

Joshua 13

Verses 1 - 7

Now Joshua was old *and* advanced in years when the Lord said to him, “You are old *and* advanced in years, and a very large *amount* of the land remains to be possessed. ²This is the land that remains: all the regions *of* the Philistines and all *those of* the Geshurites; ³from the Shihor which is east of Egypt, even as far as the border of Ekron to the north (it is counted as Canaanite); the five governors of the Philistines: the Gazite, the Ashdodite, the Ashkelonite, the Gittite, the Ekronite; and the Avvite ⁴to the south, all the land of the Canaanite, and Mearah that belongs to the Sidonians, as far as Aphek, to the border of the Amorite; ⁵and the land of the Gebalite, and all of Lebanon, toward the east, from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon as far as Lebo-hamath. ⁶All the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon as far as Misrephoth-maim, all the Sidonians, I will drive out from the sons of Israel; only allot it to Israel as an inheritance as I have commanded you. ⁷Now therefore, apportion this land as an inheritance to the nine tribes and the half-tribe of Manasseh.”

Now Joshua was old *and* advanced in years when the Lord said to him, “You are old *and* advanced in years, and a very large *amount* of the land remains to be possessed.

See pic 1305

Joshua time line

Chapter	Event	Year	Other
Deut 34:5	Death of Moses	11 - 1407	Caleb is 78
Joshua 1:10	Command to get ready	1-4-1406	Joshua is 79
12	List of Kings defeated	1400	7 years of war
13	Still a lot of land to be taken over	1400	Joshua is very old "86"
14	Hebron given to Caleb	1400	Caleb is 85
14 - 19	Land allotted in Canaan	1400 - 1393	Took 7 years
23	Joshua's farewell	1375	vs 1 - a long time had passed (18 years)
24	Joshua dies	1375	110 years old

Very few clues are given about the age of Joshua during his life. However, we do know Joshua was 110 years old when he died.

See Joshua 24:29

If we assume Joshua died in 1375 BC then we can work backwards and determine his age during other events.

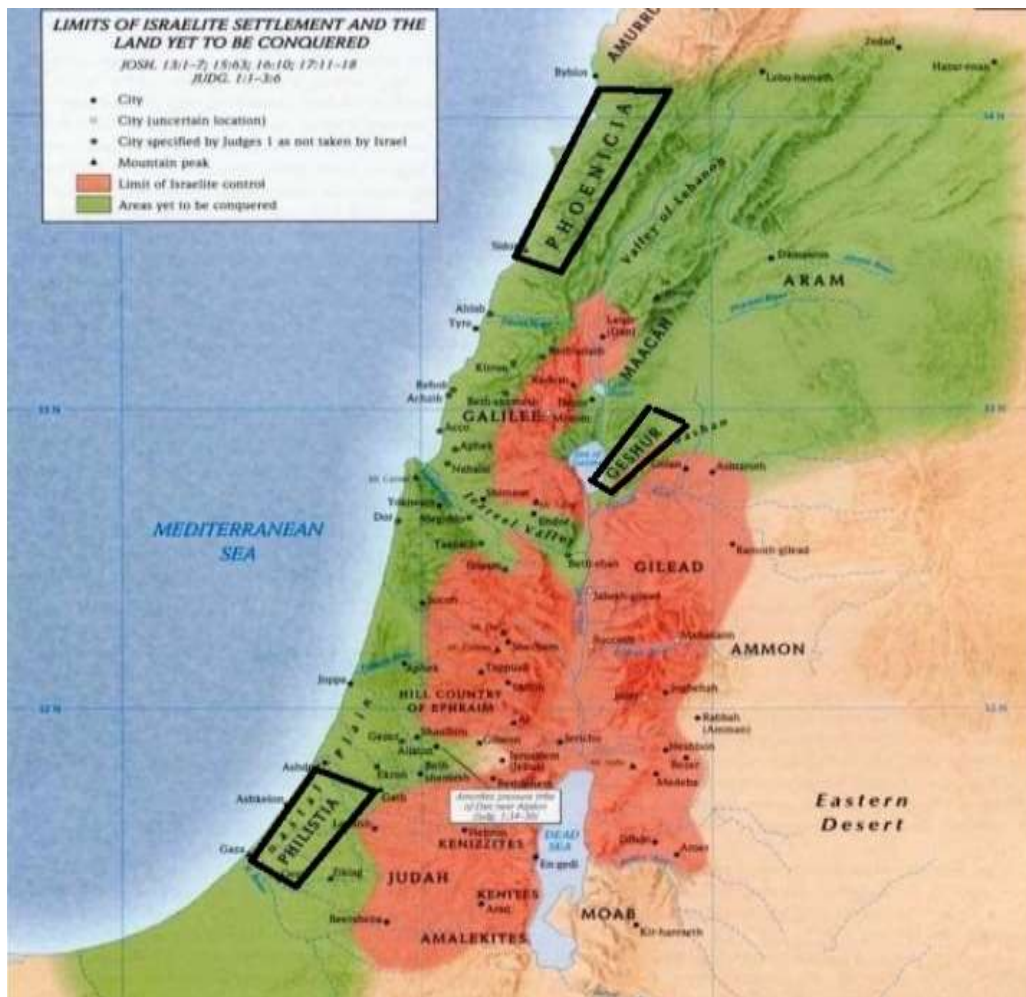
When Joshua is said to be very old he would have been 86 years old.

