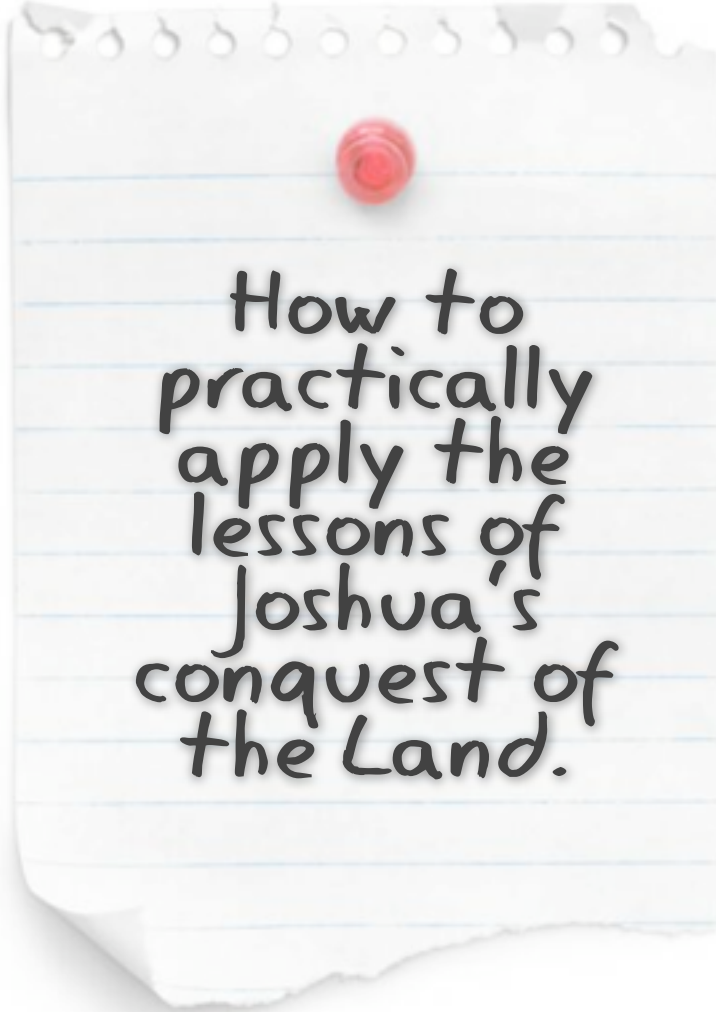




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a good land, flowing with milk and honey!



How to  
practically  
apply the  
lessons of  
Joshua's  
conquest of  
the Land.

# Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

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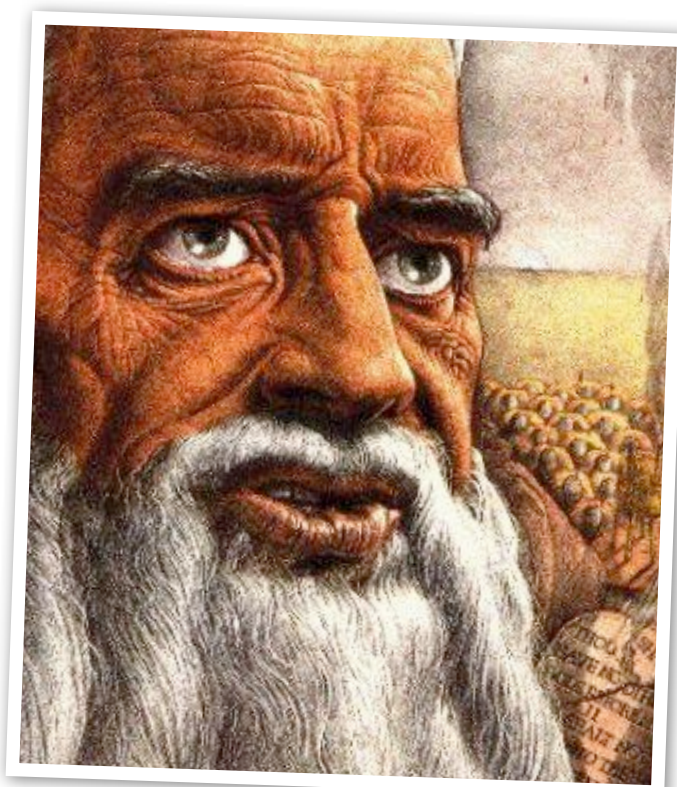
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# Introduction

The Book of Joshua – with its battles and conquests of the people of Israel finally entering and taking possession of the Promised Land – is a physical parallel of the battle/journey each one of us has to fight in the spiritual domain.

In the final Chapters of Deuteronomy, we are told that Moses asks to be able to see the Land. God allows him to climb up a mountain to have a look. If we go there today, we will realize that it's impossible to see all of the way to the other end. This let's us understand **that GOD opened Moses' spiritual eyes to see the full picture ... he saw the end-plan.**

Today, many people want to avoid any form of conflict. They only want to love everyone. God's Word is clear – ever since mankind was thrown out of the Garden of Eden, GOD has wanted us to return to HIM. This mandate to return to our land, purpose, and destiny, is a journey full of trials, battles, and conflicts – but the reward is worth every ounce of our strength.



## GOD drove man out the Garden ...

**Genesis 3:24** “24 So [God] drove<sup>1</sup> out the man; and He placed<sup>2</sup> at the east of the Garden of Eden the cherubim and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep and guard the way to the tree of life.”

But we have the promise that when we walk in the mandate to RETURN to the Garden, God will cast out every enemy before us, and we (Israel) will dwell in safety. Note, Moses uses the same words – “**drove**” and “**placed/dwell**” – as used in the Genesis verse above, meaning GOD will take away the enemy's possession of the Land and cause Israel to reside permanently.

**Deuteronomy 33:27-29** “27 The eternal God is your refuge and dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms; **He drove** [H1644] the enemy before you and thrust them out, saying, Destroy! 28 And **Israel dwells** [H7931] in safety, the fountain of Jacob alone in a land of grain and new wine; yes, His heavens drop dew. 29 Happy are you, O Israel, and blessing is yours! Who is like you, a people saved by the Lord, the Shield of your help, the Sword that exalts you! Your enemies shall come fawning and cringing, and submit feigned obedience to you, and you shall march on their high places.”

---

<sup>1</sup> In the Hebrew (Strong's H1644), this word actually means to drive from possession.

<sup>2</sup> In the Hebrew (Strong's H7931), this word actually means to reside on a permanent basis.



The two verbs are used in this combination only in this context ... God makes a direct association with our exit from one place of intimacy to our entrance in the next place of intimacy. Peter tells us that as **living stones** in a Heavenly Tabernacle, **we make up a new house were GOD chooses to dwell.**

**1 Peter 2:5-6, 9** “5 [Come] and, like **living stones**, be yourselves built [into] a spiritual house, for a holy (dedicated, consecrated) priesthood, to offer up [those] spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For thus it stands in Scripture: Behold, I am laying in Zion a chosen (honored), precious chief Cornerstone, and he

*who believes in Him [who adheres to, trusts in, and relies on Him] shall never be disappointed or put to shame.*

**9** *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.”*

# Principles of warfare

I realize that many believers will either want:

- To immerse themselves in the study of GOD's Word,
- OR, experience the liberty of the Holy Spirit (manifestation), rather than contemplate warfare.

After all, people DIE, it's bloody, and it causes destruction. A study of the Word will show the principles of warfare come to light more often than we would realize.

I have highlighted three very different ones so that we can all agree that warfare is part of GOD's Plan.

## 1. Adam's Mandate.

Our first understanding of the principle of warfare is found in the original mandate given to Adam. GOD creates mankind for PURPOSE<sup>3</sup> – gives man a covering of splendor, intelligence to discern, a heart to encourage others, and arms that were meant to love/help others. In fact, mankind was an exact replica of the Almighty GOD – we were created in GOD's Image<sup>4</sup>, the physical dimension of "earth" was mixed with the spiritual dimension of GOD when He breathed into man the Breath of Life.

*God then gives us a mandate ...*

Adam is told to:

- *Take dominion.*
  - o Meaning, Adam was to exercise GOD's Authority as ambassador over the land.

**Genesis 1:28** "28 And God blessed them and said to them, *Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.*"

- *Tend the garden.*
  - o Meaning, Adam was to take action to see that a harvest was produced, both in the physical realm – crops and produce – but also the spiritual, in the Fruit of the Spirit.

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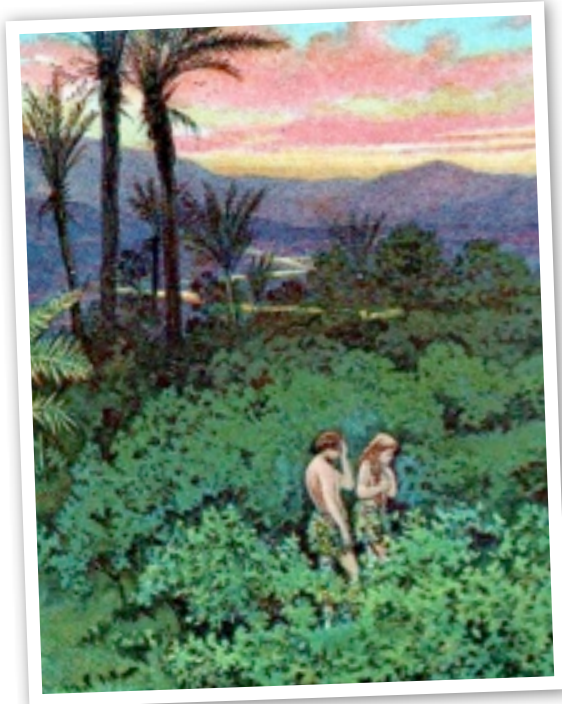
<sup>3</sup> For additional study in understanding your purpose and redemptive gifts, please see our book "*J2F Man's Purpose And The Gifts Of The Spirit*".

<sup>4</sup> Did you know that our DNA was designed to emit light, using what today is known as *biophotons*? In the Garden, Adam and Eve were clothed with light. Due to the fall, this ability has been pretty much lost. For additional study on being created in God's Image, see the teachings/research of Douglas Hamp, <http://dougflashamp.com/>.

**Genesis 2:15** “15 And the Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **tend and guard and keep it.**”

- *Keep the Garden.*

- o Meaning, to set watch. Adam was to guard the Garden from any influence from outside, both in the physical realm – actual activity and choices that are not in line with the Word of God – as well as the spiritual realm – demonic, pagan, occultic, and immoral actions that would impact the purity and holiness of the garden.



Mankind failed in his calling and purpose. Adam and Eve failed to obey God’s Instructions, and as a result, were expelled from the Garden of Eden. More importantly, we are told that the way back into the place of intimacy with God is guarded by a cherubim who guards the gate/portal to the Tree of Life with a flaming sword.

So we see ***the first dimension/strategy of spiritual warfare*** is to protect the intimacy of God from an enemy that would try to enter. Mankind has delegated authority of GOD. Since GOD does not remove gifts/talents, man had to be removed from Eden, until such time as he has been restored.

The next dimension of warfare will include the aspect of going into the land, to remove the enemy that has taken ground. This second aspect of spiritual warfare is set out for us in the

journey of God’s People from Egypt to the Land of Covenantal Promise, in a pattern of GOD’s Feasts. We will see that the Exodus journey followed in-step with the Feast Cycle.

## **2. A word on warfare in the Feasts.**

We often read the accounts of the Feast Cycle and only see the party/celebration. However, this is only half of the truth. The Feasts are not only a great time of celebration, but also a time to ***remember – they are memorials for us.*** We are to proclaim and remember the wonderful acts of God’s Goodness towards us, His Grace upon Grace. More importantly, we need to recognize that the Feasts are a cycle/pattern – they come every year, at the same season/time – the Feasts allow us to go past the cherubim holding the Flaming Sword, back into the Garden. Portals/gateways are opened for a specific purpose and prophetic action. If our spiritual warfare is in alignment with God’s Times, and are in accordance with His Specific Purposes, we will have the VICTORY!

***Our second example*** defining spiritual warfare is set out in the pattern/order of the Feast of Pesach (Passover), which reveals the ***progressive redemption and revelation*** of GOD’s People when they finally take the Land.

- PESACH [PASSOVER]

**Leviticus 23:6** “6 On the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.”

We are delivered out from Egypt – its systems, influences, and worship – all that the kingdom of darkness would want to bind us to in being slaves. The element of warfare in this Feast is to walk in obedience to God’s Instructions by putting the Blood of the Lamb, Y’shua [Jesus] on our hearts, to come out, and to go through the mikvah<sup>5</sup> (baptism) of the Red Sea – symbolizing the prophetic action of changing status and kingdoms. This warfare calls for us to rise up against every form of slavery and oppression that we see ... we cannot sit quietly while others are oppressed!

- SHAVUOT [PENTECOST]

**Leviticus 23:15** “15 And you shall count from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering, seven Sabbaths; [seven full weeks] shall they be.”

This Feast is a call to purification and cleansing – EXTERNALLY, to cleanse our choices/ attitudes away from lawlessness or legalism, and INTERNALLY, by the Holy Spirit, we are cleansed to follow after God’s Heart and Instructions, and to renew our minds so that our thoughts become aligned with GOD’s Plan. We are cleansed in order to accept God’s Ketubah, His Instructions, and His offer of Betrothal to be married to the Lamb of God. The warfare for Shavuot [Pentecost] is to make a separation from the world ... the Hebrew word that describes this is “badal”, used when God describes the action of separating the light and the darkness, and the water from the earth – it is a set-apartness to be a Royal Priesthood, revealing a lifestyle of holiness.

- SUKKOT [FEAST OF TABERNACLES]

**Leviticus 23:24** “24 Say to the Israelites, On the first day of the seventh month [almost October], you shall observe a day of solemn [sabbatical] rest, a memorial day announced by blowing of trumpets, a holy [called] assembly.”

This Feast is a participation in the End-Time battle **to clear the land of all “tares” that have been sown in the Covenantal Land**. This battle is both a physical and spiritual one. In the PHYSICAL, we prepare a suburb/community that will be dedicated purely to the concept of holiness. In the SPIRITUAL, we prepare our minds to focus on the praise of the Almighty.

The warfare calls for the removal of giants – again, both physical, spiritual, and mental. Just like Joshua, we need to go to prepare the Land to become a place where God will dwell. Whilst Sukkot [Feast of Tabernacles] is the celebration of our coming marriage to the King of kings, and therefore has all the potential to be a glorious occasion, the Word tells us that many will miss the purpose!

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<sup>5</sup> For additional study, see our book “J2F Understanding Water And Spirit Baptism”.

**Jude 1:12** “12 These are **hidden reefs** (elements of danger) in your love feasts, where they boldly feast sumptuously [carousing together in your midst], without scruples providing for themselves [alone]. They are clouds without water, swept along by the winds; trees, without fruit at the late autumn gathering time—twice (doubly) dead, [lifeless and] plucked up by the roots;”

We were told that “some” will have spots on their gowns – they will not look like the Radiant Bride. Even more importantly (and extremely sad), we are told that the effect of these spots on these people will be that they are clearly NOT sons/daughters of the Messiah.

Herein lies an important message – we should take care to honor GOD on each of His Feast days, in whatever manner the Holy Spirit directs, so that we truly raise GOD’s Standard before all men. We are HIS Ambassadors, and should be representing Him in Spirit and Truth.

**Ephesians 5:27** “27 That He might present the church to Himself in glorious splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such things [that she might be holy and faultless].”

## What are these spots that we refer to?

- Pesach [Passover] – the killing of the true believers, the **story of Cain**. We understand by the revelation in the New Testament that this means both the act of physical murder, but more importantly also the act of mental, spiritual, and psychological murder through abuse, gossip, and/or slander.
- Shavuot [Pentecost] – the mixed seed, the combination of tares with the wheat, the **story of Balaam**. We understand this to be the actions of men, to influence, control, and/or manipulate others by their own interpretation of the truth of the Word.
- Sukkot [Feast of Tabernacles] – the usurping authority, the **story of Korah**. Where we decide that we can do everything in our own strength, we are “gods” in the flesh.



## 3. The warfare of our FAITH!

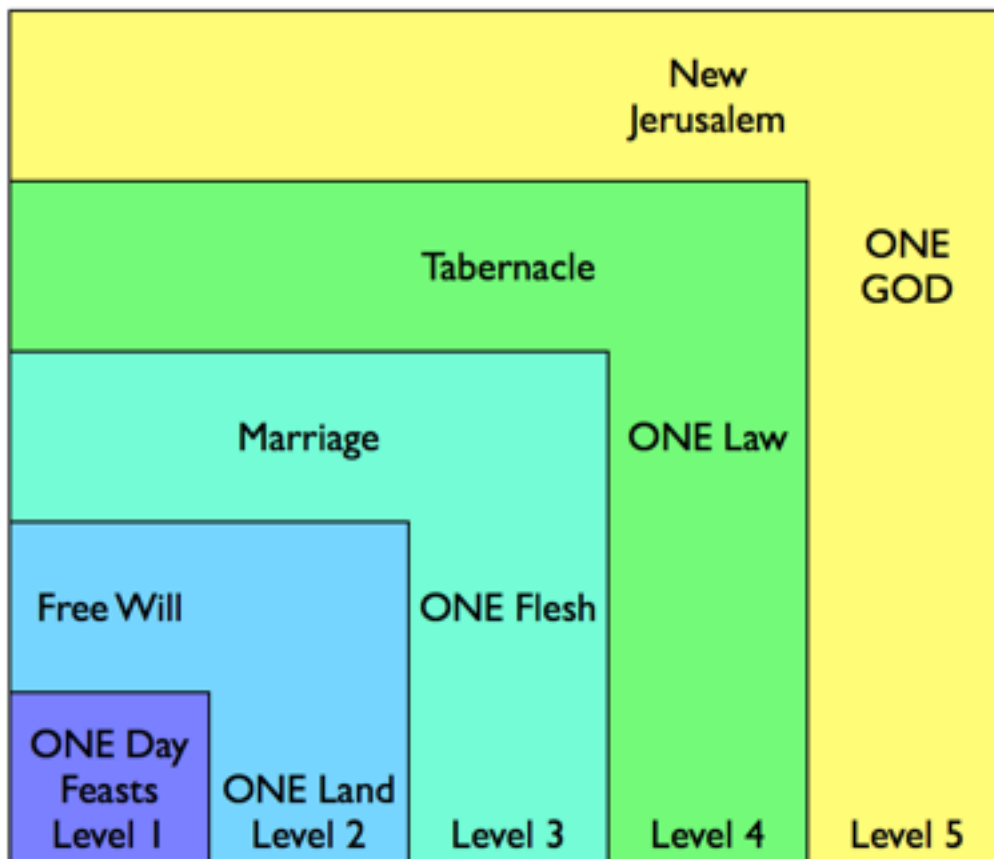
A third dimension of spiritual warfare is found in the “foundation” stone of our FAITH:

"SH'MA (hear and do) Israel, YHVH our GOD, YHVH is ONE!"

Throughout the Torah/Word, we see that expansion of this concept of "Oneness", which stretches all the way from Genesis to Revelation. As we study this principle, we will find that every one of the succeeding levels/dimensions of God's Plan for us is connected to – or "hangs" on – to this declaration of man's purpose. It is as if it's like the separate skins of an onion ... layer upon layer.

## Understanding purity and holiness ...

We will take some time to define/describe each of the aspects of this concept of God's Oneness. Generally, most of these descriptions will be short and in summary only, as the purpose is merely to put everything in context. We will, however, expand significantly on **one of the layers/dimensions (Level 4)** as this specifically relates to the purpose of spiritual warfare.



## • **Level 1 - GOD's Time<sup>6</sup>.**

The beginning Chapters of Genesis define God's Timetable – everything has its set time of “birth” or creation. Mankind has the element of creation on the sixth day, immediately prior to the seventh day of rest, the Shabbat<sup>7</sup>. This “time” element is therefore related to the fact that each person will be given the choice to be “reborn”, or in better words, “to return” to our original purpose.

