

~BENJAMIN 2 (739)

(Ben'ja-min) [Son of the Right Hand]

- The name **Benjamin** also designates the **tribe** descended from Jacob's son. At the time of the Exodus from Egypt, **it was next to the smallest**, after Manasseh in male population of all the tribes.
- Of the sons of **Benjamin**, their births according to their families in the house of their fathers by the number of names from twenty years old upward, everyone going out to the army. (**Numbers 1:36**)
- Those registered of them of the tribe of **Benjamin** were thirty-five thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 1:37**)
- In the census taken later on the Plains of Moab, the tribe of **Benjamin** had moved up to seventh place.
- These were the sons of **Benjamin** by their families, and their registered one's were forty-five thousand six hundred. (**Numbers 26:41**)
- When encamped in the wilderness, the tribe occupied a place on the West side of the tabernacle, along with the tribes descended from Joseph's sons Manasseh and Ephraim, and this three-tribe division occupied third place in the order of march.
- The three-tribe division of the camp of Ephraim in their armies will be toward the west, and the chieftain for the sons of Ephraim is Elishama the son of Ammihud. (**Numbers 2:18**)
- And his army and the one's registered of them are forty thousand five hundred. (**Numbers 2:19**)
- And alongside him will be the tribe of Manasseh, and the chieftain for the sons of Manasseh is Gamaliel the son of Pedahzur. (**Numbers 2:20**)
- And his army and the one's registered of them are thirty-two thousand two hundred. (**Numbers 2:21**)
- And the tribe of **Benjamin**, and the chieftain for the sons of

Benjamin is Abidan the son of Gideoni. (Numbers 2:22)

- **And his army and the one's registered of them are thirty-five thousand four hundred. (Numbers 2:23)**
- **All the registered one's of the camp of Ephraim are one hundred and eight thousand one hundred in their armies, and they should set out third. (Numbers 2:24)**
- **Within Canaan, the territory assigned to the tribe of Benjamin lay between that of the tribes of Ephraim and Judah, while the territory of Dan bordered it on the West.**
- **Its frontier in the North ran from the Jordan River near Jericho, crossed the mountainous terrain by Bethel and continued westward to a point near Lower Beth-horon, proceeding from there, the western frontier ran down to Kiriath-jearim, then, on the South, turned eastward and passed Jerusalem through the Valley of Hinnom, wound down the rugged eastern slopes to the Jordan again at the North end of the Dead Sea, the Jordan River thus forming its eastern boundary.**
- **All the registered one's of the camp of Ephraim are one hundred and eight thousand one hundred in their armies, and they should set out third. (Numbers 2:24)**
- **The three-tribe division of the camp of Dan will be toward the north in their armies, and the chieftain for the sons of Dan is Ahiezer the son of Ammishaddai. (Numbers 2:25)**
- **And his army and the one's registered of them are sixty-two thousand seven hundred. (Numbers 2:26)**
- **And the one's camping alongside him will be the tribe of Asher, and the chieftain for the sons of Asher is Pagiel the son of Ocran. (Numbers 2:27)**
- **And his army and the one's registered of them are forty-one thousand five hundred. (Numbers 2:28)**
- **And the tribe of Naphtali, and the chieftain for the sons of Naphtali is Ahira the son of Enan. (Numbers 2:29)**
- **And his army and the one's registered of them are fifty-three thousand four hundred. (Numbers 2:30)**

- All the registered one's of the camp of Dan are one hundred fifty-seven thousand six hundred. They should set out last, according to their three-tribe divisions. (**Numbers 2:31**)
- These were the registered one's of the sons of Israel according to the house of their fathers, all the registered one's of the camps in their armies were six hundred and three thousand five hundred and fifty. (**Numbers 2:32**)
- But the Levites did not get registered in among the sons of Israel, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Numbers 2:33**)
- **Judah's North boundary at;**
- But the Levites did not get registered in among the sons of Israel, just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. (**Numbers 2:33**)
- And the sons of Israel proceeded to do according to all that Yehowah had commanded Moses. That is the way they encamped in their three-tribe divisions, and that is the way they set out, each one in his families with regard to the house of his fathers. (**Numbers 2:34**)
- Now these were the generations of Aaron and Moses in the day that Yehowah spoke with Moses in Mount Sinai. (**Numbers 3:1**)
- And these were the names of Aaron's sons, the firstborn Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. (**Numbers 3:2**)
- **And the South boundary of the sons of Joseph at;**
- And the lot came out for the sons of Joseph from the Jordan at Jericho to the waters of Jericho eastward, the wilderness going up from Jericho into the mountainous region of Bethel. (**Joshua 16:1**)
- And it went out from Bethel belonging to Luz and passed over to the boundary of the Archites at Ataroth. (**Joshua 16:2**)
- And it went down westward to the boundary of the Japhletites as far as the boundary of Lower Beth-horon and Gezer, and its termination proved to be at the sea. (**Joshua 16:3**)

- From North to South the area measured about 19 kilometers (12 miles) and from East to West about 45 kilometers (28 miles). With the exception of the portion of the Jordan Valley around the Jericho oasis, the territory was hilly and broken, though having some fertile areas on the western slopes.
- The torrent valleys running westward toward the Philistine plain and eastward toward the Jordan made this section a principal way of approach to the highland region, both for commercial and for military purposes.
- The warring forces of the Philistines surged up into this area during the early part of Saul's reign, pillaging the Israelites at will from their encampment at Michmash, a short distance North of Saul's home in Gibeah, until Jonathan's exploit at Michmash initiated their rout and flight back down toward the coastal plains.
- And Saul and Jonathan his son and the people yet found with them were dwelling in Geba of **Benjamin**. As for the Philistines, they had encamped in Michmash. (1 Samuel 13:16)
- And the force of pillagers would sally forth from the camp of the Philistines in three bands. The one band would turn to the road to Ophrah, to the land of Shual. (1 Samuel 13:17)
- And the other band would turn to the road of Beth-horon, and the third band would turn to the road to the boundary that looks toward the valley of Zeboim, toward the wilderness. (1 Samuel 13:18)
- With that the two of them exposed themselves to the outpost of the Philistines. And the Philistines proceeded to say; Here are the Hebrews coming out from the holes where they have hidden themselves. (1 Samuel 14:11)
- So the men of the outpost answered Jonathan and his armor-bearer and said; Come on up to us, and we will let you know a thing! At once Jonathan said to his armor-bearer; Come up after me, because Yehowah will certainly give them into the hand of Israel. (1 Samuel 14:12)
- And Jonathan kept going up on his hands and his feet, and his armor-bearer after him, and they began to fall before Jonathan, and his armor-bearer was putting them to death behind him. (1

Samuel 14:13)

- And the first slaughter with which Jonathan and his armor-bearer struck them down amounted to about twenty men within about half the plowing line in an acre of field. (**1 Samuel 14:14**)
- Then a trembling occurred in the camp in the field and among all the people of the outpost, and the force of pillagers trembled, even they, and the earth began quaking, and it developed into a trembling from God. (**1 Samuel 14:15**)
- And the watchmen belonging to Saul in Gibeah of Benjamin got to see it, and, look! The turmoil swayed this way and that. (**1 Samuel 14:16**)
- And Yehowah proceeded on that day to save Israel, and the battle itself passed over to Beth-aven. (**1 Samuel 14:23**)
- And on that day they kept striking down the Philistines from Michmash to Aijalon, and the people got to be very tired. (**1 Samuel 14:31**)
- So Saul withdrew from following the Philistines, and the Philistines themselves went to their place. (**1 Samuel 14:46**)
- Among the prominent cities listed as originally assigned to **Benjamin** are Jericho, Bethel, Gibeon, Gibeah, and Jerusalem. The conquest of Bethel, however, was effected by the house of Joseph. At a later time Bethel became a prominent city of neighboring Ephraim and a center of idolatrous calf worship.
- Meantime the house of Joseph itself also went up against Bethel, and Yehowah was with them. (**Judges 1:22**)
- Consequently the king took counsel and made two golden calves and said to the people, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here is your God, O Israel, that brought you up out of the land of Egypt. (**1 Kings 12:28**)
- Then he placed the one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan. (**1 Kings 12:29**)

- While Jerusalem was also part of **Benjamin's** territory, it lay on the border with Judah, and it was this tribe that initially captured and burned the city.
- Furthermore, the sons of Judah carried on war against Jerusalem and got to capture it, and they went striking it with the edge of the sword, and the city they consigned to the fire. (**Judges 1:8**)
- Neither Judah nor **Benjamin** was successful in driving the Jebusites out of Jerusalem's citadel however.
- As for the Jebusites who were dwelling in Jerusalem, the sons of Judah were not able to drive them away, and the Jebusites continue dwelling with the sons of Judah in Jerusalem down to this day (**Joshua 15:63**)
- And the sons of **Benjamin** did not drive out the Jebusites inhabiting Jerusalem, but the Jebusites keep on dwelling with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem down to this day. (**Judges 1:21**)
- And it was only during King David's reign that complete control was gained and the city made Israel's capital.
- Consequently the king and his men went to Jerusalem against the Jebusites inhabiting the land, and they began to say to David; You will not come in here, but the blind and the lame one's will certainly turn you away, they thinking; David will not come in here. (**2 Samuel 5:6**)
- Just the same, David proceeded to capture the stronghold of Zion, that is, the City of David. (**2 Samuel 5:7**)
- So David said on that day; Anyone striking the Jebusites, let him, by means of the water tunnel, make contact with both the lame and the blind, hateful to the soul of David! That is why they say; The blind one and the lame one will not come into the house. (**2 Samuel 5:8**)
- And David took up dwelling in the stronghold, and it came to be called the City of David. David began to build all around from the Mound and inward. (**2 Samuel 5:9**)

See Also BETHEL 1

- During the period of the Judges, the tribe of **Benjamin** displayed a spirit of obstinacy in refusing to deliver up the perpetrators of a vile act performed in the city of Gibeah. This led to civil war with the other tribes, who were determined not to let the wrong go unpunished, and it resulted in the near extermination of the tribe of **Benjamin**. (**Judges Chapters 19-21**)
- Nevertheless, by the method devised by the other tribes for preserving the tribe, **Benjamin** recovered and grew from about 600 men to nearly 60,000 warriors by the time of David's kingship.
- The sons of **Benjamin** were Bela and Becher and Jediahel, three. (**1 Chronicles 7:6**)
- And the sons of Bela were Ezbon and Uzzi and Uzziel and Jerimoth and Iri, five, heads of the house of their forefathers, valiant, mighty men, and their genealogical enrollment was twenty-two thousand and thirty-four. (**1 Chronicles 7:7**)
- And the sons of Becher were Zemirah and Joash and Eliezer and Elioenai and Omri and Jeremoth and Abijah and Anathoth and Alemeth, all these the sons of Becher. (**1 Chronicles 7:8**)
- And their genealogical enrollment by their descendants as respects the heads of the house of their forefathers, valiant, mighty men, was twenty thousand two hundred. (**1 Chronicles 7:9**)
- And the sons of Jediahel were Bilhan, and the sons of Bilhan were Jeush and **Benjamin** and Ehud and Chenaanah and Zethan and Tarshish and Ahishahar. (**1 Chronicles 7:10**)
- All these were the sons of Jediahel, according to the heads of their forefathers, valiant, mighty men, seventeen thousand two hundred going out to the army for war. (**1 Chronicles 7:11**)
- And the Shuppim and the Huppim were the sons of Ir, the Hushim were the sons of Aher. (**1 Chronicles 7:12**)
- The fighting ability of **Benjamin's** descendants was pictured in Jacob's deathbed prophecy in which he said of this beloved son: **Benjamin** will keep on tearing like a wolf. In the morning he will eat the animal seized and at evening he will divide spoil.

