





Levite Cities by Tribes

BREASTPLATE::
12 Stones, 1 per tribe.

- Reuben

Red Carnelian
- Simeon

Chrysolite
- Levi

Emerald
- Judah

Turquoise
- Zebulon

Sapphire
- Issachar

White Moonstone

Continued at bottom of page.

Tribes of Israel by Armies

- DAN**
Kohathites
Aijalon
Eztekeh
Gath-Rimmon
Gibbeathon
- NAPHTALI**
Gershonites
*Hammoth Dor
Kartan
*Kedesh-Galilee
- ASHER**
Gershonites
Helkath
Abdon
Mishal
Rehob
- ***
- EPHRAIM**
Kohathites
Beth Horon
Gezer
Kibzaim
*Shechem
- BENJAMIN**
Aaronites
Almon
Anathoth
Geba
Gibeon
- MANASSEH**
Gersonites/
Kohathites
Ashtaroth
Gath-Rimmon
*Golan
Taanach

- REUBEN**
Merarites
Bezer
Jahaz
Kedemoth
Mephaath
- GAD**
Merarites
*Ramoth-Gilead
Jezer
Mahanaim
Heshbon
- SIMEON**
See Judah (below)
- ***
- JUDAH**
Aaronites
Beth-Shemesh
Debir
Eshtemoa
Holon
Jattir
Juttah
*Hebron
Libna
- ZEBULON**
Merarites
Dimnah
Jokneam
Karta
Nahalal
- ISSACHAR**
Gershonites
Daberath
En Gannim
Jarmuth
Kishion

- NORTH**
Leader Dan

- Naphtali**

- Asher**

- ***
- WEST**
Leader Ephraim

- Benjamin**

- Manasseh**

- ***
- SOUTH**
Leader Reuben

- Gad**

- Simeon**

- ***
- EAST**
Leader Judah

- Zebulon**

- Issachar**


Overview of the Sojourn and Wandering from Egypt to Jericho

Legend - Left Border:
Tribal Names
Army Divisions
*Shechem - Refuge Cities

Cities for each army

Breastplate gemstones per tribe for ephod, top and bottom panels.

Legend - right border.
Standards and shields per army in their camping formation.

Bottom Two corners:
2 Onyx Gemstones with 6 tribes engraved on each stone. Set in gold filigree with rings to attach to ephod.

For all the other cities located by the Israelites after they took the land, see the Ancient Israel Cities 3D Map available on <http://biblemapsplus.com> under Ancient Maps.

Kingdom of Egypt

Goshon

"The Israelites left Egypt like a marching army." Ex.13:18b

The Wall of Egypt

A moat on the inside of the wall was built to keep out marauders. It was filled with crocodiles to keep anyone from leaving Egypt without permission. A legion of soldiers guarded the main exit of Egypt. Migdols atop the wall guarded it the full length.

On

Sinai Peninsula in APRIL

BiblePlaces.com

Israelites wandered here for 40 years. Their clothes and shoes did not wear out! God fed them manna every day.

Wilderness of Etham

"...they camped at Etham on the edge of the wilderness." Ex. 13:20.

THE UNDERWATER LAND BRIDGE AT NUWEIBA, EGYPT

Coral encrusted chariot wheels.

Mt. Sinai Mountain. Notice burnt peak at the left side of the mountain.

Mt. Sinai Camping Area

Elim Now

30 trees left out of 70

Al Bad was Moses' home for forty years. Jethro was Moses' father-in-law and was the head priest for Al Bad. There is an old map with all this information on it.

The locals call Mt. Sinai "the mountain of God" to this day.

"God did not lead them on the road that runs through Philistine territory." Ex. 13:17

Israelites wandered here for 40 years. Their clothes and shoes did not wear out! God fed them manna every day.

Wilderness of Shur

Split Rock (65 ft. tall)

The two onyx stones, attached to the shoulder pieces of the ephod, were set in gold filigree. The stones were engraved

with the names of the tribes of Israel. These stones were reminders to the Lord concerning the people of Israel.

- Dan

Jacinth
- Gad

Agate
- Asher

Amethyst
- Naphtali

Beryl
- Joseph

Onyx
- Benjamin

Jasper



Bible Maps & Resources

In the beginning was the Word...John 1:1a

Contents

Exodus Maps

There are four teaching cards and a chart in the Exodus series.

These include:

- 1. Egypt to Mt. Sinai** - This map shows the journeys of the Israelites from Egypt until they arrive at Mt. Sinai. The teaching card gives interesting information, archeological news and other items of interest.
- 2. Sinai to Kadesh-Barnea** - Gives the details of their journey to Kadesh-Barnea. The teaching card gives the names of all the camps and the meaning of the names and narrates some of the adventures along the way.
- 3. Kadesh-Barnea to Shittim** - More adventures as their third journey proceeds along the way. The teaching card provides the names of all the camps plus the meaning of the names.
- 4. First Four Battles** - The first four battles they fight in taking Canaan are explained here, with the maps to match, as they proceed to take the country.
- 5. Population versus Territory Received once they entered Canaan** - A chart showing the relationship between population and territory received by each tribe.

The Exodus Series

**Egypt to Mt. Sinai
Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-barnea
Kadesh-barnea to Shittim
First Four Battles
Comparison of Population
versus Territory Received**



Rameses
 •
 Ramses was the capital of Egypt, the seat of Pharaoh's government.

Goshen

Succoth (Tharu)

Trade Route to Canaan

The Wall of Egypt or Wall of the Princes

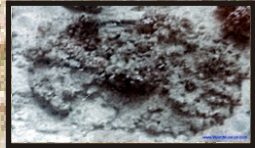
Moat filled with crocodiles on the Egyptian side!

"The Israelites left Egypt like a marching army." Exodus 13:18b

"Berlin Wall of the Ancient World"



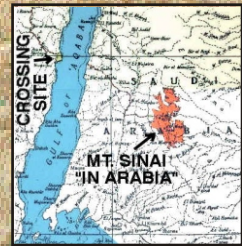
Desert in spring



Corel-encrusted Chariot Wheel

The Wall of Egypt was built as a wall of defense. It was built along the route of the lakes and canals connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. The waterways were stocked with crocodiles. People coming and going from Egypt had to cross over the canal and then through the wall by way of a large, wide bridge...a garrison bridge that was protected by a garrison of soldiers at all times to keep out the marauding tribes who wanted to pasture their flocks and herds in Egypt. It also helped to keep the Israelite slaves from leaving Egypt. Once through the gate at Succoth you were in the Wilderness of the Red Sea.

Succoth was the staging area for Pharaoh's armies. Moses knew this as he had no doubt been here as part of the army many times, possibly as a general since he was of Pharaoh's household. Moses was well qualified for the task that God had given him. Once Pharaoh had given his permission for the Israelites to leave Egypt, Moses assembled them at the staging area, arranged them in army fashion according to their tribes and marched them out of Egypt on their way to Mount Sinai.



Mt. Seir

"The Lord guided them by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. That way they could travel whether it was day or night." Exodus 13:21

With the shortened chronology of Egypt advocated by some scholars, Joseph and his family may well have come to Egypt during the 12th Dynasty, and Moses may have been born before the dynasty ended. Most of the pyramids built in this dynasty were made of millions of large sun-dried mud bricks. Then the structure was faced with smooth stones to give the appearance of a true stone pyramid. All that remains today is a huge pile of mud bricks.

The Israelite slaves made millions of mud bricks! Coincidence? No. Why were they making all those mud bricks? It is also believed that the Israelites helped build the two garrison cities and perhaps even the Wall of Egypt. This wall was built to keep out marauding tribes but also helped to keep the Israelites from leaving Egypt! Why did the Israelites need permission to leave Egypt? There was only one garrison bridge across the moat and the Wall of Egypt. This bridge was heavily guarded at all times.

In this dynasty there is plenty of circumstantial evidence to support Biblical history!

Sir Flinders Petrie excavated the city of Kahun in the Falyyum and Dr. Rosalie David wrote a book about this in which she said, "It is apparent that the Asiatics were present in some numbers, and this may have reflected the situation elsewhere in Egypt... Their exact homeland in Syria or Palestine cannot be determined... The reason for their presence in Egypt remains unclear."

The Bible gives us the answer to this problem!

Another discovery by the same archaeologist, "Large wooden boxes, probably used originally to store clothing and other possessions, were discovered underneath the floors of many of the houses at Kahun. They contained babies, sometimes buried two or three to a box, and aged only a few months at death." The Bible gives the answer to this one too!

Another statement: "It is apparent that the completion of the king's pyramid was not the reason why Kahun's inhabitants eventually deserted the town, abandoning their tools and other possessions in the shops and houses."

"There are different opinions of how this first period of occupation of Kahun drew to a close. The quantity, range and type of articles of everyday use which were left behind in the houses may indeed suggest that the departure was sudden and unpremeditated."

The Ten Plagues of Egypt?

In the Leiden Museum in Holland is a papyrus written in a later period, but most scholars recognize it as being a copy of a papyrus from an earlier dynasty. It reads, "Nay, but the heart is violent. Plague stalks through the land and blood is everywhere... Nay, but the river is blood. Does a man drink from it? As a human he rejects it. He thirsts for water... Nay, but gates, columns and walls are consumed with fire... Nay but men are few. He that lays his brother in the ground is everywhere... Nay, but the son of the high-born man is no longer recognized... The stranger people from outside are come into Egypt... Nay, but corn has perished everywhere. People are stripped of clothing, perfume and oil. Everyone says 'there is no more'. The store-house is bare... It has come to this. The king has been taken away by poor men."

Pharaoh of the Exodus

There are records of slavery during the reigns of the 12th Dynasty--Sesostris III, Amenemhet III and Sobekneferu (some include an obscure figure known as Amenemhet IV before Sobekneferu). With the death of Sobekneferu the 12th dynasty came to an end as she had no children born to her. Moses, the adopted heir had fled to Midian.

It is possible that Khasekemre-Neferhotep I was the pharaoh from whom Moses demanded Israel's release. The latest scarab found at Kahun was of Neferhoptep, who was apparently the pharaoh that was ruling when the Israelite slaves suddenly left Kahun and fled from Egypt in the Exodus. According to Manetho, he was the last king to rule before the Hyksos occupied Egypt 'without a battle'. Without a battle? Where was the Egyptian army? It was at the bottom of the Red Sea (Exodus 14:28). This pharaoh's mummy has never been found!

For complete details on the above information please go to www.creationontheweb.com, "Searching for Moses" plus other interesting articles.

Trade Route to the East

Wilderness of the Red Sea

Etham was the first official camp mentioned in the Bible after traveling day and night, only stopping long enough for periods of rest. Exodus 12:39

Amalekites

Etham
 Wadi Watir
 Pihahiroth
 Migdol
 Nuweiba Beach
 Baalzephon



Wadi Watir



Split Rock - 60 feet tall



Note blackened top of Mt. Sinai's highest peak

Gulf of Aqaba

Battle with the Amalekites

Mt. Sinai

Wilderness of Shur

Rephidim (Mt. Horeb)

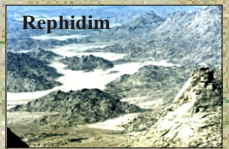
Marah

Midian

Elim

Al-Bad (Jethro's Home)

Wilderness of Dophkah of Sin



Rephidim



Elim

Exodus, Red Sea Crossing and Mt. Sinai

Red Sea

Exodus, Red Sea Crossing and Mt. Sinai

Egypt to Mt. Sinai

At the time of the Exodus the Hebrews had been in Egypt for 430 years. If you accept the late date of the Exodus, Rameses II was the pharaoh. Their actual “exodus” was the 14th day of Abib (April). This was the “rainy season” for the Sinai Peninsula, the only time the wadies would have water and was the best time of year for desert grasses and plants. The Philistines held the coastal route up into Canaan. The Amalekites, a nomadic shepherd tribe, lived in the wilderness areas of northern Sinai Peninsula and in the land of Moab.

