

# 1 Chronicles 07 - Genealogies of the Northern Tribes

## I. Genealogies (1 Chr 1:1—9:44)

### (3) The 12 tribes (1 Chr 4:1—8:40)

(E) Issachar (7:1-5)

(F) Benjamin (7:6-12)

(G) Naphtali (7:13)

(H) Western Manasseh (7:14-19)

(I) Ephraim (7:20-29)

(J) Asher (7:30-40)

## 1 Chronicles 7

(E) Issachar (7:1-5) (Cf. Gen 46:13)

1 Now the sons of Issachar *were* four: Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimron.

1 Now the sons of Issachar *were* four: Tola, Puah, Jashub and Shimron.

1 The four descendants of Issachar included Tola, Puah, Jashub, and Shimron.

1 Now the sons of Issachar were, Tola, and Puah, Jashub, and Shimron, four.

2 The sons of Tola *were* Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam, and Samuel, heads of their fathers' households. *The sons* of Tola *were* valiant warriors in their generations. Their number in the days of David was 22,600.

2 The sons of Tola *were* Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam and Samuel, heads of their fathers' households. *The sons* of Tola *were* mighty men of valor in their generations; their number in the days of David was 22,600.

2 Tola's descendants included Uzzi, Rephaiah, Jeriel, Jahmai, Ibsam, and Shemuel, leaders of their ancestral house of Tola, who were valiant warriors during their lifetimes. During the life of David, they numbered 22,600.

2 And the sons of Tola; Uzzi, and Rephaiah, and Jeriel, and Jahmai, and Jibsam, and Shemuel, heads of their father's house, to wit, of Tola: they were valiant men of might in their generations; whose number was in the days of David two and twenty thousand and six hundred.

3 The son of Uzzi *was* Izrahiah. And the sons of Izrahiah *were* Michael, Obadiah, Joel, *and* Isshiah; all five of them *were* chief men.

3 The son of Uzzi *was* Izrahiah. And the sons of Izrahiah *were* Michael, Obadiah, Joel, Isshiah; all five of them *were* chief men.

3 Uzzi fathered Izrahiah, and Izrahiah fathered Michael, Obadiah, Joel, and Isshiah, all five of them leaders.

3 And the sons of Uzzi; Izrahiah: and the sons of Izrahiah; Michael, and Obadiah, and Joel, Isshiah, five: all of them chief men.

4 And with them by their generations according to their fathers' households were thirty-six thousand troops of the army for war; for they had many wives and sons.

4 With them by their generations according to their fathers' households were 36,000 troops of the army for war, for they had many wives and sons.

4 In addition to them, according to their ancestral records were 36,000 members of their trained army by their generations, because they had many wives and children.

4 And with them, by their generations, after the house of their fathers, were bands of soldiers for war, six and thirty thousand men: for they had many wives and sons.

5 Their relatives among all the families of Issachar *were* valiant warriors, registered by genealogy, eighty-seven thousand in all.

5 Their relatives among all the families of Issachar *were* mighty men of valor, enrolled by genealogy, in all 87,000.

5 As recorded in their genealogy, a total of 87,000 trained warriors belonged to all of the clans of Issachar.

**5** And their brethren among all the families of Issachar were valiant men of might, reckoned in all by their genealogies fourscore and seven thousand.

(F) Benjamin (7:6-12) (Cf. Gen 46:21)

**6** Benjamin *had* three *sons*: Bela, Becher, and Jediel.

**6** *The sons of Benjamin were* three: Bela and Becher and Jediel.

**6** Benjamin's three descendants included Bela, Becher, and Jediel.

**6** The sons of Benjamin; Bela, and Becher, and Jediel, three.

- This genealogy is greatly expanded in 1 Chr 8 as a climax to the pre-Davidic history, but appears here in a succinct form characteristic of the other Northern tribes

7 The sons of Bela were five: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri. They *were* heads of fathers' households, valiant warriors, 22,034 registered by genealogy.