- **Benjamin** will keep on tearing like a wolf. In the morning he will eat the animal seized and at evening he will divide spoil. (**Genesis 49:27**)
- **Benjamite** fighters were noted for their ability with the sling, slinging stones with either the right hand or the left and hitting the mark to a hairbreadth.
- Out of all this people there were seven hundred chosen men left-handed. Every one of these was a slinger of stones to a hairbreadth and would not miss. (**Judges 20:16**)
- Armed with the bow, using the right hand and using the left hand with stones or with arrows in the bow. They were of the brothers of Saul, of **Benjamin**. (**1 Chronicles 12:2**)
- Left-handed Judge Ehud, the slayer of oppressive King Eglon, was of **Benjamin**.
- And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. So Yehowah raised up for them a savior, Ehud the son of Gera, a **Benjamite**, a left-handed man. In time the sons of Israel sent tribute by his hand to Eglon the king of Moab. (**Judges 3:15**)
- Meanwhile Ehud made a sword for himself, and it had two edges, its length being a cubit. Then he girded it underneath his garment upon his right thigh. (**Judges 3:16**)
- And he proceeded to present the tribute to Eglon the king of Moab. Now Eglon was a very fat man. (**Judges 3:17**)
- And it came about that when he had finished presenting the tribute, he at once sent the people away, the bearers of the tribute. (**Judges 3:18**)
- And he himself turned back at the quarries that were at Gilgal, and he proceeded to say; I have a secret word for you, O king. So he said; Keep silence! With that all those who were standing by him went on out from him. (**Judges 3:19**)
- And Ehud came to him as he was sitting in his cool roof chamber that he had to himself. And Ehud went on to say; A word of God I have for you. At that he rose up from his throne. (**Judges 3:20**)

- Then Ehud thrust in his left hand and took the sword off his right thigh and plunged it into his belly. ([Judges 3:21](#))
- It may also be noted that it was in the morning of the kingdom of Israel that the tribe of **Benjamin**, though one of the smallest of the tribes, provided Israel's first king, Saul the son of Kish, who proved to be a fierce fighter against the Philistines.
- As for Yehowah, he had uncovered the ear of Samuel the day before Saul came, saying; ([1 Samuel 9:15](#))
- Tomorrow about this time I shall send to you a man from the land of **Benjamin**, and you must anoint him as leader over my people Israel, and he must save my people from the hand of the Philistines, because I have seen the affliction of my people, for their outcry has come to me. ([1 Samuel 9:16](#))
- And Samuel himself saw Saul, and Yehowah, for his part, answered him; Here is the man of whom I said to you; This is the one that will keep my people within bounds. ([1 Samuel 9:17](#))
- At this Saul answered and said; Am I not a **Benjaminite** of the smallest of the tribes of Israel, and my family the most insignificant of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin? So why have you spoken to me a thing like this? ([1 Samuel 9:21](#))
- Likewise at evening time, as far as the nation of Israel was concerned, the tribe of **Benjamin** provided Queen Esther and Prime Minister Mordecai, who served to save the Israelites from annihilation under the Persian Empire.
- A certain man, a Jew, happened to be in Shushan the castle, and his name was Mordecai the son of Jair the son of Shimei the son of Kish a **Benjaminite**. ([Esther 2:5](#))
- Who had been taken into exile from Jerusalem with the deported people who were taken into exile with Jeconiah the king of Judah whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon took into exile. ([Esther 2:6](#))
- And he came to be the caretaker of Hadassah, that is, Esther, the daughter of his father's brother, for she had neither father nor mother, and the young woman was pretty in form and beautiful

in appearance, and at the death of her father and her mother Mordecai took her as his daughter. ([Esther 2:7](#))

