

Historical Content

Judges 19

People

“A Certain” Levite

- A descendant of the tribe of Levi who was traveling in Gibeah from the mountains of Ephraim (Jg 19)

Abused Concubine

- A woman who married a Levite and was abused and killed by the men of Gibeah (Jg 19)

Abused Concubine’s Father

- A man from Bethlehem whose daughter was the concubine of the traveling Levite (Jg 19)

Servant of “A Certain Levite”

- The servant of the Levite who was traveling in Gibeah (Jg 19)

Old Man In Gibeah

- A man from the mountains of Ephraim living in Gibeah who provided the traveling Levite, his servant and his concubine a place to stay (Jg 19)

People

Benjamites (The Tribe of Benjamin)

- The descendants of the patriarch Benjamin during the time of the Judges.
- “Descendants of Benjamin, son of Jacob. Israel’s first king, Saul, belonged to Benjamin (1 Sam 9:1–2), as did the Apostle Paul (Phil 3:5). The territory allotted to the tribe of Benjamin was between Ephraim, the Jordan River, Judah, and Dan... After Benjaminites in the town of Gibeah rape a Levite’s concubine, the tribe is nearly wiped out by the 11 other tribes.”¹

Men of Gibeah

- A group of perverted men in Gibeah who abused the Levite’s concubine so harshly that she died (Jg 19)

Places

Mountains of Ephraim

- "The mountainous area of the territory of Ephraim, located above the territory of Benjamin. Also: Ephraim; Hill Country Of Ephraim; Mount Ephraim; Mountains of Ephraim; Mountains of Ephraim."²

Places

Bethlehem (in Judah)

- Bethlehem means “House of Bread”
- Jacob’s wife, Rachel, died giving birth to Benjamin and was buried in Bethlehem (Ge 35:16-20; 48:7)
- The man named Bethlehem was from the line of the tribe of Judah. He was the son of a Levite from Bethlehem in Judah was hired to be a personal priest by Micah the Ephramite who had set up a shrine in his house to false idols (Jg 17:1-13)
- Elimelech, Naomi’s husband, was from Bethlehem, Judah. (Ru 1:1-2)
- Boaz (relative of Elimelech who redeemed and married Ruth) was from Bethlehem, Judah. (Ru 2:1-4)
- Jesse (the son of Obed and grandson of Ruth & Boaz) was from Bethlehem, Judah, and became the father of David, King of Israel. (Ru 4:11, 13-22; 1 Sa 17:12)
- David grew up in Bethlehem, Judah as a shepherd in his father’s fields and was anointed his home in Bethlehem by Samuel to be the King of Israel. (1 Sa 16:1-13; 1 Sa 17:15)
- When Zerubbabel returned to Jerusalem after the Babylonian exile, with him came people from Bethlehem to go back to their home. (Ez 2:21; Ne 7:26)
- The prophet Micah prophesied that the coming Messiah would come from Bethlehem. (Micah 5:2)
- Joseph was from the tribe of Judah and the line of King David. Therefore, he and Mary traveled to Bethlehem, Judah to register when Caesar decreed a census. (Lk 2:1-5)
- Jesus was born in Bethlehem. (Mt 1:25; 2:1; Lk 2:6-7)

Places

Territory of Judah

- The land that was allotted to the tribe of Judah as their inheritance (Jos 15:5–11; 59–61)

Jebus (Jerusalem)

- The city in the hill country of Judah that was home to the Jebusites and was also eventually became the city of Jerusalem³ (Jg 19:10)

Gibeah of Benjamin

- Town in the southern territory of Benjamin, not to be confused with “Gibeah of Judah” or “Gibeah of Ephraim”
- Hometown of King Saul and where he reigned from (1 Sa 9:1–11:15)

Places

Ramah

- “Deborah judged between Ramah and Bethel (Judg. 4:5). Baasha, king of Israel (ca. 900–877 BCE), fortified Ramah, but, by an alliance with Ben-hadad of Damascus, Asa of Judah (ca. 913–873) tore it down (1 Kings 15:17–22). According to Isa. 10:29, the Assyrians advanced toward Jerusalem through Ramah. Ramah is mentioned in Hosea’s cry against Israel (5:8), and Jeremiah was set free there (Jer. 40:1). Ramah is among those towns listed with inhabitants following the exile (Ezra 2:26; Neh. 7:30). Rachel was associated with this town (Jer. 31:15; Matt. 2:18).”⁵

Key Dates / Timelines

- **1446 B.C.** The Exodus: Israelites are Delivered from Egypt
- **1250 B.C.** Beginning of the Conquest of Canaan
- **1220-1051 B.C.** The period of the Judges over Israel
- **1051 B.C.** The Prophet Samuel Anoints Saul to be King of Israel (United Kingdom)
- **1051–1011 B.C.** The reign of King Saul
- **1020 B.C.** The Prophet Samuel anoints David to be King of Israel (United Kingdom)
- **1011–971 B.C.** The reign of King David
- **971 B.C.** The Prophet Samuel anoints Solomon to be King of Israel (United Kingdom)
- **971–931 B.C.** The reign of King Solomon
- **922 B.C.** The United Kingdom of Israel divides into two Kingdoms: Israel (north) and Juda (south)
- **722 B.C.** The Northern Kingdom of Israel was conquered by the Assyrians
- **605 B.C.** Battle of Carchemish (Nebuchadnezzar defeats the Egyptians on the Euphrates River)
- **605 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar invades Jerusalem and takes exiles to Babylon (including Daniel and his companions)
- **597 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar besieges Jerusalem and takes King Jeconiah (Jehoiachin) as prisoner
- **588 B.C.** Nebuchadnezzar begins his final siege of Jerusalem
- **586 B.C.** Fall of Jerusalem to Babylon; Judah in exile in Babylon

911 - 609 B.C. Assyrian Empire | 626 – 539 B.C. Babylonian Empire | 539 – 358 B.C. Persian Empire

Cross References

Key References:

- **Genesis 19:4–8** | “Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. And they called to Lot and said to him, ‘Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally.’ So Lot went out to them through the doorway, shut the door behind him, and said, ‘Please, my brethren, do not do so wickedly! See now, I have two daughters who have not known a man; please, let me bring them out to you, and you may do to them as you wish; only do nothing to these men, since this is the reason they have come under the shadow of my roof.’”
- **Judges 20:5–6** | “And the men of Gibeah rose against me, and surrounded the house at night because of me. They intended to kill me, but instead they ravished my concubine so that she died. So I took hold of my concubine, cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the territory of the inheritance of Israel, because they committed lewdness and outrage in Israel.”

Cross References

Full List:

