

Joshua 18 - The Tabernacle Moved to Shiloh; Land Survey for the Remaining 7 Tribes; Benjamin's Land Allotted

II. Division of Canaan (Joshua 13:1—21:45)

(3) Western land division (14:1—19:51)

(E) Survey and distribution of remaining land (18:1-10)

(F) Remaining tribes (Joshua 18:11—19:48)

(a) Benjamin (18:11-28)

Joshua 18

(E) Survey and distribution of remaining land (18:1-10)

1 Then the whole congregation of the sons of Israel assembled at **Shiloh**, and set up the tent of meeting there; and the land was subdued before them.

1 Then the whole congregation of the sons of Israel assembled themselves at Shiloh, and set up the tent of meeting there; and the land was subdued before them.

1 After this, the entire assembly of the Israelites gathered together at Shiloh and set up the Tent of Meeting there, where the land lay conquered before them.

1 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them.

- After assigning land to three of the (west of Jordan) tribes, Israel's attention turned to relocating the tabernacle to a more central location

— God promised He would choose one place from among the tribes as a home for the tabernacle (Deut 12:4-6,11; 14:23; 16:21,6,11; 26:2)

— The tabernacle announced that God's holy and gracious Presence was with His people - "...Shiloh" - "rest" (Cf. Deut 12:11)

— The name of this town was significant due to Jacob's prophecy (Gen 49:10), and how it associated God's "name" with the Israelites' "rest"

— God's people could find rest "in the place where He abode" (the tabernacle)

Locations of the Tabernacle

- Gilgal (5:10; 10:15,43)
- Shiloh (18:1,9-10)
- Bethel (Judges 20:18-28; 21:1-4)

- Shiloh (1 Sam 1:3)
- Mizpah (1 Sam 7:5-6)
- Gilgal (1 Sam 10:8; 13:8-10; 15:10-15)
- Nob (1 Sam 21:1-9; 22:11,19)
- Gibeon (1 Chr 16:39-40; 21:29; 1 Kings 3:4; 2 Chr 1:3)
 - These may not be all the places where it stood, but these are the places that the text names
 - "Solomon's Temple" - the first of four Jerusalem temples mentioned in Scripture, later replaced the tabernacle

2 But there remained among the sons of Israel seven tribes who had not divided their inheritance.

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2 Seven tribes remained among the Israelis for whom their inheritances had not yet been allocated.

2 And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance.

- Seven tribes had not yet taken possession of, or even asked for their land (inheritance)
- Why did these tribes wait so long? Fear of the Canaanites, envy of other tribes' land, and possibly settled lives where they currently resided.
- It's also likely they did not want to fight the battles God called them to fight
- Unthankful hearts and shallow faith hide behind such excuses

3 So Joshua said to the sons of Israel, "How long will you put off entering to take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you?"

3 So Joshua said to the sons of Israel, "How long will you put off entering to take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you?"

3 So Joshua told the Israelis, "How long will you delay invading and taking possession of the land that the LORD God of your ancestors has given you?"

3 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?

- It may have been Canaanite intimidation that influenced the leaders of the remaining tribes to delay distributing the rest of the land
- Joshua, here, is getting impatient, and put together a team to finish the job (v4-7)

4 Provide for yourselves three men from each tribe so that I may send them, and that they may arise and walk through the land and write a *description* of it according to their

inheritance; then they shall return to me.

4 Provide for yourselves three men from each tribe that I may send them, and that they may arise and walk through the land and write a description of it according to their inheritance; then they shall return to me.

4 Appoint three men from each tribe and I'll send them. They'll begin to go through the land and record a description of it, categorized according to their inheritance, and then they'll report back to me.

4 Give out from among you three men for each tribe: and I will send them, and they shall rise, and go through the land, and describe it according to the inheritance of them; and they shall come again to me.

5 And they shall divide it into seven portions; Judah shall stay in its territory on the south, and the house of Joseph shall stay in their territory on the north.

5 They shall divide it into seven portions; Judah shall stay in its territory on the south, and the house of Joseph shall stay in their territory on the north.

5 They'll divide it seven ways. Judah will stay in its territory on the south and the house of Joseph will remain in its territory on the north.

5 And they shall divide it into seven parts: Judah shall abide in their coast on the south, and the house of Joseph shall abide in their coasts on the north.

6 And you shall write *a description of* the land in seven divisions, and bring *the description* here to me. Then I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

6 You shall describe the land in seven divisions, and bring *the description* here to me. I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

6 Lay out the land in seven divisions, then bring your report here to me. I will then cast lots in the presence of the LORD our God.

6 Ye shall therefore describe the land into seven parts, and bring the description hither to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

7 For the Levites have no portion among you, because the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. Gad, Reuben, and the half-tribe of Manasseh also have received their inheritance eastward beyond the Jordan, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them."