God introduces a Timetable that is commonly called “the Feasts”, but which would better be classified as “the Rehearsals”, as they lead man down a journey of continued revelation and introspection, in order to ensure that we remain focused on the End-Time purpose of our journey.

## • **Level 2 - GOD's Land.**

We see that God's Plan *always involves a piece of Land – from the Garden of Eden, to the Promised Land, to the New Jerusalem as the place where He will come to dwell with mankind.* On the physical level, the Garden parallels our minds. We all have the right to make a free will choice to walk in His ways or not. Each and every person who left Egypt had the free-will choice to leave and make the Exodus. Once out of Egypt, the journey to the Promised Land was made in counting the fifty days up to Mount Sinai [this is counting the Omer, the days leading up to Shavuot] and purifying themselves throughout the journey of the wilderness. This process reflects the inner evaluation of our own life choices. We have to evaluate our choices and measure these against the plumbline that God's Word holds up as the standard.

We, individually, have to repent – that is to return – to our original purpose. In the process we have to:

- Ask for forgiveness,
- Make restitution,
- Ask for restoration.

In New Testament terms, this means that we have to:

- Renew our minds,
- Conform our bodies,
- Transform our emotions,

Until our soul-man is in absolute alignment with our “spirit-man”. This is the process of dealing with my own wrong choices.

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<sup>6</sup> For additional study, please see our book “*God's Holy Space, God's Holy Time – God's Pattern/ Plan For Prayer And Intercession To Be Aligned With Israel*”.

<sup>7</sup> For additional study, please see our book “*A Messianic Perspective Of Shabbat*”.

### • **Level 3 - One Flesh.**

The Israelites arrived at Mount Sinai – without a doubt, they had no idea as to the reason for this stop on the journey. However, God soon makes it clear – this is all about a marriage proposal. The Covenant is that God will be the Senior Partner ... and they would reap the benefits.

The people say “I do”. God then declares that His Covenant/Redeemed People are to be a separate treasure, a royal priesthood, and a holy nation. This covenantal lifestyle is the equivalent of the wedding ring that we exchange and wear today.



In following Messiah Y’shua [Jesus], we all come to our own personal Mount Sinai, where we have the choice to say “I do” to the Covenant, being grafted in by the Blood of Messiah. Then we too, are to be a separate treasure, a royal priesthood, a holy nation. At that moment we “restore” to the pattern in the Garden of Eden. We are “one flesh” – the perfect image of a Godly marriage.

### • **Level 4 - One Word (Law/GOD’s Commandments), as reflected in the purity of holiness.**

In essence, ***this entire study will be on the warfare principles of Level Four.***

God’s Word is consistent and will remain the same from generation to generation. We as man must try to understand and apply these principles in our day and time, walking in LOVING obedience to our Father. This section is the one that sets out the elements that describe the End-Time spiritual warfare. Consequently, we will spend more time trying to expound some of these elements, than those in the other sections.

At Mount Sinai, God proclaimed the “Creative Words” of the Ten Commandments. These words are destiny-proclamations to determine the way we draw near to God [sacrifice], and how we are to present God’s Attributes/Character to the rest of the world.

It is important that we spend some time revisiting the principle of parallels, as defined for us by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:45-49. Why did God give us this picture of the Tabernacle? Why did He say that the Tabernacle that we can see, feel, touch, and walk into is not the real one, but the replica of the Heavenly Tabernacle? What are we to understand?

New Testament believers have focused on the offerings and sacrifices of the Tabernacle, the various ceremonies and rituals. However, an analysis of the Hebrew reveals something more ...

**Leviticus 1:2** “2 Say to the Israelites, When any man of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of [domestic] animals from the herd or from the flock.”

In English, the passage speaks of “when one of you brings an offering ...” In Hebrew however, the passage speaks of “any man of you, when he offers an offering of YOU!” So we see, it is not about the animal, it about YOU and the purity of your heart. In addition, the word used is *korban*, coming from the root word *karov*, meaning “to come near, to approach, to draw near to, to enter a relationship.” What a different perspective!

## God demands purity of heart ...

**Jeremiah 7:21-23** “21 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices and eat the flesh [if you will. It will avail you nothing]. 22 For in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I did not speak to your fathers or command them concerning burnt offerings or sacrifices. 23 But this thing I did command them: Listen to and obey My voice, and I will be your God and you will be My people; and walk in the whole way that I command you, that it may be well with you.”

God does not want our sacrifice if we do not mean it – doesn’t everyone want to be loved from the heart, in “realness”? In these verses, we find another interesting Hebrew word *zebach*, which means “to kill without purpose, to move away from”.

We can call this the Sanctuary/Tabernacle phase – the New Testament tells us that God will dwell on earth in the New Jerusalem. Of critical importance is the following principle ... it is not about the size of the Land of Israel, BUT about it’s position. GOD chose the ground – HE has decreed where HIS Holy City will be, and where HE will take up residence. We see this paralleled in both Israel’s conquest of the Land, as well as our own personal journey of taking possession. In order to “take dominion” in this land of blessing we need to:

- **Go through the mikvah<sup>8</sup>** [baptism] of the River Jordan. As we pass through this river, we do so in absolute “unity” – all the Tribes had to pass through together. There is a misunderstanding that we can all enter into God’s Dwelling on our own, in our own way. But this is not God’s Way – God’s Instructions to the people were that all the Tribes were to fight together, to take possession of the Land.
- **We build an altar** to dedicate this passage into the Covenant Land – just as Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob built altars, so this generation must build an altar, dedicating themselves and the land to God’s Principles of holiness, purity, and separateness. We should ask ourselves ... “What altars do I have in my life?” After all, we are supposed to be living stones in a Heavenly Tabernacle. If this is so, then we can ask what connection does your stone have with the earth? Has your stone been dedicated to God, and anointed with oil? Does your stone have a new name?
- **We purify ourselves**, by a process of dealing with the generational curses and the sins of the forefathers.

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<sup>8</sup> For additional study, please see manual four of the *Journey2Freedom* series, “*Understanding Water Baptism And The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit*”.

**Leviticus 26:40** “40 But if they confess their own and their fathers’ iniquity in their treachery which they committed against Me—and also that because they walked contrary to Me.”



This act of identification repentance is followed by a process of warfare, where we have to root out each one of the inhabitants of the land<sup>9</sup>. There are many people who feel that God was harsh in dealing with the Canaanites<sup>10</sup>. However, perhaps we should rather ask the question ... “Just because the Canaanites were in the Land, does it mean they were part of the family of God?” Y’shua [Jesus] tells us not everyone who is from the seed of Abraham are children of God. God says, “Israel is my firstborn” – this is HIS Statement! It was Isaac not Ishmael that followed God’s Pattern ... it was Jacob not Esau that followed in the Covenants. The Canaanites are the descendants of Esau – they had given away the birthright, and have NO claim to the Land.

The Word teaches us an important principle – we have been delivered/saved by GRACE. We have done nothing to deserve this gift from GOD. We, just like Father Abraham, now need to make a life-choice ... will we be obedient to GOD’s Commandments?

Further more, we are told that if we do not obey these Commandments, then these *giants* will be a thorn in our flesh *forever*. GOD allows giants to live in His Covenant Land when His People are in rebellion. Importantly, picking up on Paul’s principle, we will fight giants in both the physical and spiritual realms.

**Judges 3:4** “4 They were for the **testing** and **proving** of Israel to know whether Israel would listen and obey the commandments of the Lord, which He commanded their fathers by Moses.”

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<sup>9</sup> For additional study on the “how-to” uproot the enemy, please see our “*Journey2Freedom*” series.

<sup>10</sup> We MUST remember that in every way, GOD is loving and GOOD. We encourage you to do a proper study of the people and culture of the Canaanites, including their connection to the giants/ Nephilim of the Old Testament. Without having the background history and understanding, most people have completely misjudged GOD’s Instruction to utterly destroy the inhabitants of the Land. Canaanite culture was very much wicked and depraved – they practiced child/human sacrifice and the vilest worship-rituals. There is also much evidence that these people where of the mixed hybrid-seed of the Nephilim (see our article “*TODAY, As In The Days Of Noah?!*”), who were very much against God and His People.

In order to put this warfare into perspective, we need to return to the original “sin of the spies” some forty years previously. The ten princes (leaders) who returned from spying out the Land said, “the enemy is stronger than we”. In our modern day thinking, we tend to think of this as muscle or physical strength.

The Hebraic understanding is somewhat different. They understand this to be: “Their will is stronger than ours – we would have to renew our minds by zealously following God’s Commandments, and refining our character so that we become a fortified structure of faith.” These men were simply not up for the endurance and perseverance possessing the Land would take! They also did not believe that God had promised them the VICTORY!

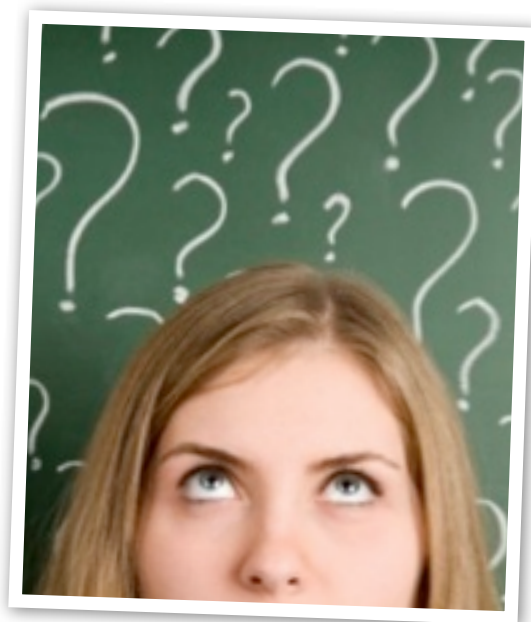
## So who/what are these “people” that need to be utterly removed?

**Numbers 13:28-29** “28 But the people who dwell there are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large; moreover, there we saw the **sons of Anak** [of great stature and courage]. 29 **Amalek** dwells in the land of the South (the Negeb); the Hittite, the Jebusite, and the Amorite dwell in the hill country; and the Canaanite dwells by the sea and along by the side of the Jordan [River].”

The Old Testament describes the inhabitants of the Land as a physical enemy. **However, using Paul’s law of parallels, we need to ask ourselves what/how would the “spiritual enemy” be revealed?**

Just as there are physical giants which we have to face — like David in his battle with Goliath — so too are there spiritual giants that we need to deal with as we push back the frontiers of generational curses.

The very fact that there are a number of giants that must be overcome gives us an indication that each one had a unique set of warfare tactics and strengths. At times they fight alone, while other times, they join forces ... is there a reason for this?



The inhabitants of the land are defined in a number of passages, and therefore it is of critical importance that we should do a reconciliation of the enemy-nations as they are described in the various Chapters of the conquest of Canaan. After all, it is logical to conclude that the spies could not have traveled to every single city and town in the whole of Canaan.

An amalgamation of the story of the “sin of spies” and the battle plan of Joshua will give a good coverage of all of the “spirits” that we have to face. In a later section, we will discuss various battle plans and strategies that were used to gain victory — we will then attempt to see how these same principles can be applied in the spiritual domain, in order to achieve that same result.

# Amalgamation of Numbers Chapter 13, and Joshua Chapters 12 and 13 ...

The Book of Joshua records the entry into the Land of Canaan. In the following sections, we will discuss the kings/nations that Joshua and Israel DEFEATED. Later, we will discuss the battle plans and strategies that enabled Israel to gain the victory — we will attempt to see how these principles must be applied in the spiritual domain.

**Joshua 12:7-8** “7 These are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the Israelites defeated on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir. Joshua gave their land to the tribes of Israel for a possession according to their allotments, 8 In the hill country, in the lowland, in the Arabah, on the slopes, in the wilderness, and in the Negeb—the lands of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites:”

## • **Level 5 - ONE GOD.**

From Genesis, to Revelation, God makes it clear that there is only ONE God, YHVH, and that He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. In the celebration of the Feast of Sukkot [Tabernacles], we find the unity of God with His Bride – this Feast celebrates the coming Wedding of the Lamb in the physical domain.

We understand from the account in Genesis that man is to take dominion over the earth, and to make the earth into a sanctuary, that God may dwell with us. This is our purpose and destiny – this is the ultimate spiritual reality to be achieved.

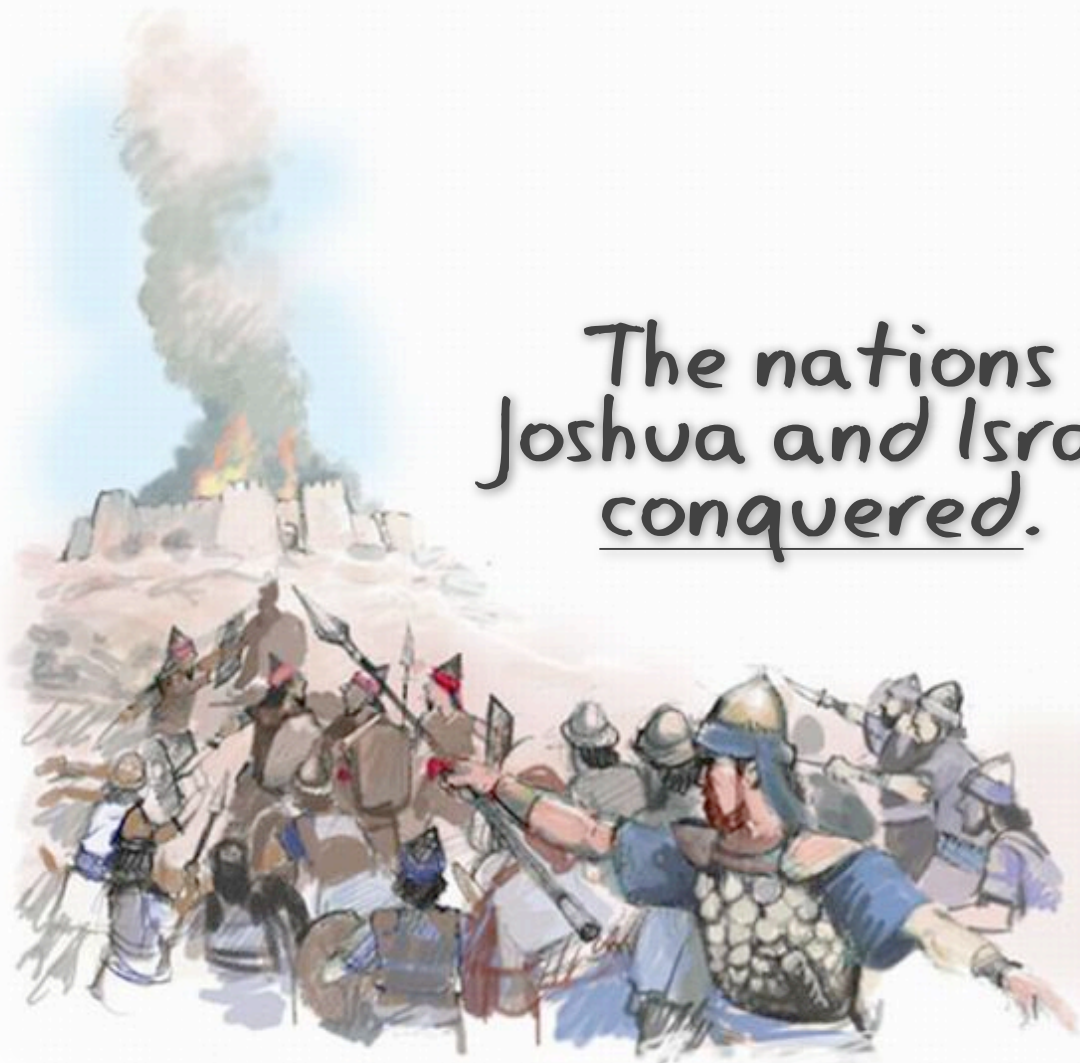
Peter tells us that we are all “living-stones” that must come together to form a Tabernacle. Only when the Tabernacle has been:

- Completed,
- Anointed with oil,
- And sanctified,

... will GOD come to dwell here on earth. The Book of Revelation speaks of these times! We will see the New Jerusalem and GOD’s Kingdom come!

Now let’s return to more detail on level four – the practical building of a Tabernacle so that we are prepared for His Return.

The nations  
Joshua and Israel  
conquered.



# The Hittites

**Numbers 13:29** “29 Amalek dwells in the land of the South (the Negeb); the Hittite, the Jebusite, and the Amorite dwell in the hill country; and the Canaanite dwells by the sea and along by the side of the Jordan [River].”

**Joshua 11:3** “3 To the Canaanites in the east and west; to the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites in the hill country; and to the Hivites below [Mount] Hermon in the land of Mizpah.”



Although recorded as sons of Canaan, it would seem that the Hittites had intermingled with other tribes from Turkey. They occupied both the mountains and plains around the sea of Galilee. They worshipped the “god’s of thunder” and the sun goddess. **Hittite means “those that frighten others” and “terror”.** They were fierce warriors and, for those who lived on the plains, made great use of the chariot and horse in warfare. Their archers could kill from as far away as 275 meters. We have physical proof of this fact, as a plate found at “Carchemish” vividly shows Hittite warfare, using bow and arrow and the chariot.

**1 Kings 10:29** “29 A chariot could be brought out of Egypt for 600 shekels of silver, and a horse for 150. And so to all the kings of the Hittites and of Syria they were exported by the king’s merchants.”

The Hebrew root word for Hittites is made up of the letters:

- *Hey* = life or the choice of the will.
- *Tet* = a sign or label.
- *Yod* = power and strength.

The Hittites, **as a warrior nation, had made a life choice to leave “fear” behind in the hearts of their enemy.** They made use of a two-pronged attack:

- To take advantage of the high mountains, and therefore the travel routes that cross these mountains,
- And to have the speed and armory of the horse and chariot at their disposal, in order to move against any enemy quickly so that they could encircle them easily.

Hittite kings had absolute power. They had a similar view on life as the Egyptians – they were deputies of the gods. Their army was highly structured. All of their towns had big fortifications and their weapons and livestock were carefully protected.

They enslaved the local people who had been conquered and forced them to perform military and labor services. They therefore had a slave force to form the backbone of their army. The Hittites had a highly regimented training program. A training manual (the “Kikkulis horse training” manual) discovered coming from this period in time describes in detail how the horses should be fed, how they need to be trained to run long distances, followed by bursts of galloping. The evidence discovered clearly shows that military actions were not just odd fights here and there, but the result of carefully prepared actions, with definite goals and strategies.

Hittite chariots were manned by a three-man crew. The driver was protected by a shield bearer, while the third crew man was a spearman/archer as the main “weapon” – he could, if the terrain became more difficult to cover, dismount and become a running fighter.

## Spiritual parallel.

As spirits of terror, the Hittites use thoughts and images of the unseen/unknown to attack the emotions, because you are never sure what is going to happen to you we find that the result of this activity is **emotional despair and depression**.

Our emotions will (unless the believer is grounded in the Truth and is obedient to God’s Commandments) allow **words of deceit** to influence our lives. Many times the truth is mixed with the tares and is not easily discerned. A believer who has their foundation on “grace” alone will be open to the falseness of the Hittites.

## Israel’s relationship with the Hittites ...

The Israelites allowed a relationship to develop with the Hittites that, in a sense, opened the door to allow the underlying spiritual forces to operate in the land:

- Abraham purchased land for Sarah’s grave from Ephron the Hittite.

**Genesis 23:2-6** “2 And Sarah died in Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron, in the land of Canaan. And Abraham went to mourn for Sarah and to weep for her. 3 And Abraham stood up from before his dead and said to the sons of Heth, 4 I am a stranger and a sojourner with you; give me property for a burial place among you, that I may bury my dead out of my sight. 5 And the Hittites replied to Abraham, 6 Listen to us, my lord; you are a mighty prince among us. Bury your dead in any tomb or grave of ours that you choose; none of us will withhold from you his tomb or hinder you from burying your dead.”

