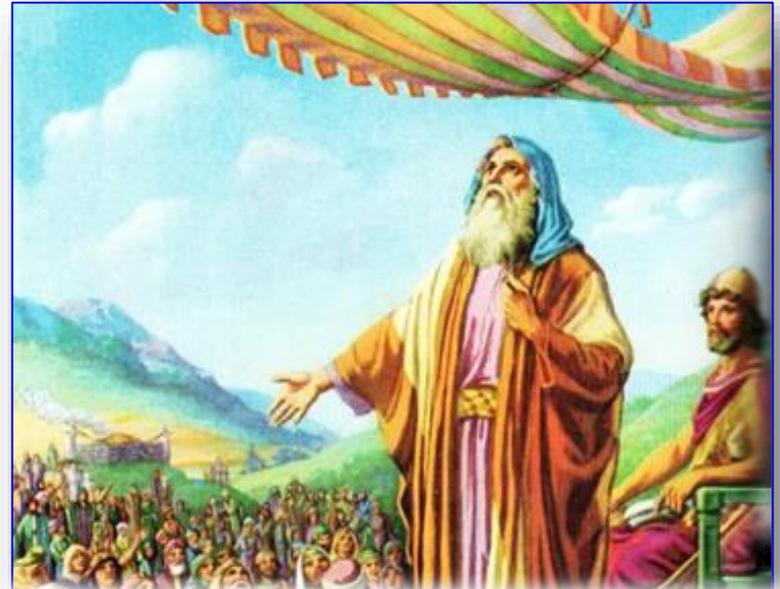


DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33 Moses Blesses the Tribes

Deut 33:1 “Now *this is the blessing* with which Moses the man of God blessed the sons of Israel before his death.” (cf. Gen 49:1)

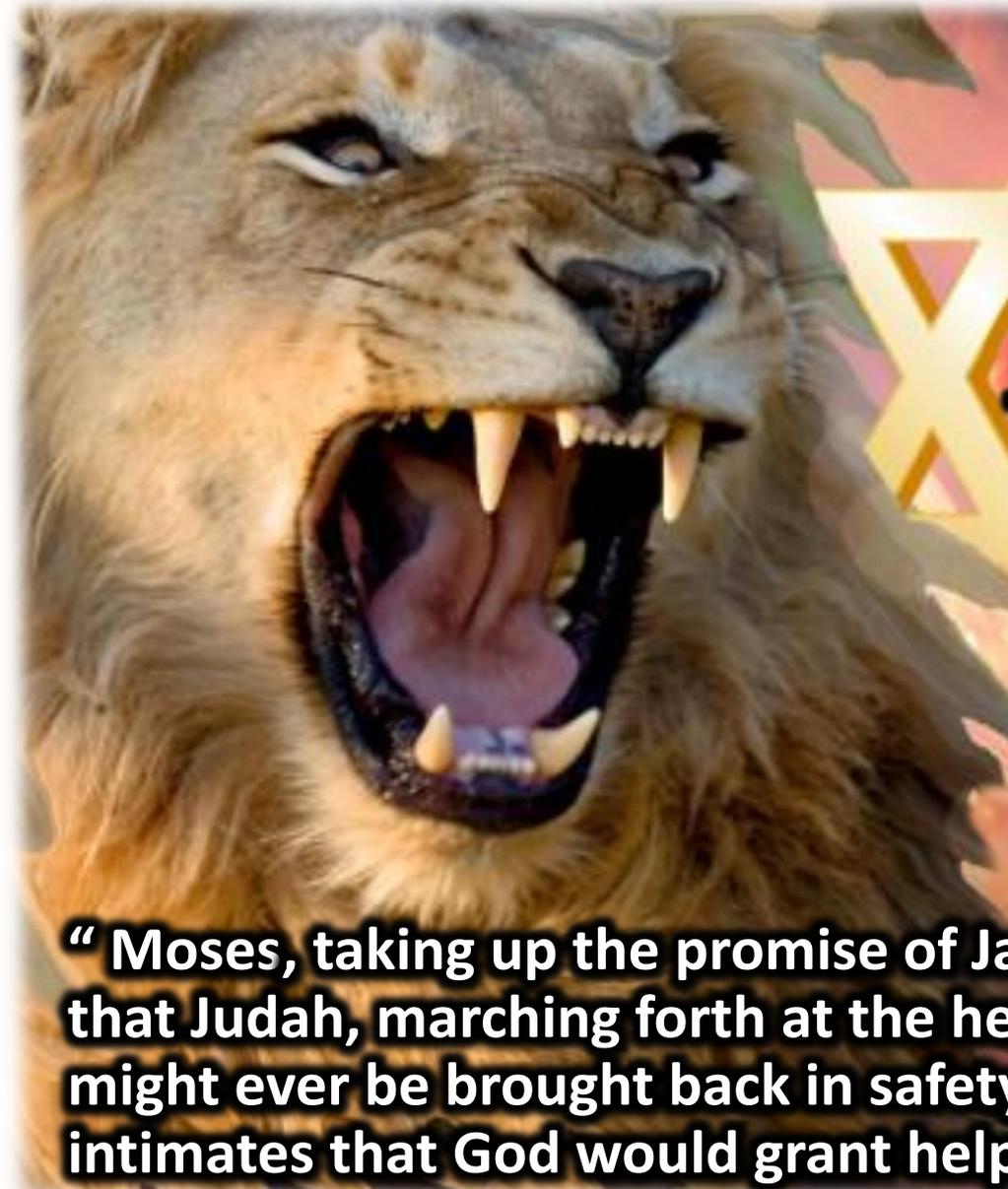


Deut 33:6 “May Reuben live and not die, Nor his men be few.”

Reubenites, numbered nearly 46,000 warriors in (Num 1:20). But occupied with their herds & flocks, seem to have lost their energy soon after the days of Joshua, until in later times when Ruben numbers with Gad & half the tribe Manasseh counted only 45,000 warriors— fewer than Reuben alone at the start of the census!

“No judge, prophet, or national hero arose out of this tribe.” Barnes

DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*



Deut 33:7 “Hear,
O Lord, the cry
of **Judah**...”

Bring him
to his people.

With his own
hands he
defends
his cause.

Oh, be his help
against his
foes! “ *NIV*

“Moses, taking up the promise of Jacob, prays that Judah, marching forth at the head of the tribes, might ever be brought back in safety and victory; arm intimates that God would grant help to accomplish this.” *Barnes*

DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

THE LION OF JUDAH

Jacob's blessing
400 years earlier...

Gen 49:9 "Judah
is a lion's whelp.
He couches, he lies
down as a lion,
and as a lion,
who dares
rouse him
up?"

Power To Rule

10 "The *scepter*
shall not depart
from Judah,
nor the *ruler's*
staff from
between
his feet,
until Shiloh
comes.."

"And to him
shall be the
obedience of
the peoples."



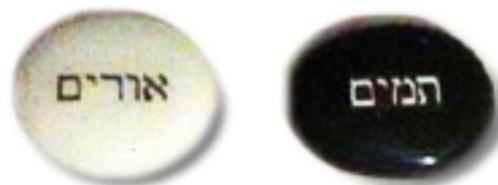
DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:8a And of *Levi* he said...

Deut 33:8b "Let Thy
Thummim and Thy *Urim*.."

Anglicized Hebrew Words:
"Perfections and Lights"

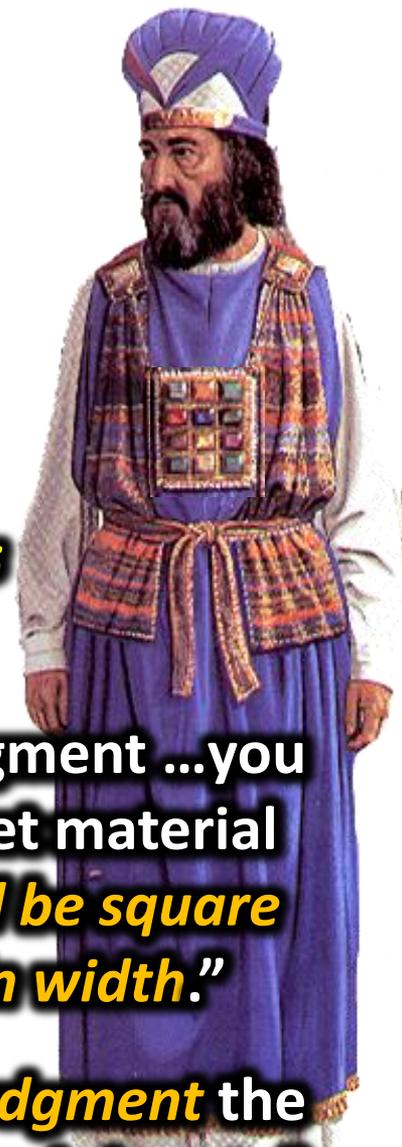
ie. complete Truth and a Brilliant answer.



