# ~EPHRAIM 2 (840)

(E'phra-im) [Doubly Fruitful]

- ·· Tribal Territory
- .. Ephraim From Joshua To David
- .. Dominant Tribe Of The Northern Kingdom
- The name Ephraim is also applied to the tribe that descended from him. About a year after the Exodus from Egypt, Ephraim's 40,500 fighting men from 20 years old upward outnumbered Manasseh's ablebodied men by 8,300.
- And Yehowah proceeded to speak to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting, on the first day of the second month in the second year of their coming out of the land of Egypt, and he said. (Numbers 1:1)
- Take the sum of the whole assembly of the sons of Israel according to their families, according to the house of their fathers, by the number of names, all the males, head by head of them. (Numbers 1:2)
- From twenty years old upward, everyone going out to the army in Israel. You should register them according to their armies, you and Aaron (Numbers 1:3)
- Of the sons of Joseph, of the sons of Ephraim, 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 1:32)
- Those registered of them of the tribe of **Ephraim** were forty thousand five hundred. (Numbers 1:33)
- Of the sons of Manasseh, 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 1:34)
- Those registered of them of the tribe of Manasseh were thirtytwo thousand two hundred. (Numbers 1:35)

- However, at the end of the 40 years wandering in the wilderness, the registered males of **Ephraim** numbered only 32,500, or 20,200 less than those of Manasseh.
- These were the families of Manasseh, and their registered ones were fifty-two thousand seven hundred. (Numbers 26:34)
- These were the families of the sons of Ephraim, of their registered ones, thirty-two thousand five hundred. These were the sons of Joseph by their families. (Numbers 26:37)
- Nevertheless, Ephraim was foretold to become the greater. Moses, when blessing the Israelites, prophetically spoke of the tens of thousands of Ephraim, but of the thousands of Manasseh.
- As the firstborn of a bull his splendor is, and his horns are the horns of a wild bull. With them he will push peoples all together to the ends of the earth, and they are the tens of thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh. (Deuteronomy 33:17)
- In the wilderness, the **Ephraimites**, with Elishama serving as chieftain, were assigned to camp on the West side of the tabernacle, along with the tribes of Manasseh and Benjamin. This three-tribe division was third 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 ones 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 ones 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 ones registered of them are thirty-five

## thousand four hundred. (Numbers 2:23)

All the registered ones 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)

## ·· Tribal Territory

- The territory assigned to the tribe of **Ephraim** occupied a central portion of Canaan, West of the Jordan. The tribe also had enclave cities in Manasseh's territory. On the North, **Ephraim** was bounded by Manasseh, and on the South, by Benjamin and Dan.
- 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)
- And the sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, proceeded to take possession of land. (Joshua 16:4)
- And the boundary of the sons of Ephraim by their families came to be, yes, the boundary of their inheritance toward the east came to be Ataroth-addar, as far as Upper Beth-horon. (Joshua 16:5)
- And the boundary went out to the sea. Michmethath was on the north, and the boundary went around eastward to Taanathshiloh, and passed over eastward to Janoah. (Joshua 16:6)
- And it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and Naarah and reached to Jericho and went out to the Jordan. (Joshua 16:7)
- From Tappuah the boundary moved on westward to the torrent valley of Kanah, and its termination proved to be at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Ephraim by their families. (Joshua 16:8)

