

~JURISDICTIONAL DISTRICT (482)

- An administrative division of a realm under the control of a central government.
- To this Memucan said before the king and the princes; It is not against the king alone that Vashti the queen has done wrong, but against all the princes and against all the peoples that are in all the **jurisdictional** districts of King Ahasuerus. ([Esther 1:16](#))
- And let the king appoint commissioners in all the **jurisdictional** districts of his realm, and let them collect together all the young women, virgins, beautiful in appearance, at Shushan the castle, at the house of the women in charge of Hegai the king's eunuch, the guardian of the women, and let there be a giving of their massages. ([Esther 2:3](#))
- And the king went on to hold a great banquet for all his princes and his servants, the banquet of Esther, and an amnesty for the **jurisdictional** districts he granted, and he kept giving presents according to the means of the king. ([Esther 2:18](#))
- The Bible mentions **jurisdictional** districts in connection with Israel, Babylon, and Medo-Persia.
- Then Ahab said; By whom? To which he said; This is what Yehowah has said; By the young men of the princes of the **jurisdictional** districts. Finally he said; Who will open the battle engagement? To which he said; You! ([1 Kings 20:14](#))
- And he proceeded to take the count of the young men of the princes of the **jurisdictional** districts, and they came to be two hundred and thirty-two, and after them he took the count of all the people, all the sons of Israel, seven thousand. ([1 Kings 20:15](#))
- And they began to go out at noon while Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in the booths, he together with the kings, the thirty-two kings that were helping him. ([1 Kings 20:16](#))
- When the young men of the princes of the **jurisdictional** districts came out first, Ben-hadad at once sent out, and they came telling

him, saying; There are men that have come out from Samaria. (**1 Kings 20:17**)

- At that he said; Whether it is for peace that they have come out, you should seize them alive, or whether it is for battle that they have come out, alive is how you should seize them. (**1 Kings 20:18**)
- And these were the ones that came out from the city, the young men of the princes of the **jurisdictional** districts and the military forces that were behind them. (**1 Kings 20:19**)
- Now it came about in the days of Ahasuerus, that is, the Ahasuerus who was ruling as king from India to Ethiopia, over a hundred and twenty-seven **jurisdictional districts**. (**Esther 1:1**)
- That in those days as King Ahasuerus was sitting upon his royal throne, which was in Shushan the castle. (**Esther 1:2**)
- In the third year of his reigning he held a banquet for all his princes and his servants, the military force of Persia and Media, the nobles and the princes of the **jurisdictional districts** before himself. (**Esther 1:3**)
- Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits and the breadth of which was six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura in the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon. (**Daniel 3:1**)
- At that time the satraps, the prefects and the governor's, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the police magistrates and all the administrators of the **jurisdictional districts** were assembling themselves for the inauguration of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up, and they were standing in front of the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (**Daniel 3:3**)
- At that time the king himself caused Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to prosper in the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon. (**Daniel 3:30**)
- The **Hebrew** and **Aramaic** word for **jurisdictional district** *medhi-nah'* comes from the root verb *din*, meaning **judge**.

- Daniel the prophet was made ruler over all the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon, perhaps the principal one that included the city of Babylon.
- Consequently the king made Daniel someone great, and many big gifts he gave to him, and he made him the ruler over all the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon and the chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. (**Daniel 2:48**)
- His three Hebrew companions, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, were also appointed to serve in administrative capacities in this **district**.
- And Daniel, for his part, made a request of the king, and he appointed over the administration of the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, but Daniel was in the court of the king. (**Daniel 2:49**)
- There exist certain Jews whom you appointed over the administration of the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. These able-bodied men have paid no regard to you, O king, they are not serving your own gods, and the image of gold that you have set up they are not worshipping. (**Daniel 3:12**)
- Elam appears to have been another Babylonian **jurisdictional district**.
- And I began to see in the vision, and it came about, while I was seeing, that I was in Shushan the castle, which is in Elam the **jurisdictional district**, and I proceeded to see in the vision, and I myself happened to be by the watercourse of Ulai. (**Daniel 8:2**)
- Possibly because of having lived in the **jurisdictional district** of Babylon, the repatriated Jewish exiles are called, sons of the **jurisdictional district**.
- And these were the sons of the **jurisdictional district** that went up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile at Babylon and who later returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each one to his own city. (**Ezra 2:1**)
- These are the sons of the **jurisdictional district** who came up out

of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile and who later returned to Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city. ([Nehemiah 7:6](#))