BKC "Two precious stones used in the casting of lots
to receive divine answers in difficult matters."

Ex 28:15 "And you shall make a breast-piece of judgment ...you shall make it: of gold, of blue and purple and scarlet material and fine twisted linen you shall make it. **16 It shall be square and folded double, a span in length and a span in width.**"

Ex 28:30 "And you shall put **in the breast-piece of judgment** the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be over Aaron's heart.."



DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:8a And of *Levi* he said...



Deut 33:10 *They shall teach Thine ordinances to Jacob, and Thy law to Israel.*

They shall put incense before Thee, and *whole burnt offerings on Thine altar.*



Mal 1:6 "Priests who despise My name. v.8 When you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil?" [200 yrs after Jeremiah]

DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:12 Of *Benjamin* he said,

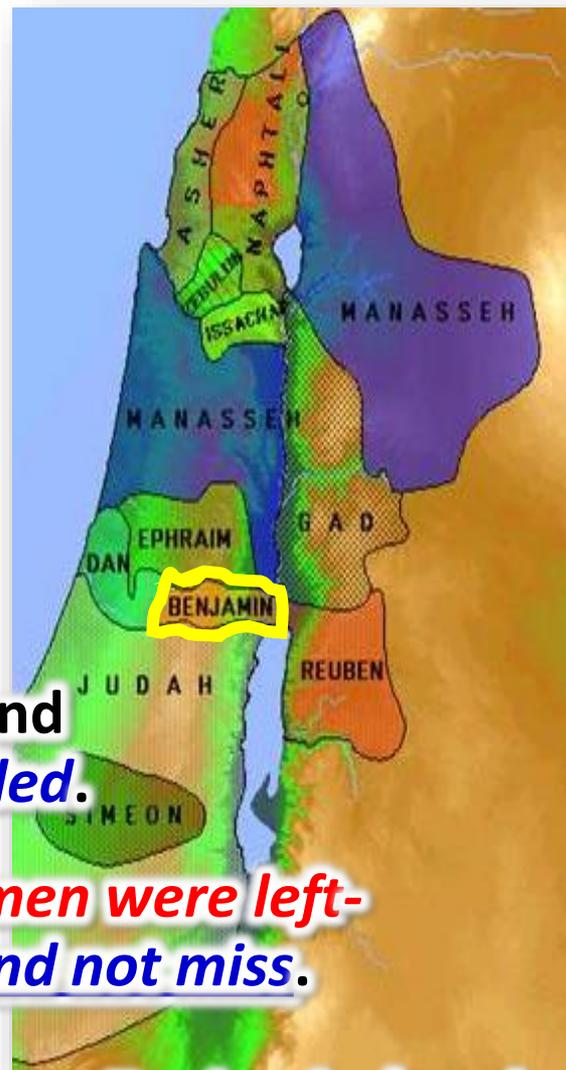
“May the beloved of the Lord *dwell in security* by Him, Who *shields him* all the day, And he dwells between His shoulders.”
[cf Isa 46:4 “I carry you and bear you”]

BKC “Benjamin [was] Jacob's youngest *and particularly loved son* (Gen 44:20).”

Benjamin's *central position* called for a brave and warlike tribe. His warriors were *often left-handed* .

Judg 20:16 “But of all these people *700 choice men were left-handed* ; *each one could sling a stone at a hair and not miss* .”

2 Chron 14:8 “Asa had an army ...and 280,000 from *Benjamin* , bearing shields and wielding bows; *all of them were valiant warriors* .”



DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

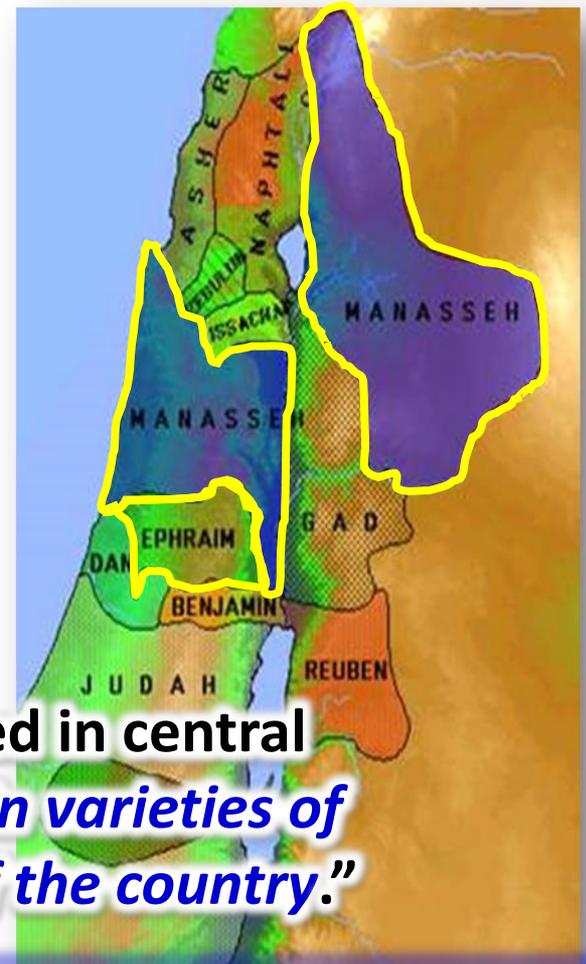
Deut 33:13 And of *Joseph* he said...

v.13 "Blessed of the Lord *be his land...*

v.16 And with the *choice things of the earth* and its fullness. *[Blessings]*

v.17 "*His horns* are the horns of the wild ox. With them he shall push the peoples *[Power]*. And those are the ten thousands of *Ephraim*, And those are the thousands of *Manasseh*."

JFB: "The territory of [*Ephraim*], was situated in central Palestine, was *fertile and picturesque, richer in varieties of natural produce than almost any other part of the country.*"



Fausset: [*Mannaseh*] conquered Gilead, the most impregnable part of Palestine, (Num 32:39-40; Deut 3:4; Josh 17:5). *Gideon*, was the greatest of the judges & *Jephthah*, were samples of their warriors. 7

DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:18 And of *Zebulun*
and *Issachar*

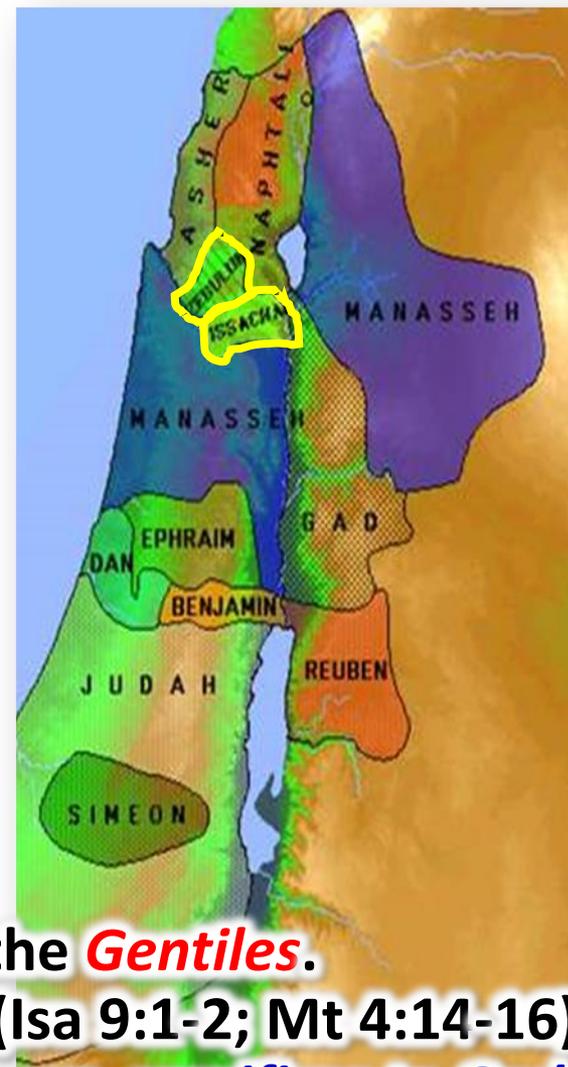
v.18 "Rejoice, Zebulun, in your *going forth*
and, Issachar, *in your tents.*"

BKC: Going out and in your tents...
that is these two tribes could expect
God's blessing in their daily lives.

