

## Joshua 14

### Verse 1 - 5

Now these are *the territories* which the sons of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers' *households* of the tribes of the sons of Israel apportioned to them as inheritances, <sup>2</sup> by the lot of their inheritance, just as the Lord commanded through Moses, for the nine tribes and the half-tribe. <sup>3</sup> For Moses had given the inheritance of the two tribes and the half-tribe beyond the Jordan; but he did not give an inheritance to the Levites among them. <sup>4</sup> For the sons of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim, and they did not give a portion to the Levites in the land, except cities to live in, with their pasture lands for their livestock and for their property. <sup>5</sup> The sons of Israel did exactly as the Lord had commanded Moses, and they divided the land.

Now these are *the territories* which the sons of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers' *households* of the tribes of the sons of Israel apportioned to them as inheritances, <sup>2</sup> by the lot of their inheritance

The fact that their inheritance was decided by lot indicated that God had made the decision where each tribe should live.

In addition, this was done by the High Priest (the top religious leader) in the presence of the top military and civil leaders of Israel.

This was done in a way that no tribe could dispute.

**For Moses had given the inheritance of the two tribes and the half-tribe beyond the Jordan**

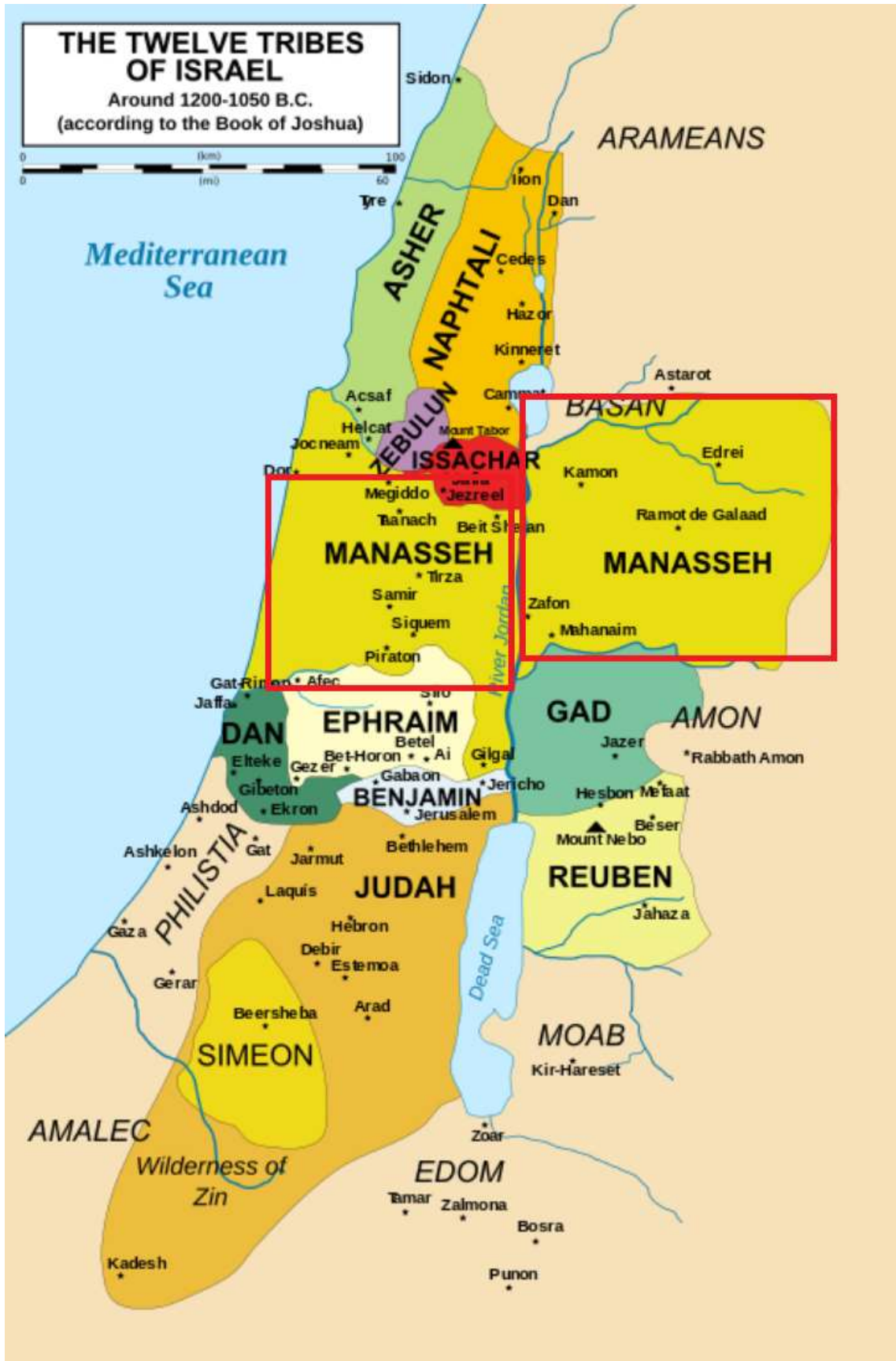
Reuben, Gad and the 1/2 tribe of Manasseh were given their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan. This meant that the other 9 ½ tribes would be given their inheritance on the west side.