7 The sons of Bela were five: Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth and Iri. They *were* heads of fathers' households, mighty men of valor, and were 22,034 enrolled by genealogy.

7 Bela's five descendants included Ezbon, Uzzi, Uzziel, Jerimoth, and Iri, who were leaders of their ancestral households. Valiant warriors, their enrollment totaled 22,034 according to their genealogies.

7 And the sons of Bela; Ezbon, and Uzzi, and Uzziel, and Jerimoth, and Iri, five; heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour; and were reckoned by their genealogies twenty and two thousand and thirty and four.

8 The sons of Becher *were* Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these *were* the sons of Becher.

8 The sons of Becher *were* Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth and Alemeth. All these *were* the sons of Becher.

8 Becher's descendants included Zemirah, Joash, Eliezer, Elioenai, Omri, Jeremoth, Abijah, Anathoth, and Alemeth. All these were descendants of Becher,

**8** And the sons of Becher; Zemira, and Joash, and Eliezer, and Elioenai, and Omri, and Jerimoth, and Abiah, and Anathoth, and Alameth. All these are the sons of Becher.

9 They were registered by genealogy according to their generations, heads of their fathers' households, 20,200 valiant warriors.

9 They were enrolled by genealogy, according to their generations, heads of their fathers' households, 20,200 mighty men of valor.

9 and their genealogical enrollment totaled 20,200 valiant warriors, delineated according to their generations as leaders of their ancestral households.

9 And the number of them, after their genealogy by their generations, heads of the house of their fathers, mighty men of valour, was twenty thousand and two hundred.

10 The son of Jediael *was* Bilhan. And the sons of Bilhan *were* Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish, and Ahishahar.

10 The son of Jediael *was* Bilhan. And the sons of Bilhan *were* Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish and Ahishahar.

10 Jediael fathered Bilhan, and Bilhan's descendants included Jeush, Benjamin, Ehud, Chenaanah, Zethan, Tarshish, and Ahishahar.

10 The sons also of Jediael; Bilhan: and the sons of Bilhan; Jeush, and Benjamin, and Ehud, and Chenaanah, and Zethan, and Tharshish, and Ahishahar.

11 All these *were* sons of Jediael, according to the heads of their fathers' households, 17,200 valiant warriors who were ready to go out with the army to war.

11 All these *were* sons of Jediael, according to the heads of their fathers' households, 17,200 mighty men of valor, who were ready to go out with the army to war.

11 All these were descendants through Jedial according to the heads of their ancestral households. Their valiant warriors totaled 17,200 equipped and ready for battle.

**11** All these the sons of Jedial, by the heads of their fathers, mighty men of valour, were seventeen thousand and two hundred soldiers, fit to go out for war and battle.

12 Shuppim and Huppim *were* the sons of Ir; Hushim *was* the son of Aher.

12 Shuppim and Huppim *were* the sons of Ir; Hushim *was* the son of Aher.

12 In addition, Shuppim and Huppim were the sons of Ir, and the Hushites were descended from Aher.

12 Shuppim also, and Huppim, the children of Ir, and Hushim, the sons of Aher.

(G) Naphtali (7:13) (Cf. Gen 46:24)

**13** The sons of Naphtali *were* Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

**13** The sons of Naphtali *were* Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

**13** Naphtali's descendants included Jahziel, Guni, Jezer, and Shallum, descended through Bilhah.

**13** The sons of Naphtali; Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

- The names of the four sons of Naphtali listed here correspond with those in Gen 46:24 and Num 26:48-49 (except that Jahziel is spelled Jahzeel in Num 26:48)

(H) Western Manasseh (7:14-19)

**14** The sons of Manasseh *were* Asriel, to whom his Aramean concubine gave birth; she *also* gave birth to Machir, the father of Gilead.

**14** The sons of Manasseh *were* Asriel, whom his Aramean concubine bore; she bore Machir the father of Gilead.

**14** Manasseh's descendants included Asriel, whom his Aramean mistress bore, along with Machir, who fathered Gilead.

**14** The sons of Manasseh; Ashriel, whom she bare: (but his concubine the Aramitess bare Machir the father of Gilead:

15 Machir took a wife from Huppim and Shuppim, whose name was Maacah. And the name of the second was Zelophehad, and Zelophehad had daughters.