- Later on we find that David had two Hittites as officers in his army – one of whom he later killed in order to take his wife (Bathsheba).

**1 Samuel 26:6** “6 Then David said to **Ahimelech the Hittite** and to Abishai son of Zeruiah, brother of Joab, Who will go down with me into the camp of Saul? And Abishai said, I will go down with you.”

**2 Samuel 11:3** “3 David sent and inquired about the woman. One said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of **Uriah the Hittite?**”

It would appear that they had been allowed to form their own “kingdom” inside of Canaan.

**2 Kings 7:6** “6 For the Lord had made the Syrian army hear a noise of chariots and horses, the noise of a great army. They had said to one another, The king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to come upon us.”

## Hittite people and culture ...

The Hittites worshipped the god of thunder, the goddess of the sun (pictured right), and the children of this union, called the gods of storm (which were represented by the form of a bull).

Excavations at *Till el-Amarna* in Egypt (begun in 1887) and other sites, such as Bogazkoy and Hattusa, have found much evidence of these people. From the Egyptian monuments, we learn that the Hittites had yellow skins, mongoloid features, oblique eyes, and protruding jaws.

In the time of the **prophet Elisha**, these people had once again grown to become a mighty power.

**2 Kings 7:6** “6 For the Lord had made the Syrian army hear a noise of chariots and horses, the noise of a great army. They had said to one another, The king of Israel has hired the Hittite and Egyptian kings to come upon us.”



One of the reasons that the Israelites possibly struggled to deal with these people is that the patriarch Jacob married one of the daughters of Heth.

**Genesis 27:46** “46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, I am weary of my life because of the daughters of **Heth** [these wives of Esau]! If Jacob takes a wife of the daughters of Heth such as these Hittite girls around here, what good will my life be to me?”

The modus operandi of the **Hittites is surprise, deceit, gossip, and slander**. In the story of Ahab, we see the “terrorist” nature of the Hittites.

**2 Chronicles 18:29-32** “29 And [Ahab] king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, I will disguise myself and will go to the battle, but you put on your royal robes. So King Ahab of Israel disguised himself, and they went into the battle. 30 Now Syria’s king had commanded his chariot captains, Fight not with small or great, but only with the king of Israel. 31 And when the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat [of Judah], they said, It is the king of Israel. So they turned to fight against him, but Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord helped him; and God moved them to depart from him. 32 For when the captains of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they turned back from pursuing him.”

## Hittite attack on the redemptive gift EXHORTER . . .



Because the Exhorter is open to understanding the emotional domain, this spirit will be the main focus of attack.

The attack on the Exhorter is set out for us in:

**1 Thessalonians 2:3** “3 For our appeal [in preaching] does not [originate] from delusion or error or **impure purpose or motive, nor in fraud or deceit.**”

The combination of the use of words of **deceit, gossip, and slander** could easily distract the Exhorter from their role of identifying the emotionally hurt and wounded. This physical force will violate the Exhorter’s sense of fair play. **Unless the Exhorter has their ears tuned to GOD’s Word**, they can easily be distracted by the element of surprise.

# The Jebusites

The Jebusites were mountain people. They were the holders of the City of Jerusalem, and much later in the time of David, he once again, had to defeat them in order to take control of the City.

**Judges 1:21** “21 But the Benjamites did not drive out the Jebusites who inhabited Jerusalem; the Jebusites dwell with the Benjamites in Jerusalem to this day.”

**2 Samuel 5:7** “7 Nevertheless, David took the stronghold of Zion, that is, the City of David.”

The name *Jebusite* means:

- Threshing floor,
- Trapped,
- Trodden down, crushed,
- Despise,
- Loathe.

David buys the threshing floor from a Jebusite:

**1 Chronicles 21:15, 18** “15 God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it, and as he was destroying, the Lord beheld, and He regretted and relented of the evil and said to the destroying angel, It is enough; now stay your hand. And the angel of the Lord stood by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. 18 Then the angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and set up an altar to the Lord in the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.”



**The Jebusites relied on the position of the City of Jerusalem as the strategic stronghold over the trading routes** from the East to the West, and into Africa ... and over the lowlands, coastal regions, **to keep control over all other people.** In this, they had a HAND over the area.

As a great walled City, with sufficient water, they could withstand most attacks and/or sieges. The effect of the Jebusite way of life was to:

- To stomp on other people (to beat the life out of them),
- To humiliate,
- To enforce a system of differentiation (there were always those who are “higher” in the ladder.

We see something very interesting with the “holding” of Jerusalem, that Judah was not able to take the City:

**Joshua 15:63** “63 But the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the people of Judah could not drive out; so the Jebusites dwell with the people of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.”

In Judges, we see that Judah is not able to take the City, and burns it to the ground ...

**Judges 1:8** “8 And the men of Judah fought against [Jebusite] Jerusalem and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire.”

In the time of David (2 Samuel 5:7), we see that the Jebusites are once again in control. One of the reasons given seems to be that the City is on the border between the land of Judah and the Tribe of Benjamin:



**Joshua 15:8** “8 Then the boundary went up by the Valley of Ben-hinnom [son of Hinnom] at the southern shoulder of the Jebusite [city] —that is, Jerusalem; and the boundary went up to the top of the mountain that lies before the Valley of Hinnom on the west, at the northern end of the Valley of Rephaim.”

It would seem that it was the **Benjamites** who did not deal with the Jebusites:

**Judges 1:21** “21 But the Benjamites did not drive out the Jebusites who inhabited Jerusalem; the Jebusites dwell with the Benjamites in Jerusalem to this day.”

This tells us something about the difficulty when one group is not totally focused or in charge of a specific job/function – accountability always means that you need

to know what your responsibility is. Interestingly,

there is a teaching that the Jebusites were not directly from Canaan, but rather from the Philistines – since Abraham had made covenant with Abimelech, this would mean that they did not have legitimate right to move them out. However, this story does not appear to have much substance ... yet, the principle does hold true in respect of the Philistines, and could very easily be the reason why the Israelites were not able to defeat them completely.

## Modern-day “Jebusites” ...

Such Jebusite-people will always exist to want to impose their authority over others, and who will try to “limit” others through their areas of endeavors and influence. These Jebusites will want to have control of the high places. This, more than anything else, is reflected in the fact that they controlled the City of Jerusalem.

Their leadership model will be to have positional power, to control and manipulate, and to create a relationship of dependency. This spirit will always proclaim the illusion that some people are “better” than others – examples include:

- The caste system in India,
- The gentry in England,
- The Nazis of Germany,
- Jezebel and Ahab.

## **Jebusite attack against the gift of the PROPHET' . . .**

The Prophet must always be in a position that they are not in need for physical things – they should be able to stand and declare the word given, without fear that they will go hungry. In addition, the Prophet needs to consistently work to remain humble. Remember, the Prophet role is to declare a word of TRUTH into life circumstances. Those who dominate a world position, whether it is business, ministry, sports, and so forth, will use their position of power to dominate ... this can influence someone who should be setting a SH'MA direction. A prophet that feels inferior to others will not be able to communicate a long term plan that will deliver others. People who have the Jebusite leadership-model will **manipulate** those who do not have the “hot coals” of God’s Word in their mouths.

# The Amorites

The Amorites (Emori) were very much like the Hittites ... in both cases, they looked to control the high-places, the mountains.

**Deuteronomy 1:19-20** “19 And when we departed from Horeb, we went through all that great and terrible wilderness which you saw on the way to the hill country of the Amorites, as the Lord our God commanded us, and we came to Kadesh-barnea.  
20 And I said to you, You have come to the hill country of the Amorites, which the Lord our God gives us.”

**Judges 1:35** “35 The Amorites remained fixed in Mount Heres [mountain of the sun], in Aijalon, and in Shaalbim; yet the hand of the house of Joseph prevailed, so that they became subject to forced labor.”

They also looked to control the coastal areas:

**Numbers 21:13** “13 From there they journeyed and encamped on the other side of [the river] Arnon, which is in the desert or wilderness that extends from the frontier of the Amorites; for [the river] Arnon is the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites.”

**Judges 1:36** “36 And the border of the Amorites was from the ascent of Akrabbim, from the rock Sela and onward.”

The Amorites<sup>11</sup> also lived on the eastern side of Jordan, where Moses went to destroy them completely before the Israelites entered into Canaan – the kings, Bashem and Og. The Amorites lived in the south of Canaan.

The name *Amorite* means:

- To say,
- To boast,
- To be proud.

The Hebrew word for Amorite is made up of the letters:

- *Aleph* = God's Presence.
- *Mem* = to extend and/or bind.
- *Dalet* = a door, gate, or portal.
- *Yod* = hand or power.



**The Amorites controlled the gate to much of the land** – they ruled from the south of the Dead Sea all the way to Hebron. Below is an **ancient poem** describing the Amorites – clearly, they had been able to extend the land they controlled through war and violence:

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<sup>11</sup> The Amorites originally based their empire in Babylon and are sometime called the “Old Babylonians”.

The weapon is his companion,  
Who know no submission,  
Who eats uncooked flesh,  
Who has no house.

The Amorites believed in and applied a government of centralization – absolute power (autonomy) was invested in the king.



The Amorites worshiped the moon god, Sin, and the sky god, Amukru. Amukru was the lord of the mountains – he was also known as the “hurler of the thunderbolt”. Their supreme god was Marduk. They did not believe in life after death, and therefore lived for this world only. They practiced black magic and witchcraft (which was symbolized by “black water”). They also revered seven holy nymphs.

The Amorites attacked Israel when Joshua made covenant with the Gibeonites (who came under false pretenses, read more of the account in Judges 9:1-27). At the cave in Makedah, Joshua kills the five kings of the Amorites – the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachush, and Eglon. Whilst they are defeated as a nation, a remnant survives:

**2 Samuel 21:2** “2 So the king called the Gibeonites—now the Gibeonites were not Israelites but of the remnant of the Amorites. The Israelites had sworn to spare them, but Saul in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah had sought to slay the Gibeonites—“

The Amorites were herdsmen, but although pastoral, were fierce clansmen who would force their way into the land that they needed for grazing. They succeeded in conquering Babylon twice.

On the Egyptian monuments, the Amorite people are shown as having fair skin, light hair, aquiline noses, and pointed beards. In addition, they are described as “giants”:

**Deuteronomy 3:11** “11 For only Og king of Bashan remained of the remnant of the [gigantic] Rephaim. Behold, his bedstead was of iron; is it not in Rabbah of the Ammonites? Nine cubits was its length and four cubits its breadth, using the cubit of a man [the forearm to the end of the middle finger].”

**They are fame-seekers and want everyone to know who they are.** Just like the mountains rule over the plains and lowlands, so they wanted to rule as the “mountains” – they wanted to give the orders and others obey, to be the kings.

Interestingly, we see the word “king” is used in connection with each of the tribes that the Israelites had to conquer in Canaan. For all of the other tribes this title comes up one to three times ... surprisingly however, for the Amorite nation the word “king” is used twenty-three times. **The Amorites were talkers – they had to be heard!** As a proud nation, they were “marketers” of their position.

An interesting example of this spirit would be the “rooster”-speaking over the life of Peter – the “rooster” had to be heard!

**John 18:15-18, 25-27** “15 Now Simon Peter and another disciple were following Jesus. And that disciple was known to the high priest, and so he entered along with Jesus into the court of the palace of the high priest; 16 But Peter was standing outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the maid who kept the door and brought Peter inside. 17 Then the maid who was in charge at the door said to Peter, You are not also one of the disciples of this Man, are you? He said, I am not! 18 Now the servants and the guards (the attendants) had made a fire of coals, for it was cold, and they were standing and warming themselves. And Peter was with them, standing and warming himself ... 25 But Simon Peter [still] was standing and was warming himself. They said to him, You are not also one of His disciples, are you? He denied it and said, I am not! 26 One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter cut off, said, Did I not see you in the garden with Him? 27 And again Peter denied it. And immediately a rooster crowed.”

## **The Amorite attack against the gift of the RULER . . .**

The gift of Ruler has the ability to make use of various forms of resource to get a job done. One of the biggest areas of attack in a Ruler’s life is the fact that success can easily lead one to think that others should take note ... more often than not, a Ruler will very soon be given a “title”.

Interestingly, this enemy tribe has the very attributes to negate the influence of the Ruler:

- They take the grassy land of others and institute a spirit of poverty.
- They are warriors, they introduce a predatory leadership ... “It’s all MINE!”

The Ruler has to renew his mind not to remain neutral, but to stand up for what is right.

# The Hivites and Gibeonites

The Hivites were largely mountain people, who stayed in the central part of Canaan. Their villages were (defined in the verse below) on the Benjamin plateau, just north of Jerusalem:

**Joshua 9:17** “17 And the Israelites set out and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim.”

Interestingly, it seems that Shechem, the son of Hamar, was a Hivite. It would appear that the principle of “sowing and reaping” was put into play many years after the seed of deceit/disguise was sown by Jacobs’s sons (Genesis 24:2-28, Genesis 34:18-19). Jacob’s sons pretended to want to have the Schemites as covenant-relatives by arranging for the circumcision ritual to be performed for every male in the city ... but this was a ploy by Simeon and Levi – they used this in order to kill all the men of the city. Many years later, while numbering the Israelites, Joab describes these people again:



**2 Samuel 24:7** “7 And came to the stronghold of Tyre and to all the cities of the Hivites and Canaanites; and they went out to the South (the Negeb) of Judah at Beersheba.”

We see a remnant were still living in the time of Solomon:

**1 Kings 9:20** “20 As for all the people who were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who were not Israelites,”

Flash forward to Israel in the time of Joshua ... the Gibeonites disguise themselves (Joshua 9:17) and plead for protection, and in the process, cut covenant with Joshua. It’s time for the Tribes to reap what they had sown so many years ago ...

One wonders how different the story could have been if they had either repented of their sin, or if Jacob had in fact stayed to face the consequences of what his sons had done. For the Israelites, the generational consequences of this incident will be dramatic. They will literally carry a millstone around their necks forever ... more seriously, they fail to clear the ground which God deems as HIS, His HOLY Land. This leaves an opening for the enemy to exploit ... very soon the Israelites have to wage war on behalf of the Gibeonites. Even though the Gibeonites are called “wood-cutters” and “water carriers”, their covenant stands. This means that the Hivites remain as a remnant in this City.

**1 King 9:20** “20 As for all the people who were left of the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites, who were not Israelites,”

The name *Hivites* means:

- Tent or village people.
- To prostrate oneself, worship.
- to show, tell.

The name *Hivites* seems to be related to the word *Horites*:

**Genesis 36:20-30** “20 These are the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, 21 Dishon, Ezer, and Dishan. These are the chiefs of the Horites, the sons of Seir in the land of Edom. 22 The sons of Lotan are Hori and Hemam; and Lotan’s sister is Timna. 23 The sons of Shobal are these: Alvan, Manahath, Ebal, Shepho, and Onam. 24 These are the sons of Zibeon: Aiah and Anah. This is the Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness as he pastured the donkeys of Zibeon his father. 25 The children of Anah are these: Dishon and Oholibamah daughter of Anah [Esau’s wife]. 26 These are the sons of Dishon: Hemdan, Eshban, Ithran, and Cheran. 27 Ezer’s sons are these: Bilhan, Zaavan, and Akan. 28 The sons of Dishan are these: Uz and Aran. 29 The Horite chiefs are these: Lotan, Shobal, Zibeon, Anah, 30 Dishon, Ezer, Dishan. These are the Horite chiefs, according to their clans, in the land of Seir.”

The Aramaic word for the Hivites means “snake” – the Hivites smell the ground like snakes, looking for fertile land.

The story of the Gibeonites (a part of the Hivites) gives us a very clear picture of some of the characteristics of these people:

- They work craftily.
- Misrepresent themselves.
- Give false evidence (old wineskins) – they lie.

The actions of the Hivites seem to show that they have a “limited vision” in life. This is not reflected in poverty, but rather in an approach to life of making sure that I enjoy life. It would seem that to live even by means of deceit, is better than working or fighting for what you believe in.

The Gibeonites had control of the centre routes (Joshua 10:3) – an inheritance worth fighting for. Although it seems they are physically big, it seems the Gibeonites are soft, effeminate, and want an easy life – they therefore were not good soldiers for warfare.

## Reality check!

Israel did not seek counsel from God – instead, they walked by what they saw in the physical, and not by faith. We need to recognize this as a very pertinent lesson for the Body of Messiah ... we should never be quick to make a covenant with anyone. Covenants are God’s Way of showing HIS Faithfulness. We should take the same care to make sure that we really want to have people with a common vision and destiny with us.

## A spiritual parallel?



In “church” terms, these would be people who are “reeds shaken by the winds” of tribulation. The Bible tells us that Elijah returns, not as a man “clothed in soft raiment” – this tells us that he will not have an “easy to hear, welcome” message. If we are not going to be prepared to fight for the principles that we believe in, then the “value” that we have will be lost to the enemy. The common message of “grace” has this effect, that we become “soft” and think that everything will be okay. The spirit of the Hivites seems to creep slowly onto those who have the taste of success in this world.

Hivites seem to have a “streak” of the spirit of Cain. Cain’s name means “I have gotten a man from the LORD” – therefore a possession. When possessions become the goal/standard of my life, then the physical over-rules the spiritual domain. “Hivites” are self-centered people, who want to eat, drink, and be merry:

**Luke 12:19** “19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have many good things laid up, [enough] for many years. Take your ease; eat, drink, and enjoy yourself merrily.”

As such, they will be those who will claim the “grace” and “love” of God, without walking in God’s Ways or doing much in the Kingdom.

## The Hivite attack against the gift of the GIVER . . .

The Giver who falls under the Hivite-spirit will **waste the legacy** given to them. Givers have the call to be looking at a future generation ... they should be providing the framework were the legacy will be expanded. As such, they should create opportunities for exponential growth.

Any spirit that causes the Giver to remove his focus away from the Godly Cycle of ploughing, planting, weeding, harvesting, and blessing to instead focus on tempory enjoyment and pleasure will destroy the long term legacy principle.

# The Perizzites

The Perizzites seem to be people who lived in the plains and lowlands. The meaning of their name tells us that they were village people, a type of “town” without a defending wall. The name *Perizzites* means:

- Breach in the wall.
- Small mentality.
- To separate or divide.
- Breach of promise.

It would seem that the Perizzites were small minded, legalistic, and judgmental of others – these are their “breaches” in the wall.

The time of Deborah describes the situation when people are “afraid” to be on the highways, and even in the villages (*perazawn*):



**Judges 5:6-7** “6 After the days of Shamgar son of Anath, after the days of Jael [meaning here Ehud] the caravans ceased, travelers walked through byways. 7 The villages were unoccupied and rulers ceased in Israel until you arose—you, Deborah, arose—a mother in Israel.”

This fear defines the people as having a lack of self-esteem and a lack of integrity.

## The Perizzite attack against the family ...

We see recorded that these people had decided as far back as the time of Abraham to be at “war” with the “family”. They joined forces with the Philistines to bring strife in the land between the herdsmen of Abraham and Lot.

**Genesis 13:7** “7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram’s cattle and the herdsmen of Lot’s cattle. And the Canaanite and the Perizzite were dwelling then in the land [making fodder more difficult to obtain].”

Years later, we see that the Perizzites have a major influence on the Levites (Ezra 9:1) – it seems that the abomination of this people held a fascination for the Levites. The priests are called to be pure and set apart ... now it seems that even the Levites have chosen to inter-marry with these people. Some how the priests have gone from being the people who will take the sword to fight for God’s Standard of Righteousness, to one where we mix the holy with the pagan. One can only but imagine the effect on the purity of the worship at the Temple!



## **The Perizzite attack against the gift of MERCY ...**

The Perizzites attack, causing stagnation, limited vision, and shame ... and will nullify the Mercy gift's ability to flow.

Mercy will always be seeking to reveal the Compassion of GOD. A judgmental spirit which breaks down and belittles mercy will cause this gift to withdraw. Mercy tends to flow, but within an open framework. A legalistic and ritualistic framework of control and manipulation will cause the Mercy gift to be dammed up. Mercy operates when they are safe, but free flowing.