Deut 33:19 "They *shall call peoples* to the
mountain. There they shall offer
righteous sacrifices."

Here is a reference to the later conversion of the *Gentiles*.
Dark, gentile Galilee would see a great light ! (Isa 9:1-2; Mt 4:14-16)
From their abundance they would offer *righteous sacrifices to God*.

How about *YOU* inviting people to worship?



DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:20 And of **Gad** he said...

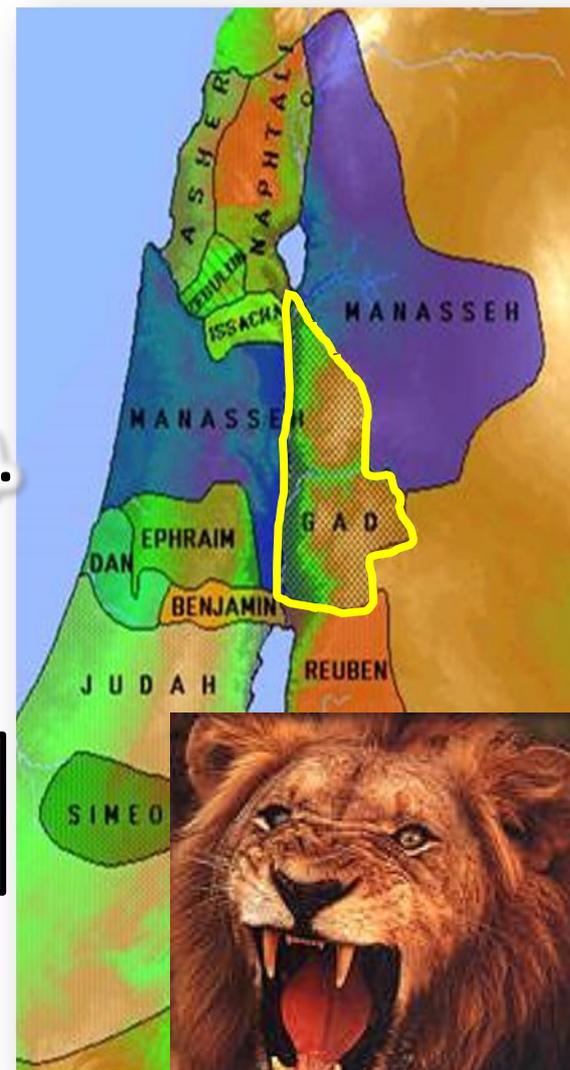
v.20 "*Blessed is the One* who enlarges **Gad**; He lies down as a lion...."

Pulpit: "Here **God is praised** for the enlargement of the warlike tribe of Gad." (Gen 49:19).

JFB: "As a lion he couches, rests secure and *fearless, though surrounded by enemies.*"

v.21 "He provided the *first part for himself*... He executed justice of the Lord..."

Gad sent warriors into Canaan to help conquer the land as Joshua had commanded, (Josh 22:1-4). When Israel defeated nations east of the Jordan, **Gad** took a "lion's share" for themselves. cf. BEC



DEUT 33 BLESSING THE TRIBES

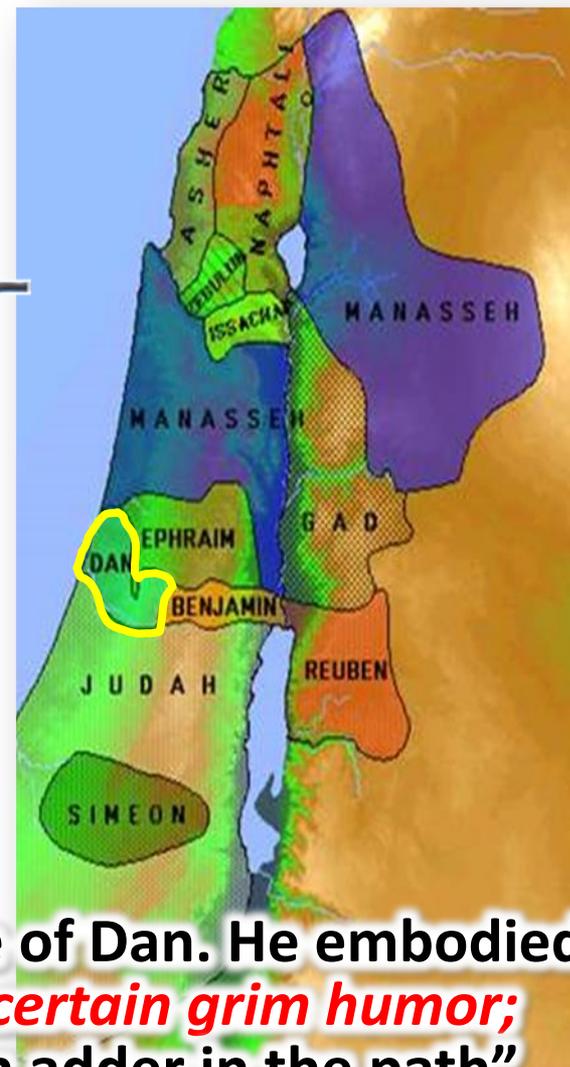
Deut 33:22 And of *Dan* he said...

