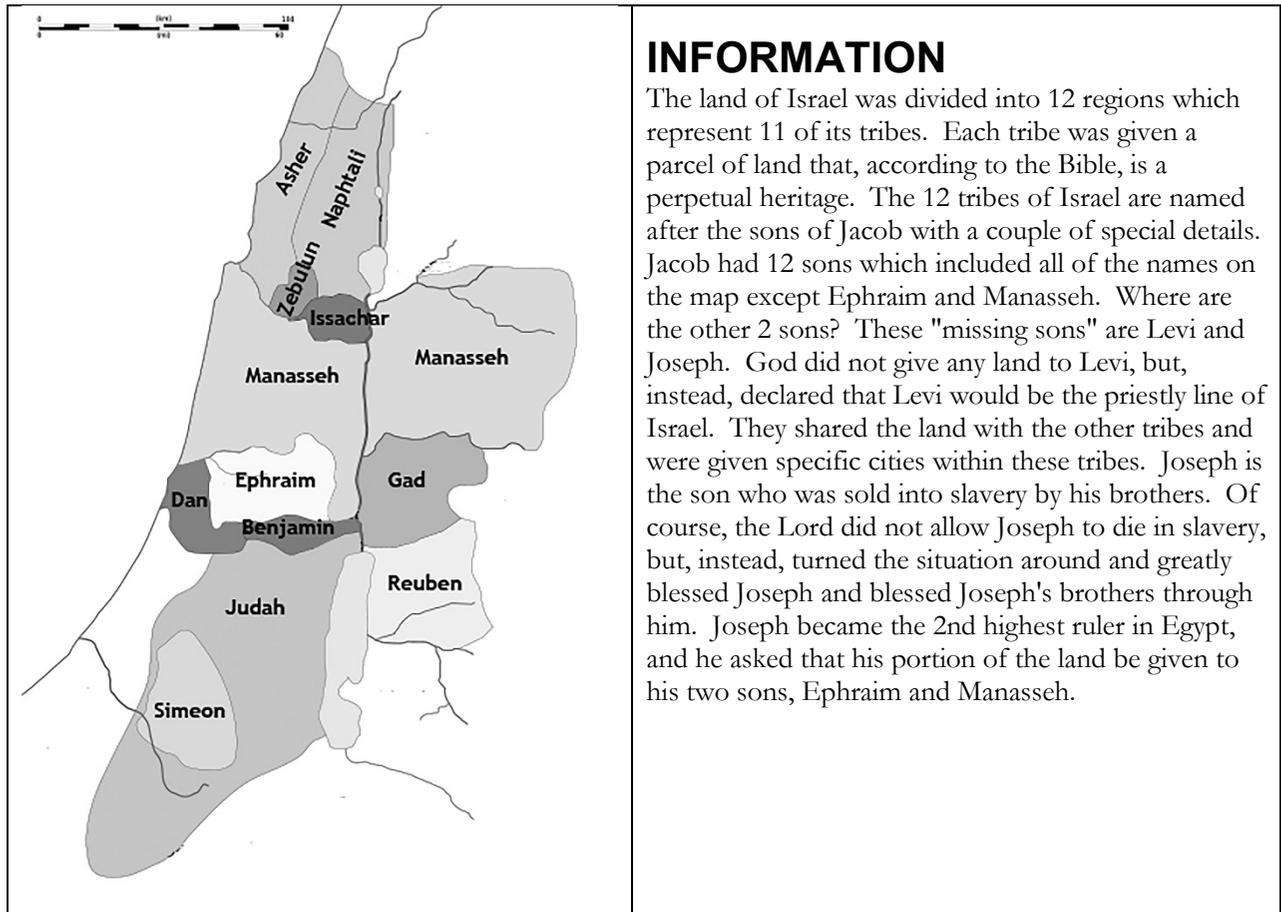


12 Tribes of Israel

Reuben, Simeon, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Joseph, Levi.



INFORMATION

The land of Israel was divided into 12 regions which represent 11 of its tribes. Each tribe was given a parcel of land that, according to the Bible, is a perpetual heritage. The 12 tribes of Israel are named after the sons of Jacob with a couple of special details. Jacob had 12 sons which included all of the names on the map except Ephraim and Manasseh. Where are the other 2 sons? These "missing sons" are Levi and Joseph. God did not give any land to Levi, but, instead, declared that Levi would be the priestly line of Israel. They shared the land with the other tribes and were given specific cities within these tribes. Joseph is the son who was sold into slavery by his brothers. Of course, the Lord did not allow Joseph to die in slavery, but, instead, turned the situation around and greatly blessed Joseph and blessed Joseph's brothers through him. Joseph became the 2nd highest ruler in Egypt, and he asked that his portion of the land be given to his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh.

REVELATIONS 21, VERSES 10-12

And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal; 12 And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, **which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:**

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

God established Israel to be his people, and tells us that what he established thousands of years ago, will endure into eternity. The tribes of Israel are forever remembered by God. Israelites are God's special people with whom he made a covenant. What God builds, nobody can destroy. Pray that God will build, protect and establish our family. He is able. Also, pray for Israel; God has declared them to be important beyond what we can truly understand.

Relevant Passages

Genesis 45:7

And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

1 Kings 19:18

Yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him.

Esther 9:24-25

Because Haman the son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had devised against the Jews to destroy them, and had cast Pur, that is, the lot, to consume them, and to destroy them; 25 But when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letters that his wicked device, which he devised against the Jews, should return upon his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.

Jeremiah 30:11

For I am with thee, saith the Lord, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet I will not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

Ezekiel 39:28-29

Then shall they know that I am the Lord their God, which caused them to be led into captivity among the heathen: but I have gathered them unto their own land, and have left none of them any more there. 29 Neither will I hide my face any more from them: for I have poured out my spirit upon the house of Israel, saith the Lord God.

II Timothy 4:18

And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Jude 1:1

Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called: