

## **~ISSACHAR 2 (436)**

**(Is'sa-char) [He Is Wages, that is, a man of wages]**

- One of the 12 tribes of Israel, descendants of Jacob through his son **Issachar**.
- When the first census was taken after leaving Egypt, the number of able-bodied men 20 years old and upward who were fit for warfare among this tribe was 54,400.
- So Moses and Aaron took these men who had been designated by names. (**Numbers 1:17**)
- And they congregated all the assembly on the first day of the second month, that they might have their descent acknowledged as regards their families in the house of their fathers, by the number of the names, from twenty years old upward, head by head of them. (**Numbers 1:18**)
- Just as Yehowah had commanded Moses, and he proceeded to register them in the wilderness of Sinai. (**Numbers 1:19**)
- Of the sons of **Issachar**, 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 1:28**)
- Those registered of them of the tribe of **Issachar** were fifty-four thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 1:29**)
- A similar census about 39 years later showed the tribe had increased their registered ones to 64,300, and in David's time the fighting force numbered 87,000.
- The sons of **Issachar** by their families were, of Tola the family of the Tolaites. Of Puvah the family of the Punites. (**Numbers 26:23**)
- Of Jashub the family of the Jashubites. Of Shimron the family of the Shimronites. (**Numbers 26:24**)
- These were the families of **Issachar**, of their registered ones,

sixty-four thousand three hundred. (**Numbers 26:25**)

- And their brothers of all the families of **Issachar** were valiant, mighty men, eighty-seven thousand by the genealogical enrollment of them all. (**1 Chronicles 7:5**)
- There were 200 head ones of the tribe that went to Hebron in **1070 B.C.E.** when David was made, king over all Israel.
- 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 **Issachar** having a knowledge of how to discern the times to know what Israel ought to do, there were two hundred head ones of theirs, and all their brothers were at their orders. (**1 Chronicles 12:32**)
- All these were men of war, flocking together in battle line, with a complete heart they came to Hebron to make David king over all Israel, and also all the remainder of Israel were of one heart for making David king. (**1 Chronicles 12:38**)
- In the layout of the great wilderness camp, the families of **Issachar**, together with those of their full-blood brother-tribe Zebulun, were situated on Judah's flanks on the East side of the tabernacle
- And those camping eastward toward the sunrising will be the three-tribe division of the camp of Judah in their armies, and the chieftain for the sons of Judah is Nahshon the son of Amminadab. (**Numbers 2:3**)
- And his army and the ones registered of them are seventy-four thousand six hundred. (**Numbers 2:4**)
- And those camping alongside him will be the tribe of **Issachar**, and the chieftain for the sons of Issachar is Nethanel the son of Zuar. (**Numbers 2:5**)
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-four thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 2:6**)
- And the tribe of Zebulun, and the chieftain for the sons of

- Zebulun is Eliab the son of Helon. (**Numbers 2:7**)
- And his army and his registered ones are fifty-seven thousand four hundred. (**Numbers 2:8**)
  - When on the march this three-tribe division was assigned to take the lead.
  - So the three-tribe division of the camp of the sons of Judah pulled away first of all in their armies, and Nahshon the son of Amminadab was over its army. (**Numbers 10:14**)
  - And over the army of the tribe of the sons of **Issachar** there was Nethanel the son of Zuar. (**Numbers 10:15**)
  - And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Zebulun there was Eliab the son of Helon. (**Numbers 10:16**)
  - Moses parting blessings on the tribes grouped **Issachar** and Zebulun together.
  - And as to Zebulun he said; Rejoice, O Zebulun, in your going out, and, **Issachar**, in your tents. (**Deuteronomy 33:18**)
  - But a few years later they were separated when the tribes were divided into two groups to hear the reading of blessings and cursings of the Law between the mountains of Gerizim and Ebal.
  - And Moses went on to command the people on that day, saying; (**Deuteronomy 27:11**)
  - The following are the ones who will stand to bless the people on Mount Gerizim when you have crossed the Jordan, Simeon and Levi and Judah and **Issachar** and Joseph and Benjamin. (**Deuteronomy 27:12**)
  - And the following are the ones who will stand for the malediction on Mount Ebal. Reuben, Gad and Asher and Zebulun, Dan and Naphtali. (**Deuteronomy 27:13**)
  - And all Israel and their older men and the officers and their judges were standing on this side and on that side of the Ark in front of the priests, the Levites, carrying the ark of the covenant of Yehowah, the alien resident as well as the native, one half of

them in front of Mount Gerizim and the other half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of Yehowah had commanded, to bless the people of Israel first of all. ([Joshua 8:33](#))

- And after this he read aloud all the words of the law, the blessing and the malediction, according to all that is written in the book of the law. ([Joshua 8:34](#))
- There proved to be not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read aloud in front of all the congregation of Israel, together with the women and the little ones and the alien residents who walked in their midst. ([Joshua 8:35](#))

### See Also EBAL, MOUNT

- In dividing up the Promised Land, **Issachar** was the fourth tribe chosen by lot to receive its inheritance, which proved to be mainly in the fertile Valley of Jezreel.
- Bounding **Issachar** were the tribal territories of Zebulun and Naphtali on the North, the Jordan River on the East, Manasseh's territory on the South, and on the West a portion of Asher's allotment.
- Mount Tabor lay along its northern boundary with Zebulun, while the city of Megiddo was near its Southwest border and Beth-shean was toward its Southeast boundary. Within this territory there were a number of Canaanite cities and their dependent settlements.
- To the south it was Ephraim's and to the north, Manasseh's, and the sea came to be his boundary, and on the north they reach to Asher and on the east, to **Issachar**. ([Joshua 17:10](#))
- It was for **Issachar** that the fourth lot came out, for the sons of Issachar by their families. ([Joshua 19:17](#))
- And their boundary came to be to Jezreel and Chesulloth and Shunem. ([Joshua 19:18](#))
- And Hapharaim and Shion and Anaharath. ([Joshua 19:19](#))
- And Rabbith and Kishion and Ebez. ([Joshua 19:20](#))
- And Remeth and En-gannim and En-haddah and Beth-pazzez.

**(Joshua 19:21)**

- And the boundary reached to Tabor and Shahazumah and Beth-shemesh, and the terminations of their border proved to be at the Jordan, sixteen cities and their settlements. **(Joshua 19:22)**
- This was the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of **Issachar** by their families, the cities and their settlements. **(Joshua 19:23)**
- It was here in this choice valley that the tribe of **Issachar**, according to Moses blessing, rejoiced in their tents.
- And as to Zebulun he said; Rejoice, O Zebulun, in your going out, and, **Issachar**, in your tents. **(Deuteronomy 33:18)**
- The likening of Jacob's son **Issachar** to a strong-boned ass, evidently pointed to a quality reflected as well in the tribe descended from him.
- **Issachar** is a strong-boned ass, lying down between the two saddlebags. **(Genesis 49:14)**
- And he will see that the resting-place is good and that the land is pleasant, and he will bend down his shoulder to bear burdens and he will become subject to slavish forced labor. **(Genesis 49:15)**
- The land assigned them was indeed pleasant, a fertile part of Palestine, good for agriculture. **Issachar** seems to have accepted well the hard labor involved in such work.
- Willingness is indicated by his bending down his shoulder to bear burdens. So, while the tribe was not particularly outstanding, it apparently could be commended for taking on the load of responsibility that was its share.
- Certain cities within **Issachar's** possession were designated as enclave cities belonging to the neighbor tribe of Manasseh, including the prominent cities of Megiddo and Beth-shean.
- And there came to belong to Manasseh in **Issachar** and in Asher Beth-shean and its dependent towns and Ibleam and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Dor and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of En-dor and its dependent towns and

the inhabitants of Taanach and its dependent towns and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its dependent towns, three of the heights. (**Joshua 17:11**)

- **A number of towns in its territory, together with their surrounding pasture grounds, were also set aside for the tribe of Levi.**
- **And for the sons of Gershon there were by lot thirteen cities out of the families of the tribe of **Issachar** and out of the tribe of Asher and out of the tribe of Naphtali and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan. (**Joshua 21:6**)**
- **And out of the tribe of **Issachar**, Kishion and its pasture ground, Daberath and its pasture ground. (**Joshua 21:28**)**
- **Jarmuth and its pasture ground, En-gannim and its pasture ground, four cities. (**Joshua 21:29**)**
- **And to the sons of Gershom by their families they gave from the tribe of Issachar and from the tribe of Asher and from the tribe of Naphtali and from the tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities. (**1 Chronicles 6:62**)**
- **And to the sons of Gershom they gave from the family of the half tribe of Manasseh Golan in Bashan with its pasture grounds and Ashtaroth with its pasture grounds. (**1 Chronicles 6:71**)**
- **And from the tribe of Issachar, Kedesh with its pasture grounds and Daberath with its pasture grounds. (**1 Chronicles 6:72**)**
- **And Ramoth with its pasture grounds and Anem with its pasture grounds. (**1 Chronicles 6:73**)**
- **Later, **Issachar** supplied its share, one twelfth of the annual needs, for the support of Solomon's court.**
- **And King Solomon continued king over all Israel. (**1 Kings 4:1**)**
- **And Solomon had twelve deputies over all Israel, and they provided the king and his household with food. It would devolve upon each one to provide the food one month in the year. (**1 Kings 4:7**)**
- **Jehoshaphat the son of Paruah, in **Issachar**. (**1 Kings 4:17**)**

- Among the prominent individuals of **Issachar** was Igal, the tribes selected spy who joined others in advising Israel not to enter the Promised Land.