"*Dan* is a lion's whelp,
That leaps forth from
Bashan."



Easton: "The territory of *Dan* extended from the west of that of Ephraim and Benjamin to the sea. *It was a small territory, but was very fertile.* It included in it, among others, the cities of Lydda, Ekron, and Joppa. *But this district was too limited.*"

ISBE: *Samson* was a great man from the tribe of Dan. He embodied characteristics of the tribe: *violent, with a certain grim humor; stealthy in tactics* "a serpent in the way, an adder in the path" (Gen 49:17) - but swift and strong in striking – "a lion's whelp, that leaps forth from Bashan."



DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

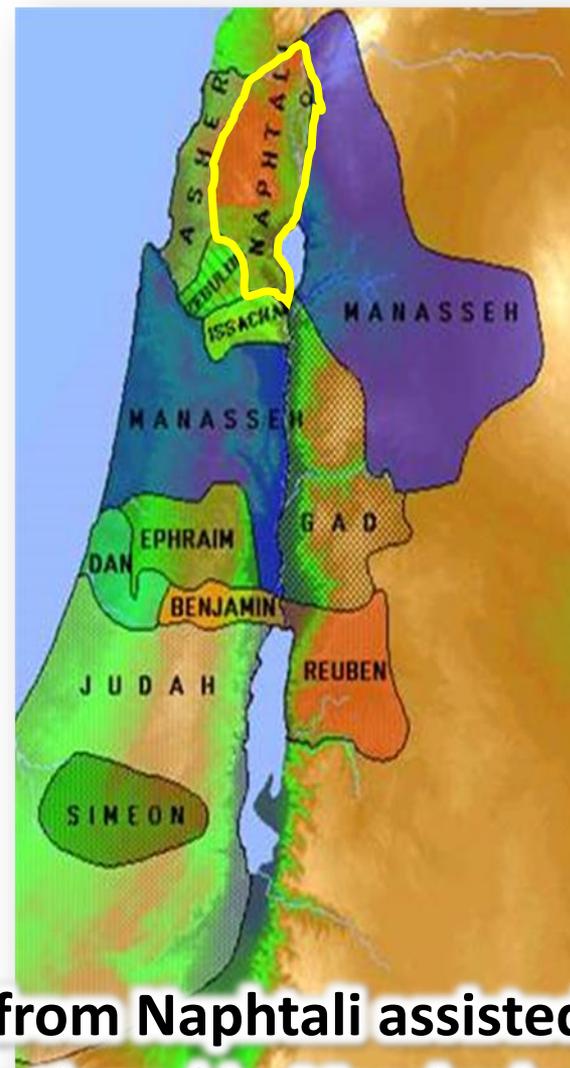
Deut 33:23 And of *Naphtali* he said...

v.23 “O Naphtali, satisfied with favor,
and full of the blessing of the Lord.
Take possession of the sea...”

Barnes: “The possession of Naphtali included nearly the whole west coast of the Sea of Galilee... and the well watered district near the springs of Jordan...”

“It contained some of the greatest scenery & some of the most fertile land in Palestine. Josephus describes.. it as an *earthly paradise*.”