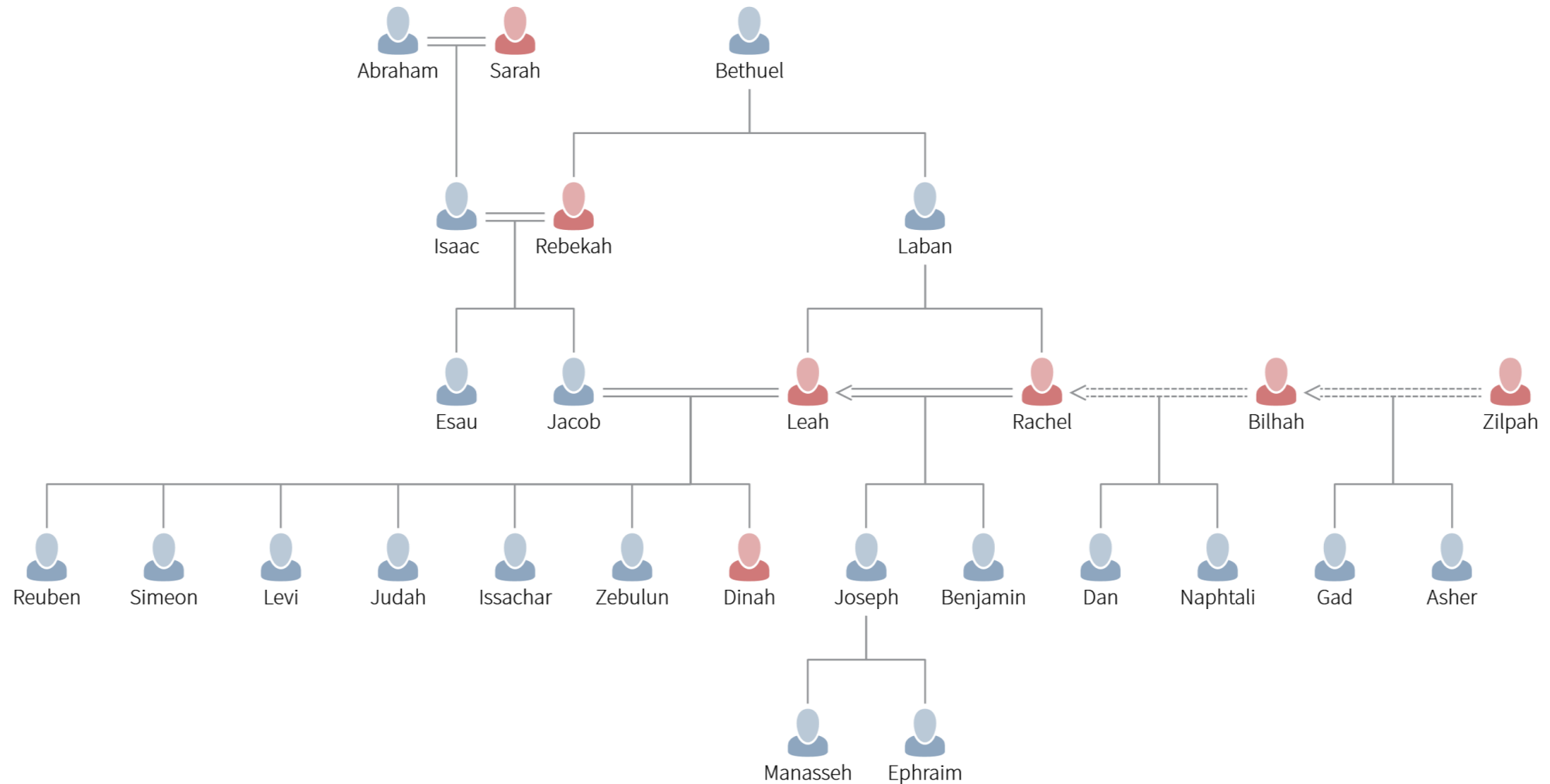
- **Genesis** 4:1; 10:16; 14:18; 16:6; 18:1–9; 19:2–10, 16; 22:6; 24:23, 25, 32–33; 29:4; 34:2–3, 7; 42:27; 43:10, 23–24; 50:21
- **Exodus** 32:6
- **Leviticus** 1:6; 19:29
- **Deuteronomy** 13:13; 21:14; 22:21
- **Joshua** 3:10; 7:15; 15:8, 57, 63; 18:1, 25, 28; 24:33
- **Judges** 1:21; 6:23; 11:7; 16:25; 17:6–7; 18:1, 10, 20, 31; 20:4–7, 10, 18; 21:25
- **Ruth** 1:1; 3:7
- **1 Samuel** 1:3, 7; 2:12; 10:26; 11:4, 7; 13:2; 15:34; 22:6; 25:6; 31:4
- **2 Samuel** 5:6; 13:12, 14, 28
- **1 Kings** 21:7, 10
- **1 Chronicles** 11:4–5
- **Esther** 1:10
- **Job** 42:8
- **Psalms** 46:5; 104:15, 23; 106:9–17
- **Proverbs** 13:10
- **Ecclesiastes** 7:3
- **Isaiah** 6:4; 8:10; 10:29
- **Lamentations** 5:11
- **Ezekiel** 16:46–48
- **Hosea** 5:8; 9:9; 10:9
- **Matthew** 25:35, 43
- **Luke** 7:44
- **John** 13:5
- **Romans** 1:26–27
- **2 Corinthians** 6:15
- **Hebrews** 13:2