# The Canaanites

We tend to think of the Canaanites as one specific tribe or nation – however, “Canaanite” is a generic description of the many smaller tribes, the sons of Canaan. These tribes include:

- Gergashite
- Arkite
- Sinite
- Arvadite
- Zemarite
- Hamathite

The Canaanites lived in the lowlands, plains, and coastal cities. The name *Canaanite* means:

- Unsure foundation.
- Mud/clay dwellers.
- Chains, to oppress.
- Depression, mournful.



It would seem that the Canaanites built their houses on mud and/or sandy ground, and therefore have little foundation. ***Their insight of life is to exist for pleasure***, resulting in a lifestyle which can easily lead to oppression or one of bondage. This spirit will encourage you to try the “sweeter” things of life – this leads to dependence on that thing, in such a manner that eventually we no longer have the will to resist.

Modern-day Canaanites have the ***desire to indulge in excess*** – in alcohol, drugs, and immorality. They therefore use the dullness of the mind and the call to have total “freedom” to access everything that they desire to justify their lifestyle. “Freedom and grace” will be keywords for justification of whatever they want to do! These words are the first stage of rebellion, and the basis for justification of every deed that will follow. We are told that Lot dwelled in the city of the plains:

***Genesis 13:12-13*** “12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the ***cities of the [Jordan] Valley*** and moved his tent as far as Sodom and dwelt there. 13 But the men of Sodom were wicked and exceedingly great sinners against the Lord.”

The word “plain” is translated from the Hebrew *kikar* whose root word is *karar* and means “to whirl” or “to dance”. This dancing is reflected in the scene which Moses sees when returning from Mount Sinai with the Ten Commandments:

***Exodus 32:19-20*** “19 And as soon as he came near to the camp he saw the calf and the ***dancing***. And Moses’ anger blazed hot and he cast the tables out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. 20 And he took the calf they had made and burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.”

The Hebrew word for “calf” is *egel*, which comes from another Hebrew word meaning “to revolve”. We therefore see this “dancing” is a perverted, sensual act – the Israelites as the female, dancing around a bull-calf – clearly this is Baal worship. This kind of dancing in excess, with the purpose to please others, leads from a place of submission to peer-pressure and compromise, revealed no more starkly than the story of the beheading of John the Baptist:

**Mark 6:25-28** “25 And she rushed back instantly to the king and requested, saying, I wish you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter. 26 And the king was deeply pained and grieved and exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests, he did not want to slight her [by breaking faith with her]. 27 And immediately the king sent off one [of the soldiers] of his bodyguard and gave him orders to bring [John’s] head. He went and beheaded him in the prison 28 **And brought his head on a platter and handed it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother.**”



People-pleasers often give away their “value” to the wrong people – they dance before the pigs.

**Matthew 7:6** “6 Do not give that which is holy (the sacred thing) to the dogs, and **do not throw your pearls before hogs**, lest they trample upon them with their feet and turn and tear you in pieces.”

The root word that refers to “**clay/mud dwellers**” (Gergashite) shows us that the Canaanites will want to **focus on temporal things**, and on the external/physical realm – that which we can see and touch. These people seem to retain their independence as they were not defeated by Manassah. It is clear that they continue to stay in the midst of the Israelites:

**Joshua 13:13** “13 Yet the Israelites did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites, but Geshur and Maacath dwell among [them] still.”

Later on, David marries Maacah, a Geshurite, who becomes the mother of Absalom and Tamar:

**2 Samuel 3:3** “3 His second, Chileab, by Abigail widow of Nabal of Carmel; the third, Absalom the son of Maacah daughter of Talmai king of Geshur;”

This means the Canaanites will base all decisions on what they see (physical). Consequently, they will not see opportunity or the spiritual world, the realm of faith.

Once again, in the context of mud, we find a reference to pigs:

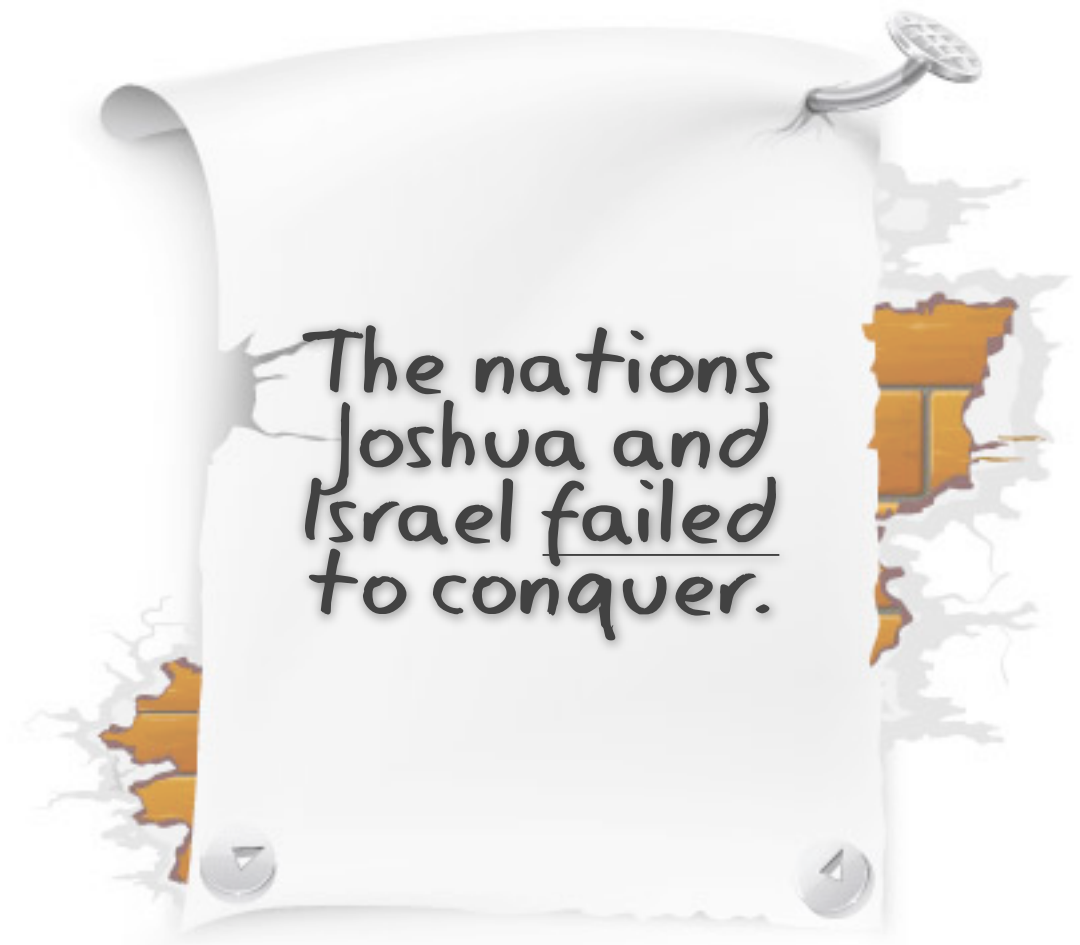
**Matthew 8:28-34** “28 And when He arrived at the other side in the country of the Gadarenes, two men under the control of demons went to meet Him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce and savage that no one was able to pass that way. 29 And behold, they shrieked and screamed, What have You to do with us, Jesus, Son of God? Have You come to torment us before the appointed time? 30 Now at some distance from there a drove of many hogs was grazing. 31 And the demons begged Him, If You drive us out, **send us into the drove of hogs.** 32 And He said to them, Begone! So they came out and went into the hogs, and behold, the whole drove rushed down the steep bank into the sea and died in the water. 33 The herdsmen fled and went into the town and reported everything, including what had happened to the men under the power of demons. 34 And behold, the whole town went out to meet Jesus; and as soon as they saw Him, they begged Him to depart from their locality.”

This story gives us some idea of the other attributes of the Canaanites ... **like pigs, they are selfish and only think of themselves.** Because of this, they make impulsive decisions, like the pigs who ran into the sea.

## **The Canaanite attack against the gift of the SERVANT' . . .**

The Servant is meant to reveal the Heart of the Father, the Hand that is always reaching out in love. As soon as the temporal things of the world become more important to us, then the willingness to serve others also disappears.

The Servant must want to renew his mind ... his goal in life must be to set a standard of servant-leadership that reveals GOD's Attributes. "Things of the world" that stick to someone like this cause the Servant to become "unclean".



The nations  
Joshua and  
Israel failed  
to conquer.

We understand that Joshua had become an old man and no longer had the strength to go to war. This is not a declaration that the war was over, nor that these tribes that were undefeated should be left alone. In fact, the Commandment was that they will be driven out. The only difference now is that a new generation has been called to do this.

**Joshua 18:2-3, 18** “2 And there remained among the Israelites seven tribes who had not yet divided their inheritance. 3 Joshua asked the Israelites, **How long will you be slack to go in and possess the land** which the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you? 18 And it went on to the north of the shoulder [of Beth]-Arabah and down to the Arabah.”

## • The Sidionites

The Sidionites are of the first-born of Canaan – as such, they carry the mantle of authority and inheritance.

They were inhabitants of the coastal town Tsidon, and formed part of an alliance with the Philistines. They were fishermen.

The Hebrew word *Sidionite* means:

- To come alongside (to wait).
- To catch.
- To hunt (game).
- To chase.
- To spring up or sprout.
- To ascend.



By virtue of the place where they stayed, the Sidonites were friends of and combined with the coastal people of Syria and Lebanon of today. Their name also tells us that they intermingle and multiply just like fish do, and are the gateway to the north. The Sidonites lived in an area that now forms part of Lebanon, Syria, and Israel.

**Joshua 11:8** “8 And the Lord gave them into the hand of Israel, who smote them and chased them [toward] **populous Sidon** and Misrephoth-maim, and eastward as far as the Valley of Mizpah; they smote them until none remained.”

**Joshua 19:28** “28 Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, and Kanah, even to **populous Sidon.**”

**1 Kings 17:9** “9 Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to **Sidon**, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.”

**Luke 4:26** “26 And yet Elijah was not sent to a single one of them, but only to Zarephath in the country of **Sidon**, to a woman who was a widow.”

The city known today as *Saida* was previously called “Phoenicia”. *Sidon* was a generic name for the Phoenicians.

**Joshua 13:6** “6 As for all the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, even all the **Sidonians**, I will Myself drive them out from before the Israelites; only allot the land to Israel for an inheritance, as I have commanded you.”

**Judges 18:7** “7 Then the five men departed and came to Laish and saw the people who were there, how they dwelt securely after the manner of the **Sidonians**, quiet and feeling safe; and there was no magistrate in the land, who might put them to shame in anything or injure them; and they were far from the Sidonians and had no dealings with anyone.”

**Mark 7:24, 26** “24 And Jesus arose and went away from there to the region of Tyre and **Sidon**. And He went into a house and did not want anyone to know [that He was there]; but it was not possible for Him to be hidden [from public notice]. 26 Now the woman was a Greek (Gentile), a Syrophenician by nationality. And she kept begging Him to drive the demon out of her little daughter.”

Because the land that they had been given was small they became sailors / traders / businessmen.

**Ezekiel 27:8** “8 The inhabitants of **Sidon** and [the island] of Arvad were your oarsmen; your skilled and wise men, O Tyre, were in you; they were your pilots.”

**Isaiah 23:2** “2 Be still, you inhabitants of the coast, you merchants of **Sidon**, your messengers passing over the sea have replenished you [with wealth and industry],”

The Sidonites were also known as craftsmen with wood.

**1 Chronicles 22:4** “4 Also cedar trees without number, for the **Sidonians** and they of Tyre brought much cedar timber to David.”

**1 Kings 5:6** “6 So, Hiram, command them to hew me cedar trees out of Lebanon; my servants shall join yours, and I will give you whatever wages you set for your servants. For you know that no one among us can equal the skill of the **Sidon** men in cutting timber.”

**Ezra 3:7** “7 They gave money also to the masons and to the carpenters, and gave food, drink, and oil to the **Sidonians** and the Tyrians, to bring cedar trees from Lebanon to the seaport of Joppa, according to the grant they had from Cyrus king of Persia.”

Most famous, this region became known for the purple dye used to colour clothing, extracted a few drops at a time from the *Murex* – a shellfish found at Tyre and Sidon.

## Archeological finds ...

Excavations at the temple of Esmum near Sidon have revealed statues of children bearing the inscription of the names of the kings of Sidon. This city is now a town of ten thousand inhabitants, with remains of the walls re-built in the twelfth century A.D.

In 1855, the sarcophagus of Eshmanezer was discovered. From a Phoenician inscription on its lid, it appears that he was a king of the Sidonians, probably in the third century B.C. We also find that his mother was a priestess of Ashtoreth<sup>12</sup>, the goddess of the Sidonians. In this inscription, Baal is mentioned as the chief god of the Sidonians.

A common ritual, practiced as part of the Sidonian Baal worship, was to sacrifice either **hair or chastity**. A shrine to this worship still exists today in the city of Askelon. The Old Testament is full of accounts of how Israel compromised and mixed in their worship of the True God, YHVH, with Baal worship. When Solomon and Ahab intermarried, they introduced idolatry and the spirit of Jezebel into the nation.

**1 Kings 11:1** *"BUT KING Solomon [defiantly] loved many foreign women—the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites."*

**1 Kings 16:31** *"31 As if it had been a light thing for Ahab to walk in the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, he took for a wife Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and served Baal and worshiped him."*

In the New Testament, Paul sails from Sidon after the ship had stopped at Caesarea, on his way to Rome.

**Acts 27:1-3 (KJV)** *"1 And when it was determined that we should sail into Italy, they delivered Paul and certain other prisoners unto one named Julius, a centurion of Augustus' band. 2 And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us. 3 And the next day we touched at Sidon. And Julius courteously entreated Paul, and gave him liberty to go unto his friends to refresh himself."*

What are the characteristics of the Sidonians?

- Careless and secure,
  - Judges 18:7
- Idolatry,
  - 1 King 11:5, 33
  - Judges 10: 6
- Superstitious,
  - Jeremiah 27:3, 9
- Wicked and impertinent,
  - Matthew 11:21-22
- Hostile and oppressive against the Israelites, especially Asher and Zebulon.



**Judges 10:12** *"12 Also when the Sidonians, the Amalekites, and the Maonites oppressed and crushed you, you cried to Me, and I delivered you out of their hands."*

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<sup>12</sup> For additional study, please see our book *"How Fertility Cults Devour Our Blessings"*.

**Ezekiel 28:22-23** “22 And say, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I am against you, O **Sidon**, and I will show forth My glory and be glorified in the midst of you. And they shall know (understand and realize) that I am the Lord when I execute judgments and punishments in her, and am set apart and separated and My holiness is manifested in her. 23 For I will send pestilence into her and blood into her streets, and the wounded shall be judged and fall by the sword in the midst of her on every side, and they shall know (understand and realize) that I am the Lord [the Sovereign Ruler, Who calls forth loyalty and obedient service].”

**Joel 3:5-6** “5 Because you have taken My silver and My gold and have carried into your temples and palaces My precious treasures, 6 And have sold the children of Judah and the children of Jerusalem to the sons of the Grecians, that you may remove them far from their border.”

Sidon’s sister city, **Tyrus**, was also very rich and proud, and appeared very hostile towards Israel (and thus toward God’s People). Around 592-570 B.C., Ezekiel prophesies to Sidon:

**Ezekiel 28:2, 4** “2 Son of man, say to the **prince of Tyre**, Thus says the Lord God: Because your heart is lifted up and you have said and thought, I am a god, I sit in the seat of the gods, in the heart of the seas; yet you are only man [weak, feeble, made of earth] and not God, though you imagine yourself to be almost more than mortal with your mind as the mind of God; 3 Indeed, you are [imagining yourself] wiser than Daniel; there is no secret [you think] that is hidden from you; 4 With your own wisdom and with your own understanding you have gotten you riches and power and have brought gold and silver into your treasuries;”

This prophecy was fulfilled in 351 B.C., the Sidonites rebelled against the Persian king. However, they were defeated and had to suffer his cruel revenge. Tens of thousands were slaughtered and their blood ran through the streets. Later, Sidon was rebuilt and again captured and its inhabitants were killed. This was repeated three times during the crusades alone. The Drusens, Turks, and French warred against the city. The history of Sidon remains bloody to this day, and it still exists in the same location.

## • **The Philistine confederacy.**

The Philistine group which live in the south, near the border with Egypt are made up of:

- The five kings of Philistine (2),
  - Gargathites,
  - Ashdodthites,
  - Eskalonites,
  - Gittes,
  - Ekronites,
- The Geshurites (1),
- The Avites,
- And Anak.

The meaning of the words that make up the confederacy are:

- Proud beholder (1),
- To bridge (1),
- A lead weight, plumbline (2),
- Molten judgment (2),
- Grief, oppression (2),
- Plastered, covering (2),
- Bully, tyrant,
- Violent.



The Philistines live in the south and are people of the plains and seaside resorts – the piece of land called **Gaza** and controlled today by Hamas. The Philistines made use of mobile warfare, using the chariot and the bowman, and kept on warring throughout the Israelite empire. The rockets fired into Israel today are a continuation of this war.

The Philistines were in the Land at the time both Abraham and Isaac traveled the length and breadth of the land. Joshua records that these people were still to be defeated. Samson will wage war against the Philistines and win many battles – but his weakness for women will leave an opening for destruction. David too, using five stones and a sling, will bring down Goliath. King

Saul will initially win a major war against the Philistines, but will be killed in a battle against them. David will continue to make war, using the tactics that he learnt from the Philistines while he stayed with them during the time when Saul was hunting him.

## *The Philistine attack against the gift of the TEACHER ...*

The Teacher has the specific job of understanding the Word, developing knowledge of how to apply it in day to day life, and the wisdom to share this with the Body of Messiah in such a way that each person can grow in stature in God's Kingdom. The spirit of the Philistines seeks to rob the Teacher of his faith in his ability to discern God's Truth.

## **• The Geblits (Gebalites) . . .**

The Geblits are people who lived in the mountains near **Mount Hermon** in Lebanon. Their main city was a sea-port "Biblos", or modern day Jebel. This site became the main place of two pagan influences: Beltis and Adonis, where the annual celebration were held at the river's edge! These people were skilled in construction works and are mentioned in the building of Solomon temple.

**1 Kings 5:18** “18 Solomon’s builders and Hiram’s builders and the men of **Gebal** did the hewing and prepared the timber and stones to build the house.”

The name Gebal means:

- To twist as a rope,
- To bind,
- To be a stone squarer.

We find an interesting story of an alliance between the king of Judah and the king of Syria at a time when Israel’s king (the king of the Northern kingdom when Israel was split into two kingdoms) is worshipping idols and attacking Judah:



**2 Chronicles 16:1-6** “IN THE thirty-sixth year of Asa’s reign, Baasha king of Israel came up against Judah, and built (fortified) Ramah intending to intercept anyone going out or coming in to **Asa king of Judah**. 2 Then Asa brought silver and gold out of the treasuries of the house of the Lord and of the king’s house and sent them to Ben-hadad king of Syria, who dwelt at Damascus, saying, 3 Let there be a league between me and you, as was between my father and your father. Behold, I am sending you silver and gold; go, break your league with Baasha king of Israel, that he may withdraw from me. 4 And Ben-hadad hearkened to King Asa and sent the captains of his armies against the cities of Israel; and they smote Ijon, Dan, Abel-maim, and all the store cities of Naphtali. 5 And when Baasha heard it, he stopped building Ramah and let his work cease. 6 Then King Asa took all Judah, and they carried away the stones of Ramah and its timber with which Baasha had been building, and with them he built Geba and Mizpah.”

Take note! For silver and gold, the Geblits will change alliance as family fight family.

## • The Amalekites

The Amalekites are descendants from Esau. After the war between Jacob and Esau, we find that the relationship would only be patched superficially, and that the nations that grow from these brothers will be at war forever.