- And the sons of Ephraim had enclave cities in the midst of the inheritance of the sons of Manasseh, all the cities and their settlements. (Joshua 16:9)
- This region, although mountainous and hilly, is blessed with rich and fertile soil and, in ancient times, was heavily wooded.
- At this Joshua said to them; If you are a numerous people, go your way up to the forest, and you must cut it down for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, because the mountainous region of Ephraim has become too narrow for you. (Joshua 17:15)
- So Joshua said this to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh; A numerous people you are, and great power is yours. You ought not to get one lot. (Joshua 17:17)
- But the mountainous region should become yours. Because it is a forest, you must cut it down, and it must become the termination point for you. For you should drive away the Canaanites, although they have war chariots with iron scythes and they are strong. (Joshua 17:18)
- The chieftain Kemuel served as the divinely appointed representative of **Ephraim** in dividing the Promised Land into inheritance portions.
- And you will take one chieftain out of each tribe to divide the land for a possession. (Numbers 34:18)
- And of the tribe of the sons of **Ephraim** a chieftain, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan. (Numbers 34:24)
- At Shiloh, in **Ephraim**, the tabernacle was set up.
- Then all the assembly of the sons of Israel were congregated at Shiloh, and they proceeded to locate the tent of meeting there, as the land was now subdued before them. (Joshua 18:1)
- Besides Shechem, a city of refuge, a number of other Levite cities were also located in the territory of **Ephraim**.
- And for the families of the sons of Kohath, the Levites who were

- left over of the sons of Kohath, there came to be by their lot cities out of the tribe of Ephraim. (Joshua 21:20)
- Accordingly they gave them the city of refuge for the manslayer, namely, Shechem, and its pasture ground in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and Gezer and its pasture ground. (Joshua 21:21)
- And Kibzaim and its pasture ground, and Beth-horon and its pasture ground, four cities. (Joshua 21:22)
- And some of the families of the sons of Kohath came to have the cities of their territory from the tribe of Ephraim. (1 Chronicles 6:66)
- Accordingly they gave them the cities of refuge, Shechem with its pasture grounds in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and Gezer with its pasture grounds. (1 Chronicles 6:67)
- And Jokmeam with its pasture grounds and Beth-horon with its pasture grounds. (1 Chronicles 6:68)
- And Aijalon with its pasture grounds and Gath-rimmon with its pasture grounds. (1 Chronicles 6:69)
- From one of these Levite cities, Gezer, the **Ephraimites** did not drive out the Canaanites, but they subjected them to slavish forced labor.
- And they did not drive away the Canaanites who were dwelling in Gezer, and the Canaanites continue dwelling in among Ephraim down to this day and came to be subject to slavish forced labor. (Joshua 16:10)
- Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites who were dwelling in Gezer, but the Canaanites continued to dwell in among them in Gezer. (Judges 1:29)

### ·· Ephraim From Joshua To David

The territory of Ephraim was the scene of numerous notable events. At Shechem, Moses successor, the Ephraimite Joshua, congregated the tribes of Israel and appealed to them to serve Yehowah faithfully.

- And Joshua proceeded to assemble all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem and to call the older men of Israel and its heads and its judges and its officers, and they went taking their stand before the true God. (Joshua 24:1)
- And now fear Yehowah and serve him in faultlessness and in truth, and remove the gods that your forefathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt, and serve Yehowah. (Joshua 24:14)
- Now if it is bad in your eyes to serve Yehowah, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve, whether the gods that your forefathers who were on the other side of the River served or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are dwelling. But as for me and my household, we shall serve Yehowah. (Joshua 24:15)
- · Also, here at Shechem, Joseph's bones were finally buried, and both Joshua and Aaron's son Eleazar were buried in the mountainous region of Ephraim.
- And it came about that after these things Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Yehowah, gradually died at the age of a hundred and ten years. (Joshua 24:29)
- So they buried him in the territory of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in the mountainous region of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. (Joshua 24:30)
- And Israel continued to serve Yehowah all the days of Joshua and all the days of the older men who extended their days after Joshua and who had known all the work of Yehowah that he did for Israel. (Joshua 24:31)
- And Joseph's bones, which the sons of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried in Shechem in the tract of the field that Jacob had acquired from the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, for a hundred pieces of money, and it came to belong to the sons of Joseph as an inheritance. (Joshua 24:32)
- Also, Eleazar the son of Aaron died. So they buried him in the Hill of Phinehas his son, which he had given him in the mountainous region of Ephraim. (Joshua 24:33)

- Later, Benjamite Judge Ehud assembled the Israelites in the mountainous region of Ephraim to fight against the Moabites.
- As for Ehud, he escaped while they were lingering, and he himself passed by the quarries and made his escape to Seirah. (Judges 3:26)
- And it came about that when he got there he began blowing the horn in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel began going down with him out of the mountainous region, he being at their head. (Judges 3:27)
- Then he said to them; Follow me, because Yehowah has given your enemies, the Moabites, into your hand. And they went following him and got to capture the fords of the Jordan against the Moabites, and they did not allow anybody to pass over. (Judges 3:28)
- And at that time they went striking down Moab, about ten thousand men, every one robust and every one a valiant man, and not a single one escaped. (Judges 3:29)
- And Moab came to be subdued on that day under Israel's hand, and the land had no further disturbance for eighty years. (Judges 3:30)
- After Ehud's death the prophetess Deborah, from her residence in the mountainous region of Ephraim, sent for Barak as the one designated by Yehowah to deliver Israel from the oppression of King Jabin. In the victory song of Barak and Deborah, Ephraim is the first tribe to be mentioned.
- Then the sons of Israel again began to do what was bad in Yehowah's eyes now that Ehud was dead. (Judges 4:1)
- So Yehowah sold them into the hand of Jabin the king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor, and the chief of his army was Sisera, and he was dwelling in Harosheth of the nations. (Judges 4:2)
- And the sons of Israel began to cry out to Yehowah, because he had nine hundred war chariots with iron scythes, and he himself oppressed the sons of Israel with harshness twenty years.

  (Judges 4:3)

- Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that particular time. (Judges 4:4)
- And she was dwelling under Deborah's palm tree between Ramah and Bethel in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and the sons of Israel would go up to her for judgment. (Judges 4:5)
- And she proceeded to send and call Barak the son of Abinoam out of Kedesh-naphtali and to say to him; Has not Yehowah the God of Israel given the command? Go and you must spread yourself out on Mount Tabor, and you must take with you ten thousand men out of the sons of Naphtali and out of the sons of Zebulun. (Judges 4:6)
- And I shall certainly draw to you at the torrent valley of Kishon Sisera the chief of Jabin's army and his war chariots and his crowd, and I shall indeed give him into your hand. (Judges 4:7)
- Out of Ephraim was their origin in the low plain, with you, O Benjamin, among your peoples. Out of Machir the commanders went down, and out of Zebulun those handling the equipment of a scribe. (Judges 5:14)
- At a later time, Tola of the tribe of Issachar judged Israel for 23 years while dwelling at Shamir in the mountainous region of Ephraim.
- Now after Abimelech there rose up to save Israel Tola the son of Puah, the son of Dodo, a man of Issachar, and he was dwelling in Shamir in the mountainous region of Ephraim. (Judges 10:1)
- And he continued to judge Israel for twenty-three years, after which he died and was buried in Shamir. (Judges 10:2)
- The prophet Samuel of the tribe of Levi was born at Ramah in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and it was there that he, as an adult, established his home.
- Now there happened to be a certain man of Ramathaim-zophim of the mountainous region of Ephraim, and his name was Elkanah, the son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. (1 Samuel 1:1)
- And he had two wives, the name of the one being Hannah, and

- the name of the other being Peninnah. And Peninnah came to have children, but Hannah had no children. (1 Samuel 1:2)
- Then they got up early in the morning and prostrated themselves before Yehowah, after which they returned and came into their house at Ramah. Elkanah now had intercourse with Hannah his wife, and Yehowah began remembering her. (1 Samuel 1:19)
- So it came about at the rolling around of a year that Hannah became pregnant and brought a son to birth and proceeded to call his name Samuel, because, said she, it is from Yehowah that I have asked him. (1 Samuel 1:20)
- And Samuel kept on judging Israel all the days of his life. (1 Samuel 7:15)
- And he traveled from year to year and made the circuit of Bethel and Gilgal and Mizpah and judged Israel at all these places. (1 Samuel 7:16)
- But his return was to Ramah, because there was where his house was, and there he judged Israel. And he proceeded to build an altar there to Yehowah. (1 Samuel 7:17)
- Pride and an extreme desire for prominence caused severe difficulty to the Ephraimites in their relationship to the other tribes. As early as the time of the judges this trait manifested itself.
- For example, the **Ephraimites** tried to pick a quarrel with Gideon for not having called them earlier in the fight against Midian. However, Gideon's tactfulness on that occasion averted a clash.
- Then the men of Ephraim said to him; What sort of thing is this that you have done to us in not calling us when you went to fight against Midian? And they vehemently tried to pick a quarrel with him. (Judges 8:1)
- Finally he said to them; What now have I done in comparison with you? Are not the gleanings of Ephraim better than the grape gathering of Abi-ezer? (Judges 8:2)
- It was into your hand that God gave Midian's princes Oreb and Zeeb, and what have I been able to do in comparison with you? It was then that their spirit calmed down toward him when he

#### spoke this word. (Judges 8:3)

- Later, although having previously turned down an opportunity to assist Jephthah, the **Ephraimites** felt slighted when he did not call them to fight against the Ammonites.
- They warred with Jephthah and experienced a humiliating defeat, thousands were killed at the fords of the Jordan, where they were identified as **Ephraimites** because of their pronunciation of the password Shibboleth as Sibboleth.
- Then the men of Ephraim were called together and crossed over northward and said to Jephthah; Why is it that you crossed over to fight against the sons of Ammon, and to us you did not issue a call to go with you? Your very house we shall burn over you with fire. (Judges 12:1)
- But Jephthah said to them; I became a special contender, I and my people, with the sons of Ammon. And I proceeded to call to you for aid, and you did not save me out of their hand. (Judges 12:2)
- When I got to see that you were no savior, then I determined to put my soul in my own palm and go over against the sons of Ammon. At that Yehowah gave them into my hand. So why have you come up against me this day to fight against me? (Judges 12:3)
- Immediately Jephthah collected all the men of Gilead together and fought Ephraim, and the men of Gilead went striking Ephraim down, for they had said; Men escaped from Ephraim is what you are, O Gilead, inside of Ephraim, inside of Manasseh. (Judges 12:4)
- And Gilead got to capture the fords of the Jordan ahead of Ephraim, and it occurred that when the escaping men of Ephraim would say; Let me pass over; then the men of Gilead would say to each one; Are you an Ephraimite? When he would say; No! (Judges 12:5)
- Then they would say to him; Please say Shibboleth. And he would say; Sibboleth, as he was unable to say the word correctly. And they would lay hold of him and slay him at the fords of the Jordan. So there fell at that time forty-two thousand

## out of Ephraim. (Judges 12:6)

- Accordingly Amaziah separated them, namely, the troops that had come to him from Ephraim, to go to their own place. However, their anger got very hot against Judah, so that they returned to their own place in the heat of anger. (2 Chronicles 25:10)
- After the death of King Saul, among those who came to Hebron to turn the kingship over to David there were 20,800 men of Ephraim.
- And these were the numbers of the heads of those equipped for the army that came to David at Hebron to turn the kingship of Saul over to him according to Yehowah's order. (1 Chronicles 12:23)
- And of the sons of **Ephraim** there were twenty thousand eight hundred, mighty men of valor, men of fame, by the house of their forefathers. (1 Chronicles 12:30)
- ... Dominant Tribe Of The Northern Kingdom
- From the time the kingdom was divided during the reign of Rehoboam, Ephraim, as the most prominent and influential tribe of the northern kingdom, made a bad name for itself.
- When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling, he himself carried weight in Israel. But he proceeded to become guilty in regard to Baal and die. (Hosea 13:1)
- The first king, the **Ephraimite** Jeroboam, established calf worship at Dan and Bethel.
- And there was Jeroboam the son of Nebat an Ephraimite from Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, and his mother's name was Zeruah, a widowed woman. He too began to lift up his hand against the king. (1 Kings 11:26)
- And Jeroboam proceeded to build Shechem in the mountainous region of Ephraim and to dwell in it. Then he went forth from there and built Penuel. (1 Kings 12:25)
- And Jeroboam began to say in his heart; Now the kingdom will return to the house of David. (1 Kings 12:26)

- If this people continues going up to render sacrifices in the house of Yehowah in Jerusalem, the heart of this people will also be bound to return to their lord, Rehoboam the king of Judah, and they will certainly kill me and return to Rehoboam the king of Judah. (1 Kings 12:27)
- 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)
- And this thing came to be a cause for sin, and the people began to go before the one as far as Dan. (1 Kings 12:30)
- This plunge into idolatry was never reversed.
- As the dominant tribe of the northern kingdom, **Ephraim** came to stand for the entire ten-tribe kingdom.
- And a certain man of the true God came to him, saying; O king, do not let the army of Israel come with you, for Yehowah is not with Israel, that is, all the sons of Ephraim. (2 Chronicles 25:7)
- And I will throw you out from before my face, just as I threw out all your brothers, the whole offspring of Ephraim. (Jeremiah 7:15)
- Therefore the prophets Hosea and Isaiah directed their strong denunciations against Ephraim. Hosea condemned Ephraim for mingling with the nations, learning their works, and serving their idols. He compared Ephraim to a round cake not turned over, baked or even burned on the bottom but not done on the top.
- As for Ephraim, it is among the peoples that he personally mingles himself. Ephraim himself has become a round cake not turned on the other side. (Hosea 7:8)
- And they went mingling with the nations and took up learning their works. (Psalms 106:35)

- And they kept serving their idols, and these came to be a snare to them. (Psalms 106:36)
- **Ephraim** is joined with idols. Let him be to himself! (Hosea 4:17)
- Ephraim caused offense to bitterness, and his deeds of bloodshed he leaves upon his own self, and his reproach his grand Master will repay to him. (Hosea 12:14)
- Although having been sapped of strength by strangers, Ephraim, rather than returning to Yehowah, appealed to Egypt for help and made a covenant with Assyria. Thus Ephraim was like a simpleminded dove that would not escape being trapped in a net.
- Strangers have eaten up his power, and he himself has not come to know it. Also, gray hairs themselves have become white on him, but he himself has not come to know it. (Hosea 7:9)
- And the pride of Israel has testified to his face, and they have not returned to Yehowah their God, nor have they looked for him because of all this. (Hosea 7:10)
- And Ephraim proves to be like a simpleminded dove without heart. To Egypt they have called, to Assyria they have gone. (Hosea 7:11)
- Whichever way they go, I shall spread out over them my net. Like flying creatures of the heavens I shall bring them down. I shall discipline them in agreement with the report to their assembly. (Hosea 7:12)
- For they themselves have gone up to Assyria, as a zebra isolated to itself. In Ephraim's case, they have hired lovers. (Hosea 8:9)
- However, the king of Assyria got to find conspiracy in Hoshea's case, in that he had sent messengers to So the king of Egypt and did not bring the tribute up to the king of Assyria as in former years. Hence the king of Assyria shut him up and kept him bound in the house of detention. (2 Kings 17:4)
- Ephraim is feeding on wind and chasing after the east wind all day long. Lying and despoiling are what he multiplies. And a covenant with Assyria they conclude, and to Egypt oil itself is brought. (Hosea 12:1)

- The prophet Isaiah addressed himself to the proud drunkards of **Ephraim**. Their independence from the kingdom of Judah and their alliances with Syria and other nations had affected them like intoxicating liquor. However, disaster would befall them.
- Now it came about in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham the son of Uzziah, the king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah, the king of Israel, came up to Jerusalem for war against it, and he proved unable to war against it. (Isaiah 7:1)
- And a report was made to the house of David, saying; Syria has leaned upon Ephraim. And his heart and the heart of his people began to quiver, like the quivering of the trees of the forest because of a wind. (Isaiah 7:2)
- For the reason that Syria with **Ephraim** and the son of Remaliah has advised what is bad against you, saying; (**Isaiah 7:5**)
- Let us go up against Judah and tear it apart and by breakthroughs take it for ourselves, and let us make another king reign inside it, the son of Tabeel. (Isaiah 7:6)
- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; It will not stand, neither will it take place. (Isaiah 7:7)
- For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin, and within just sixty-five years **Ephraim** will be shattered to pieces so as not to be a people. (**Isaiah 7:8**)
- And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. Unless you people have faith, you will in that case not be of long duration. (Isaiah 7:9)
- Yehowah will bring against you and against your people and against the house of your father days such as have not come since the day of Ephraim's turning away from alongside Judah, namely, the king of Assyria. (Isaiah 7:17)
- And the people will certainly know it, even all of them, Ephraim and the inhabitant of Samaria, because of their haughtiness and because of their insolence of heart in saying; (Isaiah 9:9)

- Sycamore trees are what have been cut down, but with cedars we shall make replacement. (Isaiah 9:10)
- And Yehowah will set the adversaries of Rezin on high against him, and the enemies of that one he will goad on. (Isaiah 9:11)
- Syria from the east and the Philistines from behind, and they will eat up Israel with open mouth. In view of all this his anger has not turned back, but his hand is stretched out still. (Isaiah 9:12)
- And the fortified city has been made to cease out of Ephraim, and the kingdom out of Damascus, and those of Syria remaining over will become just like the glory of the sons of Israel, is the utterance of Yehowah of armies. (Isaiah 17:3)
- Woe to the eminent crown of the drunkards of Ephraim, and the fading blossom of its decoration of beauty that is upon the head of the fertile valley of those overpowered by wine! (Isaiah 28:1)
- Look! Yehowah has someone strong and vigorous. Like a thunderous storm of hail, a destructive storm, like a thunderous storm of powerful, flooding waters, he will certainly do a casting down to the earth with force. (Isaiah 28:2)
- With the feet the eminent crowns of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trampled down. (Isaiah 28:3)
- Yehowah's prophets also foretold, however, that the spirit of jealousy and hostility existing between **Ephraim**, the ten-tribe kingdom, and Judah, the two-tribe kingdom, would cease.
- And the jealousy of Ephraim must depart, and even those showing hostility to Judah will be cut off. Ephraim itself will not be jealous of Judah, nor will Judah show hostility toward Ephraim. (Isaiah 11:13)
- For there exists a day when the lookouts in the mountainous region of Ephraim will actually call out; Rise up, O men, and let us go up to Zion, to Yehowah our God. (Jeremiah 31:6)
- Judah and Ephraim would become united, and Ephraim would be restored to divine favor.

- I have positively heard **Ephraim** bemoaning himself; You have corrected me, that I may be corrected, like a calf that has not been trained. Cause me to turn back, and I shall readily turn back, for you are Yehowah my God. (**Jeremiah 31:18**)
- For after my turning back I felt regret, and after my being led to know I made a slap upon the thigh. I became ashamed, and I also felt humiliated, for I had carried the reproach of my youth. (Jeremiah 31:19)
- Is Ephraim a precious son to me, or a fondly treated child? For to the extent of my speaking against him I shall without fail remember him further. That is why my intestines have become boisterous for him. By all means I shall have pity upon him, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 31:20)
- And I will bring Israel back to his pasture ground, and he will certainly graze on Carmel and on Bashan, and in the mountainous region of Ephraim and of Gilead his soul will be satisfied. (Jeremiah 50:19)
- And as for you, O son of man, take for yourself a stick and write upon it, For Judah and for the sons of Israel his partners. And take another stick and write upon it; For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim, and all the house of Israel his partners. (Ezekiel 37:16)
- And cause them to approach each other into one stick for yourself, and they will actually become just one in your hand. (Ezekiel 37:17)
- And when the sons of your people begin to say to you; Will you not tell us what these things mean to you? (Ezekiel 37:18)
- Speak to them; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am taking the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel his partners, and I will put them upon it, that is, the stick of Judah, and I shall actually make them one stick, and they must become one in my hand. (Ezekiel 37:19)
- And those of Ephraim must become just like a mighty man, and their heart must rejoice as though from wine. And their own sons will see and certainly rejoice, their heart will be joyful in Yehowah. (Zechariah 10:7)

- Whereas the tribe of **Ephraim** built up a bad record, individuals within that tribe followed the right course. During the reign of Judah's King Asa, for example, many **Ephraimites** deserted to him when they saw that Yehowah was with him.
- And he began to collect together all Judah and Benjamin and the alien residents with them from Ephraim and Manasseh and Simeon, for they had deserted to him from Israel in great number when they saw that Yehowah his God was with him. (2 Chronicles 15:9)
- Later, Ephraimites were also present in Jerusalem for the Passover celebration in the first year of Hezekiah's reign and afterward shared in destroying appendages of idolatry.
- For there was a great number of the people, many from Ephraim and Manasseh, Issachar and Zebulun, that had not cleansed themselves, for they did not eat the Passover according to what is written, but Hezekiah prayed for them, saying; May the good Yehowah himself make allowance for (2 Chronicles 30:18)
- And as soon as they finished all this, all the Israelites that were found there went out to the cities of Judah, and they proceeded to break up the sacred pillars and cut down the sacred poles and pull down the high places and the altars out of all Judah and Benjamin and in Ephraim and Manasseh until they had finished, after which all the sons of Israel returned to their cities, each one to his own possession. (2 Chronicles 31:1)
- However, when Hezekiah sent out the invitation for the Israelites from the North to come to the Passover, his runners were mocked and derided by many in Ephraim, Manasseh, and Zebulun. Pride kept these from humbling themselves and coming down to Jerusalem for the Passover.
- So the runners continued on, passing along from city to city throughout the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, even to Zebulun, but they were continually speaking in mockery of them and deriding them. (2 Chronicles 30:10)
- Only individuals from Asher and Manasseh and from Zebulun humbled themselves so that they came to Jerusalem. (2 Chronicles 30:11)

- A city generally considered to be the same as the **Ephrain** captured by Abijah the king of Judah from Jeroboam the king of Israel.
- And Abijah kept chasing after Jeroboam and got to capture cities from him, Bethel and its dependent towns, and Jeshanah and its dependent towns, and Ephrain and its dependent towns. (2 Chronicles 13:19)
- In the First Century C.E, when the religious leaders took counsel to kill him, Jesus Christ, with his disciples, went to Ephraim in the country near the wilderness.
- Therefore from that day on they took counsel to kill him. (John 11:53)
- Hence Jesus no longer walked about publicly among the Jews, but he departed from there to the country near the wilderness, into a city called Ephraim, and there he remained with the disciples. (John 11:54)
- The site commonly suggested for this city is the village of et-Taiyiba, about 6 kilometers (3.5 miles) East-Northeast of Bethel and 3 kilometers (2 miles) East-Southeast of the suggested location of Baalhazor.
- And it turned out after two full years that Absalom came to have sheepshearers at Baal-hazor, which is close by Ephraim, and Absalom proceeded to invite all the sons of the king. (2 Samuel 13:23)
- · According to the Jewish historian Josephus, the Roman general Vespasian conquered Ephraim during his march against Jerusalem. [The Jewish War, IV, 551 (ix, 9]
- The forest of **Ephraim** was an area on the East side of the Jordan where the army of King David fought with that of his rebellious son Absalom.
- And the people continued on their way out to the field to meet Israel, and the battle came to be in the forest of Ephraim. (2 Samuel 18:6)
- Finally the people of Israel were defeated there before the

- servants of David, and the slaughter there turned out to be great on that day, of twenty thousand men. (2 Samuel 18:7)
- And the battle there got to be spread out over all the land that was in sight. Furthermore, the forest did more in eating up the people than the sword did in eating them up on that day. (2 Samuel 18:8)
- The actual site of the forest of **Ephraim** in the land of Gilead is unknown, but it was probably in the vicinity of Mahanaim.
- Immediately David rose up and also all the people that were with him, and they kept crossing the Jordan until the morning became light, until not a one was lacking that had not passed over the Jordan. (2 Samuel 17:22)
- As for David, he came to Mahanaim, and Absalom himself crossed the Jordan, he and all the men of Israel with him. (2 Samuel 17:24)
- And Israel and Absalom took up camping in the land of Gilead. (2 Samuel 17:26)