The amount of land that the tribe of Manasseh received was amazing.

See pic 1405

# THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL

Around 1200-1050 B.C.  
(according to the Book of Joshua)



**For the sons of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim, and they did not give a portion to the Levites in the land, except cities to live in, with their pasture lands for their livestock and for their property**

The tribe of Joseph became two separate tribes because Jacob adopted Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim, as his sons. So both boys received an inheritance.

But the total number of tribes remained at 12 because Levi did not receive an inheritance in one area like the other tribes.

However, the "tribe of Levi" did receive cities and pasture land in every tribe on both sides of the Jordan River.

The tribe of Reuben and Gad each provided 4 cities for the Levites and the ½ tribe of Manasseh provided 2 cities.

This subject will be covered in greater detail in chapter 21.

Verses 6 - 11

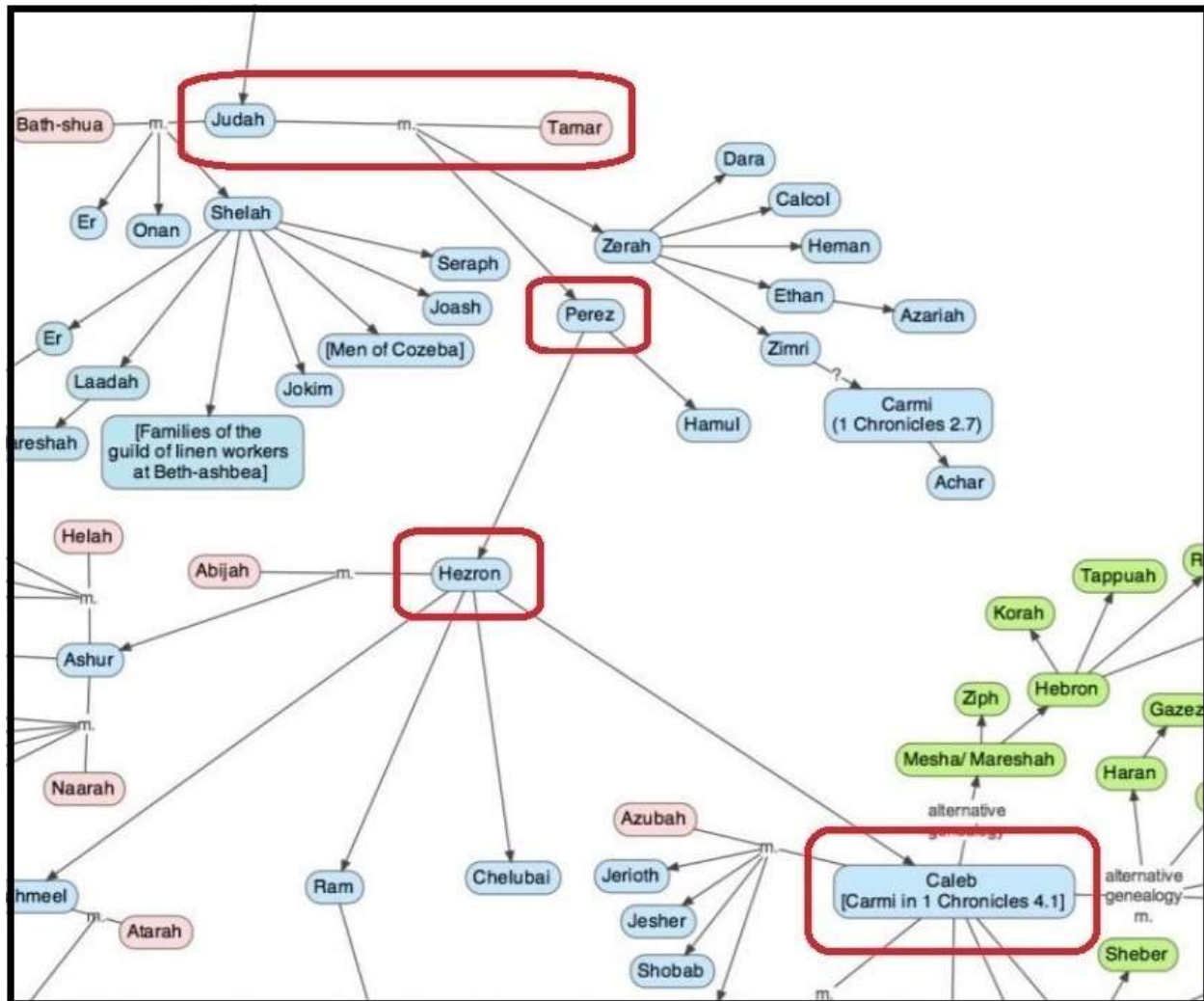
**Then the sons of Judah approached Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know the word which the Lord spoke to Moses the man of God on account of you and me in Kadesh-barnea. <sup>7</sup> I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land, and I brought word back to him as *it was* in my heart.**