Images / Maps / Graphs

The Hill Country of Ephraim



The Family Tree of Jacob



THE TRIBAL ALLOTMENTS OF ISRAEL
 JOSH 13:8-19:49

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak

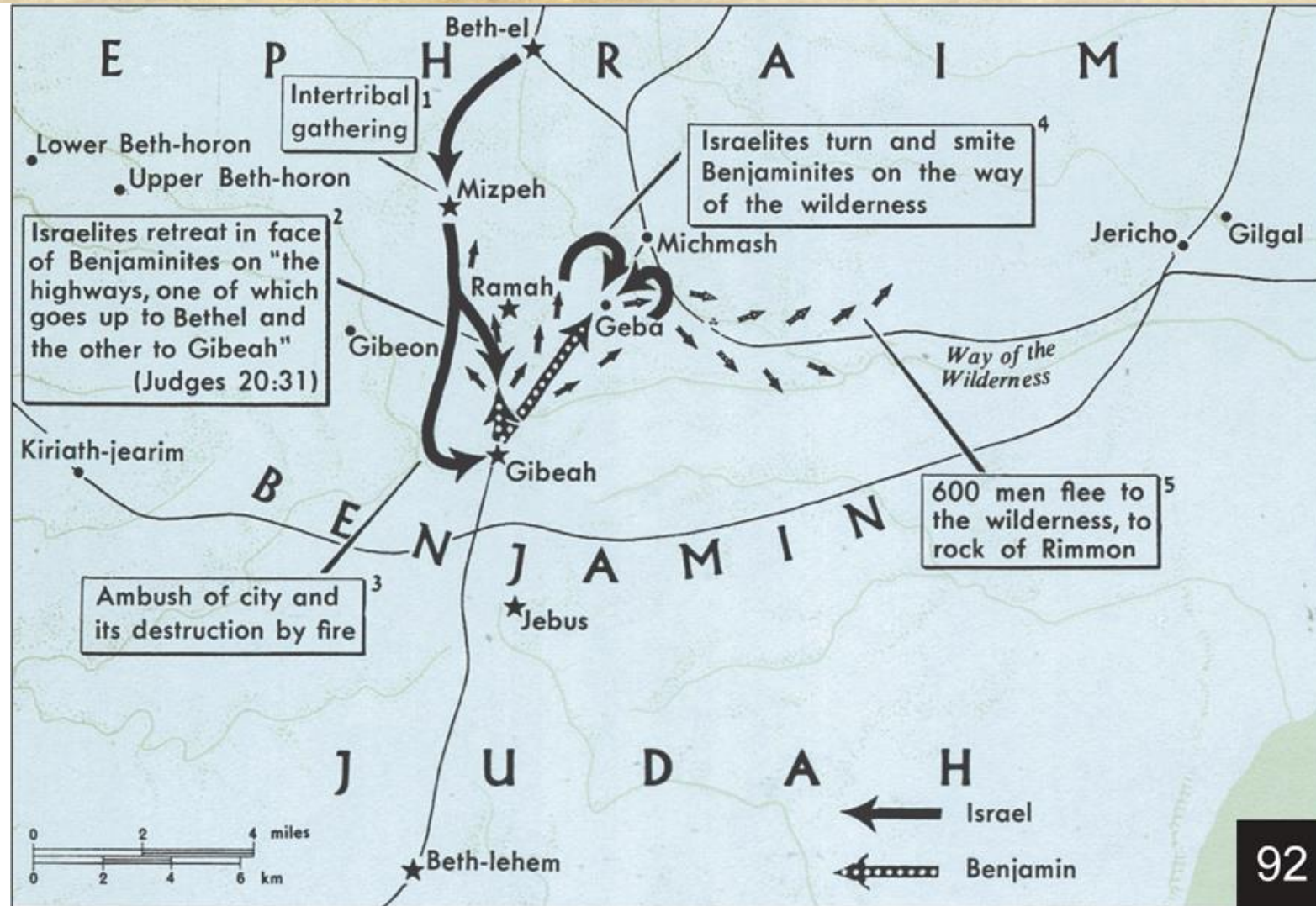


The Tribal Allotments of Israel



Judges According to Their Tribes

The Story of the Concubine in Gibeah (Judges 19-20)



WORKS CITED

1. Barry, John D., David Bomar, Derek R. Brown, Rachel Klippenstein, Douglas Mangum, Carrie Sinclair Wolcott, Lazarus Wentz, Elliot Ritzema, and Wendy Widder, eds. 2016. "Benjamin, Tribe of." In *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press.
2. Faithlife, LLC. "Hill Country of Ephraim." Logos Bible Software, Computer software. Logos Bible Software Factbook. Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, LLC, July 26, 2022. <https://ref.ly/logos4/Factbook?ref=bk.%40HillCountryOfEphraim>.
3. Ridley, Brandon. "Jebus." In *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*, edited by John D. Barry, David Bomar, Derek R. Brown, Rachel Klippenstein, Douglas Mangum, Carrie Sinclair Wolcott, Lazarus Wentz, Elliot Ritzema, and Wendy Widder. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016.
4. Ridley, Brandon. "Gibeah of Benjamin." In *The Lexham Bible Dictionary*, edited by John D. Barry, David Bomar, Derek R. Brown, Rachel Klippenstein, Douglas Mangum, Carrie Sinclair Wolcott, Lazarus Wentz, Elliot Ritzema, and Wendy Widder. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2016.
5. Lapp, Nancy L. 2011. "Ramah." In *The HarperCollins Bible Dictionary (Revised and Updated)*, edited by Mark Allan Powell, Third Edition, 865. New York: HarperCollins.