- Though certain men of the **Benjamites** supported the outlawed David while he was pursued by King Saul.
- And these are the ones that came to David at Ziklag while he was still under restrictions because of Saul the son of Kish, and they were among the mighty men, the helpers in the warfare. ([1 Chronicles 12:1](#))
- Armed with the bow, using the right hand and using the left hand with stones or with arrows in the bow. They were of the brothers of Saul, of **Benjamin**. ([1 Chronicles 12:2](#))
- There was the head Ahiezer and Joash the sons of Shemaah the Gibeathite, and Jeziel and Pelet the sons of Azmaveth, and Beracah and Jehu the Anathothite. ([1 Chronicles 12:3](#))
- And Ishmaiah the Gibeonite, a mighty man among the thirty and over the thirty, and Jeremiah and Jahaziel and Johanan and Jozabad the Gederathite. ([1 Chronicles 12:4](#))
- Eluzai and Jerimoth and Bealiah and Shemariah and Shephatiah the Hariphite. ([1 Chronicles 12:5](#))
- Elkanah and Isshiah and Azarel and Joezer and Jashobeam, the Korahites. ([1 Chronicles 12:6](#))
- And Joelah and Zebadiah the sons of Jeroham of Gedor. ([1 Chronicles 12:7](#))
- And some of the sons of **Benjamin** and Judah proceeded to come clear to the place difficult to approach, to David. ([1 Chronicles 12:16](#))
- Then David went out before them and answered and said to them; If it is for peace that you have come to me to help me, my own heart will become at unity with you. But if it is to betray me to my adversaries when there is no wrong on my palms, let the God of our forefathers see to it and set it in order. ([1 Chronicles 12:17](#))
- And spirit itself enveloped Amasai, the head of the thirty. Yours

we are, O David, and with you we are, O son of Jesse. Peace, peace be yours, and peace to the one helping you, for your God has helped you. So David received them and put them among the heads of the troops. ([1 Chronicles 12:18](#))

- **When Saul died the majority of the tribe gave Saul's son Ish-bosheth their initial support.**
- **As for Abner the son of Ner the chief of the army that had belonged to Saul, he took Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, and proceeded to bring him across to Mahanaim. ([2 Samuel 2:8](#))**
- **And to make him king over Gilead and the Ashurites and Jezreel and over Ephraim and **Benjamin** and over Israel, all of it. ([2 Samuel 2:9](#))**
- **Forty years old Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, was when he became king over Israel, and for two years he ruled as king. Only the house of Judah proved themselves followers of David. ([2 Samuel 2:10](#))**
- **In time Abner the son of Ner and the servants of Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, went out from Mahanaim to Gibeon. ([2 Samuel 2:12](#))**
- **As for Joab the son of Zeruiah and the servants of David, they went out and later met together by the pool of Gibeon, and they kept sitting, these on this side of the pool and those on that side of the pool. ([2 Samuel 2:13](#))**
- **Finally Abner said to Joab; Let the young men rise up, please, and let them put on a combat before us. To this Joab said, Let them rise up. ([2 Samuel 2:14](#))**
- **So they rose up and went across by number, twelve belonging to **Benjamin** and Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, and twelve from the servants of David. ([2 Samuel 2:15](#))**
- **And they began grabbing hold of one another by the head, with the sword of each one in the side of the other, so that they fell down together. And that place came to be called Helkath-hazzurim, which is in Gibeon. ([2 Samuel 2:16](#))**
- **Thereafter, however, they acknowledged David's kingship and thenceforth remained loyal to the kingdom of Judah, with rare**

exceptions. A partisan spirit continued among some, such as Shimei and Sheba, resulting in temporary alienation.

- **And King David came as far as Bahurim, and, look! Coming out from there was a man of the family of Saul's house, and his name was Shimei, the son of Gera, coming out and calling down evil as he came out. (2 Samuel 16:5)**
- **Now there happened to be there a good-for-nothing man, whose name was Sheba, the son of Bichri a **Benjaminite**, and he proceeded to blow the horn and say; We have no share in David, and we have no inheritance in the son of Jesse. Every one to his gods, O Israel! (2 Samuel 20:1)**
- **At that all the men of Israel began to go up from following David to follow Sheba the son of Bichri, but as for the men of Judah, they stuck to their king from the Jordan to Jerusalem. (2 Samuel 20:2)**
- **Eventually David came to his house at Jerusalem. Then the king took the ten women, the concubines whom he had left behind to take care of the house, and he put them in a house of confinement, but he kept on supplying food to them. And with them he did not have any relations, but they continued shut up closely until the day of their dying, in a widowhood with a living husband. (2 Samuel 20:3)**
- **The king now said to Amasa; Call the men of Judah together to me within three days, and you yourself stand here. (2 Samuel 20:4)**
- **So Amasa went to call Judah together, but he came later than the fixed time that he had appointed for him. (2 Samuel 20:5)**
- **Then David said to Abishai; Now Sheba the son of Bichri will be worse for us than Absalom. You yourself take the servants of your lord and chase after him, that he may not actually find for himself fortified cities and escape before our eyes. (2 Samuel 20:6)**
- **Accordingly the men of Joab and the Cherethites and the Pelethites and all the mighty men went out after him, and they went on out of Jerusalem to chase after Sheba the son of Bichri. (2 Samuel 20:7)**