15 Machir took a wife for Huppim and Shuppim, whose sister's name was Maacah. And the name of the second was Zelophehad, and Zelophehad had daughters.

15 Machir chose wives for his sons Huppim and for Shuppim. He had a sister named Maacah. His second son was named Zelophehad, and Zelophehad fathered only daughters.

15 And Machir took to wife the sister of Huppim and Shuppim, whose sister's name was Maachah;) and the name of the second was Zelophehad: and Zelophehad had daughters.  
- The genealogy of Manasseh does not appear in Genesis since Manasseh was at that time part of Joseph  
— Manasseh and his Aramean concubine had a son, Makir (Cf. v17b; Num 26:29; Joshus 17:1), who was Gilead's father (Cf. Num 26:29; 36:1)  
— Asriel, descended from Manasseh, is not mentioned in Num 26:29  
- The dual reference to Maachah (v15-16) is best explained by the coincidence that this was the name of Makir's sister as well as his wife

16 Maacah the wife of Machir gave birth to a son, and she named him Peresh; the name of his brother was Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rakem.

16 Maacah the wife of Machir bore a son, and she named him Peresh; and the name of his brother was Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rakem.

16 Machir's wife Maacah bore a son whom she named Peresh. His brother was named Sheresh, and his sons were Ulam and Rekem.

16 And Maachah the wife of Machir bare a son, and she called his name Peresh; and the name of his brother was Sheresh; and his sons were Ulam and Rakem.

17 The son of Ulam was Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

17 The son of Ulam was Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

17 Ulam's son was Bedan. These were the children of Machir's son Gilead, who was also a descendant of Manasseh.

17 And the sons of Ulam; Bedan. These were the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh.

18 His sister Hammolecheth gave birth to Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah.

18 His sister Hammolecheth bore Ishhod and Abiezer and Mahlah.

18 His sister Hammolecheth bore Ishhod, Abiezer, and Mahlah.

**18** And his sister Hammoleketh bare Ishod, and Abiezer, and Mahalah.

19 The sons of Shemida were Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

19 The sons of Shemida were Ahian and Shechem and Likhi and Aniam.

19 Shemida's sons included Ahian, Shechem, Likhi, and Aniam.

**19** And the sons of Shemida were, Ahian, and Shechem, and Likhi, and Aniam.

(I) Ephraim (7:20-29)

**20** The sons of Ephraim were Shuthelah and Bered his son, Tahath his son, Eleadah his son, Tahath his son,

**20** The sons of Ephraim were Shuthelah and Bered his son, Tahath his son, Eleadah his son, Tahath his son,

**20** Ephraim's descendants included Shuthelah, his son Bered, his son Tahath, his son Eleadah, his son Tahath,

**20** And the sons of Ephraim; Shuthelah, and Bered his son, and Tahath his son, and Eladah his son, and Tahath his son,

- The descent of Ephraim, second son of Joseph, culminates in Joshua (v27), Moses' illustrious successor

21 Zabad his son, Shuthelah his son, and Ezer and Elead, whom the men of Gath who were born in the land killed, because they came down to take their livestock.

21 Zabad his son, Shuthelah his son, and Ezer and Elead whom the men of Gath who were born in the land killed, because they came down to take their livestock.

21 his son Zabad, his son Shuthelah, his son Ezer, and Elead. The people of Gath, who were native to the land, killed them when they came down to raid their cattle.

21 And Zabad his son, and Shuthelah his son, and Ezer, and Elead, whom the men of Gath that were born in that land slew, because they came down to take away their cattle.

22 Their father Ephraim mourned for many days, and his relatives came to comfort him.

22 Their father Ephraim mourned many days, and his relatives came to comfort him.

22 So their father Ephraim mourned many days, and his relatives came to comfort him.

22 And Ephraim their father mourned many days, and his brethren came to comfort him.

23 Then he went in to his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to a son, and he named him Beriah, because misfortune had come upon his house.