- Yehowah now spoke to Moses, saying; (**Numbers 13:1**)

- Send out for yourself men that they may spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the sons of Israel. You will send out one man for each tribe of his fathers, each one a chieftain among them. (**Numbers 13:2**)

- So Moses sent them out from the wilderness of Paran at the order of Yehowah. All the men were heads of the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 13:3**)

- Of the tribe of **Issachar**, Igal the son of Joseph. (**Numbers 13:7**)

- But the men who went up with him said; We are not able to go up against the people, because they are stronger than we are. (**Numbers 13:31**)

- And they kept on bringing forth to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying; The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is a land that eats up its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in the midst of it are men of extraordinary size. (**Numbers 13:32**)

- And there we saw the Nephilim, the sons of Anak, who are from the Nephilim, so that we became in our own eyes like grasshoppers, and the same way we became in their eyes. (**Numbers 13:33**)

- As chieftains of the tribe, Nethanel served after the Exodus.

- And some men should be with you, one man to a tribe, each is a head to the house of his fathers. (**Numbers 1:4**)

- Of **Issachar**, Nethanel the son of Zuar. (**Numbers 1:8**)

- On the second day Nethanel the son of Zuar, the chieftain of **Issachar**, made a presentation. (**Numbers 7:18**)

- And over the army of the tribe of the sons of **Issachar** there was

**Nethanel the son of Zuar. (Numbers 10:15)**

- **Paltiel when Israel entered the Promised Land.**
- **These are the names of the men who will divide the land to you people for a possession, Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun. (Numbers 34:17)**
- **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 Issachar a chieftain, Paltiel the son of Azzan. (Numbers 34:26)**
- **Omri during the reign of David.**
- **Of Judah, Elihu, one of David's brothers. Of Issachar, Omri the son of Michael. (1 Chronicles 27:18)**
- **Of Dan, Azarel the son of Jeroham. These were the princes of the tribes of Israel. (1 Chronicles 27:22)**
- **Issachar was listed among those that supported Judge Barak in the overthrow of Jabin's forces under Sisera.**
- **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 princes in Issachar were with Deborah, and as Issachar, so was Barak. Into the low plain he was sent on foot. Among the divisions of Reuben great were the searchings of the heart. (Judges 5:15)**
- **Later, for 23 years Tola of the tribe of Issachar was one of the judges of Israel.**
- **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)**



- After the split-up of the united kingdom, Baasha of **Issachar** was the third ruler of the northern kingdom. A wicked man, Baasha murdered his predecessor to gain the throne and held it for 24 years.
- And Baasha the son of Ahijah of the house of **Issachar** began to conspire against him, and Baasha got to strike him down at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines, while Nadab and all Israel were besieging Gibbethon. (**1 Kings 15:27**)
- So Baasha put him to death in the third year of Asa the king of Judah and began to reign in place of him. (**1 Kings 15:28**)
- In the third year of Asa the king of Judah, Baasha the son of Ahijah became king over all Israel in Tirzah for twenty-four years. (**1 Kings 15:33**)
- And he kept doing what was bad in the eyes of Yehowah and went walking in the way of Jeroboam and in his sin with which he caused Israel to sin. (**1 Kings 15:34**)
- Some 200 years later, Hezekiah the king of Judah invited those of the northern kingdom to join in keeping the Passover, and many from **Issachar**, in response, traveled up to Jerusalem for the celebration.
- And Hezekiah proceeded to send to all Israel and Judah, and even letters he wrote to Ephraim and Manasseh, to come to the house of Yehowah in Jerusalem to hold the Passover to Yehowah the God of Israel. (**2 Chronicles 30:1**)
- And they proceeded to gather themselves together at Jerusalem, a numerous people, to hold the festival of the unfermented cakes in the second month, a congregation very multitudinous. (**2 Chronicles 30:13**)
- 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**)
- Every one that has prepared his heart to search for the true God, Yehowah, the God of his forefathers, though without the purification for what is holy. (**2 Chronicles 30:19**)

- Accordingly Yehowah listened to Hezekiah and healed the people. (**2 Chronicles 30:20**)
- In the books of Ezekiel and Revelation, **Issachar** is enumerated with the other tribes and, in view of the prophetic nature of those visions, obviously has symbolic meaning.
- And by the boundary of Simeon, from the eastern border to the western border, **Issachar** one. (**Ezekiel 48:25**)
- And by the boundary of **Issachar**, from the eastern border to the western border, Zebulun one. (**Ezekiel 48:26**)
- And the southern border will be four thousand five hundred cubits as to measurement, with three gates, the gate of Simeon, one, the gate of **Issachar**, one, the gate of Zebulun, one. (**Ezekiel 48:33**)
- Out of the tribe of Simeon twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of Levi twelve thousand. Out of the tribe of **Issachar** twelve thousand. (**Revelation 7:7**)