7 For the Levites have no portion among you, because the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. Gad and Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh also have received their inheritance eastward beyond the Jordan, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them."

7 The descendants of Levi have no allotment among you, since the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. Gad, Reuben, and the half-tribe of Manasseh received their inheritance to the east, beyond the Jordan River given to them by Moses the servant of the LORD."

7 But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance: and Gad, and Reuben, and half the tribe of Manasseh, have received their inheritance beyond Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.

8 Then the men arose and went, and Joshua commanded those who went to write a *description of the land*, saying, "Go and walk through the land and write a *description of it*, and return to me; then I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh."

8 Then the men arose and went, and Joshua commanded those who went to describe the land, saying, "Go and walk through the land and describe it, and return to me; then I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh."

8 So the men started out, following Joshua's command to those who went to scout the land, "Go through the land and record a description of it, and then return to me. I will then cast lots in the presence of the LORD your God in Shiloh."

8 And the men arose, and went away: and Joshua charged them that went to describe the land, saying, Go and walk through the land, and describe it, and come again to me, that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.

9 So the men went and passed through the land, and wrote a *description of it* by cities in seven divisions in a book; and they came to Joshua at the camp at Shiloh.

9 So the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities in seven divisions in a book; and they came to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh.

9 Then the men left camp and went throughout the land, describing its cities in a book with seven divisions. Then they returned to Joshua at the camp at Shiloh.

9 And the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities into seven parts in a book, and came again to Joshua to the host at Shiloh.

10 Joshua then cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD, and there Joshua divided the land for the sons of Israel according to their divisions.

10 And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD, and there Joshua divided the land to the sons of Israel according to their divisions.

10 Joshua threw lots in Shiloh in the LORD's presence and divided the land accordingly among the Israelis according to their divisions.

10 And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD: and there Joshua divided the land unto the children of Israel according to their divisions.

(F) Remaining tribes (Joshua 18:11–19:48)

(a) Benjamin (18:11-28)

11 Now the lot of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin came up according to their families, and the territory of their lot lay between the sons of Judah and the sons of Joseph.

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11 The allotment of the tribe of the descendants of Benjamin came up according to their families, and their territorial allotment fell between the descendants of Judah and the descendants of Joseph.

11 And the lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families: and the coast of their lot came forth between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.

- Benjamin shared a boundary with Judah on the south and Ephraim on the north; the Jordan River was its eastern boundary, and Dan on the west, halfway between the Jordan and Mediterranean

12 Their border on the north side was from the Jordan, then the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north, and went up through the hill country westward, and it ended at the wilderness of Beth-aven.

12 Their border on the north side was from the Jordan, then the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north, and went up through the hill country westward, and it ended at the wilderness of Beth-aven.

12 Their border started on the north side at the Jordan River, proceeded to the slope of Jericho on the north, then westward through the hill country, and terminated at the wilderness of Beth-aven.

12 And their border on the north side was from Jordan; and the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north side, and went up through the mountains westward; and the goings out thereof were at the wilderness of Bethaven.

13 Then from there the border continued to Luz, to the side of Luz (that is, Bethel) southward; and the border went down to Ataroth-addar, near the hill which *lies* on the south of lower Beth-horon.

13 From there the border continued to Luz, to the side of Luz (that is, Bethel) southward; and the border went down to Ataroth-addar, near the hill which *lies* on the south of lower Beth-horon.

13 From there the boundary proceeded south in the direction of Luz to the slope of Luz (also known as Bethel), then proceeded to Ataroth-addar, on the mountain Beth-horon.

13 And the border went over from thence toward Luz, to the side of Luz, which is Bethel, southward; and the border descended to Atarothadar, near the hill that lieth on the south side of the nether Bethhoron.

14 And the border changed direction *from there* and turned around on the west side southward, from the hill which *lies* opposite Beth-horon southward; and it ended at Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), a city of the sons of Judah. This *was* the west side.

14 The border extended *from there* and turned round on the west side southward, from the hill which *lies* before Beth-horon southward; and it ended at Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), a city of the sons of Judah. This *was* the west side.

14 From there the boundary changed direction, turning southward on the western side opposite Beth-horon, terminating at Kiriath-baal (also known as Kiriath-jearim), which belongs to Judah. This formed the western boundary.

14 And the border was drawn thence, and compassed the corner of the sea southward, from the hill that lieth before Bethhoron southward; and the goings out thereof were at Kirjathbaal, which is Kirjathjearim, a city of the children of Judah: this was the west quarter.

15 Then the south side *was* from the edge of Kiriath-jearim, and the border went westward and went to the fountain of the waters of Nephtoah.