1 Rameses (Raameses, Zoan) - “Store-Cities”

Rameses was the capital of Egypt, a large coastal city, the seat of Pharaoh’s government. This city was one of two storage cities (strong cities or garrison cities) built for Pharaoh by the Hebrews. Ex. 1:10-11. These cities provided lodging and storage for all of Pharaoh’s armies and armaments.

Goshen - Could mean “Cultivated” or the Arab form “to labor”

Goshen, where Jacob and his sons were settled when they first came to Egypt, was apparently known as the “field of Zoan,” and was located in the fertile delta area east of the Bubastic Branch of the Nile. Gen. 47:11.

Wilderness of the Red Sea (Sinai Peninsula) - The area between the two arms of the Red Sea

The Egyptians still had a few mines in the Sinai Peninsula and also migdols or watch towers located along the Suez Canal and the Aqaba Canal that enabled them to keep track of shipping and also to warn of approaching enemies. It is not known if these migdols were still operative at the time of the Exodus. If they were, Pharaoh could have kept track of the Israelites as they journeyed into the wilderness.

Trade Routes

There were two main trade routes to Canaan. The best route was north, where the Philistines were. God said the people might return to Egypt if faced with a battle. Ex. 13:17. The second route was south and east across the Sinai Peninsula to the top of the Gulf of Aqaba, then turning north into Canaan. God chose this route. Ex. 13:18.

2 Succoth (Tharu) - Meaning “Booths” and the “Wall of the Princes”

During the 430 years that the Hebrews were in Egypt, an earlier Pharaoh, Amenemhata I, possibly built all or part of what has been called “The Wall of the Prince” and, by some, “The Berlin Wall of Ancient Egypt.” It is possible that the Hebrews worked on this wall, as well as building the two garrison cities. This was a wall of defense that was built along the route of the lakes and canals connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea. The waterways were stocked with crocodiles. People coming and going from Egypt had to cross over the canal and then through the wall by way of a large, wide bridge. The main purpose of the wall was to keep out marauding tribes who liked to pasture their flocks in Egypt, plus it helped keep other tribes from conquering Egypt. It also effectively kept the Israelites from leaving Egypt. Once through the gates at Succoth you were in the Wilderness of the Red Sea. At Succoth there was a large fort and migdol in the

wall where the bridge crossed the canal which was constantly guarded by a garrison of soldiers. Egypt’s soldiers marched out through this gate when going to war. No one could enter or leave Egypt without Pharaoh’s permission. This fortress was called Sile or Tharu (and is believed to be the Biblical Succoth.) It was the staging area for assembling Pharaoh’s armies. Moses would have been very familiar with this fort. As a son of Pharaoh for forty years, he would have been very high in the army, possibly a general. He was well qualified for the task that God had given him. When Pharaoh finally gave the Israelites permission to leave Egypt, Moses had them all gather at Succoth (Tharu); there he arranged them in military order by their tribes. Ex. 13:18.

The Journey Begins

God led the people throughout their journeys in a very unique way. By day the Lord went before them in a pillar of cloud and by night a pillar of fire so that they could travel day and night. Exodus 13:21. This whole journey was one miracle after another and any effort to make it a natural journey would be totally unsuccessful! They were fleeing Egypt, afraid that Pharaoh might suddenly change his mind. Pharaoh would not be concerned about them the first three days since he had given them permission to go three days into the wilderness to worship God. This gave them a good head start. The Israelites had no intention of stopping after three days and then returning to Egypt. We assume they traveled day and night, stopping only long enough to eat and rest. On this part of the journey the Bible only mentions one camp, Etham. It is possible this was actually the first time they actually set up camp and had a good feast and rest. The Lord later said, “...how I bare you on eagle’s wings, and brought you unto myself.” Ex. 19:4. In Deut. 29:5 God also tells their descendants that He prevented their clothes and shoes from wearing out for the forty years. Remember, when they traveled across the Sinai Peninsula, it was April when the wadies would have had some water in them and there would have been desert bushes and grass for their flocks and herds.

3 Etham - “Border of the Sea”

Their first official encampment was at Etham, at the edge of the Wilderness of Etham, which ran around the end of the Gulf of Aqaba. It was at Etham that God changed their direction of travel and turned them south off the main trade route and led them down a secondary trade route, Wadi Watir, that ended at the Red Sea on the Gulf of Aqaba. This route had been used for shipping purposes. The Lord said to Moses, “Speak unto the children of Israel that they turn and encamp before Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, over against Baalzephon....For Pharaoh will say of the children of Israel, ‘They are entangled in the land, the wilderness has shut them in.’ And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, that he shall follow after them; and I will be honored upon Pharaoh, and upon all his host; that the Egyptians may know that I am the Lord.” Ex. 14:2-4.

4 Pi-hahiroth, Migdol and Baalzephon

They turned south and entered the wadi. The wadi was about 18 miles long, very twisty, with high walls of rock on both sides. They emerged onto a large sandy beach that was more than adequate for 2-3 million people and their flocks. The south end of the beach has mountains right down to the water’s edge, blocking the land route. At the north end of the beach was Pi-hahiroth, an abandoned trading post. This beach today is known as Nuweiba Beach, very popular with tourists.

Some of the ruins can still be seen there today. Behind the beach in the mountains there would have been a manned migdol that possibly reported their exact location to Pharaoh as he was pursuing them. Directly across the water was Baalzephon, another possible abandoned trading post. There are no visible ruins there today. By the time the Israelites had reached this site they could hear the Egyptian army coming through the wadi behind them. There was no escape, for they really were trapped between the sea and the mountains. They panicked and accused Moses of bringing them out into the wilderness to die. Ex. 14:11. God had other plans. The cloud now went behind and blocked the Egyptians from coming after them. Then at God’s command Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. An east wind piled the water up into high walls on both sides as Israel crossed over on dry land. Ex. 14:21-22. At that point the Red Sea was between eight and ten miles across. Under about 70’ of water the sand bar, where they might have crossed, is still visible on a Satellite photo. On each side of the sand bar, which is approximately a half mile wide, the Red Sea is very deep, 3000 to 5000 feet. Once the Israelites were safely across, God removed His cloud from behind them and the Egyptian army followed them into the sea. God caused the wheels to fall off the chariots, making them hard to drag. When Pharaoh’s army was in the Red Sea, God caused the waters to go back into place and the entire Egyptian army, chariots, calvary and foot soldiers, were ALL completely destroyed by the sea. Not one soldier survived. Ex. 14:24-28. The Israelites saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore. They probably salvaged enough Egyptian weapons for most of their fighting men. Josephus says that besides the 600 chariots mentioned in the Bible there were 50,000 cavalry and 200,000 infantry! The Israelites rejoiced and rested in their victory over the Egyptians.

The Wilderness

They traveled from the Red Sea for three days in the wilderness and found no water. Ex. 15:22

5 Marah - “Bitter”

The name is derived from the brackish water. Moses cast a tree into the waters at God’s command and the waters were made sweet. Ex. 15:25

6 Elim - “Terebinths”

Their next named camp was at Elim, a lovely oasis with twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees. They probably camped here for several days. Ex. 15:27 Point of interest: shepherds and cattlemen did not take their flocks down to the waters as they would just muddy it. Rather, they carried water to their flocks and placed it in containers prepared for that purpose. Perhaps during the days of rest, Moses began the training of his 600,000 men in the arts of warfare, for a battle was coming up shortly and by then they knew how to fight.

7 The Wilderness of Sin - located between Elim and Mt. Sinai

The Israelites made two named encampments in this area on the way to Mt. Sinai.

8 Dophkah - “Overdriving of Flocks”

9 Alush - “Crowding”

Nothing is known about these last two camps. By this time they

had been traveling for a whole month. Ex. 16:1 The Israelites complained about being hungry for bread and meat. The Lord responded by supplying quail for one night that they could easily catch and started the provision of manna that continued throughout the forty years in the wilderness. Ex. 16

10 Rephidim - “Refreshments”

When they reached this encampment, again there was no water. God provided water. It is a good possibility that the rock that was split at this time has been found! The rock discovered at Rephidim stands on the top of a 300-foot hill and is about 50-60 feet tall. It has been split in half. There is evidence that a large body of water has poured from the base of this rock for a long period of time. There are dry water channels and even rocks worn smooth like those in a river bed. This split rock is approximately twelve miles SW of Mt. Sinai (Horeb). Ex. 17:6. There was still no peace for them, however, for the Amalekites to the north of them heard the Israelites were in Midian and could be heading their way. They came down to Rephidim to fight against Israel. Their own territory wasn’t much farther north, and they wanted to stop them before they brought their flocks to graze in their area. The Amalekites were a tough nomadic shepherd tribe and pastured flocks all the way from below Moab on the east over to the land of the Philistines on the west and as far south as the head of the Gulf of Aqaba. They pastured high in the hills during the dry seasons and down in the valleys and wadies during the rainy season. They were known to go out of their way to stop competitive tribes from entering their pasture lands. This was the Israelite’s first battle with the Amalekites, with more battles to come in the future. With God’s help they defeated the Amalekites and drove them out. The next time we hear about the Amalekites the Israelites are in the western region just below Canaan, the Promised Land. Ex. 17.

11 Mt. Sinai (also called Horeb) - located in Saudi Arabia just east of the Gulf of Aqaba

Mt. Sinai was their last encampment for a long period of time. Moses had brought the people to the “Mountain of God,” as today’s local Bedouins still know it. Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law lived in Al-Bad, just twenty miles south of Mount Sinai. Jethro was the priest of Midian. A very old map gives the location of Al-Bad. Moses had lived in this area for forty years before God sent him back to Egypt to rescue the Israelites. God told Moses to bring the Israelites back to this mountain that they might worship Him there. That is exactly what Moses did. Exodus 3. It was the third month by the time they actually reached Mt. Sinai. Jethro heard that the Israelites had finally arrived at Mt. Sinai and came over to visit them there, bringing Moses’ wife and two sons who had stayed behind in Midian. Jethro spent a couple of days with Moses and gave him good advice on handling the affairs of the Israelites, and Moses did as he suggested. Exodus 18:6, 19. It is believed that Jethro was actually a ruler or governor in the town of Al-Bad and would have had good people skills. The Israelites stayed here before the mountain of God for a total of ten months.

Their journey continues on the next four TeachingCards.

Mount Sinai to Kadesh-barnea



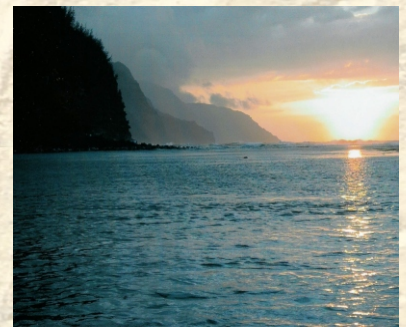
Acacia Trees in Israel

Ammonites



Tower at Jericho

Moab



Dead Sea at Sunset



Camel above Dead Sea

To Hammath and Rehob



Wilderness of the Red Sea

Wilderness of Paran

Wilderness of Etham

From Mt. Sinai to Kadesh-barnea and the Forty Years in the Desert - Text

1-2 Unnamed Camps

3 Taberah - Means “Burning”

The Israelites traveled north from Mt. Sinai for three days and called their third encampment “Taberah” because of what happened there. The Israelites started complaining again and God’s anger burned against them. He sent a burning fire among them and destroyed many all through the camp. When Moses prayed, the fire died out. Num. 11:1-2. Between Taberah and their fifth camp, Haveroth, the Israelites passed by the end of Mt. Seir, the mountain range. This fulfilled the scripture in Deut. 1:2, “There are eleven days’ journey from Horeb (Mt. Sinai) by way of Mount Seir to Kadesh-barnea”, and is another argument against the traditional route, since it does not pass Mt. Seir on the way to Kadesh-barnea but turns west at the end of the Gulf of Aqaba. From Mt. Sinai in Saudi Arabia to Kadesh-barnea is about 110 miles. Allowing for about eleven miles per day makes this journey feasible. Travel would have been slower through the mountains but faster over the plains. The route from the traditional Mt. Sinai in the Sinai Peninsula is much farther and crosses many rough mountain passes. Also, the mountains on the west side of the Sea of Aqaba descend right into the water making it impassable on land.