- **They were close by the great stone that is in Gibeon, and Amasa himself came to meet them. Now Joab was girded, clothed with a garment, and upon him there was girded a sword attached to his hip, in its sheath. And he himself came forth, and so it fell out. (2 Samuel 20:8)**
- **And Joab proceeded to say to Amasa; Is it all right with you, my brother? Then Joab's right hand took hold of Amasa's beard so as to kiss him. (2 Samuel 20:9)**
- **As for Amasa, he was not on guard against the sword that was in Joab's hand, so that he struck him with it in the abdomen, and his intestines spilled out to the earth, and he did not have to do it to him again. So he died. And Joab and Abishai his brother, for their part, chased after Sheba the son of Bichri. (2 Samuel 20:10)**
- **And a certain one of Joab's young men stood over him and kept saying; Whoever has found delight in Joab and whoever belongs to David, let him follow Joab! (2 Samuel 20:11)**
- **All the while Amasa was wallowing in the blood in the middle of the highway. When the man saw that all the people stood still, then he moved Amasa from the highway to the field. Finally he cast a garment over him, as he saw that everyone coming up to him stood still. (2 Samuel 20:12)**
- **As soon as he had removed him from the highway, each man passed by following Joab to chase after Sheba the son of Bichri. (2 Samuel 20:13)**
- **And Sheba went passing through all the tribes of Israel to Abel of Beth-maacah. As for all the Bichrites, they then congregated together and also went in after him. (2 Samuel 20:14)**
- **And they proceeded to come and lay siege against him in Abel of Beth-maacah and cast up a siege rampart against the city, as it was standing within a rampart. And all the people that were with Joab were undermining the wall, to throw it down. (2 Samuel 20:15)**
- **And a wise woman began to call from the city; Listen, men, listen! Say, please, to Joab; Come near as far as here, and let me speak to you. (2 Samuel 20:16)**

- So he went near to her, and the woman then said; Are you Joab? to which he said; I am. At this she said to him; Listen to the words of your slave girl. In turn he said; I am listening. (2 Samuel 20:17)
- And she went on to say; Without exception they used to speak in former times, saying; Let them but inquire in Abel, and thus they will certainly end the matter. (2 Samuel 20:18)
- I represent the peaceable and faithful one's of Israel. You are seeking to put to death a city and a mother in Israel. Why should you swallow up the inheritance of Yehowah? (2 Samuel 20:19)
- To this Joab answered and said; It is altogether unthinkable on my part that I should swallow up and that I should bring to ruin. (2 Samuel 20:20)
- The matter is not that way, but a man from the mountainous region of Ephraim, whose name is Sheba the son of Bichri, has lifted up his hand against King David. You people, give him over by himself, and I will withdraw from the city. Then the woman said to Joab: Look! His head will be pitched to you over the wall! (2 Samuel 20:21)
- At once the woman went in her wisdom to all the people, and they proceeded to cut off the head of Sheba the son of Bichri and pitch it to Joab. Upon that he blew the horn, and so they were scattered from the city, each one to his home, and Joab himself returned to Jerusalem to the king. (2 Samuel 20:22)
- But at the time of the division of the nation, in which the neighboring tribe of Ephraim, descended from Benjamin's nephew, became the prominent tribe of the northern kingdom, the tribe of Benjamin faithfully adhered to Judah in recognition of Yehowah's decree.
- And he went on to say to Jeroboam; Take for yourself ten pieces, for this is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Here I am ripping the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and I shall certainly give you ten tribes. (1 Kings 11:31)
- And the one tribe is what will continue his for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have

chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. (1 Kings 11:32)