This is the land that remains:

All the regions of the Philistines and all those of the Geshurites

All of Lebanon, toward the east, from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon

See Map 1310



The part in Red is under the control of Israel, the part in green is yet to be conquered.

Some of the land in green was not occupied until the time of David & Solomon (1010 – 930 BC) but even then the land of the Philistines was not “part of Israel”.

David had to fight against the Philistines a number of times before he weakened them enough to eliminate them as a threat. But he never incorporated their land into the Kingdom of Israel.

Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates River to the river of Egypt. The Philistines paid tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life but their territory was not annexed by Solomon.

Also, even in the areas Israel did possess, they did not drive out all of the Canaanites.

Verses 8 - 14

With the other half-tribe, the Reubenites and the Gadites received their inheritance which Moses gave them beyond the Jordan to the east, just as Moses the servant of the Lord gave to them; ⁹ from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, with the city which is in the middle of the valley, and all the plain of Medeba, as far as Dibon; ¹⁰ and all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the border of the sons of Ammon; ¹¹ and Gilead, and the territory of the Geshurites and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan as far as Salecah; ¹² all the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he *alone* was left of the remnant of the Rephaim); for Moses struck them and drove them out. ¹³ But the sons of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites; instead, Geshur and Maacath live among Israel to this day. ¹⁴ Only to the tribe of Levi he did not give an inheritance; the offerings by fire to the Lord, the God of Israel, are their inheritance, as He spoke to him.

With the other half-tribe, the Reubenites and the Gadites received their inheritance which Moses gave them beyond the Jordan to the east

This is the territory east of the Jordan

See map 1315 below.