15 Then the south side *was* from the edge of Kiriath-jearim, and the border went westward and went to the fountain of the waters of Nephtoah.

15 The southern boundary began at the edge of Kiriath-jearim, proceeding from there to Ephron and then to the spring at the Nephtoah Waters.

15 And the south quarter was from the end of Kirjathjearim, and the border went out on the west, and went out to the well of waters of Nephtoah:

16 Then the border went down to the edge of the hill which is in the Valley of Ben-hinnom, which is in the Valley of Rephaim northward; and it went down to the Valley of Hinnom, to the slope of the Jebusite southward, and went down to En-rogel.

16 The border went down to the edge of the hill which is in the valley of Ben-hinnom, which is in the valley of Rephaim northward; and it went down to the valley of Hinnom, to the slope of the Jebusite southward, and went down to En-rogel.

16 From there the boundary proceeded to the border of the mountain that overlooks the Ben-hinnom Valley at the northern end of the Rephaim Valley, where it proceeded down the Hinnom Valley south of the slope of the Jebusites toward En-rogel.

16 And the border came down to the end of the mountain that lieth before the valley of the son of Hinnom, and which is in the valley of the giants on the north, and descended to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusi on the south, and descended to Enrogel,

17 Then it turned northward and went to En-shemesh, and went to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim, and it went down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

17 It extended northward and went to En-shemesh and went to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim, and it went down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben.

17 Then it turned north toward En-shemesh and proceeded from there to Geliloth opposite the ascent of Adummim, where it turned toward the Stone of Bohan, Reuben's son,

17 And was drawn from the north, and went forth to Enshemesh, and went forth toward Geliloth, which is over against the going up of Adummim, and descended to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben,

18 And it continued to the side in front of the Arabah northward, and went down to the Arabah.

18 It continued to the side in front of the Arabah northward and went down to the Arabah.

18 and proceeded north of the slope of Beth-arabah down to the Arabah.

18 And passed along toward the side over against Arabah northward, and went down unto Arabah:

19 Then the border continued to the side of Beth-hoglah northward; and the border ended at the north bay of the Salt Sea, at the south end of the Jordan. This was the southern border.

19 The border continued to the side of Beth-hoglah northward; and the border ended at the north bay of the Salt Sea, at the south end of the Jordan. This was the south border.

19 From there the boundary proceeded to north of the slope of Beth-hoglah and terminated at the northern bay of the Salt Sea where the Jordan River ends in the south. This was the southern border.

19 And the border passed along to the side of Bethhoglah northward: and the outgoings of the border were at the north bay of the salt sea at the south end of Jordan: this was the south coast.

20 Moreover, the Jordan was its border on the east side. This was the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin according to their families, and according to its borders all around.

20 Moreover, the Jordan was its border on the east side. This was the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin, according to their families and according to its borders all around.

20 The Jordan River formed its boundary on the east. This is the inheritance for the tribe of Benjamin according to its families, boundary by boundary around the entire territory.

20 And Jordan was the border of it on the east side. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by the coasts thereof round about, according to their families.

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, Beth-hoglah, and Emek-keziz,

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho and Beth-hoglah and Emek-keziz,

21 The towns belonging to the tribe of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz,

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, and Bethhoglah, and the valley of Keziz,

22 Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, and Bethel,

22 and Beth-arabah and Zemaraim and Bethel,

22 Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,

22 And Betharabah, and Zemaraim, and Bethel,

23 Avvim, Parah, and Ophrah,

23 and Avvim and Parah and Ophrah,

23 Avvim, Parah, Ophrah,

23 And Avim, and Pharah, and Ophrah,

24 Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba; twelve cities with their villages.

24 and Chephar-ammoni and Ophni and Geba; twelve cities with their villages.

24 Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba, for a total of twelve towns and villages.

24 And Chepharhaammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages:

25 Gibeon, Ramah, and Beeroth,

25 Gibeon and Ramah and Beeroth,

25 Also included were Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth,

25 Gibeon, and Ramah, and Beeroth,

26 Mizpeh, Chephirah, and Mozah,

26 and Mizpeh and Chephirah and Mozah,

26 Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah,

26 And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah,

27 Rekem, Irpeel, and Taralah,

27 and Rekem and Irpeel and Taralah,
27 Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah,
27 And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah,

28 Zelah, Haeleph, the Jebusite *city* (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah, Kiriath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin according to their families.

28 and Zelah, Haeleph and the Jebusite (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah, Kiriath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the sons of Benjamin according to their families.

28 Zela, Haeleph, Jebus (also known as Jerusalem), Gibeah, and Kiriath-jearim, for a total of fourteen towns and villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Benjamin according to their families.

28 And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeah, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.