23 Then he went in to his wife, and she conceived and bore a son, and he named him Beriah, because misfortune had come upon his house.

23 Later, Ephraim had marital relations with his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to a son, whom he named Beriah, because his household had been visited with disaster.

**23** And when he went in to his wife, she conceived, and bare a son, and he called his name Beriah, because it went evil with his house.

24 His daughter was Sheerah, who built lower and upper Beth-horon, as well as Uzzen-sheerah.

24 His daughter was Sheerah, who built lower and upper Beth-horon, also Uzzen-sheerah.

24 His daughter Sheerah built both Lower and Upper Beth-horon, along with Uzzen-sheerah.

24 (And his daughter was Sherah, who built Bethhoron the nether, and the upper, and Uzzen-sheerah.)

25 Rephah was his son *along* with Resheph, Telah his son, Tahan his son,

25 Rephah was his son *along* with Resheph, Telah his son, Tahan his son,

25 Rephah was also his descendant, as were Resheph, Telah, Tahan,

25 And Rephah was his son, also Resheph, and Telah his son, and Tahan his son,

26 Ladan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son,

26 Ladan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son,

26 Ladan, Ammihud, Elishama,

26 Laadan his son, Ammihud his son, Elishama his son,

27 Non his son, and Joshua his son.

27 Non his son and Joshua his son.

27 Nun, and Joshua.

27 Non his son, Jehoshua his son.

**28** Their possessions and dwelling places *were* Bethel with its towns, and to the east, Naaran, and to the west, Gezer with its towns, and Shechem with its towns, as far as Ayyah with its towns,

**28** Their possessions and settlements *were* Bethel with its towns, and to the east Naaran, and to the west Gezer with its towns, and Shechem with its towns as far as Ayyah with its towns,

**28** Their possessions and settlements included Bethel and its towns, Naaran to the east, Gezer and its towns to the west, Shechem and its towns as far as Ayyah and its towns

**28** And their possessions and habitations were, Bethel and the towns thereof, and eastward Naaran, and westward Gezer, with the towns thereof; Shechem also and the towns thereof, unto Gaza and the towns thereof:

29 and along the borders of the sons of Manasseh, Beth-shean with its towns, Taanach with its towns, Megiddo with its towns, *and* Dor with its towns. In these *regions* lived the sons of Joseph the son of Israel.

29 and along the borders of the sons of Manasseh, Beth-shean with its towns, Taanach with its towns, Megiddo with its towns, Dor with its towns. In these lived the sons of Joseph the son of Israel.

29 along the borders of the descendants of Manasseh, Beth-shean and its towns, Taanach and its towns, Megiddo and its towns, and Dor and its towns. In these lived the descendants of Israel's son Joseph.

29 And by the borders of the children of Manasseh, Bethshean and her towns, Taanach and her towns, Megiddo and her towns, Dor and her towns. In these dwelt the children of Joseph the son of Israel.

- The territory is roughly from Bethel northward to the Valley of Jezreel and from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea

(J) Asher (7:30-40) (Cf. Gen 46:17)

**30** The sons of Asher *were* Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, and Beriah, and Serah *was* their sister.

**30** The sons of Asher *were* Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi and Beriah, and Serah their sister.

