old sacks
- Torn wine bottles
- Old shoes
- Old clothes
- Dry, moldy bread



- The news of Israel's victories spread throughout the land of Canaan, and men of the nations there prepared for war against them.
- Gibeon was a mighty city, but they decided to use deception, and manufactured evidence to convince the Israelites that they were from far away, when they were actually quite near.
- They came and asked for a treaty of non-aggression from Israel, since they claimed to be from far away.
- The leaders of Israel did not ask counsel of God, but granted the treaty based on the manufactured evidence, and said they would not fight the Gibeonites.
- When the people of Israel found that the Gibeonites were nearby, they were unhappy with their leaders, but had to keep their word, so the Gibeonites were assigned the task of drawing water and cutting wood for Israel throughout their generations.
- The other nations of Canaan made plans to attack Gibeon for dealing with Israel.

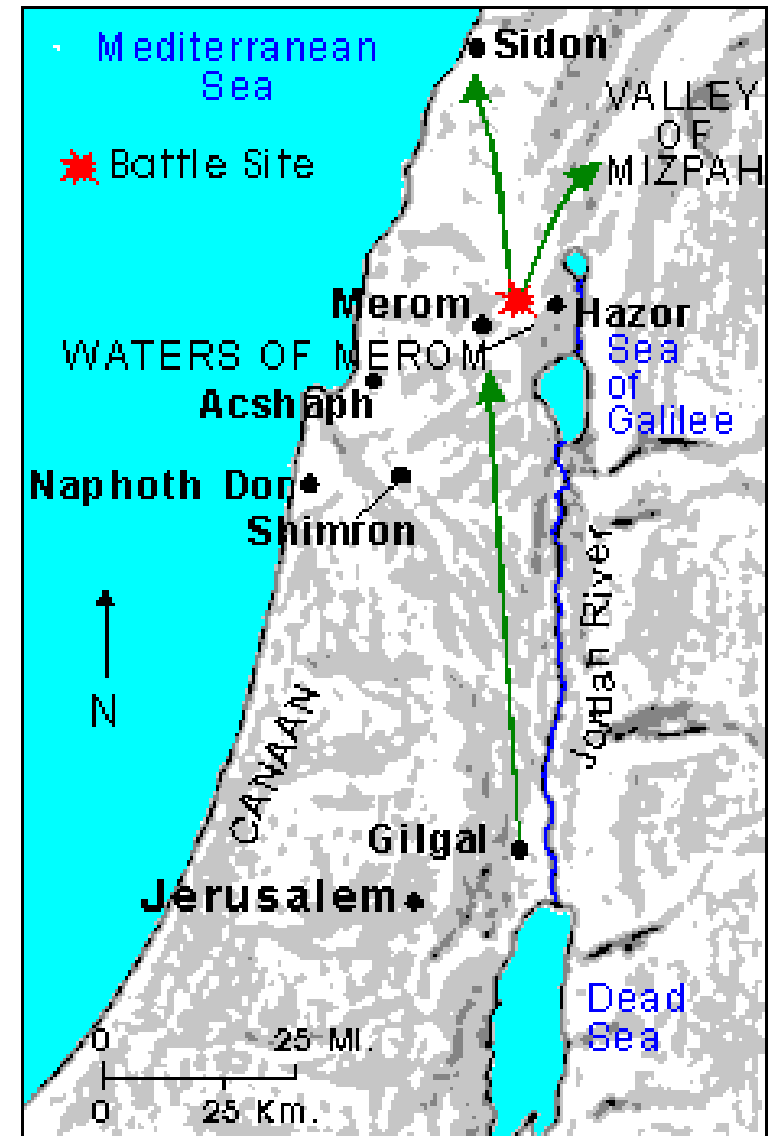
The Hill-country Kings of South Canaan (chapter 10)



- Adoni-zedek, king of Jerusalem, gathered 4 other kings of southern Canaan to attack Gibeon for making treaty with Israel.
- Gibeon called for help, and Joshua went.
- Joshua came upon these kings suddenly, and fought victoriously, and the Lord cast great hailstones to slay the Canaanites, but daylight was growing short.
- Joshua spoke to God, and then bade the sun and moon to stand still, and the Lord heard Joshua and made them stand still.
- Joshua captured the 5 kings and held them in a cave. After the battle was over, he brought them forth to be slain.
- Joshua proceeded to conquer the lands of the hill country and all of south Canaan, and so Israel possessed it.
- Joshua and the children of Israel then returned to their camp at Gilgal.

The Kings of the North Canaan Plains (chapter 11)

- Jabin, the king of Hazor, gathered many of the kings of northern Canaan to fight against Israel.
- Northern Canaan was less mountainous, and so they fought with chariots, which sometimes gave Israel trouble.
- God told Joshua to not be afraid - victory was his.
- The Israelites met these armies at the waters of Merom, and defeated all of them. They houghed the enemy's horses, and burned their chariots.
- Joshua then took the lands of all of these enemies.



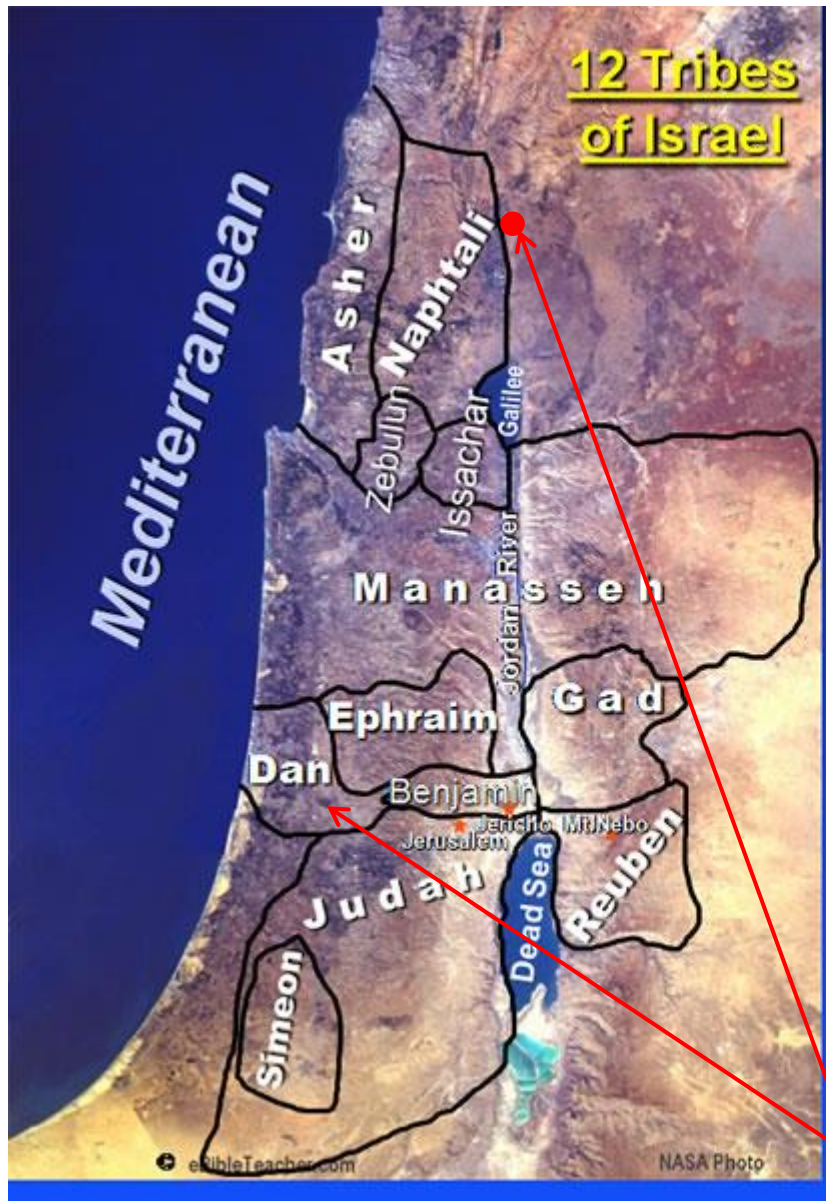
The Kings Conquered by Israel (chapter 12)