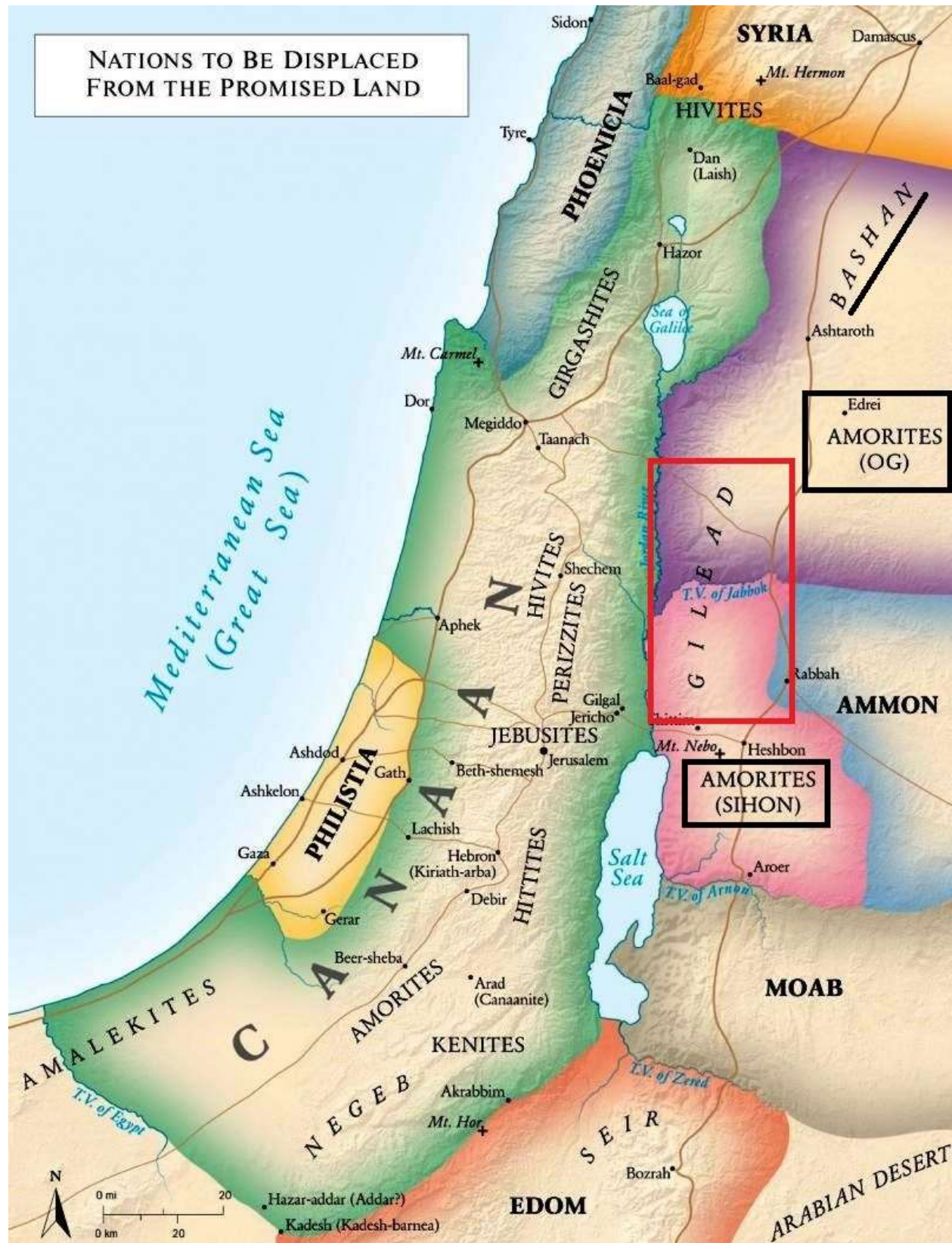


All the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites

All the kingdom of Og in Bashan

And Gilead

See maps 1320



The area of Gilead was divided between the kingdoms of King Og and King Sihon.

But the sons of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites; instead, Geshur and Maacath live among Israel to this day.

See map 1325



Joshua has described the three areas that previously made up the eastern side of the Jordan River before it was conquered by Israel.

