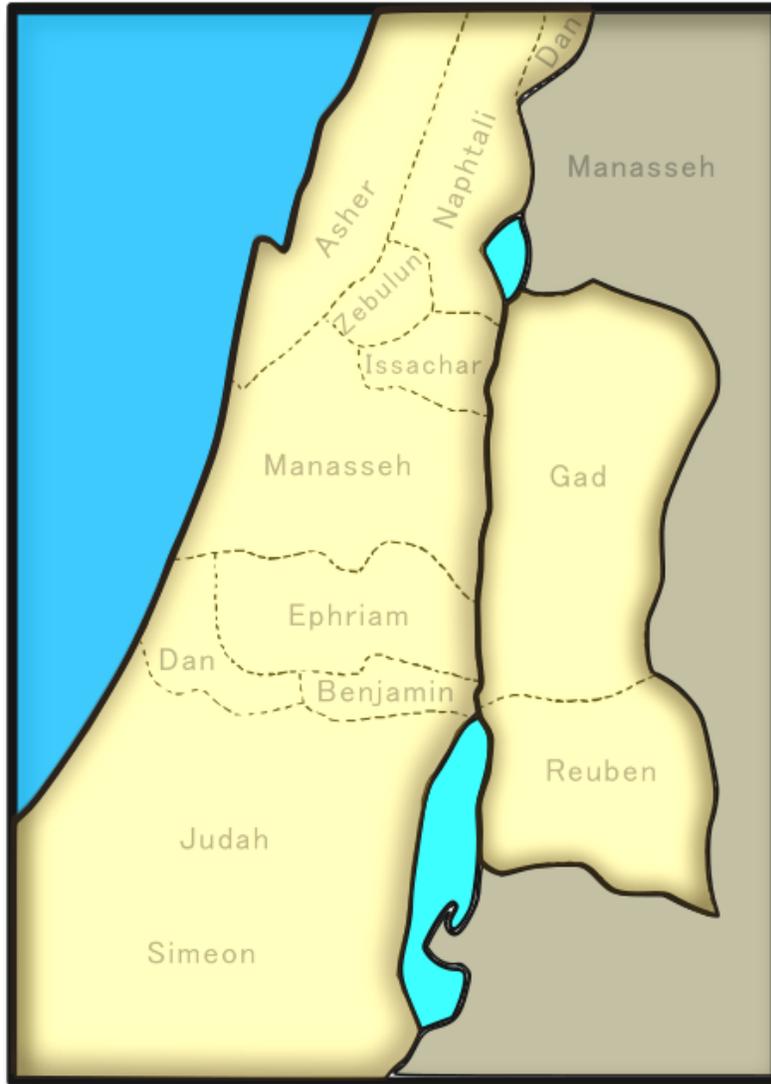


Land Divided

Settled, but not United



Joshua 13 - 21

Lesson 11: Land Divided

Settled, but not United

BIBLE

Book	Author	Chapter	Date
Joshua	Most content is attributed to Joshua	13 - 21	1400-1370 B.C.

SUMMARY

Joshua 13–21 describes how the land of Canaan was divided among the twelve tribes of Israel after their military victories. Each tribe received its allotted territory, while the Levites were given special cities instead of land, and the Tabernacle was set up at Shiloh as a central place of worship.

NOTES

Land Yet to Be Conquered - Joshua 13

- Joshua is now old and much land has still not been taken possession of
- God instructs Joshua to begin assigning land among the tribes
- Tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh receive land east of the Jordan

Caleb's Inheritance - Joshua 14

- Caleb (age 85) requests and receives Hebron as his inheritance.
- His faith and boldness are rewarded—he had trusted God since spying out the land - Numbers 13–14

Allotments to Judah, Ephraim, and Manasseh - Joshua 15–17

- Judah (Caleb's tribe) receives the largest territory.
- Ephraim and Manasseh (Joseph's tribes) receive central land.
- Joseph's descendants complain about not having enough land; Joshua challenges them to clear the hill country

Surveying the Land

- Seven tribes delay taking possession; Joshua rebukes them.
- Joshua sends men to survey the land for the seven remaining tribes without allotments. Joshua 18:1-10
- Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan receive their inheritances.
- Joshua receives his inheritance in Timnath Serah. Joshua 19:49-51

Cities of Refuge - Joshua 20

- Six cities of refuge are established for those who commit accidental manslaughter.
- These cities represent God's justice and mercy, offering protection until trial.

Cities for the Levites - Joshua 21

- Levites are given 48 cities scattered throughout all tribal lands (they receive no tribal land of their own).
- The Levites didn't receive an inheritance of Land, but they got the Lord as their inheritance. Joshua 21:1-3

Summary

The book ends with a powerful summary: "Not one of all the Lord's good promises... failed; every one was fulfilled." (Josh. 21:45)

KEY POINTS

1. God keeps his promises. What he promises he will follow through on Joshua 21:43-45
2. We should no delay, but boldly step up and claim our own inheritance in God.
3. God's demonstrates that he values 'Justice' and 'Mercy' - through the establishment of Cities of Refuge