4 Kibroth-hattaavah - Means “Graves of Lust”

Not having learned their lesson, the Israelites complained again. They were tired of eating manna and wanted fresh meat. Once again the Lord became angry. Moses was also displeased. God promised to send them quail from the sea for a whole month until they became sick of them. Num. 11:18-20,31-33. God also sent a plague among the complainers and many Israelites died and were buried there because of their lust. They did not travel again until the month was up.

5 Hazeroth - Means “Spring of the Enclosure”

While here Aaron and Miriam spoke against Moses because he had married an Ethiopian woman. The anger of the Lord was kindled against them. God made Miriam leprous. Moses prayed for her and she was healed, but God still banished her from the camp for seven days. The Israelites did not travel again until Miriam was brought back into the camp. Num. 12.

6 Wilderness of Paran - Unnamed Camp

The first thing they did after arriving here was to send out twelve spies, one from every tribe, to go into Canaan and spy out the land. The spies left and were gone for forty days. They went as far north as Rehob and Hamath, which was also part of the Promised Land. On the way back, at the brook of Eshcol, they cut down one very large cluster of grapes to bring back to show Moses and the people. Num. 14:3-25.

7-10 Unnamed camps

After the spies left for Canaan the Israelites continued on their journey until they came to Kadesh-barnea in Kadesh (the

region). When the spies returned forty days later from their journey, they found the Israelites encamped at Kadesh-barnea.

11 Kadesh-barnea - “Holy place of the desert wandering”

The trip to Kadesh-barnea was eleven days. Only four of their encampments are mentioned by name. The other days were uneventful since camps were usually named according to the events current on the day of travel or after their arrival at the camp. According to some well-known scholars, Kadesh was a region rather than an exact spot, so I have placed both a region and a city on this map. Kadesh-barnea was a city.

Part of Kadesh (the region) near Mt. Hor, at Moseroth, was very close to the border of Edom. Kadesh-barnea itself was on the western side of Kadesh, not even close to Edom. Kadesh and the Wilderness of Zin were separate regions or territories within the Wilderness of Paran. Kadesh-barnea possibly became their main base for the next 38 years. They would have wandered all over the region, including the Aqaba, taking care of their flocks.

Upon their return, the spies reported seeing Amalekites dwelling in the land of the south (in Canaan), the Hittites, Jebusites and the Amorites in the mountains and the Canaanites by the coast. Also, they saw descendants of Anak there who were giants. So ten of the spies advised against going in and taking the land. Though they showed them the grapes of Eshcol, their negative report filled the people with fear, and they gave in to total despair.

At this point Joshua and Caleb took a strong stand saying that it was a very good land, and that if the Lord was pleased with them, He would bring them into the land. But the people refused to obey, and God’s hand was once more raised against them. God condemned them to wander for forty years in the wilderness, until all the adults over twenty were dead. Num. 14:25. Joshua and Caleb would be the only adults allowed to go into Canaan. In forty years the children would be the new generation to defeat the enemies. However, hoping to change God’s mind, the people decided to go up into the land as God had originally ordered. God told them it was too late, that they were not to go and that He would not go with them. They went anyway and suffered a terrible defeat. “...even unto Hormah.” Hormah was 45 miles NW of Mount Hor on the main road between Petra and Hebron. Moses and the Ark of the Covenant had stayed in camp. Once they were back in camp the Lord spoke to Moses and gave him various instructions to give to the people regarding offerings.

It was here that Korah, Dathan and Abiram mutinied and gathered themselves against Moses. Num. 16:17. God’s anger was greatly aroused against them. God ordered the three of them to go stand in front of their tents with all their family members. Then God split open the earth and they all were swallowed up in the abyss and the earth closed again upon

upon them. A fire came out from the Lord and consumed the other two hundred and fifty men that were also guilty. Num. 16. All the remaining people fled away from the area in terror. Yet, the next day the people complained again about Moses and Aaron (Num. 16:41) and God sent yet another judgement, in which 14,700 people died. Here God showed them His divine choice of Moses and Aaron by a miracle of biology. God ordered one lead man from every tribe to bring their rod, with their name written upon it, and give it to Moses. Aaron also gave Moses his rod. Moses placed the rods in the Tabernacle before the Lord. In the morning when he took them out again, the rod of Aaron had budded, blossomed and produced almonds! Num. 17:7-8. None of the other rods had budded.

God gave the Levites charge for all the affairs of the Tabernacle in the Wilderness with Aaron as High Priest. At this time God gave them many rules and ordinances relating to sacrifices and offerings. Num. 17-19.

12 Rithmah - “Broomy,” referring to the white desert broom

Finally, the Israelites realized God meant what He had said and they headed into the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea. Rithmah was the first encampment of their 40 years of wandering in the desert.

13 Rimmon Perez - “Cloven height”

14 Libnah - “A white chalky place”

15 Rissah - “Dewey”

16 Kehelathah - “Gathering”

17 Mt. Shapher - “Shining Hill”

Mt. Shapher is 60 miles NW from Hazeroth and 55 miles SW from Mt. Hor. Many of their encampments were in the area of Mt. Shapher, but their exact location is unclear. However, the names and the location of a few of them, help us to know approximately where the rest of them were. The length of their actual stay at each camp is not recorded.

18 Haradah - “Fearful,” referring to a mountain

19 Makheloth - “Gatherings”

20 Tahath - Possibly means “Below,” marking the descent into a wadi

21 Tarah - “Delay,” referring to rest in better pastures

22 Mithcah - “Sweetness” of pasture or of the water

23 Hashmonah - “Fatness”

24 Moseroth - “The Boundaries,” near Mt. Hor

The mountain where Aaron died is near Mt. Hor. There was a well at Moseroth and also at the next three encampments. It is possible that the Israelites wandered between these four wells many times over their years in the region.