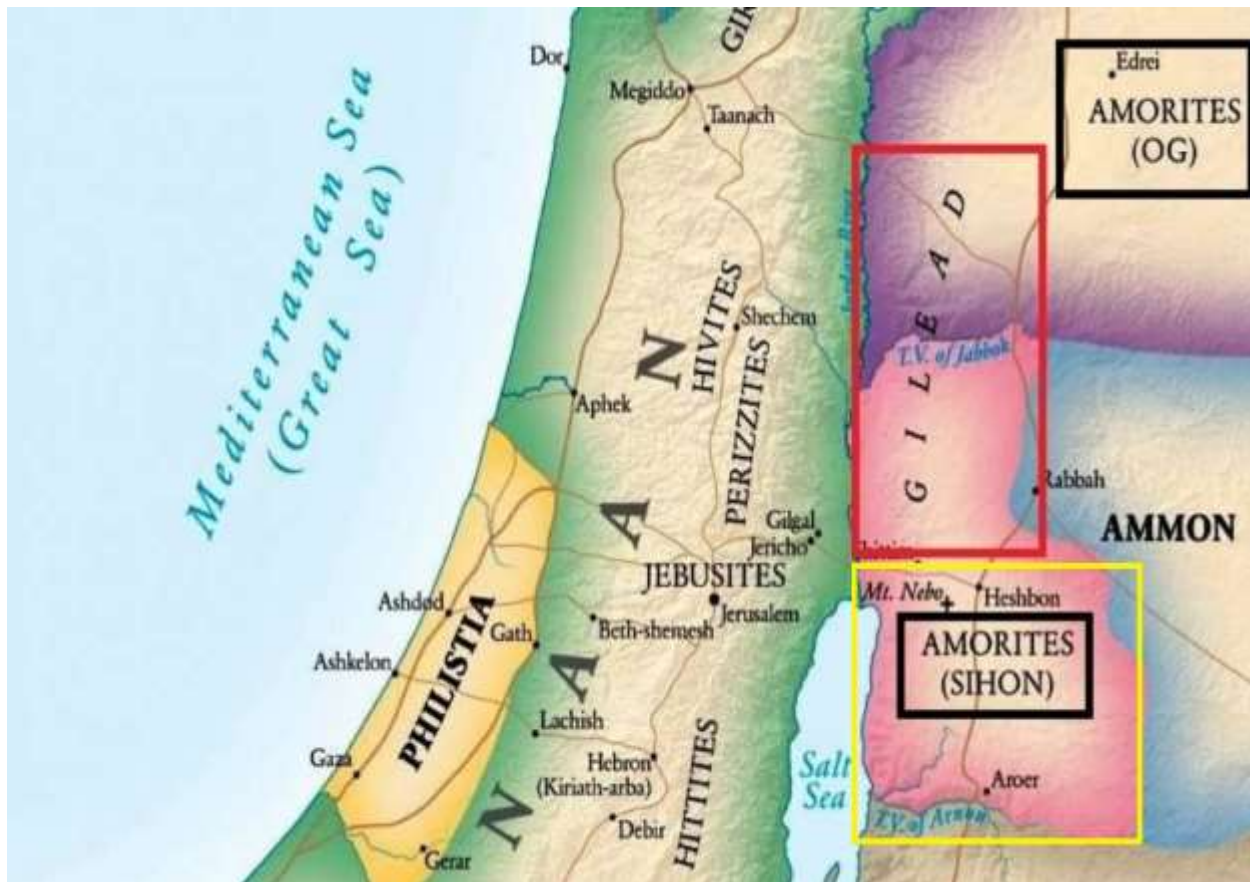
Now he will describe the area that each of the 2 & 1/2 tribes inherited.

Verses 15 - 23

So Moses gave *an inheritance* to the tribe of the sons of Reuben according to their families. ¹⁶ Their territory was from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, with the city which is in the middle of the valley and all the plain by Medeba; ¹⁷ Heshbon and all its cities which are on the plain: Dibon, Bamoth-baal, Beth-baal-meon, ¹⁸ Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath, ¹⁹ Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth-shahar on the hill of the valley, ²⁰ Beth-peor, the slopes of Pisgah, Beth-jeshimoth, ²¹ even all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses struck with the leaders of Midian, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, the leaders of Sihon, who lived in the land. ²² The sons of Israel also killed Balaam the son of Beor, the diviner, with the sword among *the rest of their dead*. ²³ The border of the sons of Reuben was the Jordan. This was the inheritance of the sons of Reuben according to their families, the cities and their villages.

So Moses gave the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites to the tribe of **Reuben**

See Maps 1330



Reuben inherited the southern portion of the land east of the Jordan which is highlighted in yellow.

Bamoth-baal, Beth-baal-meon

Several of the cities that were captured had been named in honor of Baal because the people of Ammon and Moab worshiped this false god.

²² **The sons of Israel also killed Balaam the son of Beor, the diviner, with the sword among *the rest of their dead*.**

The story of Balaam can be found in Numbers 22 thru 25.