During Israel’s exodus from Egypt, on the way from the Red (Reed) Sea to Mount Sinai, the Amalekites attack the weak and elderly, and the stragglers from behind.

**Exodus 17:8-15** “8 Then came Amalek [descendants of Esau] and fought with Israel at Rephidim. 9 And Moses said to Joshua, Choose us out men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand. 10 So Joshua did as Moses said and fought with Amalek; and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the hilltop.”

*"11 When Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; and when he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands were heavy and grew weary. So [the other men] took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Then Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side and one on the other side; so his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 And Joshua mowed down and disabled Amalek and his people with the sword. 14 And the Lord said to Moses, Write this for a memorial in the book and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under the heavens. [1 Sam. 15:2-8.]15 And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The Lord is my Banner;"*



Its here we get to know the reality of this nation/ spirit, we will face Amalek in every generation. Not long afterwards, after the "sin of the spies", some of the Israelites rebelled against God's Command and without the promise of His Support, attempt to invade Canaan ... they are defeated by the Amalekites.

**Numbers 14:38, 45** *"38 But Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among the men who went to search the land, lived still. 45 Then the Amalekites came down and the Canaanites who dwelt in that hill country and smote the Israelites and beat them back, even as far as Hormah."*

We are the Amalekites are found in the south, and in the lowlands and plains.

**Numbers 13:29** *"29 Amalek dwells in the land of the South (the Negeb); the Hittite, the Jebusite, and the Amorite dwell in the hill country; and the Canaanite dwells by the sea and along by the side of the Jordan [River]."*

The spirit of the Amalekites is highlighted again in the wars of David:

**1 Samuel 30:1-18** *"NOW WHEN David and his men came home to Ziklag on the third day, they found that the Amalekites had made a raid on the South (the Negeb) and on Ziklag, and had struck Ziklag and burned it with fire, 2 And had taken the women and all who were there, both great and small, captive. They killed no one, but carried them off and went on their way. 3 So David and his men came to the town, and behold, it was burned, and their wives and sons and daughters were taken captive. 4 Then David and the men with him lifted up their voices and wept until they had no more strength to weep. 5 David's two wives also had been taken captive, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess and Abigail, the widow of Nabal the Carmelite. 6 David was greatly distressed, for the men spoke of stoning him because the souls of them all were bitterly grieved, each man for his sons and daughters. But David encouraged and strengthened himself in the Lord his God. 7 David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray you, bring me the ephod. And Abiathar brought him the ephod. 8 And David inquired of the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them? The Lord answered him, Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all."*

*“9 So David went, he and the 600 men with him, and came to the brook Besor; there those remained who were left behind. 10 But David pursued, he and 400 men, for 200 stayed behind who were too exhausted and faint to cross the brook Besor. 11 They found an Egyptian in the field and brought him to David, and gave him bread and he ate, and water to drink, 12 And a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins; and when he had eaten, his spirit returned to him, for he had eaten no food or drunk any water for three days and three nights. 13 And David said to him, To whom do you belong? And from where have you come? He said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me because three days ago I fell sick. 14 We had made a raid on the South (Negeb) of the Cherethites and upon that which belongs to Judah and upon the South (Negeb) of Caleb. And we burned Ziklag with fire. 15 And David said to him, Can you take me down to this band? And he said, Swear to me by God that you will neither kill me nor deliver me into the hands of my master, and I will bring you down to this band. 16 And when he had brought David down, behold, the raiders were spread abroad over all the land, eating and drinking and dancing because of all the great spoil they had taken from the land of the Philistines and from the land of Judah. 17 And David smote them from twilight even to the evening of the next day, and not a man of them escaped, except 400 youths who rode camels and fled. 18 David recovered all that the Amalekites had taken and rescued his two wives.”*

We see that the Amalekites chose to attack when the men, fathers, and strongmen of the house were away – they are quick to enjoy (laugh and dance) the fruits of another man’s labor.

The Amalekites have a tendency to align themselves with others who would oppress Israel:

- The Sidonites – Judge 12:12
- The Midinites – Judge 6:3

The Amalekite spirit oppresses God’s People in order to reduce them to poverty and bring destruction by desperation.

In order to “take” this land, we need to be like Caleb – we need to renew our mind until we can say, “for we are WELL ABLE to overcome!”

**Numbers 3:30** *“30 Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once and possess it; we are well able to conquer it.”*

As we overcome one level of each of these giants, we will face yet another level of those same giants. The journey from Egypt is a process of transformation.



As you transform on one level, you nullify that aspect of your old man and move to a higher level of the same giant. We can choose – we do not have to confront things, we do not have to grow or change – we can stay in a place of slavery. Or like Joshua, we can say that we will serve GOD and deal with the generational issues. Only once we have cleansed the land, like Judah (the only one who made sure that he fully conquered his piece of land), can we walk into the fullness of the blessing.

The Amalekites are distinguished for two major characteristics: cruelty and cowardice. They are warriors, **but never fought fairly**. In the attack against the Israelites (after Exodus) we see that the weak, old, and tired are the ones targeted.

**Deuteronomy 25:18** *“18 How he did not fear God, but when you were faint and weary he attacked you along the way and cut off all the stragglers at your rear.”*

In another story that defines the cruelty of the Amalekites, we read that an Egyptian man – who is sick and tired – **is left to die in the desert**.

**1 Samuel 30:9-13** *“9 So David went, he and the 600 men with him, and came to the brook Besor; there those remained who were left behind. 10 But David pursued, he and 400 men, for 200 stayed behind who were too exhausted and faint to cross the brook Besor. 11 They found an Egyptian in the field and brought him to David, and gave him bread and he ate, and water to drink, 12 And a piece of a cake of figs and two clusters of raisins; and when he had eaten, his spirit returned to him, for he had eaten no food or drunk any water for three days and three nights. 13 And David said to him, To whom do you belong? And from where have you come? He said, I am a young man of Egypt, servant to an Amalekite; and my master left me because three days ago I fell sick.”*

In another story, the story of Esther and Mordecai, we see how Haman, an Agagite, **misuses his political and positional power** to set in motion a decree of death over a people that he hated.

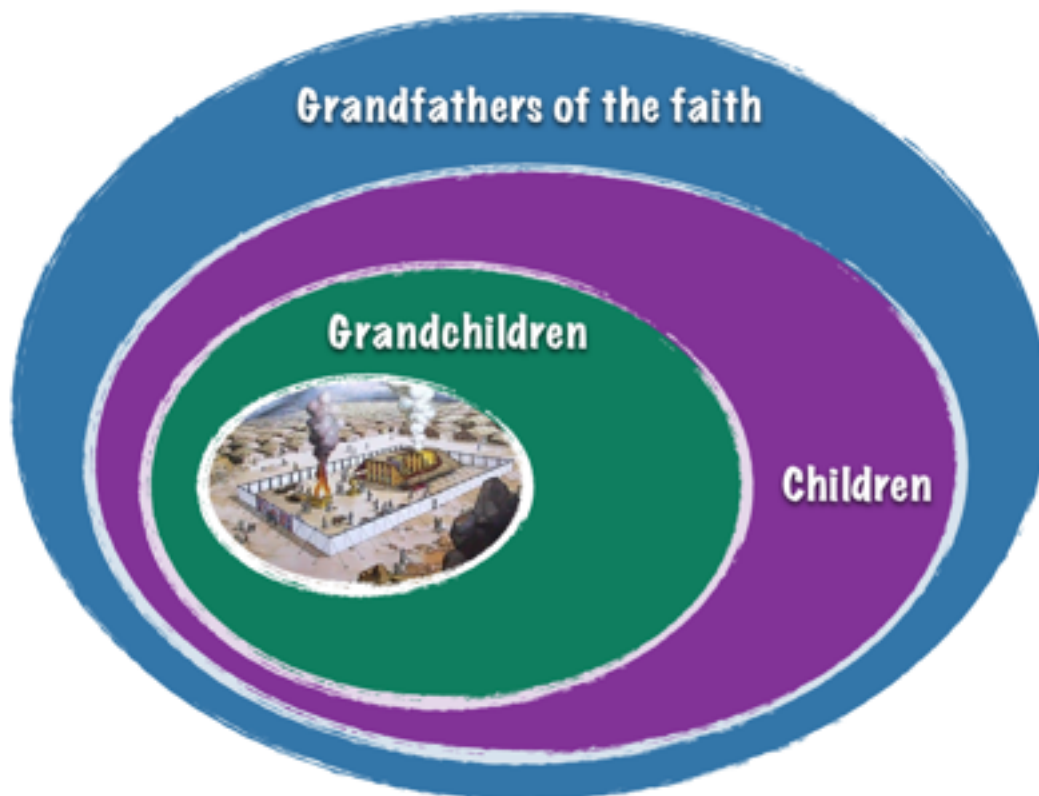
**Esther 3:1** *“AFTER THESE things, King Ahasuerus promoted Haman the son of Hammedatha the Agagite and advanced him and set his seat above all the princes who were with him.”*

Generational  
warfare.

We have seen that each and every tribe that had settled in Canaan had unique attributes. Each one was different, in their view of life and in the way that they would impact those with whom they came in contact with.

In possessing the Land, we see that each Israelite Tribe was allotted a specific piece of the Land. That Tribe had the potential already built into them by God to deal with the attack facing them – ***the warfare in possessing the Land was specific to each Tribe. However, ALL of Israel was to go to war, to conquer the Land.*** The Tribes were to help each other, to all fight together, in order to possess the Land – Israel’s Inheritance and Covenantal Blessing.

We have a modern parallel to this ... the family. While as a family, you may be strong enough to deal with the “enemy” of your piece of land – we also understand that there are times when the entire Body of Messiah is needed to stand and fight.



Today, you and I cannot know what Tribe we represent ... this means that it is that much more important that we be part of the fellowship of God. Each of us can, however, analyze the forms of attack that most commonly present themselves at our door. If we do this carefully, then we can discern exactly what enemy nation from the Canaanites is on the move to spearhead the next attack ... this means that we can set up a defense system, the wall of prayer and the ramparts for a look-out post. It also means that we can plan an offensive strategy to destroy all platforms/gateways that exist.

Practically, we have to connect the physical warfare strategies of the enemy-tribes of Canaan and their spiritual parallel attacks on us (spirit/soul) and our families, throughout our generations.



## PRINCIPLES OF WARFARE.

There are many believers who profess that GOD is in control of their lives, but who refuse to enter into warfare. We often hear the statement ... "God is Love, Y'shua [Jesus] has dealt with everything on the cross!"

GOD has delivered us ... but we are not yet living in the Terms, Times, and Ways that HE described for us. Like Israel, we are delivered out of Egypt, **but must still fight** to enter into the Promised Land. This declaration is set out in:

**Deuteronomy 33:27** "27 The eternal God is your refuge and dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms; He drove the enemy before you and thrust them out, saying, Destroy!"

GOD declares:

- The enemy will be destroyed.
- We will live safely in the Land.
- We will have abundant provision.

Therefore, we are still living with the expectation that HE will return to fulfill this Promise completely ... UNTIL then, we fight to take back the land.

Moses realized that war is an inevitable reality of life. As such, GOD gives him the “rules” of engagement.

- General principles:

- Irrespective of whatever weapon the opposition may have, we are NOT to fear (Deuteronomy 20:1).
- The priest (the person whose relationship with God is secure) must speak God’s Word of encouragement to them (Deuteronomy 20:2-4).
- Certain categories of people are exempt (Deuteronomy 20:5, 7).
- People who are afraid must stand back – there is no place for a weak/doubtful soldier in battle (Deuteronomy 20:8).
- The captain who goes ahead must always offer peace (Deuteronomy 20:9-15).
- We are not to destroy crops or fruit trees (Deuteronomy 20:19-20).



With all these general principles, GOD gives us one specific instruction – we are not to allow the enemy ANY space at all in the city that God gives as an inheritance.

***Deuteronomy 20:16*** “16 But in the **cities** of these people which the Lord your God **gives you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes.”**

The “city” today is our minds – we cannot allow any abomination, idolatry, enemy-thought to take root in our thought patterns. We cannot allow these thoughts to enter either through a choice of our will, or as a result of an emotional hurt.

The blessings  
of the Twelve  
Tribes shape  
destiny.

Both Jacob and Moses realized that they must empower the next generation. They had been following GOD, and had received the direct prophetic Word from GOD. They realized that those who follow on from them will meet the giants on their own, and therefore would be better empowered if they received a prophetic word of destiny ... we must also realize that the empowerment-blessing will be countered with an attack by one or more of the Canaanite tribes.

## The Tribe of Reuben

**Genesis 49:3-4** “3 Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the beginning (the FirstFruits) of my manly strength and vigor; [your birthright gave you] the preeminence in dignity and the preeminence in power. 4 But **unstable** and boiling over like water, you shall not excel and have the preeminence [of the firstborn], because you went to your father’s bed; you defiled it—he went to my couch!”

**Deuteronomy 33:6** “6 Let [the tribe of] Reuben live and not die out, but let his men be few.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Might.	Let him live.
Strength.	Let his numbers be great.
Excellence in dignity.	

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Unstable.	Amorites
Unpredictable.	Amalekites
Will not be successful	

The Tribe of Reuben truly battled to go forward spiritually. Moses understood that Joshua will have his hands full when he enters the Land of Canaan. Therefore, Moses sets out with all of the battle-force at his call to attack all of the enemy who live outside the physical borders of Israel. He defeats all of these kings.

Reuben<sup>13</sup> makes a choice, much the same that Lot did years ago ... he looked at the land outside the Promised Land, and saw that it is good for cattle and sheep.

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<sup>13</sup> For additional study on Reuben’s choice to remain outside the Covenant Land, see our book and/or DVD teaching, “The Warrior Bride”.

Reuben agrees to go to battle with his brothers, but the wives and children are to stay behind. We can see the prophetic voice ... Reuben is indeed a mighty warrior and only returns home when all is complete. However, the unstableness of his nature is also revealed – we have a generation of children that grew up in those sixteen or so fighting years without father-figures in their lives.

We see that Reuben was attacked by the Amorites and the Amalekites. The warfare against Reuben is by EXTERNAL forces, because Reuben chose to settle outside the Land of Covenant. As such, their authority will always be challenged by those who feel they have legitimate right to the land ... also, being outside of the Covenant, Reuben will be open to the attack of those who come against the defenseless and weak.

## The Tribe of Judah

**Genesis 49:8-12** “8 Judah, you are the one whom your brothers shall praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons shall bow down to you. 9 Judah, a lion’s cub! With the prey, my son, you have gone high up [the mountain]. He stooped down, he crouched like a lion, and like a lioness—who dares provoke and rouse him? 10 The **scepter or leadership** shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until Shiloh [the Messiah, the Peaceful One] comes to Whom it belongs, and to Him shall be the obedience of the people. 11 Binding His foal to the vine and His donkey’s colt to the choice vine, He washes His garments in wine and His clothes in the blood of grapes. 12 His eyes are darker and more sparkling than wine, and His teeth whiter than milk.

**Deuteronomy 33:7** “7 And this he [Moses] said of Judah: Hear, O Lord, the voice of Judah, and bring him to his people! With his hands he contended for himself; but may You be a help against his enemies.”

<b>Strengths</b>	
<b>Blessing From Jacob</b>	<b>Blessing From Moses</b>
Your family will praise you.	Let his hands be sufficient (strength).
Your hand will be on the neck of your enemy.	GOD will help him.
You are a lion.	
Authority (scepter).	
Linage of Messiah.	

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Married a pagan woman.	Jebusites
Dishonest with Tamar.	Hittites
	Philistines

Judah's destiny is to rule, and more importantly, to have some rulership over the City of Jerusalem. Their domain spreads all the way down to the south – included in this region are lands given to Simeon, who never really had their own separate portion. In addition to these areas, the land of Judah also includes Hebron, which was taken by Caleb. Today this city is in the hands of the Palestinians.



The purpose of the return of the Israelites was to take Jerusalem and make the City a place of peace, and to rebuild the Tabernacle, to prepare a place where GOD could return to dwell amongst His People.

The resultant blessing was that each Tribe/family would inherit a piece of land, and therefore be able to TAKE DOMINION (in the physical) ... if Judah had successfully achieved this destiny, we would have been able to see heaven on earth, a new Garden of Eden. Unfortunately, it seems that the Israelites focused on the physical as the most important, and failed to realize that if we focus on GOD first, the other things would be added to our basket!

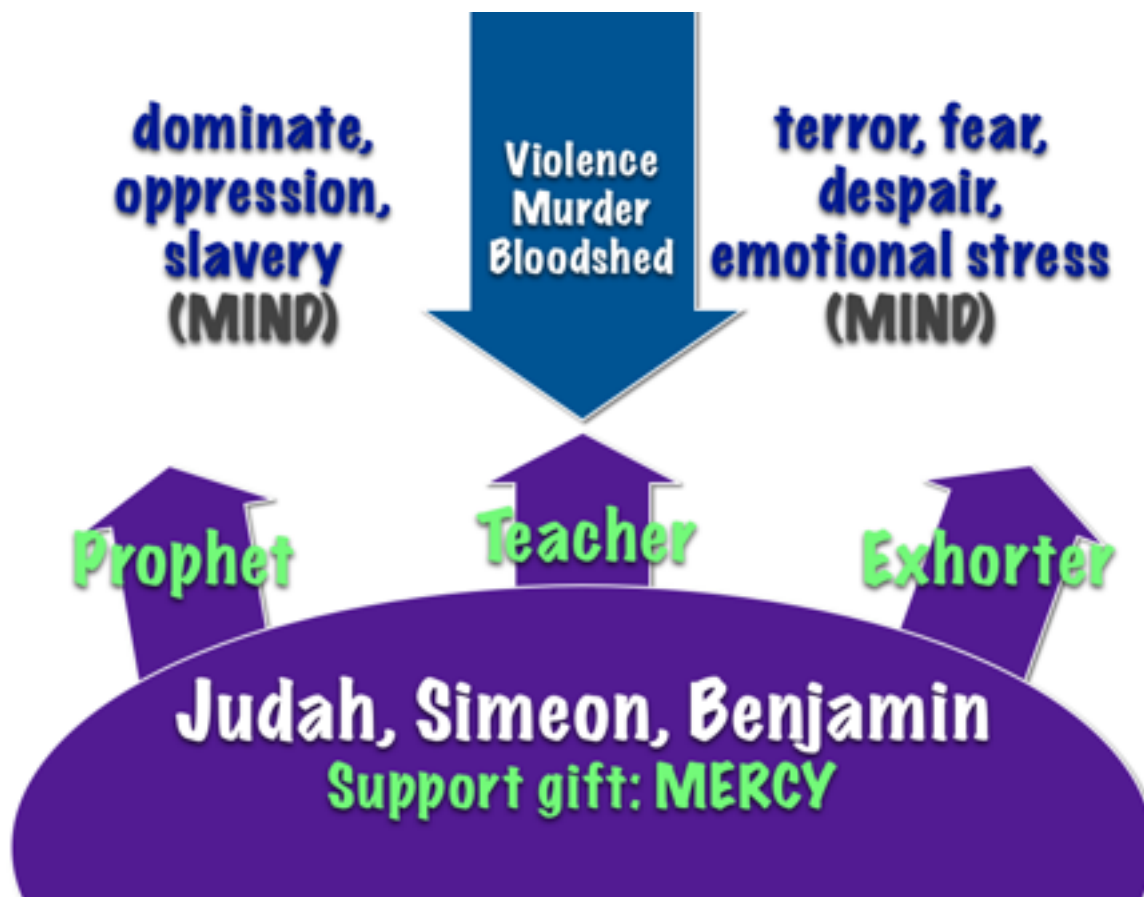
Critically, two of the Tribes were called on to work together! The border of Judah and Benjamin passed through the middle of Jerusalem – on the south was Judah, and to the north Benjamin. Legend has it that the City was not given to any Tribe, but kept by GOD for Himself.