25 Benejaakan - “Children of Jaakan”

26 Horhagidgad - “Hills of Thunder”

27 Jobatha - “Land of brooks and water”

28 Ebronah - “The crossing”

They probably crossed to the slopes on the west side and then turned south at this point to Ezion-gaber.

29 Ezion-gaber

Ezion-gaber is located at Ain-Ghudian at the top of the Gulf of Aqaba. From Ezion-gaber they gradually returned to Kadesh-barnea, staying at the same camping areas they did when they passed this way the first time. This circle of travel was probably followed many times during their 40 years in the wilderness. It is possible that the main camp probably never left Kadesh-barnea. The shepherds and their flocks would have to keep on the move but the women and children would not necessarily have to be with them. There is no clue given in this respect.

30 Kadesh-barnea - This completes the circle!

Miriam died and was buried here. The Israelites ran out of water and complained. God told Moses to take his rod and **spea**k to the rock before the Israelites. Moses, instead of speaking to the rock as God commanded, struck the rock with his rod twice, thus disobeying God’s command. Water gushed out for the people, but God was displeased with Moses. As punishment, he would not be able to lead the people into Canaan. He would die before they entered it. Num. 20:12-13. Kadesh-barnea seemed to be a very important spot to the Israelites. They needed much land to graze their flocks, as they were now a nomadic tribe.

When the time for wandering in the wilderness was over, God was ready to move the people on to Canaan. Kadesh (the region) The easiest route to Canaan was north through the lands belonging to Edom. God had forbidden Moses to harm either Edom or Moab, so Moses sent messengers to the King of Edom, requesting permission for the Israelites to pass through his land on the way to Canaan. He promised to stay on the King’s Highway and would not allow his people to disturb their crops and homes. He also promised to pay for the water that his cattle and flocks would drink. However, Edom’s king refused them passage and showed up with a strong army. Num. 20:19-21. Israel was forced to return to Kadesh-barnea.

The third stage of their journey is given on another chart.

Kadesh-barnea to Shittim

Plains of Moab

Ammonites

Heshbon
Shittim Battle
Jahaz

Mt. Nebo
Nahaliel
Bamath
Mattanah

Beer
Almon-diblathaim
Dibon-gad
Aroer

Arnon River

Zered

Moabites

Hittites

Hebron

Jerusalem

Jericho

Jebusites

Beersheba

Amorites

Battle
Hormah or Zephath

Zin

Wilderness of Zin

"Those who are bitten will live if they simply look at it!"



"Moses made a snake out of bronze and attached it to the top of a pole."
Exodus 21:8-9 NLT

Edom

Ijeabarim

Oboth

Wilderness of Kadesh
Mt. Hor

Moseroth

Kadesh-Barnea
Mt. Shapher

Benejaakan

Petra

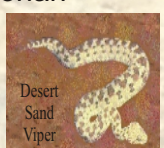
Punon



Camel above Dead Sea

Horhagidgad

Zalmonah



Desert Sand Viper

"So the Lord sent poisonous snakes among them, and many of them were bitten and died." Exodus 21:6 NLT

Jotbathah

Mount Seir

King's Highway

Old Roman Road

Wilderness of Paran

Ebronah

Wilderness of the Red Sea

Etham

Spice Route

Ezion-Gaber



Part of the Spice Route

Wilderness of Etham

Mount Hor to Shittim - Text

1 Mt. Hor - "Hor, the mountain"

This final journey included the whole congregation of Israel. They were finally leaving Kadesh to go out and possess the land God had given them. They traveled from Kadesh-barnea to Mount Hor, but their route is not given this time. They likely would have followed the easiest route, which would be the route they probably traveled for almost 38 years with the flocks, namely, the path followed for journey number two, which is the route I have chosen for this map. Mount Hor was their first recorded encampment after leaving Kadesh-barnea. Mt. Hor is located on the NW "at the edge of the land of Edom." It is not within the Edomite lands. It is currently believed to be a hill called Jebel Maderah. It is while at this encampment that Aaron died upon the top of Mount Hor. Num. 20:29.

The Battle

From Mt. Hor they proceeded north by the route of the spies, but when king Arad the Canaanite who dwelt in the south of Judea heard that they were coming, he went out and fought against them and took some of them prisoner. Israel made a vow to the Lord. God helped them win the battle. Num. 21:2-3. However, they were prevented from going further north and had to turn around at Hormah and return to Mt. Hor. This time they went south by way of the Red Sea, down around Mt. Seir, because Edom would not let them travel north through their country on the King's Highway (The King's Highway went north through the Aqaba to just below the Dead Sea, then it turned east and north into the land of Moab). God gave Moses instructions at this point relating to their journey. God told them the route they were to take and stated that they were to pay their way when traveling through the border of Esau's land (Edom). They were not to take any of his land but were to travel on past it. Deut. 2:4-8. This part of the journey took many days and the people of Israel were very discouraged. Only five of their encampments were given names on this part of the journey. They would have followed the main trading route that headed north, taking the right hand fork which would take them past plenty of water and pasture land further north.

2 Zalmonah - "Gloomy Valley"

Located east of Mount Seir somewhere on the mesa. The name seems to indicate the event that most likely happened at this encampment. Once again the people started complaining against Moses and against God, and the Lord responded by sending fiery serpents among them. God had Moses make a brass serpent and set it upon a pole. Any people that were bitten could look at it and live. The full story is in Num. 21:4-9.

3 Punon - An Edomite Village

Punon was northeast of Petra, in the desert, where convicts were employed digging copper.

4 Oboth - "Water Bags"

There was an abundance of water here that, no doubt, gave the camp its name.

5 Ijeabarim - Possibly "The Ruins"

It was just before the border of Moab and the Arnon River, facing the desert in the east. Num. 21:11.