**30** Asher's descendants included Imnah, Ishvah, Ishvi, Beriah, and their sister Serah.

**30** The sons of Asher; Imnah, and Isuah, and Ishuai, and Beriah, and Serah their sister.

31 The sons of Beriah *were* Heber and Malchiel, who was the father of Birzaith.

31 The sons of Beriah *were* Heber and Malchiel, who was the father of Birzaith.

31 Beriah's descendants included Heber and Malchiel, who fathered Birzaith.

31 And the sons of Beriah; Heber, and Malchiel, who is the father of Birzavith.

32 Heber fathered Japhlet, Shomer, and Hotham, and their sister Shua.

32 Heber became the father of Japhlet, Shomer and Hotham, and Shua their sister.

32 Heber fathered Japhlet, Shomer, Hotham, and their sister Shua.

32 And Heber begat Japhlet, and Shomer, and Hotham, and Shua their sister.

33 The sons of Japhlet *were* Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath. These were the sons of Japhlet.

33 The sons of Japhlet *were* Pasach, Bimhal and Ashvath. These were the sons of Japhlet.

33 Japhlet's descendants included Pasach, Bimhal, and Ashvath. These were the descendants of Japhlet.

33 And the sons of Japhlet; Pasach, and Bimhal, and Ashvath. These are the children of Japhlet.

34 The sons of Shemer *were* Ahi and Rohgah, *and* Jehubbah and Aram.

34 The sons of Shemer *were* Ahi and Rohgah, Jehubbah and Aram.

34 Shemer's descendants included Ahi, Rohgah, Hubbah, and Aram.

34 And the sons of Shamer; Ahi, and Rohgah, Jehubbah, and Aram.

35 The sons of his brother Helem *were* Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal.

35 The sons of his brother Helem *were* Zophah, Imna, Shelesh and Amal.

35 His brother Helem's descendants included Zophah, Imna, Shelesh, and Amal.

35 And the sons of his brother Helem; Zophah, and Imna, and Shelesh, and Amal.

36 The sons of Zophah *were* Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah,

36 The sons of Zophah *were* Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri and Imrah,

36 Zophah's descendants included Suah, Harnepher, Shual, Beri, Imrah,

36 The sons of Zophah; Suah, and Harnepher, and Shual, and Beri, and Imrah,

37 Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran, and Beera.

37 Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran and Beera.

37 Bezer, Hod, Shamma, Shilshah, Ithran, and Beera.

37 Bezer, and Hod, and Shamma, and Shilshah, and Ithran, and Beera.

38 The sons of Jether *were* Jephunneh, Pispah, and Ara.

38 The sons of Jether *were* Jephunneh, Pispah and Ara.

38 Jether's descendants included Jephunneh, Pispah, and Ara.

38 And the sons of Jether; Jephunneh, and Pispah, and Ara.

39 The sons of Ulla *were* Arah, Hanniel, and Rizia.

39 The sons of Ulla *were* Arah, Hanniel and Rizia.

39 Ulla's descendants included Arah, Hanniel, and Rizia.

39 And the sons of Ulla; Arah, and Haniel, and Rezia.

40 All these *were* the sons of Asher, heads of the fathers' houses, choice, valiant mighty men, *and* heads of the leaders. And the number of them registered by genealogy for service in war was twenty-six thousand men.

40 All these *were* the sons of Asher, heads of the fathers' houses, choice and mighty men of valor, heads of the princes. And the number of them enrolled by genealogy for service in war was 26,000 men.

40 All of these were men of Asher, leaders of ancestral households, choice valiant mighty warriors, and chiefs among princes. Their enrolled genealogies for battle conscription totaled 26,000 men.

**40** All these were the children of Asher, heads of their father's house, choice and mighty men of valour, chief of the princes. And the number throughout the genealogy of them that were apt to the war and to battle was twenty and six thousand men.

### **Where is Dan and Zebulun?**

Why are the tribes of Dan and Zebulun omitted? The inclusion of these tribes would have resulted in a total of 14 tribes since the tribe of Levi and both halves of Manasseh were counted. Evidently to keep the whole number of tribes at 12 he omitted these.

Another possibility is that perhaps the tribes of Dan and Zebulun had little influence or relevance among the Jews who made up the returned exiles. That there were 12 tribes seems to have been more important to the writer than how he counted them as 12. The writers of both the Old and New Testaments used many different combinations each totaling 12 in the many lists of the 12 tribes that appear in Scripture. By listing 12 tribes, the Chronicler emphasized that the whole nation was intact. The term "all Israel" occurs over 40x in Chronicles, and there are also many occurrences of the phrases "all the house of Israel" and "all the tribes of Israel."