2 kings east of the Jordan River

31 kings west of the Jordan River, in Canaan

Sihon, king of Amorites	king of Geder	king of Madon
Og, king of Bashan	king of Hormah	king of Hazor
king of Jericho	king of Arad	king of Shimron-meron
king of Ai	king of Libnah	king of Achshaph
king of Jerusalem	king of Adullam	king of Taanach
king of Hebron	king of Makkedah	king of Megiddo
king of Jarmuth	king of Bethel	king of Kadesh
king of Lachish	king of Tappuah	king of Jokneam of Carmel
king of Eglon	king of Hopher	king of Dor
king of Gezer	king of Aphek	king of the nations of Gilgal
king of Debir	king of Lasharon	king of Tirzah

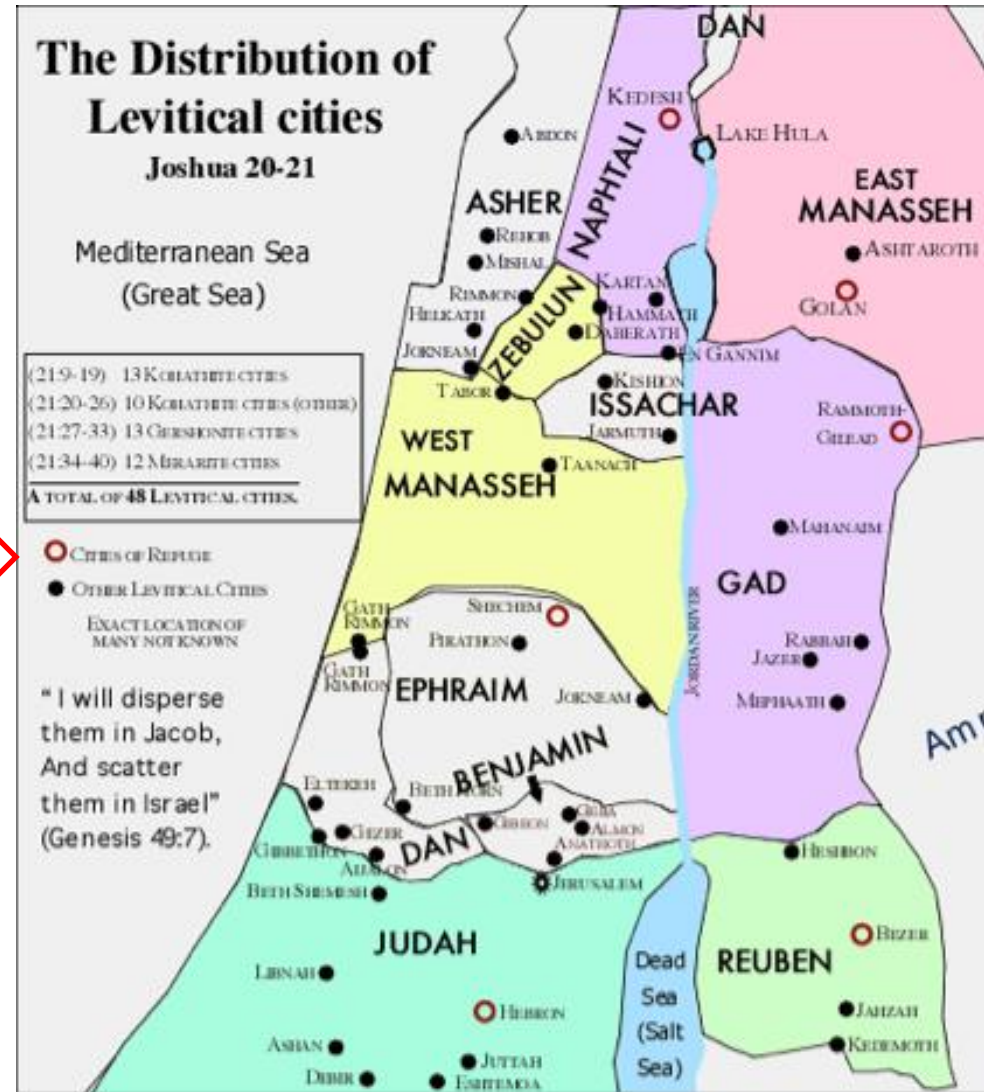
The Division of the Land by Tribes (chapters 13-19)