His death is recorded in Numbers 31:8

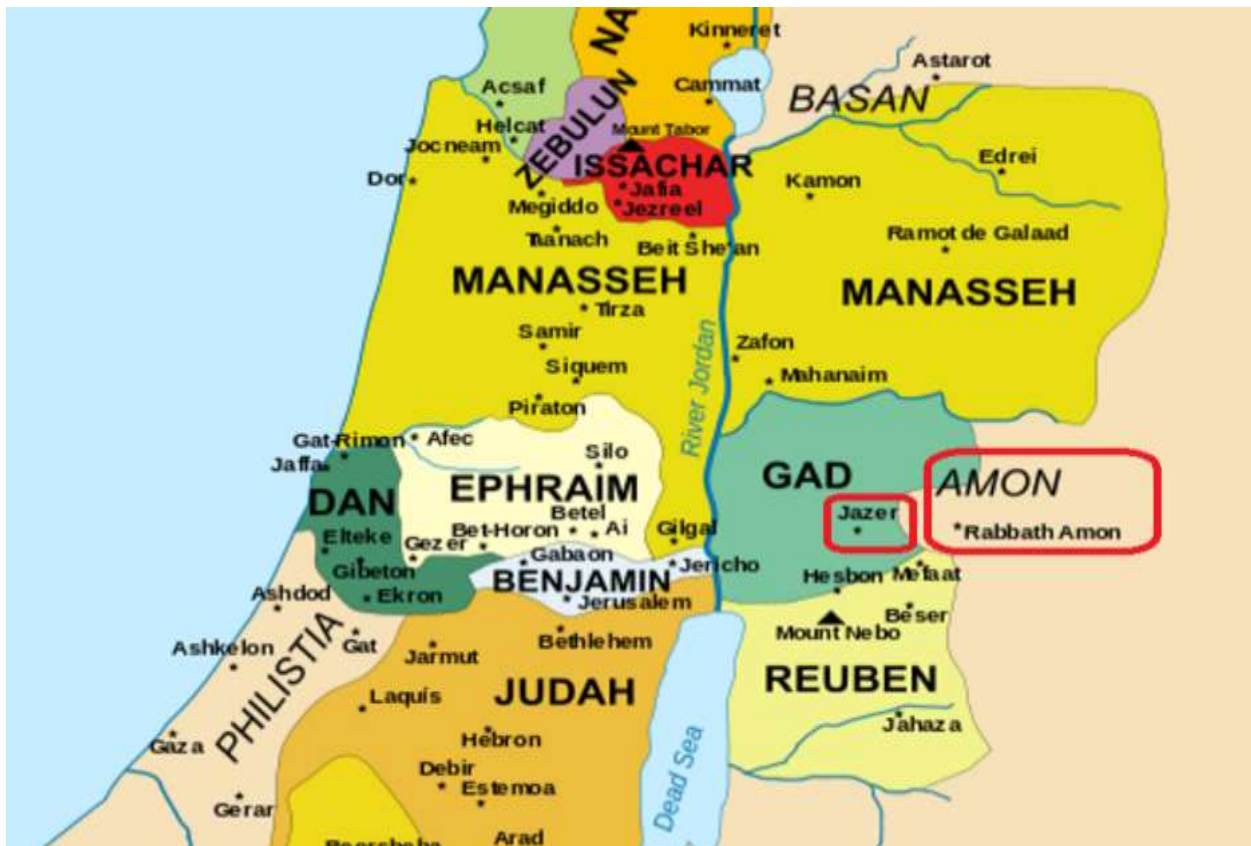
Verses 24 - 28

Moses also gave *an inheritance* to the tribe of Gad, to the sons of Gad according to their families. ²⁵ Their territory was Jazer and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the sons of Ammon, as far as Aroer which is opposite Rabbah; ²⁶ and from Heshbon as far as Ramath-mizpeh and Betonim, and from Mahanaim as far as the border of Debir; ²⁷ and in the valley, Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, with the Jordan as a border, as far as the *lower end* of the Sea of Chinnereth beyond the Jordan to the east. ²⁸ This is the inheritance of the sons of Gad according to their families, the cities and their villages.

Moses also gave *an inheritance* to the tribe of **Gad**.

Their territory was Jazer and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the sons of Ammon

See map 1335



Gad received the central area of land on the eastern side of the Jordan.