**1 Kings 11:32** “32 But he shall have one tribe, for My servant David's sake and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel,”

**Deuteronomy 18:5** “5 For the Lord your God has chosen him out of all your tribes to stand to minister in the name [and presence] of the Lord, him and his sons forever.”

The Tribe of Judah, more than any of the others, chose to obey and maintain the Torah – they became the beacon of Light with regard to the study of the Word and the keeping of the Commandments. At times they fell into sin, but over and over again, returned to set out once again and walk in the ways of the GOD of Israel.

We see that Judah<sup>14</sup> was attacked by the **Jebusites**, **Hittites**, and the **Philistines**. The warfare strategies were mainly to crush them, to ambush them in order to instill fear, and to kill as many as possible. Judah was also tempted by the enemy by the “excesses” of life. These attacks continue to this day – every single nation in the world has something to say about this City, every nation wants desperately to divide Jerusalem. Even more, Judah is still being attacked through terrorism.



Today, those who feel the calling to stand up for this portion of Land, and who have the calling of leadership to carry the mission of GOD forward, will know that their prime goal in life is always to pray for the peace of Jerusalem. In fact, every action that occurs in Jerusalem will have a reaction in everyone’s life – you will always be connected.

We should always be concerned for the peace of Jerusalem. Nehemiah tells us that they repaired the wall:

**Nehemiah 3:19** “19 Next to him repaired Ezer son of Jeshua, ruler of Mizpah, another district over opposite the ascent to the armory at the angle [in the wall].”

Legend has it that the armory was a place where weapons were stored. Men did not enter the City with any weapons, in order to fulfill the Words of GOD in Leviticus:

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<sup>14</sup> Today’s modern-day Israel is made up of the two Tribes: Judah and Benjamin. The other Ten Tribes were scattered into the nations. The term “Jew” comes from the Hebrew word for “Judah” (Ye’hu’dah). For additional study, see <http://jewsandjoes.com/> and Eddie Chumney’s teaching on the restoration of the Tribes, <http://www.hebroots.org/2housesch1.html#CHAP1>.

**Leviticus 26:6** “6 I will give peace in the land; you shall lie down and none shall fill you with dread or make you afraid; and I will clear ferocious (wild) beasts out of the land, and no sword shall go through your land.”

Weapons in the physical, on the streets of Jerusalem, means that there are weapons up against us in the spiritual domain.

## The Tribe of Simeon

**Genesis 49:5-7** “5 Simeon and Levi are brothers [equally **headstrong, deceitful, vindictive, and cruel**]; their swords are weapons of violence. 6 O my soul, come not into their secret council; unto their assembly let not my honor be united [for I knew nothing of their plot], because in their anger they slew men [an honored man, Shechem, and the Shechemites], and in their self-will they disabled oxen. 7 Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce, and their wrath, for it was cruel. I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
I will divide them amongst Judah.	
They form part of this blessing.	

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Anger/wrath.	Amorites
Self-will.	Amalekites
Cruelty.	Philistines

We have already discussed the role of Simeon, for the most part, they fight the same enemy as Judah. However, it seems that they – partly because of their character, and partly because of the destiny to be under Judah – seem to disappear from the record of achievements. Simeon seems to often be lagging behind the rest of the Tribes, not keeping in step with the Nation.

# The Tribe of Zebulun

**Genesis 49:13** “13 Zebulun shall live toward the seashore, and he shall be a haven and a landing place for ships; and his border shall be toward Sidon.”

**Deuteronomy 33:18** “18 And of Zebulun he said: Rejoice, Zebulun, in your interests abroad, and you, Issachar, in your tents [at home].”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Will stay at the sea (Sea of Galilee).	Rejoice as you go out.
Haven for ships.	

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Gave up their calling.	Canaanites
Compromise.	Hivites
Deceit.	Perizzites

**Joshua 19:10** “10 The third lot came up for the tribe of Zebulun according to their families. The border of its inheritance extended to Sarid.”

We see that Zebulun was one of the Tribes who had to possess their land after Joshua had “retired” and given over the command. Zebulun inherited the shores of the Mediterranean, between Haifa and Accra. Because this piece of land was small, this Tribe quickly moved into commerce and rejoiced in their sea-trade. Interestingly, this piece of land reveals two treasures for the Tribe of Zebulun ...

- I. Along the coastal areas we find a long strip of white sand. Not much will grow there, but very soon the people found out that if you heat this sand, you can produce **glass**. This is a fulfillment of the words of Moses, who spoke of the “treasures of the sand”.



- II. The second treasure came from the **sea**. In this area you will find a small mollusk, a type of shell fish ... these mollusks produce the richest colours of purple and blue dyes. These dyes<sup>15</sup> were later used in the manufacture of the Temple garments and tallits (prayer shawls).

We see that Zebulun was attacked by the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Perizzites. In a modern parallel, we see that the main warfare strategies against Zebulun will be:

- **Compromise** – the attraction to false images.
- **Deceit** – the action of trade with other nations will always open a doorway/portal into your world. When the Greeks came to settle in the Land, they built a bath adorned it with statues of the goddess Aphrodite<sup>16</sup>, the goddess of sexuality, beauty, and love. The Greek legend is that Hercules came here to get herbs that restored his health.

We need to make sure that we **never compromise**. We should search diligently for any form of mixed/pagan seed that is entering our domain. The act of eating unleavened bread at Pesach [Passover], is not a ritual but a physical manifestation of our willingness to review our lifestyle and return to the Ancient Paths of GOD.

## The Tribe of Issachar



**Genesis 49:14-15** “14 Issachar is a strong-boned donkey crouching down between the sheepfolds. 15 And he saw that rest was good and that the land was pleasant; and **he bowed his shoulder to bear** [his burdens] and became a servant to tribute [subjected to forced labor].”

**Deuteronomy 33:18-19** “18 And of Zebulun he said: Rejoice, Zebulun, in your interests abroad, and you, **Issachar**, in your tents [at home]. 19 They shall call the people unto Mount [Carmel]; there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness, for they shall suck the abundance of the seas and the treasures hid in the sand.”

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<sup>15</sup> During the time of the Romans, this mollusk became scarce, and eventually was thought to be extinct. However, today this sea-snail has been rediscovered! It is now being used to make the blue dye (called *techelet* in Hebrew) for the Temple garments. For more information, check out the Temple Institute at [http://www.templeinstitute.org/beged/priestly\\_garments-5.htm](http://www.templeinstitute.org/beged/priestly_garments-5.htm).

<sup>16</sup> Aphrodite is the Greek version of the Roman goddess *Venus*. The goddess Venus is very much connected to fertility cult worship. For additional study, see our book “*How Fertility Cults Devour Our Blessings*”.

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Strong donkey.	Will stay in the tents (Torah students).
Servant (carry the burden).	Call the people to righteousness.
	Offer sacrifices.
	Abundance of the sea and under the ground.

Weaknesses	Attack By:
	Canaanites
	Philistines
	Hivites

**Joshua 19:17-23** “17 The fourth lot fell to **Issachar**, to its people according to their families. 18 Their territory included: Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, 19 Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, 20 Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, 21 Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, and Beth-pazzez. 22 The boundary reached to Tabor, Shahazumah, and Beth-shemesh, and ended at the Jordan; sixteen cities with their villages. 23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of Issachar according to their families, the cities and their villages.”



Issachar was another Tribe that had to possess their Land after Joshua had passed on. We read that Issachar’s land bordered the land of Zebulun, and stretched out mainly in the valley of Jezreel (pictured above). As such, Issachar was made up of mainly **farmers and shepherds** – the soil is good and rich.

The shape of their territory resembles that of a donkey’s back – the mountain range runs down the middle, and on either side we have the fertile slopes. Today the Arab city of Afula sits in the middle of this piece of ground.

We see the prophetic word that Issachar would “bow their shoulders in order to bear” ... this has two meanings:

- They worked hard in the land – today this land is a fruit basket of produce.
- They bowed their backs to study the Torah.

In the Book of 1 Chronicles (12:32), we see that the men of Issachar had an understanding of the times and seasons, to know what Israel should do. Nowhere more pointedly is this revealed to us than in the story of the prophetess **Deborah**<sup>17</sup>. She understood that the enemy had been making use of witchcraft and the occult, through the worship of the planets and stars – Deborah canceled these acts by prophesying to the heavenlies that they are GOD’s Creation. Then, she called for Barak to go to war.



On the grounds allotted to Issachar, at Mount Tabor, the Israelites defeated the enemy in much the same fashion as was the case with Pharaoh at the Red Sea (see Judges 4:12-16).

Legend has it that Zebulun would contribute towards the Tribe of Issachar, so that Issachar could remain in the “tents”, to study the Word.

We see that Issachar was attacked by the **Canaanites, Philistines**, and the **Hivites**. The attacks are giving praise and honour, in order to **manipulate** and obtain what others want through bloodshed – what a true parallel for today! Also note, Issachar’s land included the valley in which Queen Jezebel ruled – **Issachar will have to battle Jezebel, the queen of**

**manipulation.** It is here, in this valley, that

Jezebel came up with the deceit to take away the property of a just and humble man, Naboth, in order to give it to her husband, Ahab. This valley is also the place Jezebel raised the images of her pagan gods, which set Israel up on a journey towards idolatry. It is here that the blood of an innocent man was shed ... remember, the spirit of Jezebel will always come against the **servant**, leader, and Torah/Word scholar.

Issachar’s land also includes the land of the prophet Elisha. It is here, in the small city of Shumen (today called Sulam), where the widow came out to greet him, offered him food, and built a room for him to stay in ... where Elisha later brings her son back to life.

This story tells us that if our calling is that of Issachar, then we must be ready to identify, serve, and honour the men of GOD who pass by ... and a miracle awaits those who do.

<sup>17</sup> For additional study, see our book and/or DVD teaching, “*Deborah’s Song*”, as well as our book “*The Believer’s Warfare In The Heavenlies*”.

# The Tribe of Dan

**Genesis 49:16-18** “16 Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a **serpent** by the way, a horned snake in the path, that bites at the horse’s heels, so that his rider falls backward. 18 I wait for Your salvation, O Lord.”

**Deuteronomy 33:22** “22 Of Dan he said: Dan is a lion’s whelp that leaps forth from Bashan.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Judge of his people.	Lion’s whelp.
Will bite at the rider of the horse (representing any form of oppression and/or injustice).	Will leap on Bashan (the Amorites).

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Served Baal.	Canaanites
Chose their own place to worship.	Philistines
Chose their own priests.	Gebalites

The mound of ancient Dan is called by the Arabs, *Tel-el- Kadi*, which means “Mound of the Judge” – a very apt name describing Dan’s prophetic gift and calling. From this hill, one of the sources of the River Jordan flows. Since the water flows downward from here, the river is called “JORED/Dan”, meaning to descend from Dan.

The Tribe of Dan has a dual character ... **on one hand**, they will be faithful, fighting for justice and peace. As they are described as a lion’s whelp (Deuteronomy 33:22), they are often recorded as being an integral part of the king’s army. Something about Dan reveals an end-time purpose ... they are the watchman and guardsman over the borders – whoever guards the borders needs to have the heart to fight like a lion.

**On the other hand**, Dan’s bite will be like the sting of a serpent’s bite, but in choosing to serve at the pagan tables of Baal, Dan’s bite will become poisonous, corrupting the Tribe. It is the Tribe of Dan that sets up their own personal golden calf, along with their own priest.

When Dan is part of the confederation of Tribes under King Jeroboam, it is Dan who sets up the two golden calves in order to prevent the people from worshipping in Jerusalem. Today, at nearby Banias (originally called Panias), we can see another source of the River Jordan ... and also the temple to the Greek shepherd god, Pan<sup>18</sup>.

We see that Dan was attacked by the **Canaanites**, **Philistines**, and **Gebalites**. The attacks take the form of:

- False images/gods (creating an unsure/mixed foundation),
- The “excess” of life,
- Being quick to judge and cause bloodshed,
- Being twisted and crooked.

We can see that the temptations of the world will always be placed before Dan. Unless they take time to build a sure/solid foundation in the Word, Dan will find themselves in a place where the “good” life leads to the shedding of innocent blood. The very nature of the enemy’s attack is to preserve the twistedness, which is part of a double-minded Danite.

## The Tribe of Gad

**Genesis 49:19** “19 Gad—a raiding troop shall raid him, but he shall raid at their heels and assault them [victoriously].”

**Deuteronomy 33:20-21** “20 And of Gad he said: Blessed is He Who enlarges Gad! Gad lurks like a lioness, and tears the arm, yes, the **crown of the head**. 21 He selected the best land for himself, for there was the leader’s portion reserved; yet he came with the chiefs of the nation, and the righteous will of the Lord he performed, and His ordinances with Israel.

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
A troop.	Dwell like a lion.
He will triumph at the end.	Administer justice.
	Help Judah.

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Will face defeat.	Amorites

<sup>18</sup> Pan is the half-man, half-goat god who plays the pan-pipe, a type of flue made from reeds. For more information, see our article “Gateways Of Influence”.

We have discussed the Tribe of Reuben in detail ... Gad followed the same path.

They also chose to take up land on the other side of the River Jordan, outside the Covenant Land. Their spiritual choice is also to take GOD's Blessings, but stay removed from real intimacy with Him. Gad came to stay in what is known as the land of Gilead.

We see that Gad was attacked by the Amorites. By virtue of their choices, they are the gateway/portals in the spiritual domain to other gods.

On the other hand, we have the assurance that Gad will always be ready to come to the aid of his brothers. We can note that Gad will be there as a part of any collaborative action by the Tribes, as danger will not deter them from joining in the end-time battle.

The Sages have said, "When one of Gad goes to war, he is always victorious". This is based on:



**1 Chronicles 12:9** "14 These Gadites were officers of the army. The lesser was equal to and over a hundred, and the greater equal to and over a thousand."

We need to make them feel welcome, part of the family. Any one that builds (enlarges) Gad will be blessed because Gad is like a lion, who will wear the crown of victory on his head.

## The Tribe of Asher

**Genesis 49:20** "20 Asher's food [supply] shall be rich and fat, and he shall yield and deliver royal delights."

**Deuteronomy 33:24-25** "24 Of Asher he said: Blessed above sons is Asher; let him be acceptable to his brothers, and let him **dip his foot in oil**. 25 Your castles and strongholds shall have bars of iron and bronze, and as your day, so shall your strength, your **rest and security**, be."

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Prosperous.	Most blessed.
In the basic (bread).	Favor with the family.
In the abundance (oil).	Sandals of iron (warfare).

Weaknesses	Attack By:
	Sidonites
	Canaanites
	Perizzites

The Tribe of Asher settled in the western section of the mountains of upper Galilee. In keeping with their prophetic blessing, the Land was rich in vineyards and olive plantations. As they provided the oil, so the other Tribes gave them grain (the staple diet then was made up of bread and grains).



In the placement of the Tabernacle, the Menorah faced south, prophetically declaring that the oil for the lamps would be provided by Asher. We see the Scripture confirm the **wealth of Asher** in oil:

**Genesis 49:20** “20 Asher’s food [supply] shall be **rich and fat**, and he shall yield and deliver royal delights.”

**Deuteronomy 33:24-25** “24 Of Asher he said: Blessed above sons is Asher; let him be acceptable to his brothers, and let him **dip his foot in oil**.”

The story of Chanukah also has a connection to this region. One of the legends is that the trip from Jerusalem to Galilee and back took eight days.

Not only were the men of Asher good farmers, but they became known as fierce fighters. Many of the sons of Asher were part of David’s army. Interestingly, they guarded the border and did it so well, that the enemy could not enter. It was said that they **locked the gates with iron and brass**.

We see that Asher was attacked by the **Sidonites, Canaanites**, and the **Perizzites**. The attack against this Tribe is clear – they have been blessed to be wealthy, to provide the oil for the Menorah ... their calling is one of the highest. The modern-day parallel attack is therefore to:

- Get you to compromise.
- Cause you to be unsure of your foundation and to consider false images.
- Cause an attack on your family by someone who seems to be a friend (underhanded attack, attacks by terrorists).

# The Tribe of Naphtali

**Genesis 49:21** “21 Naphtali is a hind let loose which yields lovely fawns.”

**Deuteronomy 33:23** “23 Of Naphtali he said: O Naphtali, satisfied with favor and full of the blessing of the Lord, possess the Sea [of Galilee] and [its warm, sunny climate like] the south.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Deer let loose (fast/mobile).	Favor.
Beautiful words (story teller).	Blessings.
	Possess the west and south.

Weaknesses	Attack By:
Covered up the truth.	Hivites
Needed to be praised.	Perizzites
Open to deception.	Gebalites
Betrayal.	Sidonites

The Tribe of Naphtali inherited a portion of upper Galilee. Included in this area is the lake of Yam-Hula (the Sea of Hula) and the swamps that surround it. Papyrus grows here in large quantities. The sons of Naphtali learnt to make paper from the long stems of papyrus, which were cut in thin strips, twisted, and woven into paper. Interestingly, Naphtali comes from the Hebrew word *phato*, meaning to twist.

We see that Naphtali was attacked by the **Hivites**, **Perizzites**, **Gebalites**, and the **Sidonites**. We can see that a story-teller would be associated with writing materials ... what a realization of their destiny! Note how devious the enemy is – the attack comes with “words”:

- Words that encourage you to think of self,
- Words that twist or cover up the truth,
- Words that give false praise and honour,
- Words that appear to be from a friend, yet come to deceive.

# The Tribe of Joseph

(Including both Ephraim<sup>19</sup> and Manasseh)

**Genesis 49:21** “22 Joseph is a **fruitful bough**, a fruitful bough by a well (spring or fountain), whose branches run over the wall. 23 Skilled archers have bitterly attacked and sorely worried him; they have shot at him and persecuted him. 24 But his bow remained strong and steady and rested in the Strength that does not fail him, for the arms of his hands were made strong and active by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob, by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel, 25 By the God of your father, Who will help you, and by the Almighty, Who will bless you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings lying in the deep beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. 26 The blessings of your father [on you] are greater than the blessings of my forefathers [Abraham and Isaac on me] and are as lasting as the bounties of the eternal hills; they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him who was the consecrated one and the one separated from his brethren and [the one who] is prince among them.”



**Deuteronomy 33:23** “13 And of Joseph he said: Blessed by the Lord be his land, with the precious gifts of heaven from the dew and from the deep that couches beneath, 14 With the precious things of the fruits of the sun and with the precious yield of the months, 15 With the chief products of the ancient mountains and with the precious things of the everlasting hills, 16 With the precious things of the earth and its fullness and the favor and goodwill of Him Who dwelt in the bush. Let these blessings come upon the head of Joseph, upon the crown of the head of him who was separate and prince among his brothers. 17 Like a firstling young bull his majesty is, and his horns like the horns of the wild ox; with them he shall push the peoples, all of them, to the ends of the earth. And they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
Fruitful.	Blessing.
Abundance.	Horns of a wild ox to push people to the ends of the earth.
Warrior (bow).	

<sup>19</sup> For additional study on the history of Ephraim and Manasseh, check out Steven Collins’s website: <http://stevenmcollins.com/>.

<b>Weaknesses</b>	<b>Attack By:</b>
Fear.	Hittites
Feeling inadequate.	Canaanites
Anger.	Philistines

These brothers get a large piece of land north of Jerusalem, including much of the Jezreel valley. This is a fruitful place – ***the bread basket of the land***. Remember, Joseph was ***blessed to be a fruitful vine***, a vine by a fountain.

This land has also seen every invasion of Israel, down from Hazor, Meddiggo, onto Gezer and Jerusalem. The sons of Joseph became warriors of note – in the Scriptures, Manasseh is often noted as part of a military campaign.

One of the cities in their region was Beit-Shean – the place was fed by strong steams and was known for the large number of palm groves.