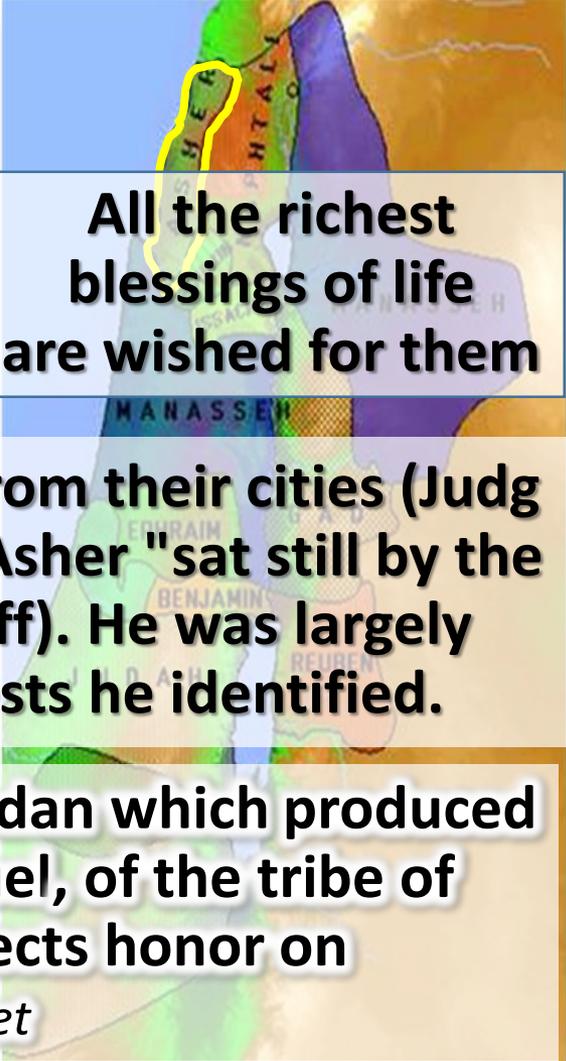
BEC: *Barak* came from Naphtali, and *soldiers* from Naphtali assisted him and Deborah (Judg 5:18). Naphtali is mentioned in *Messianic prophecy*, along with Zebulun (Isa 9:1; Matt 4:13-16).



DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

Deut 33:24 And of *Asher* he said...

Deut 33:24 “*And may he dip his foot in oil.* 25 “Your locks shall be *iron and bronze*, and according to your days, so shall your leisurely walk be.”



All the richest blessings of life are wished for them

ISBE: They lost any desire to eject [gentiles] from their cities (Judg 1:31). They didn't care who ruled over them. Asher "sat still by the sea, when others went to battle (Judg 5:17 ff). He was largely absorbed by the people with whose interests he identified.

Asher and Simeon are the only tribes W. of Jordan which produced no hero or judge. *ANNA*, daughter of Phaniel, of the tribe of Asher, in the New Testament alone reflects honor on her tribe (Luke 2:36). *Fausset*

Tribulation Brings Strength (Rom 5:3) “Knowing that tribulation brings about *perseverance*; v4 a *proven character*; and *hope*.”