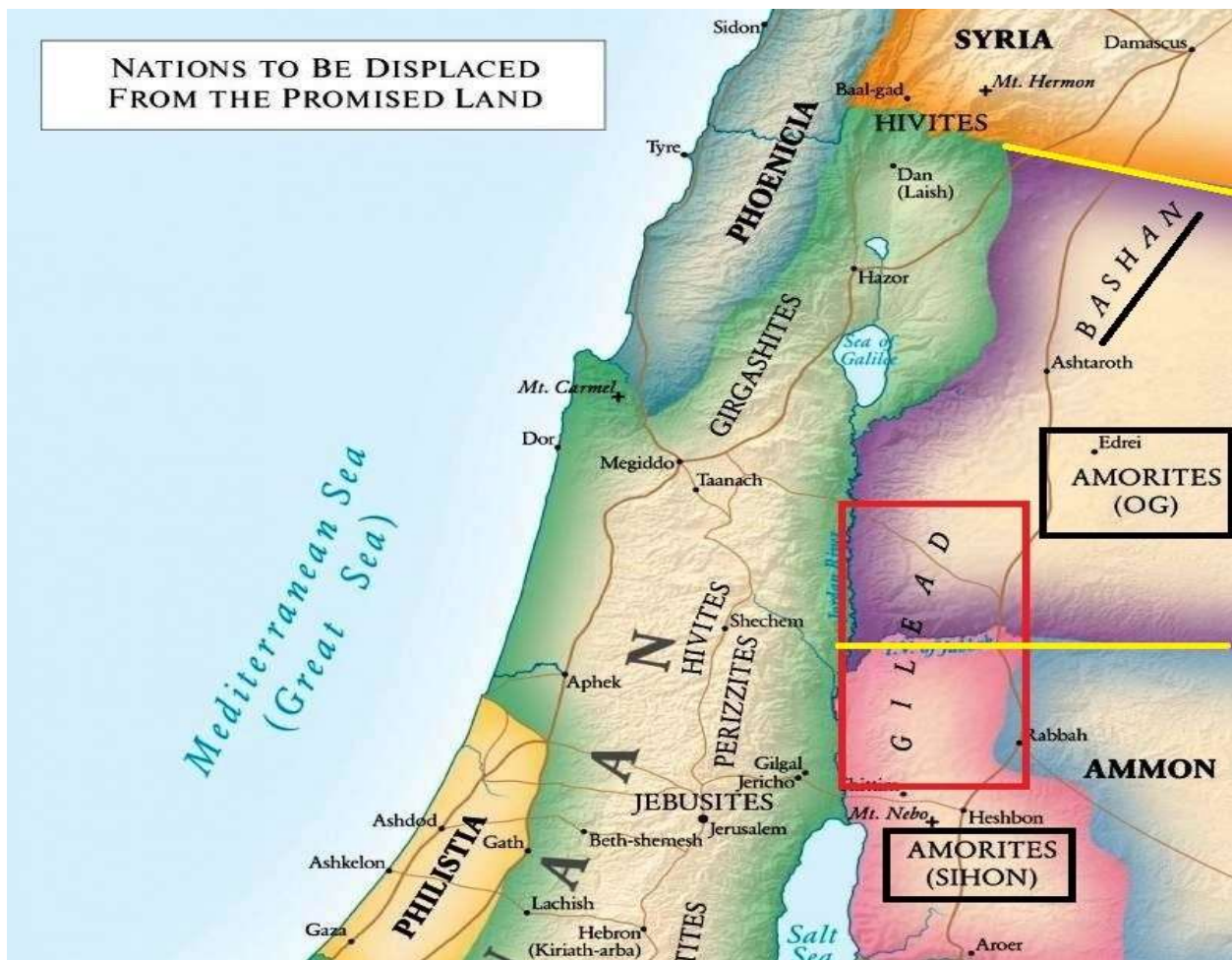
Verses 29 - 31

Moses also gave *an inheritance* to the half-tribe of Manasseh; and it was for the half-tribe of the sons of Manasseh according to their families. ³⁰ Their territory was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty cities; ³¹ also half of Gilead, with Ashtaroth and Edrei, the cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were for the sons of Machir the son of Manasseh, for half of the sons of Machir according to their families.

Moses also gave *an inheritance* to the **half-tribe of Manasseh**

Manasseh's territory consisted of all of Bashan and half of Gilead.

See map 1340



The half tribe of Manasseh inherited the northern area of land on the east side of the Jordan River (between the yellow lines).

Verse 32

These are *the territories* which Moses apportioned as an inheritance in the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan at Jericho to the east.³³ But to the tribe of Levi, Moses did not give an inheritance; the Lord, the God of Israel, is their inheritance, as He had promised to them.

Levi received cities and pasture lands throughout Israel but they did not receive a specific area like the other 12 tribes.

But the tribe of Levi got the best inheritance in Israel because their inheritance was "The Lord God of Israel".