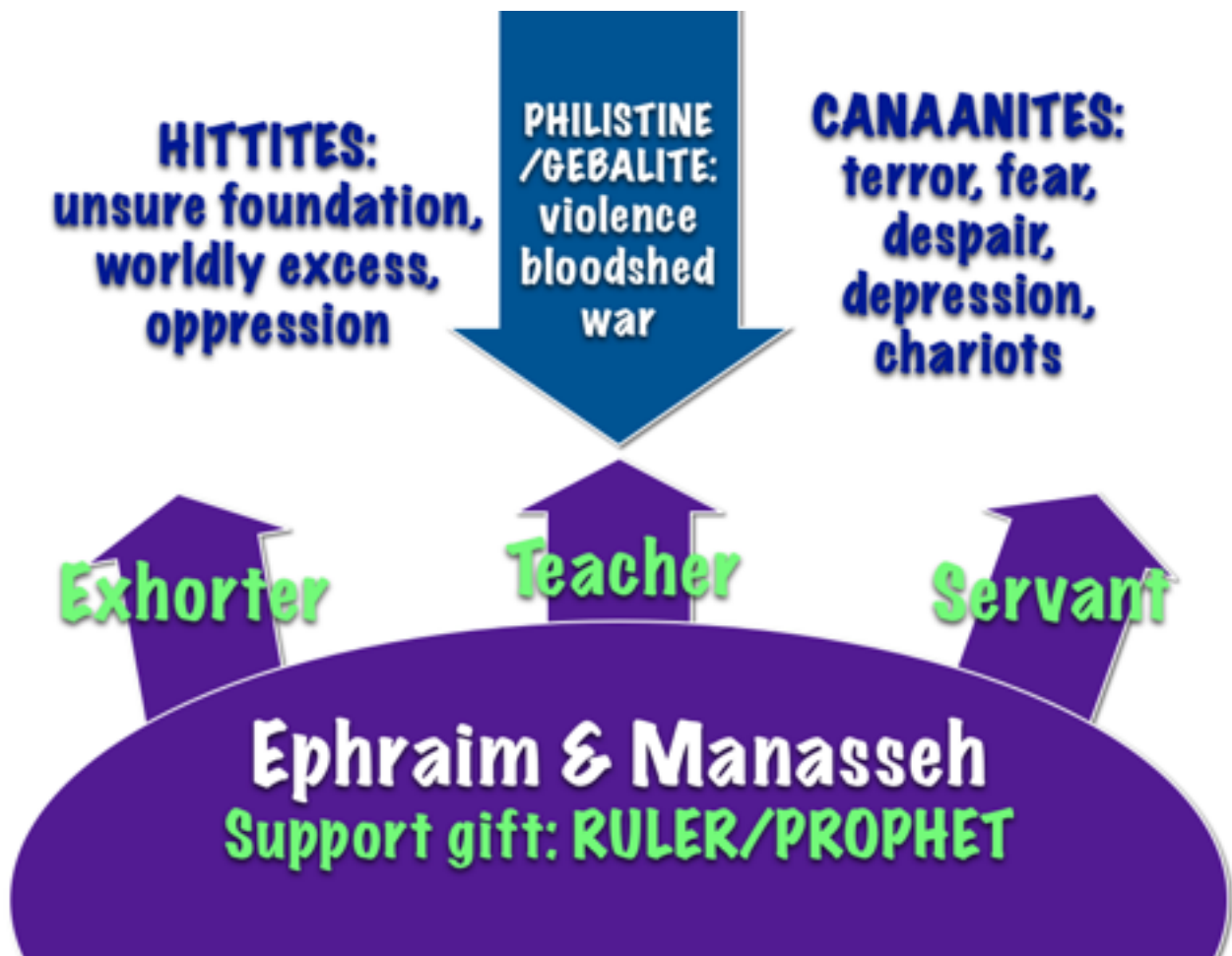
Two things to note:

- (1) Mount Gilboa falls in this region. This is the place were King Saul died in the battle with the Philistines. David cursed the mountain after this, that there would not be any dew on its slopes ... only recently, after planting trees on the slopes, has this curse been reversed.
- (2) At the edge of the valley, at the southern tip, we can find a mound that is named *Tel-Radagha* by the Arabs. It is said to be the place where John the Baptist was baptizing those who believed in his message, to repent for Messiah was coming.

**Half of the Tribe of Manasseh** also decided to stay on the other side of the Jordan with Reuben and Gad. They lived in the portion known as the land of Bashan, it is said that this is the place where Job lived. King Solomon traveled to each significant site in Israel, to fortify them. The ruins of his unique entrance-gate to the city of Bashan can still be seen today. You will also find a mosque under which they believe the rock of Job is to be found. Prophetically, this land will be the site of the end-time battle – if you stand on Tel-Meddiggo and look across the plain, you stare at the town were Y’shua [Jesus] was born, and can see the whole of the valley of Jezreel.

We see that the sons of Joseph were attacked by the **Hittites**, **Canaanites**, and **Philistines**. How clearly the enemy understands this Tribes threat! The attack is:

- To pull you down into the mud.
- To make you feel inadequate.
- To ambush you through acts of terror and to cause you to lose your position through fits of anger.



## The Tribe of Benjamin

**Genesis 49:27** “27 Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at night dividing the spoil.”

**Deuteronomy 33:12** “12 Of Benjamin he said: **The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by Him;** He covers him all the day long, and makes His dwelling between his shoulders.”

Strengths	
Blessing From Jacob	Blessing From Moses
A wolf.	GOD's Beloved (Y'shua) is safe with him.
Will devour the spoil (warrior).	He dwells in GOD.
	Servant.

<b>Weaknesses</b>	<b>Attack By:</b>
	Hittites
	Philistines
	Jebusites
	Canaanites

As mentioned previously, Benjamin shared the boundary of the City of Jerusalem with the Tribe of Judah. As such, they have shared similar enemies. We see that Benjamin has been attacked by the **Hittites**, **Philistines**, **Jebusites**, and the **Canaanites**.

## *Summary of the main terms of attack!*

Below is a one-word summary of the main elements that define the attacks of the various Canaanite tribes:

<b>Simple one-word description:</b>	<b>Detailed summary:</b>
Positional authority ...	Those who open the gate to the worship of the moon and sky god.
Inner doubt, terrorists ...	Who have no home and are warlike, those who will attack the weak and defenseless by surprise – they will be quick to align themselves with others who want to attack.
Fear ...	Those who work by ambush, terror, fright, and anger.
Humiliation ...	Those who crush, thresh, and destroy others.
Bloodshed ...	Those who attack with the “excess of life”. They will be violent and will be quick to judge, to make you feel inadequate.
False image ...	Those who have an unsure foundation and dance before you in order to gain for self – involves peer-pressure and compromise, people who pull you down into the mud/filth.
Deceit ...	Those who use self-praise and honor to worship you in order to get something from you.

<p style="text-align: center;">Indecisive ...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Those whose words always contain an element of false – who encourage others to enjoy life, and worry later ... who please the self-man and who have a tendency to be indecisive, lacking moral fiber.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Twisted ...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Those who will always twist the story to their own benefit, who change allegiance for money, who will always be trying to make things look good, right, smart – who cover the appearance of that which is underneath.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Revenge ...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">They will be people that appear to be your friend, who come along side you in times of need, by in reality will be hunters and fisherman, looking to make a catch.</p>

The warfare  
of Moses and  
Israel.

## Generational warfare ... the counter-attacks!

We must understand that we are in a battle to determine whether the Kingdom of GOD takes dominion or not. Messiah will return, and will take the ultimate victory ... the question is, ***will you be standing as a saint whose robes are spotless, without wrinkle or blemish?***

How do we do battle ... what lessons have we learnt from the Tribes?

In 1 Corinthians, Paul tells us of the principle of establishing GOD's Truth in the physical, ***before it can be transferred into the spiritual realm.***

**1 Corinthians 15:46-49** "46 ***But it is not the spiritual life which came first, but the physical and then the spiritual.*** 47 ***The first man [was] from out of earth, made of dust (earthly-minded); the second Man [is] the Lord from out of heaven.*** 48 ***Now those who are made of the dust are like him who was first made of the dust (earthly-minded); and as is [the Man] from heaven, so also [are those] who are of heaven (heavenly-minded).*** 49 ***And just as we have borne the image [of the man] of dust, so shall we and so let us also bear the image [of the Man] of heaven."***

We therefore need to ***analyze the series of warfare strategies and battle plans that were implemented by the various Twelve Tribes, in order to be able to transpose these principles to the spiritual domain for our own lives.***

## The warfare of Moses ...

Let's have a look at the warfare carried out by Moses (pictured right) on the kings of Bashan and Og. Moses' purpose was ***to remove any chance of a counter attack*** while they (the Israelites) fought in the Land of Canaan, and to remove all vestiges of the Amorites on this side (east) of the Jordan.

**Joshua 12:1-6** "***NOW THESE*** are the kings of the land whom the Israelites defeated and whose land they took possession of east of the Jordan, from the river Arnon to Mount Hermon, and all the Arabah eastward: 2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer on the edge of the Valley of the [river] Arnon, and from the middle of the valley as far as the river Jabbok, the boundary of the Ammonites, including half of Gilead; 3 And the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth eastward, and in the direction of Beth-jeshimoth, to the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt [or Dead] Sea, southward to the foot of the slopes of Pisgah."



*“4 And Og king of Bashan, one of the remnant of the Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei, 5 And ruled over Mount Hermon and Salecah and all of Bashan to the boundary of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and over half of Gilead to the boundary of Sihon king of Heshbon. 6 **These Moses the servant of the Lord and the Israelites defeated; and Moses the servant of the Lord gave their land for a possession to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.**”*

***Deuteronomy 2:31-37** “31 And the Lord said to me [Moses], Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land over to you. Begin to take possession, that you may succeed him and occupy his land. 32 Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz. 33 **And the Lord our God gave him over to us, and we defeated him and his sons and all his people.** 34 At the same time we took all his cities and utterly destroyed every city—men, women, and children. We left none to remain. 35 Only the cattle we took as booty for ourselves and the spoil of the cities which we had captured. 36 From Aroer, which is on the edge of the Arnon Valley, and from the city that is in the valley, as far as Gilead, there was no city too high and strong for us; the Lord our God delivered all to us. 37 Only you did not go near the land of the Ammonites, that is, to any bank of the river Jabbok and the cities of the hill country, and wherever the Lord our God had forbidden us.”*

***Deuteronomy 3:1-8** “**THEN WE** turned and went up the road to Bashan, and Og king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei. 2 **And the Lord said to me, Do not fear him, for I have given him and all his people and his land into your hand; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon.** 3 **So the Lord our God also gave into our hands Og king of Bashan and all his people, and we smote him until not one was left to him.** 4 And we took all his cities at that time; there was not a city which we did not take from them, sixty cities, the whole region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan. 5 All these cities were fortified with high and haughty walls, gates, and bars, besides a great many unwalled villages. 6 And we utterly destroyed them, as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying every city—men, women, and children. 7 But all the cattle and the spoil of the cities we took for booty for ourselves. 8 So we took the land at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, from the Valley of the Arnon to Mount Hermon.”*

## **The warfare of the Israelites entering the Land ...**

Israel’s strategy was that:

- All tribes are **united** in this endeavor (even those who chose to remain on the eastern side of the Jordan).

***Joshua 3:11-12** “11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan! 12 **So now take twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.**”*

- The people **build an altar of twelve stones and are purified in a mikvah**, where the water dries up at “Adam”, meaning that all past sins are covered when we follow GOD’s Commandments in unity.

**Joshua 3:14-17** “14 So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, 15 And when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were in the brink of the water—for the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest— 16 **Then the waters which came down from above stood and rose up in a heap far off, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan;** and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt [Dead] Sea, were wholly cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. 17 And while all Israel passed over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.”

## The warfare of the Israelites against Jericho ...

At Jericho, we see that the city is secured and shut up:

**Joshua 6:1** “**NOW JERICO** [a fenced town with high walls] was tightly closed because of the Israelites; no one went out or came in.”

The battle plan set in motion makes use of:

- Carefully noted and strategized,
- A plan unfolding (which none inside of Jericho could understand),
- A possible infiltration of the city via the rope that was left hanging from Rahab’s window,
- The sound<sup>20</sup> of the “blood”<sup>21</sup> of the Shofar.



What was Israel’s strategy?

- To destroy the entire city.
- To create fear.
- To remove all threat of combining with other tribes.
- to gain a foothold in the land.

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<sup>20</sup> For additional study on the impact of sound, see our article “Gateways Of Influence”.

<sup>21</sup> The shofar’s origin comes from the binding of Isaac. After Isaac had been redeemed by the ram whose horns were caught in the thicket, the ram’s horn (shofar) began to be used as an instrument of war. We came to understand that symbolically the flow of blood bought life for Isaac ... the sound of the hollowed out horn therefore echoes the call of the blood.

**BEFORE coming up against Jericho**, the Israelites establish a base from which to work. They setup camp at Gilgal and re-established the altar of covenantal blessing in the Land.

**Joshua 8:30-35** “30 Then Joshua **built an altar to the Lord**, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, 31 As Moses the servant of the Lord commanded the Israelites, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, an altar of unhewn stones, upon which no man has lifted up an iron tool; and they offered on it burnt offerings to the Lord and sacrificed peace offerings. 32 And there, **in the presence of the Israelites, [Joshua] wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses.** 33 And all Israel, sojourner as well as he who was born among them, with their elders, officers, and judges, stood on either side of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded before that they should bless the Israelites. 34 Afterward, Joshua read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, all that is written in the Book of the Law. 35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and little ones, and the foreigners who were living among them.”

After Jericho, the Israelites war against Ai (an Amorite city).

**Joshua 8:1-2** “1 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land: 2 And thou shalt do to Ai and her king as thou didst unto Jericho and her king: only the spoil thereof, and the cattle thereof, shall ye take for a prey unto yourselves: lay thee an ambush for the city behind it.”

What was the strategy against this city?

- They find a walled city with a maze of streets – there is no place to establish a battlefield.
- They appear to attack, turn and run, and draw the people of Ai out into the open.
- They destroy the entire city.

**Joshua 8:4-8, 17, 19** “4 And he commanded them, Behold, you shall lie in wait against the city behind it. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you be ready. 5 And I and all the people who are with me will approach the city. **And when they come out against us, as the first time, we will flee before them** 6 Till we have drawn them from the city, for they will say, They are fleeing from us as before. **So we will flee before them.** 7 **Then you shall rise up from the ambush and seize the city, for the Lord your God will deliver it into your hand.** 8 When you have taken the city, you shall set it afire; as the Lord commanded, you shall do. See, I have commanded you. 17 Not a man was left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel. Leaving the city open, they pursued Israel. 19 The men in the ambush arose quickly out of their place and ran when he stretched out his hand; and they entered the city and took it, and then hastened and set it afire.”

At Ai, we see the classical war-maneuver to split your forces into more than one regiment – as soon as the enemy is on the open ground, they are attacked from both the front and the rear.

**Joshua 8:12-13** “12 And he took about five thousand men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, west of the city. 13 So they stationed all the army—the main encampment that was north of the city and **their men in ambush behind** and on the west of the city—and Joshua went that night into the midst of the ravine.”



*Next, Israel possesses the central part of the Land.*

By mistake, Joshua/Israel make covenant with the Hittites of Gibeon, a city some seven to eight miles north of Jerusalem.

When these people are attacked, the Israelites are forced to honour the covenant.

**Joshua 10:3-5** “3 So Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham king of Hebron, to Piram king of Jarmuth, to Japhia king of Lachish, and to Debir king of Eglon, saying, 4 Come up to me and help me, and let us smite Gibeon, for it has made peace with Joshua and with the Israelites. 5 Then the five kings of the Amorites—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon—gathered their forces and went up with all their armies and encamped before Gibeon to fight against it.”

In this battle, the Israelite army:

- March forty-eight kilometers through the night (Joshua 10:9).
- Climb up the mountain in the dark and wait until ...
- The sun rises behind them before they descend on the enemy.
- In a cave at Makkak, they kill the five Amorite kings (Joshua 10:16-17).

This story gives us an idea of how trained and fit Joshua’s army was. After all, they march how many kilometers through the night, fight all day, **AND Joshua asks GOD to have the sun stand still until the battle is won** – this is at least thirty to thirty-six hours of physical activity! (Joshua 10:12-13) It also seems to tell us that the five kings of the Amorites were taken out of the cave, killed, and then hung on trees until the sun went down.

**Joshua 10:26** “26 Afterward Joshua smote and slew them and hanged their bodies on five trees, and they hung on the trees until evening.”

*NEXT, Israel takes the southern mountain area.*

Their strategy is to turn south and in one battle after the next, take control of the mountains (high places) of this region (Joshua 10:28, 40, 43).

Their actions are deliberate – they attack **one city**, move to the next, encamp around it and go to war on the next day. **What we see is a systematic process – relentlessly moving forward.** They do not give the enemy any time to prepare or to gather reinforcements. Most importantly, they do not leave any room for the enemy to re-group, come from behind, or cut off their passage back to the main camp at Gilgal.

**Having taken the central and southern portions of the Land, the Israelite army now pushes up the mountain ranges all the way to the Sea of Galilee, thus taking the northern regions of the Land.**

**Joshua 11:1-5, 11-12** “WHEN JABIN king of Hazor heard of this, he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the kings of Shimron and Achshaph, 2 And to the kings who were in the north in the hill country and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth and in the lowland and in the heights of Dor on the west; 3 To the Canaanites in the east and west; to the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites in the hill country; and to the Hivites below [Mount] Hermon in the land of Mizpah. 4 And they went out with all their hosts, much people, like the sand on the seashore in number, with very many horses and chariots. 5 And all these kings met and came and encamped together at the Waters of Merom, to fight against Israel. 11 They smote all the people in it with the sword, utterly destroying them; none were left alive, and he burned Hazor with fire. 12 And Joshua took all the cities of those kings and all the kings and smote them with the sword, utterly destroying them, as Moses the servant of the Lord commanded.”



Once again we see that a **new/different warfare strategy** is put in play. In the North, all of the kings of the mountain and the plains gather together.

**Joshua 11:4-5** “4 And they went out with all their hosts, much people, like the sand on the seashore in number, with very many horses and chariots. 5 And all these kings met and came and encamped together at the Waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.”

However, in these battles Joshua meets the enemy at Hazor and at the water of Merom ... and even though they have horses and chariots, **his strategy to attack with speed and surprise tips the battle in his favour.** His first skirmish appears to be against the horses, so that their chariots were mobilized.

**Joshua 11:7-9** “7 So Joshua and all the people of war with him came against them suddenly by the Waters of Merom and fell upon them. 8 And the Lord gave them into the hand of Israel, who smote them and chased them [toward] populous Sidon and Misrephoth-maim, and eastward as far as the Valley of Mizpah; they smote them until none remained. 9 And Joshua did to them as the Lord had commanded him: **he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.**”

*Caleb claims Hebron.*



It was at Gilgal that Caleb comes to claim his inheritance. He is a Kenizzite, which had integrated with the Israelites. In the original listing of people in the land of Canaan, when the twelve princes went in to investigate as spies – a tribe called the Anakim (Anak) were identified. We don't see much reference further to them because **Caleb claims “Hebron” and that part of the mountains (within the position of Judah) for his own.**

**Joshua 14:6, 9, 12-15** “6 Then the people of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, You know what the Lord said to Moses the man of God concerning me and you in

Kadesh-barnea. 9 And Moses swore

on that day, Surely the land on which your feet have walked shall be an inheritance to you and your children always, because you have wholly followed the Lord my God. 12 **So now give me this hill country of which the Lord spoke that day.** For you heard then how the [giantlike] Anakim were there and that the cities were great and fortified; if the Lord will be with me, I shall drive them out just as the Lord said. 13 **Then Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb son of Jephunneh for an inheritance.** 14 So Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the Lord, the God of Israel. 15 The name of Hebron before was Kiriath-arba [city of Arba]. This Arba was the greatest of the Anakim. And the land had rest from war.”

Parallels for  
our time.

## How can we apply Joshua's warfare strategies to our own battle of faith?

### 1. Know which battleground you are fighting on.

You will have seen that in every battle fought to get control over the land a new strategy was used. This came about as a result of:

- The terrain that had to be fought on.
- The altitude of the enemy, whether the mountains or lowlands.
- The weapons the Israelites had to face (men on feet or using chariots).