6 Zered (Iyim) - Possibly "Torrent Valley"

Zered is on the north side of the Arnon River on the border between the Moabites and the Amorites. From Zalmona to Zered was sixty miles. This might be sixteen miles per day of travel. There may have been some unnamed camps on this journey. This area was fairly flat with an abundance of water along the way for both people and flocks. The traditional identification of the river Arnon with Wady Mojib is rendered certain by the positions of Dibo (Dhiban) and Aroer close by. The river was located at the southern border of the Amorites. The Amorites had driven the Moabites out of the Plains of Moab and south of the river Arnon, depriving them of their best lands which had stretched to Heshbon. The Amorites had plans to drive them out completely from the southern region as well, but the Israelites changed their plans when they defeated the Amorites at Jahaz farther along in their journey. The Hebrews were now a strong people fit for war. Deut. 2:14. From Arnon to Pisgah (Nebo) seven encampments are mentioned in about twenty miles. This means that they were moving camps just enough to change the grazing areas for their flocks. These camps were placed at various waters from Bethjeshimoth on the north-eastern shore of the Dead Sea to Abel-Shittim (meadow of Acacias) now called Ghor Es-Seiseban, or "Valley of Acacias." In this area of fifty square miles there were four running streams, besides springs, and excellent pasture for flocks. This was headquarters for Israel during the Amorite war. Only the fighting men proceeded to Jahaz to defeat Sihon, the king of the Amorites.

7 Dibon-gad - "Washing"

The city of Moab was captured by the Amorites, then by Israel. Num. 21:30 It was given to the tribe of Gad and the name was changed to Dibon-gad. Along with other cities in the territory north of the Arnon, Dibon changed hands several times between Moab and Israel. It is represented by the modern Dhibon, about four miles north of Aroer, on the line of the old Roman Road.

8 Almon-diblathaim - "Almon of the double cake of figs"

It is located in Moab between Dibon-gad and the mountains of Abarim.

9 Beer - "A well"

This encampment was probably very near Dibon-gad, this being one of those shallow water pits which the Arabs still scoop out in the valleys when the water drops below the surface.

10 Mattanah - The gift"

It is possible the name refers to a well in the wilderness. It was located somewhere between Beer and Nahaliel, their next encampment.

11 Nahaliel - "The Valley of God"

It is placed at the great gorge of the Zerka Ma-Ain, on the road from Dibon to Nebo, crossing its head near Beth-Meon.

12 Bamoth - "The Monuments of Baal"

This is one of the sites where Balak, king of Moab, at a later date took Balaam to view and to curse Israel.

13 Pisgah - "Head" or "Top" and is generally connected with Mt. Nebo

That was the last encampment before the big battle with the king of Sihon which took place at Jahaz. The Israelites defeated him in battle and took over all his lands and settled there while they battled with and defeated the king of Bashan, taking over all his lands as well. It was here that Moses later died and God buried him in a valley. No one knows where, for God told no one. Joshua was placed in charge of the Israelites as God had commanded. Deut. 34:6-8.

14 Shittim (Abel-shittim) - "The Acacias"

Shittim was the last encampment of the Israelites before they began their actual conquest of Canaan. The Israelites spread out all over the plains and dwelt there. The people soon began to commit immorality with the daughters of Moab and began serving their gods. The Lord was very angry and a plague began among them. God ordered the death of all those who had turned away from Him. Moses ordered the judges of Israel to slay all their men who had joined in worship of Baalpeor, and their heads to be hung up before the Lord. Num. 25:4. One man brazenly brought a Midianite woman into the camp in the sight of all the congregation of Israel, who were weeping before the door

of the tabernacle. When Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation and took a javelin in his hand. He went after the man into his tent and thrust both of them through with the javelin. The plague was then stopped. 24,000 died from this plague. Num. 25:1-9.

When the mourning period following the death of Moses had ended, Joshua, according to the Lord's command, took the people across the Jordan at Jericho. Deut.34:9-12.

This completed the first three journeys of the Israelites. There will be more TeachingCards available as we continue the saga of the Israelites. Watch for them on our web site at www.biblemapsandresources.com.

Joshua 2:1, 22-23 Battle for Jericho

The Israelites were camped at Acacia, just across the river from from Jericho. The city was built around an oasis in the midst of a hot and desolate valley which was 840 feet below sea level. Jericho was the first major city the Israelites set out to conquer. Spies were sent in to prepare the way. They camped in Gilgal. After marching seven times around Jericho and a loud shout the walls fell down and Israel conquered Jericho and burned it.

Joshua 8:1-29 Battle for Ai

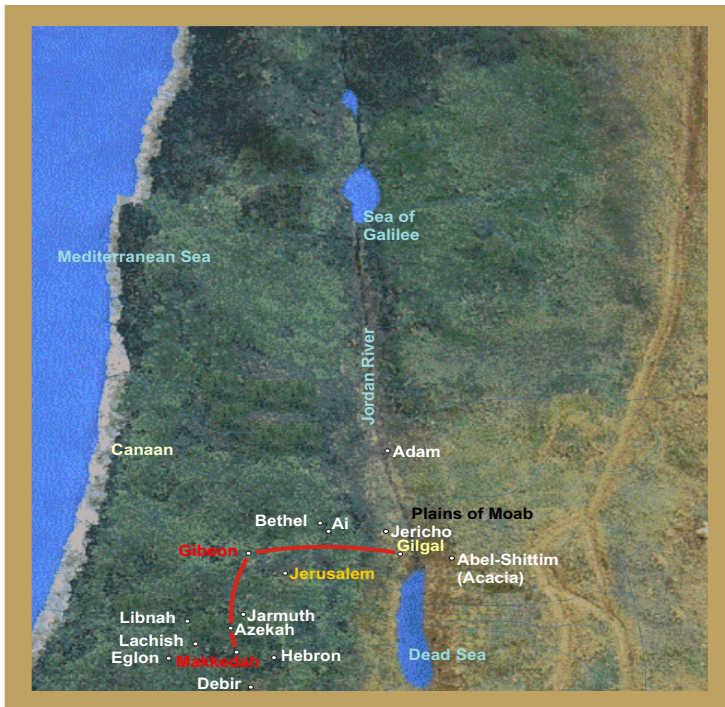
During the night, Joshua sent one detachment of soldiers to the west of Ai to lie in ambush. The next morning Joshua led a second group north of Ai. When the army attacked, the Israelites to the north pretended to scatter, only to turn on the enemy as the men lying in wait moved into the city and burned it to the ground.

Joshua 10:1-43 Battle for Gibeon

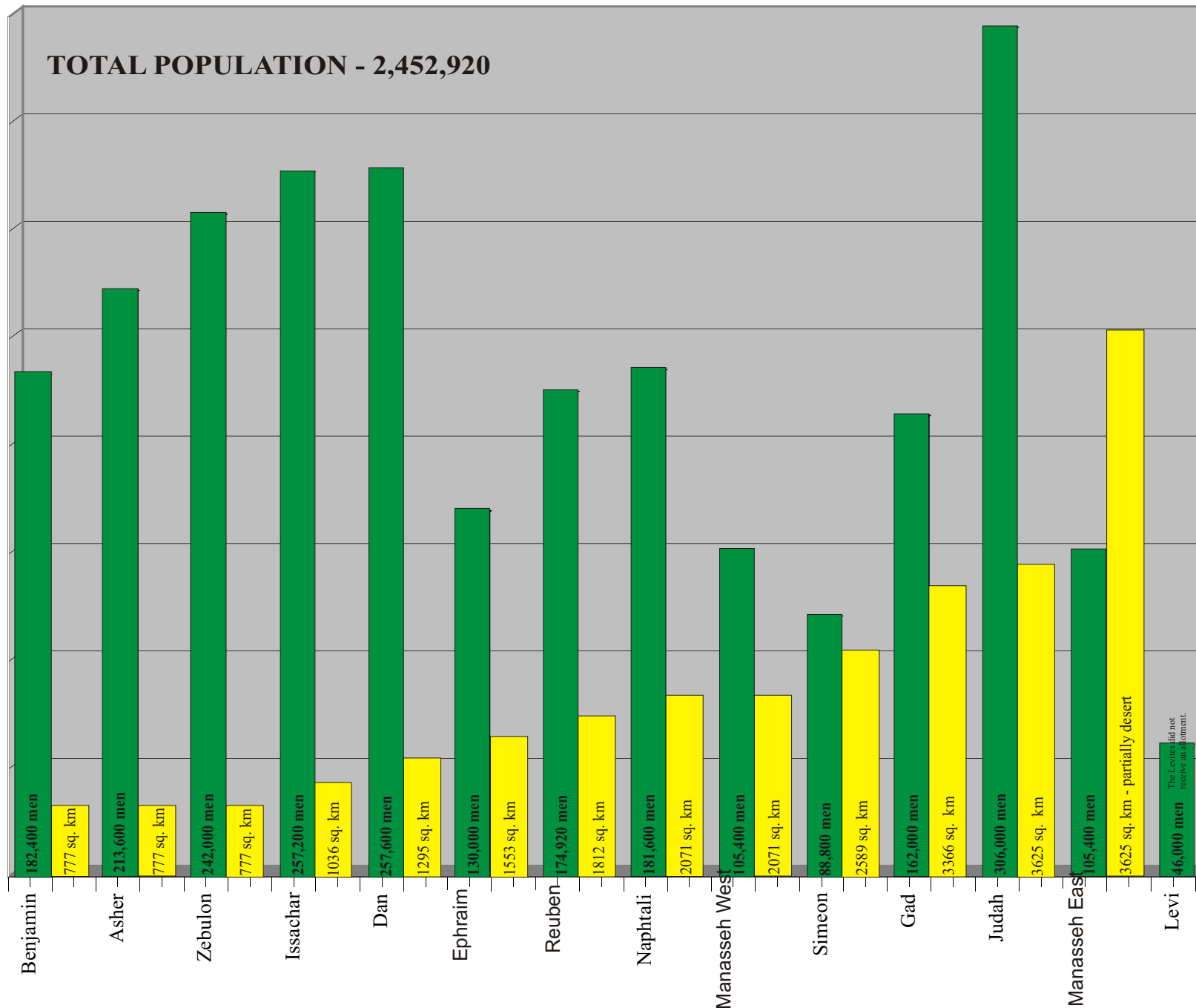
Five Amonite kings conspired to destroy the town of Gibeon. The Israelites came to the aid of the Gibeonites by attacking the enemy armies outside of Gibeon. They chased them through the Valley of Aijalon as far as Makkedah and Azekah.

Joshua 11:1-10 Battle for Hazor

Once again kings from the north joined together to battle the Israelites who controlled the southern half of Canaan. They gathered by the water near Merom, but Joshua attacked them by surprise. The enemies' chariots were useless in the dense forests. Hazor, the largest Canaanite center in Galilee, was completely destroyed.



Population vs Territory Received when the Israelites entered Canaan



The Twelve Tribes of Israel

The division of the land among the twelve tribes took place in three stages: 1) After the conquest of eastern Palestine, during the lifetime of Moses, Reuben and Gad and half of the tribe of Manasseh received their portion, on condition that their warriors should aid their kinsmen in the war for the rest of the land (Numbers 32).

2) After the campaigns in western Palestine, Judah and Ephraim and the remaining half of Manasseh received their inheritance and took possession of it, as far as it was conquered: Judah in the south, Ephraim in a small but choice portion in the center, and Manasseh immediately north of it (Joshua 15-17).

3) The remaining seven tribes delayed a long time before obtaining their portions in the land, but at last, after a rebuke from Joshua for their slowness, they made the division by lot and entered upon their inheritance (Joshua 18, 19).

The cities of refuge and those for the priests and Levites were appointed when Joshua was very old. From this point on Israel began creating its own history in its own land.

The Levites, the priestly caste, did not receive a separate province of their own, but they were allotted cities throughout all the other tribes. There were forty-eight Levitical cities. In each tribe four cities were assigned to the priests. Judah had more because of its size, and Simeon and Naphtali had less as they were frontier towns.

Six of these cities were assigned as "cities of refuge" for the innocent man-slayer (Joshua 20).

LEGEND

- The green pillars show the actual population of each tribe when they began their conquest of Canaan. The actual number assigned to West Manasseh and East Manasseh is not given, just a total for both. The population has been divided into two parts, putting half into West and half into East Manasseh for the purpose of this chart.
- The yellow pillars show the amount of land allotted to each tribe in both square miles and square kilometers.