Tribe Name	Lot No.
Reuben	Request of Moses A
Gad	Request of Moses B
½ of Manasseh*	Request of Moses C
Judah	Initiative South
Ephraim*	Initiative North A
½ of Manasseh*	Initiative North B
Benjamin	1
Simeon	2
Zebulun	3
Issachar	4
Asher	5
Naphtali	6
Dan	7

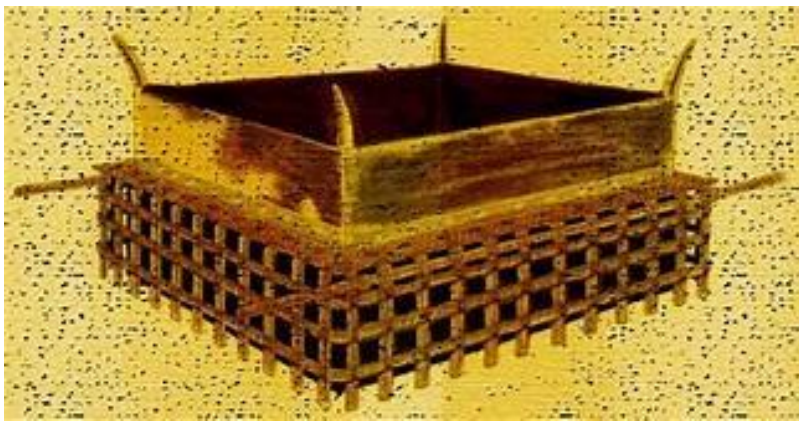
** All descended from Joseph, and Levi received no territory*

Three More Cities of Refuge, and the Cities of the Levites (chapters 20-21)



A Civil War Avoided (chapter 22)

- Since the other tribes had received land in Canaan for their inheritance, the men of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh were ready to return east of the Jordan River to join their families.
- On their return journey, they built a giant altar near the banks of Jordan, after the pattern of the brazen altar of sacrifice in the tabernacle.
- The other Israelites thought they were establishing another religion, and marched to war.
- Before the battle started, they asked the 2 ½ eastern tribes:
 - Why did you do this – are you trying to disobey God by innovating religion?
 - Do you not remember how the disobedience of Achan brought grief on us all?
 - You can have some of our land - are you not happy with your land?
- The 2 ½ tribes answered that they did not want to establish a new religion, but they wanted their children to see the giant altar and not worship at it, but only realize it looked just like the actual tabernacle altar, and so they worshiped the same God as the people west of the Jordan River.



- This explanation made everyone happy, and they discontinued hostilities.
- They named the altar “Ed” which means “witness”, for the altar was a witness that they were one people.

The Last Days of Joshua on Earth (chapters 23-24)



- Joshua, having grown very old, called the leaders, and all of Israel unto him in Shechem.
- God had given Israel victory and rest, but Joshua told them to yet seek victory over remaining enemies.
- Joshua bade Israel to do the following:
 - Love God.
 - Keep the law of Moses (the Bible at that time).
 - Do not worship the gods of neighboring lands.
 - Do not marry people of other nations.
 - Be courageous.
- Joshua told Israel that God:
 - Had given them all good things He promised.
 - Would punish as He promised, if they sinned.
- Joshua reminded Israel how God had led Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel). God had delivered Israel out of Egypt, and destroyed Israel's enemies at the Red Sea. God led Israel through the wilderness, and caused them to prevail over enemies east of Jordan. God had given them victory after victory in the promised land of Canaan. They now had lands, cities, vineyards and olive-yards for which they did not labor.
- Joshua said that, if Israel wanted to serve false gods, they could pick the gods of either side of the flood, but that he and his house would serve the Lord.
- The Israelites said they would also serve the Lord, and vowed to do so. Joshua set up a stone in Shechem to commemorate their vow. He died at 110 years old.