DEUT 33 *BLESSING THE TRIBES*

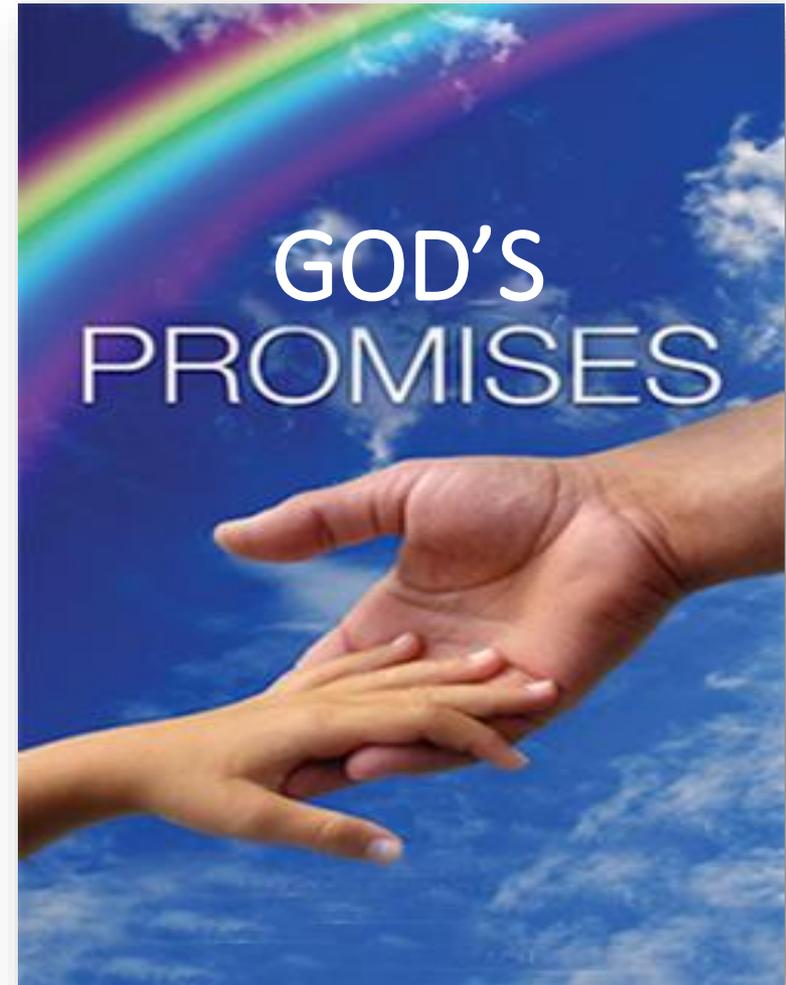
Deut 33:27 Blessing on Israel ...

v.27 "The eternal
God is a dwelling place.."

v.28 "*So Israel dwells in security... In
a land of grain and new wine; His
heavens also drop down dew.*

29a "*Blessed are you, O Israel; Who
is like you, a people saved by the
Lord..*

29b Your enemies shall cringe before
you, *And you shall tread upon their
high places.*"



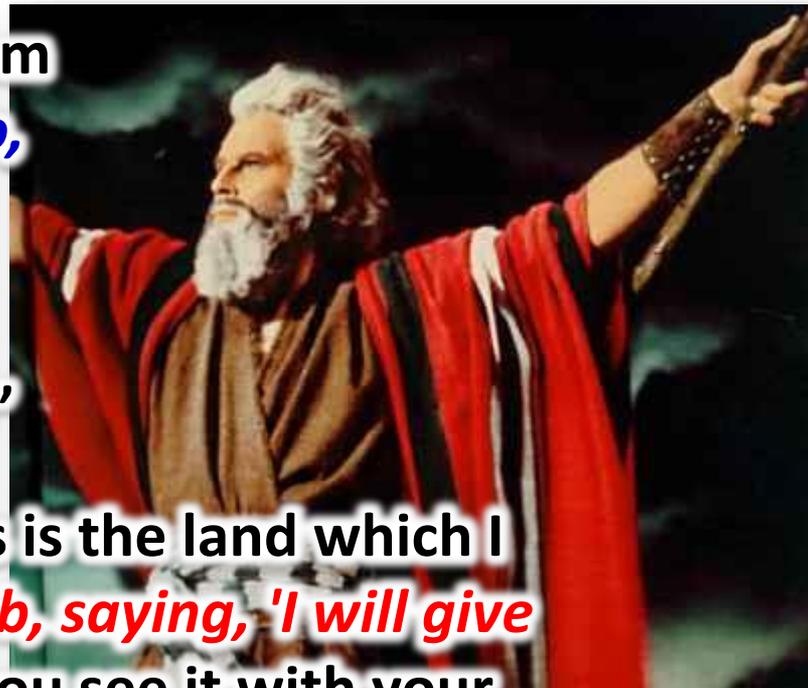
DEUT 34 *PASSING THE BATON*

Deut 34:1 Now Moses went up from the plains of *Moab to Mount Nebo, ...which is opposite Jericho.*

v.1 “And the Lord *showed him all the land*, Gilead as far as Dan...”

v.4 Then the Lord said to him, “This is the land which I *swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'*; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there.”

v.5 *So Moses the servant of the Lord died there* in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. 6 *And He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab*, opposite Beth-peor; but no man knows his burial place to this day.



DEUT 34 *PASSING THE BATON*

Deut 34:9 “Now Joshua the son of Nun was *filled with the spirit of wisdom*, for Moses had laid his hands on him; and the sons of Israel listened to him and did as the Lord had commanded Moses.”

v.10 “Since then no prophet has risen in Israel like Moses, *whom the Lord knew face to face.*”