- When Rehoboam arrived at Jerusalem, he immediately congregated all the house of Judah and the tribe of **Benjamin**, a hundred and eighty thousand choice men able-bodied for war, to fight against the house of Israel, so as to bring the kingship back to Rehoboam the son of Solomon. (1 Kings 12:21)
- When Rehoboam arrived at Jerusalem, he immediately congregated the house of Judah and **Benjamin**, a hundred and eighty thousand choice men able-bodied for war, to fight against Israel so as to bring the kingdom back to Rehoboam. (2 Chronicles 11:1)
- As for you, Judah, your brothers will laud you. Your hand will be on the back of the neck of your enemies. The sons of your father will prostrate themselves to you. (Genesis 49:8)
- A lion cub Judah is. From the prey, my son, you will certainly go up. He bowed down, he stretched himself out like a lion and, like a lion, who dares rouse him? (Genesis 49:9)
- The scepter will not turn aside from Judah, neither the commander's staff from between his feet, until Shiloh comes, and to him the obedience of the peoples will belong. (Genesis 49:10)
- Following the exile in Babylon, the tribes of **Benjamin** and Judah were most prominent among the restored Israelites in Palestine.
- When the adversaries of Judah and **Benjamin** heard that the sons of the Exile were building a temple to Yehowah the God of Israel. (Ezra 4:1)
- So all the men of Judah and **Benjamin** collected themselves together at Jerusalem within three days, that is, in the ninth month on the twentieth day of the month, and all the people kept sitting in the open place of the house of the true God, shivering because of the matter and on account of the showers of rain. (Ezra 10:9)
- **Benjamin's** loyal association with Judah and Jerusalem doubtless contributed to its position in Ezekiel's vision of the division of the land under the promised kingdom, in which vision the tribe of **Benjamin** is

pictured as located right on the southern border of the holy contribution, while the tribe of Judah is placed on the northern border.

- **And on the boundary of Judah, from the eastern border to the western border, the contribution that you people should contribute should prove to be twenty-five thousand cubits in width, and the length according to one of the portions from the eastern border to the western border. And the sanctuary must prove to be in the midst of it. (Ezekiel 48:8)**
- **And what is left over will belong to the chieftain, on this side and on that side of the holy contribution and of the possession of the city, alongside the twenty-five thousand cubits of the contribution to the eastern boundary, and on the west alongside the twenty-five thousand cubits to the western boundary. Exactly like the portions, it will be for the chieftain. And the holy contribution and the sanctuary of the House must prove to be in the midst of it. (Ezekiel 48:21)**
- **And as regards the possession of the Levites and the possession of the city, in between what belongs to the chieftain it should prove to be. Between the boundary of Judah and the boundary of Benjamin it should come to belong to the chieftain. (Ezekiel 48:22)**
- **And as regards the rest of the tribes, from the eastern border to the western border, Benjamin one portion. (Ezekiel 48:23)**
- **Among the loyal followers of Jesus, the Lion that is of the tribe of Judah, was the apostle Paul, a Benjamite who proved himself a fierce fighter in the spiritual warfare against false doctrine and practice.**
- **But one of the elders says to me; Stop weeping. Look! The Lion that is of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has conquered so as to open the scroll and its seven seals. (Revelation 5:5)**
- **I ask, then, God did not reject his people, did he? Never may that happen! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. (Romans 11:1)**
- **Circumcised the eighth day, out of the family stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born from Hebrews, as respects Law, a Pharisee. (Philippians 3:5)**

- The tribe of **Benjamin** is rightly represented among the tribes of Spiritual Israel.
- Out of the tribe of Zebulun twelve thousand, out of the tribe of Joseph twelve thousand, out of the tribe of **Benjamin** twelve thousand sealed. (**Revelation 7:8**)
- Ancient letters, found at Mari on the Euphrates River and considered to be of the **18th Century B.C.E**, make mention of a fierce tribe of nomads called, *Binu-jamina*. Regarding this name, **The Illustrated Bible Dictionary** states that some scholars have sought here the antecedents of the biblical tribe, but the difference in time and origin makes this very uncertain. [Edited by J. Douglas, 1980, Vol. 1, p. 185]