**<sup>8</sup> Nevertheless my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt *with fear*; but I followed the Lord my God fully. <sup>9</sup> So Moses swore on that day, saying, 'The land on which your foot has walked shall certainly be an inheritance to you and to your children forever, because you have followed the Lord my God fully.' <sup>10</sup> And now behold, the Lord has let me live, just as He spoke, these forty-five years, from the time that the Lord spoke this word to Moses, when Israel walked in the wilderness; and now behold, I am eighty-five years old today. <sup>11</sup> I am still as strong today as I was on the day Moses sent me; as my strength was then, so my strength is now, for war and for going out and coming in.**

**Then the sons of Judah approached Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him**

Caleb was born in Egypt and he was a great grandson of Judah.

See chart 1410



**I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land**

Caleb was 40 when he spies out the land of Canaan which took place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the wilderness journey.

It will be another 38 years before they enter Canaan which means Caleb was 78 when Joshua took over for Moses.

**And now behold, the Lord has let me live, just as He spoke, these forty-five years; and now behold, I am eighty-five years old today.**

Caleb is 85 in chapter 14 so we know the initial takeover of Canaan took 7 years.

Verses 12 – 15

**<sup>12</sup> Now then, give me this hill country about which the Lord spoke on that day, for you heard on that day that Anakim were there, with great fortified cities; perhaps the Lord will be with me, and I will drive them out just as the Lord has spoken.” So Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he followed the Lord God of Israel fully. <sup>15</sup> Now the name of Hebron was previously Kiriath-arba; *for Arba* was the greatest man among the Anakim. Then the land was at rest from war.**

**<sup>12</sup> Now then, give me this hill country about which the Lord spoke on that day, for you heard on that day that Anakim were there, with great fortified cities; perhaps the Lord will be with me, and I will drive them out just as the Lord has spoken.**

Caleb said he had a right to Hebron based on an oath by Moses.

The promise to Caleb is not recorded in scripture but Joshua was aware of the same details so we can be confident that Moses made this promise to Caleb.

Even though Caleb had a right to Hebron, he later willingly yielded this city to the Levites and lived in the suburbs.

See Joshua 21:11 – 13

It is interesting that Caleb said, “**Perhaps** the Lord will be with me”.

Did Caleb doubt a promise that God had made to him?

The answer to this question is explained in verse 15

**<sup>15</sup> Now the name of Hebron was previously Kiriath-arba; *for Arba* was the greatest man among the Anakim.**

Joshua had expelled the Anakim from Hebron a number of years earlier.

See Joshua 11:21-22

Joshua is given the credit but it is quite likely that Caleb was the commander in charge of the battle.

The promise that God made was for this initial battle at Hebron.

However, when Israel moved on to conquer other parts of Canaan, some of the Anakim from Philistia went back to Hebron and reoccupied the town so this city had to be retaken.

Since the second battle was not under the initial promise made to Caleb he said “Perhaps”.

Caleb did not take Hebron for the second time until after the death of Joshua. This will be discussed in more detail in the next chapter.

Caleb was from the tribe of Judah and Hebron was a city in Judah.

See map 1415