This picture in the natural gives us a clear understanding that the same principle will apply in the spiritual domain.

We need to make a distinction between the different levels of warfare. All too often we go to "war" but are confused as to the battlefield that we are on. No part of warfare battle is entirely "boxed off" into a definite field – however, we need to discern which enemy is most prevalent in order to understand which battleground we are entering!



## 2. Kill ALL of the enemy.

**Joshua 11:20** “20 For it was of the Lord to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, that [Israel] **might destroy them utterly**, and that without favor and mercy, as the Lord commanded Moses.”

Until you deal with each enemy-tribe and the spirit it represents, they will continue to attack. To obtain complete victory, we will need to deal with every enemy battle by battle, level upon level), as we progress into taking back our Land.

**1 Corinthians 5:6** “6 [About the condition of your church] your boasting is not good [indeed, it is most unseemly and entirely out of place]. **Do you not know that [just] a little leaven will ferment the whole lump [of dough]?**”

**Galatians 5:9** “9 A little leaven (a slight inclination to error, or a few false teachers) leavens the whole lump [it perverts the whole conception of faith or misleads the whole church].”

It seems that almost everywhere a remnant remained with that spirit. And so we see in Judges that these spirits up again:

**Judges 3:4-5** “4 They were for the testing and proving of Israel to know whether Israel would listen and obey the commandments of the Lord, which He commanded their fathers by Moses. **5 And the Israelites dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites;**”

For us today, we see the parallel in:

**Ephesians 6:12** “12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despots, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.”

What do we learn? If we do not completely destroy and uproot the enemy – if even one foothold is left – the enemy WILL continue to rise up against us! We see that we will be tested, and that every subsequent generation will have to exercise the freedom of choice again ... and often they make the wrong choice.

**Judges 3:6** “6 And they married their daughters and gave their own daughters to their sons, and served their gods.”

GOD warns us against allowing some of the enemy to be left behind, and of MIXTURE:

**Luke 4:8** “8 And Jesus replied to him, Get behind Me, Satan! It is written, You shall do homage to and worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve.”

**1 Corinthians 10:21** “21 You cannot drink the Lord’s cup and the demons’ cup. You cannot partake of the Lord’s table and the demons’ table.”

### 3. Possess the HIGH PLACES and trade routes.

The Israelites have success only when they take control of the mountains and the trade routes. Having never had the benefit of “chariots and bowmen” (and strangely GOD tells the kings that they are not to own chariots) they **know that physical strength/training, the element of surprise, and the use of an elite, small, and highly-mobile unit would carry the day.**

It seems that we must understand that **spiritual preparation (study/prayer) and the use of only those people who have the correct mental-attitude and preparedness are the essential elements in spiritual warfare.**



### 4. Perhaps one of the most important lessons - Know the PROMISES/WORD of God.

GOD had already promised the Land of Canaan to the Israelites – all the way back in Abraham’s time, and confirmed/repeated to Isaac, then to Jacob, and his sons.

**Genesis 15:18-21** “18 On the same day the Lord made a covenant (promise, pledge) with Abram, saying, To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river Euphrates—the land of 19 The Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, 20 The Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, 21 The Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.”

**Genesis 17:8** “8 And I will give to you and to your posterity after you the land in which you are a stranger [going from place to place], all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”

In the spiritual parallel, we have the same purpose – to live in a land that has been fully reclaimed.

**2 Corinthians 10:5** “5 [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought and purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One),”

Importantly, going back to the physical land – we understand that it has a special/specific purpose. **The Land defines the place where the Israelites will be able to achieve their purpose and mission.**

**Deuteronomy 11:10-12** “10 For the land which you go in to possess is not like the land of Egypt, from which you came out, where you sowed your seed and watered it with your foot laboriously as in a garden of vegetables. 11 But the land which you enter to possess is a land of hills and valleys which drinks water of the rain of the heavens, 12 **A land for which the Lord your God cares; the eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it from the beginning of the year to the end of the year.**”

**If however the Israelites abandon their purpose/mission ... they lose the land.**

**Deuteronomy 11:13, 17** “13 And if you will diligently heed My commandments which I command you this day—to love the Lord your God and to serve Him with all your [mind and] heart and with your entire being—17 And the Lord’s anger be kindled against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there will be no rain and the land will not yield its fruit, and you perish quickly off the good land which the Lord gives you.”

**So to, if we abandon our spiritual purpose/mission, we will lose the ground that we have won from the kingdom of darkness ... and the generational curses/enemies will return.**

## 5. We will FIGHT until Messiah returns.

The battle is never over until the Messiah returns. Just before Moses dies, he gets instructed by YHVH (GOD) to write, teach, and put into the mouth of the Israelites a song. This song is given at the time of Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles:

**Deuteronomy 31:30, 32:1-4** “30 And Moses spoke in the hearing of all the congregation of Israel the **words of this song until they were ended:** 1 GIVE EAR, O heavens, and I [Moses] will speak; and let the earth hear the words of my mouth. 2 My message shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the light rain upon the tender grass, and as the showers upon the herb. 3 For I will proclaim the name [and presence] of the Lord. Concede and ascribe greatness to our God. 4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect, for all His ways are law and justice. A God of faithfulness without breach or deviation, just and right is He.”

The song (continued throughout Deuteronomy 32) is given to fill each man’s ears – those who stand there AND the generation that will follow (revealing a father’s job to role-model) ... UNTIL the times are completed/perfected.

## When will this be?

**Revelation 15:3** “3 And they sang the song of Moses the servant of God and the song of the Lamb, saying, Mighty and marvelous are Your works, O Lord God the Omnipotent! Righteous (just) and true are Your ways, O Sovereign of the ages (King of the nations)!”

## The restorative purpose of generational warfare ...



At the end of the Book bearing his name, we see that Joshua has now got too old to go to war on his own. A new generation must stand up and take on the challenge. Before he dies, he divides the Land – allots to each Tribe its own area, and they go forth to take the Land. However, with each allotment of Land, as we search through the Scriptures, we find evidence that the enemy **was allowed to remain**.

In these stories, we find the reality of our walk of faith as believers ... we see that we must always **be watching, defending, and attacking, in order to possess our land, to walk in intimacy with GOD, in His Covenantal Ways**.

### The BAD news ...

Paul tells us that the Old Testament is given to us to be an example, as life lessons. In the cases where the Israelites followed GOD's Commandments completely, we see the blessings ... however, in the cases where they chose to follow their OWN path, we see the curses (negative impacts) and hardships.

In the cases where the Israelites chose to continue in **perpetual rebellion**, we see the results of:

- Slavery/oppression,
- Being dispersed to the ends of the earth as a minority in many nations of the world.

This pathway away from GOD brought judgment and the generational curse of being separated from GOD's Holy City. Let's see how the **record of obedience** is set out for us ...

- (1) We see that Judah and Simeon **took all of the mountainous Land, but did not conquer completely the plains** (Joshua 15:1, 16:1, 17:12-13).
- (2) We see the other Tribes (excepting Dan, Gad, Reuben and the other half Tribe of Manasseh) dwelled in their portion of the Land, **but allowed "squatters" from enemy nations to dwell with them:**

**Joshua 13:13** "13 Yet the Israelites did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites, but Geshur and Maacath dwell among [them] still."

**Judges 3:5** “5 And the Israelites dwelt among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites;”

- (3) **Caution!** We must remember the lesson of the Tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, they chose to live EAST of the Jordan, **outside the Land!**

**Joshua 13:15, 24, 29** “15 And Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of the Reubenites according to their families: 24 Moses gave an inheritance also to the tribe of the Gadites according to their families. 29 And Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh; it was allotted to them according to their families.”



## Conclusion.

Later on, we are privileged to see another king stand up, one who will make it his life-purpose to reclaim the Land ... such a man is David. He works hard to get the Tribes to form one united nation. They move on to become a world force (under King Solomon) ... however, we see David's role as father is not so successful.

**Consequently, there are many family fights.**

His son, Solomon, becomes king after him. Solomon sets out to establish a series of Godly principles ... he will build the Temple, and will set up a physical defense system. However ... Solomon will mix his worship/seed with the pagan nations around him, and once again allow the “serpent” to creep back into the garden. Once again, we will see that when men that have been called to be servant-leaders and FATHERS fail to:

- *Tend,*
  - Work diligently to plant the seeds of Truth and to reveal the life-giving “manna” that comes out of being obedient to YHVH’s (GOD’s) Commands,
- *Guard,*
  - Be watchmen on the walls and the parapets, ensuring that no ground is lost to the serpent again,

... then we will find a family/home with a breach in the wall!

When fathers realize that routing out the enemy in their lifetime means that the next generational can walk in a greater level of intimacy with GOD, ***they will be prepared to join Y’shua on the battleground.***

If not now, it will be soon ... the Messiah WILL return and with Him the great last battle ...



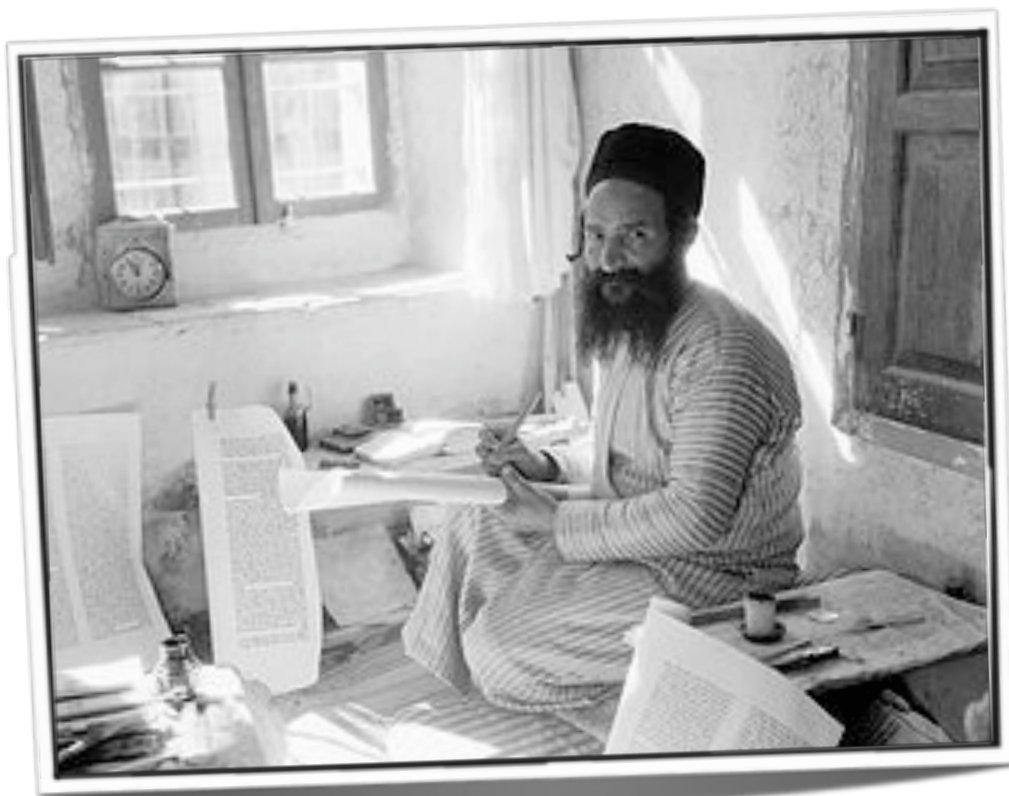
*So, why wait?*

# **The Hebrew Language**

# The Hebrew Language ...

What's the context? It is so important to ask – and answer – this question, particularly when studying the Scriptures. We need to know what the meaning, understanding, culture, and value system of the text was in the language and time the text was written. Our modern-day mindsets cause us to define words within today's meanings, understanding, culture, and value systems ... however, this is often quite a way off from what was the original – and intended – understanding.

The Scriptures were written thousands of years ago in HEBREW, and in an Eastern-Semitic culture. If this is truth, then can we come to a different interpretation of any given passage?



In order to expand our study and understanding of the Word, we need to have a “crash course” in the original language the text was written, ancient Hebrew.

Ancient Hebrew has an alphabet of TWENTY-TWO letters. Obviously, words are written using a combination of these letters [note, there are no vowels]. However, what makes this language even more of an “adventure” is that each individual letter of the alphabet has a unique meaning, picture [symbolism], and number. This means, you can study and understand the plain text as is ... and you can study further by delving into the individual symbolism of the letters. Often, doing this kind of study brings out further meaning and richness to the passage. You will find that we have used this type of study – examining the picture-meaning of the Hebrew words – throughout our materials. We have found this such a blessing in our own understanding of the Scriptures, and trust you will enjoy it just as much! Truly, God's Word is ALIVE!

# Ancient Hebrew<sup>22</sup>

Ancient Hebrew						
Early	Middle	Late	Name	Picture	Meaning	Sound
			El	Ox head	Strong, Power, Leader	ah, eh
			Bet	Tent floorplan	Family, House, In	b, bh(v)
			Gam	Foot	Gather, Walk	g
			Dal	Door	Move, Hang, Entrance	d
			Hey	Man with arms raised	Look, Reveal, Breath	h, ah
			Waw	Tent peg	Add, Secure, Hook	w, o, u
			Zan	Mattock	Food, Cut, Nourish	z
			Hhet	Tent wall	Outside, Divide, Half	hh
			Tet	Basket	Surround, Contain, Mud	t
			Yad	Arm and closed hand	Work, Throw, Worship	y, ee
			Kaph	Open palm	Bend, Open, Allow, Tame	k, kh
			Lam	Shepherd Staff	Teach, Yoke, To, Bind	l
			Mem	Water	Chaos, Mighty, Blood	m
			Nun	Seed	Continue, Heir, Son	n
			Sin	Thorn	Grab, Hate, Protect	s
			Ghah	Eye	Watch, Know, Shade	gh(ng)
			Pey	Mouth	Blow, Scatter, Edge	p, ph(f)
			Tsad	Man on his side	Wait, Chase, Snare, Hunt	ts
			Quph	Sun on the horizon	Condense, Circle, Time	q
			Resh	Head of a man	First, Top, Beginning	r
			Shin	Two front teeth	Sharp, Press, Eat, Two	sh
			Taw	Crossed sticks	Mark, Sign, Signal, Monument	t

<sup>22</sup> [http://elshaddaiministries.us/hebrewalphabet\\_old.html](http://elshaddaiministries.us/hebrewalphabet_old.html)

# Modern Hebrew<sup>23</sup> ...

MARK	NAME	PRONOUNCED	TRANSLITERATION
א	Aleph	Silent letter	‘ (or none)
ב/בּ	Bet / Vet	b as in boy (no dot: v as in vine)	b / v
ג/גּ	Gimmel	g as in girl	g
ד/דּ	Dalet	d as in door	d
ה	Hey	h as in hay	h
ו	Vav	v as in vine; “consonantal vowel”	v
ז	Zayin	z as in zebra	z
ח	Chet	ch as in Bach	ch (or h)
ט	Tet	t as in time	t
י	Yod	y as in yes; “consonantal vowel”	y
כ/כּ	Kaf/Khaf *	k as in kite (no dot: ch as in bach)	k / kh
ל	Lamed	l as in look	l
מ/מּ	Mem *	m as in mom (sofit form)	m
נ/נּ	Nun *	n as in now (sofit form)	n
ס	Samekh	s as in son	s
ע	Ayin	Silent letter	‘ (or none)
פ/פּ	Pey/Fey *	p as in park (no dot: ph as in phone)	p / ph
צ/צּ	Tzade *	ts as in nuts (sofit form)	ts / tz
ק	Qof	q as in queen	k (or q)
ר	Resh	r as in rain	r
ש/שּ	Shin/Sin	sh as in shy (s as in sun)	sh / s
ת/תּ	Tav	t as in tall	t

\* Has a different form when it occurs at the end of a word (sofit).

<sup>23</sup> [www.hebrew4christians.com](http://www.hebrew4christians.com)

In closing, after these curses have been dealt with and broken, it is very important to restore BLESSINGS ... we want to encourage *fathers* to take this calling seriously, and to begin **BLESSING** their families according to the Commandment of the LORD that the priests bless with the following blessing ...

## *The Priestly Blessing ...*

*Numbers 6:24-26*

“<sup>24</sup> The LORD bless thee, and keep thee:  
<sup>25</sup> The LORD make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: <sup>26</sup> The LORD lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.”

# *The Priestly Blessing ...*

Hebraic Translation<sup>1</sup>

"YHVH will kneel before you presenting gifts, and He will guard you with a hedge of protection, YHVH will illuminate the wholeness of His Being toward you, bringing order, and He will provide you with love, sustenance, and friendship, YHVH will lift up the wholeness of His Being and look upon you, and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete."

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\*Translation by Jeff A. Benner, for more information, please see [http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12\\_blessing.html](http://www.ancient-hebrew.org/12_blessing.html)

# The Priestly Blessing<sup>1</sup>

יְבַרְכֶּךָ יְהוָה וַיִּשְׁמְרֶךָ:

and may he guard you the LORD may he bless you

May the LORD<sup>2</sup> bless you<sup>3</sup> and keep you<sup>4</sup>

יָאֵר יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחַנְךָ:

and show you favor on you his face the LORD May he shine

May the LORD make His face<sup>5</sup> shine<sup>6</sup> upon you and be gracious<sup>7</sup> to you

יִשָּׂא יְהוָה פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם:

peace for you and establish on you his face the LORD may he lift up

May the LORD lift up<sup>8</sup> his face to you and give you peace<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This blessing is (ritually) recited (by the kohanim) during synagogue services during *Nesiat Kapayim* ("the Raising of the Hands"), though it is also recited over children on Friday night before the start of the Shabbat meal or as a bedtime blessing.

<sup>2</sup> The name *YHVH* (יהוה) represents God's attributes of love and mercy (מִדַּת הַרַחֲמִים), in contradistinction to the name *Elohim* (אֱלֹהִים), which represents God's attribute of justice and power as our Creator.

<sup>3</sup> בְּרַכָּה (*b'rachah*). Jewish tradition considers this both material and spiritual prosperity. Pirkei Avot 3:15 says, "If there is no flour, there is no Torah," by which is meant that material benefits are intended to help you pursue study of Torah. The first occurrence of the word "blessing" in the Scriptures pertains to *pru urvu* (פְּרוּ וּרְבוּ), "be fruitful and multiply" (Gen. 1:22).

<sup>4</sup> שָׁמַר (*shamar*): To guard, protect, heed, as in the exercise of diligent care. Only God has the power to secure the conferred blessing and keep it from turning sour or from fading away.

<sup>5</sup> The word for "face" (פָּנִים) is plural with the 3rd person singular ending. It is considered metaphorical since God is incorporeal. The plural form is thought by some to indicate God's revealed and hidden attributes in creation.

<sup>6</sup> The hiphil verb (יָאֵר) comes from the word "light" (אֹר), and is thought to refer to God's wisdom. "May God enlighten you" with His wisdom, i.e., the Divine Light that preceded the work of creation (Gen. 1:3).

<sup>7</sup> May God grant you grace or favor (חֵן), i.e., to understand the "breadth and length and height and depth" of God's love (Eph. 3:18). Grace refers to the bestowal of an undeserved gift. The blessing is bestowed even though unearned or unmerited.

<sup>8</sup> Since one's face is an indication of the heart's attitude, Rashi says that this means God will suppress His anger by "looking at you" (if God is angry at you, He "turns His face away" and refuses to admit your presence). The "lifting of face" also pictures God lifting you up as a father might lift up his child in joy. The "showing of face" indicates spiritual intimacy.

<sup>9</sup> All of the other blessings are useless without the establishment of inner peace, and therefore it is the seal of the blessing. Shalom (שְׁלוֹם) is not simply the absence of strife, but a balance and harmony between the finite and infinite, the temporal and the eternal, the material and the spiritual realms. Shalom is a gift from Sar Shalom (שַׂר שְׁלוֹם), the Prince of Peace.