- Or, this designation may allude to their being inhabitants of the Medo-Persian **jurisdictional district** of Judah.
- Accordingly they said to me; Those left over, who have been left over from the captivity, there in the **jurisdictional district**, are in a very bad plight and in reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its very gates have been burned with fire. ([Nehemiah 1:3](#))
- At least during the reign of Ahasuerus or Xerxes I, the Medo-Persian Empire consisted of 127 **jurisdictional districts**, from India to Ethiopia. Jews were scattered throughout this vast realm.
- Now it came about in the days of Ahasuerus, that is, the Ahasuerus who was ruling as king from India to Ethiopia, over a hundred and twenty-seven **jurisdictional districts**. ([Esther 1:1](#))
- And Haman proceeded to say to King Ahasuerus; There is one certain people scattered and separated among the peoples in all the **jurisdictional districts** of your realm, and their laws are different from all other peoples, and the king's own laws they are not performing, and for the king it is not appropriate to let them alone. ([Esther 3:8](#))
- And in all the different **jurisdictional districts**, wherever the king's word and his Law were reaching, there was great mourning among the Jews, and fasting and weeping and wailing. Sackcloth and ashes themselves came to be spread out as a couch for many. ([Esther 4:3](#))
- And in all the different **jurisdictional districts** and in all the different cities wherever the word of the king and his Law were reaching there were rejoicing and exultation for the Jews, a banquet and a good day, and many of the peoples of the land were declaring themselves Jews, for the dread of the Jews had fallen upon them. ([Esther 8:17](#))
- The Jews congregated themselves in their cities in all the **jurisdictional districts** of King Ahasuerus to lay hand on those seeking their injury, and not a man stood his ground before

them, for the dread of them had fallen upon all the peoples.
([Esther 9:2](#))

- Then he sent written documents to all the Jews in the one hundred and twenty-seven **jurisdictional districts**, the realm of Ahasuerus, in words of peace and truth. ([Esther 9:30](#))
- The land of Judah, with its own governor and lesser administrative heads, was itself one of the 127 **jurisdictional districts**.
- Accordingly they said to me; Those left over, who have been left over from the captivity, there in the **jurisdictional district**, are in a very bad plight and in reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its very gates have been burned with fire.
([Nehemiah 1:3](#))
- And these are the heads of the **jurisdictional district** who dwelt in Jerusalem, but in the cities of Judah there dwelt, each one in his own possession, in their cities, Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the Nethinim and the sons of the servants of Solomon.
([Nehemiah 11:3](#))
- Seemingly, however, Judah was part of a still larger political division administered by a higher governmental official. Apparently this official directed any serious complaints concerning the **districts** under his **jurisdiction** to the king and then waited for royal authorization to act. Also, lesser officials could request that the activities of a particular **jurisdictional district** be investigated.
- Rehum the chief government official and Shimshai the scribe wrote a letter against Jerusalem to Artaxerxes the king, as follows. ([Ezra 4:8](#))
- Then Rehum the chief government official and Shimshai the scribe and the rest of their colleagues, the judges and the lesser governor's across the River, the secretaries, the people of Erech, the Babylonians, the inhabitants of Susa, that is, the Elamites.
([Ezra 4:9](#))
- And the rest of the nations whom the great and honorable Asenappar took into exile and settled in the cities of Samaria, and the rest beyond the River, and now. ([Ezra 4:10](#))
- This is a copy of the letter that they sent concerning it. To

**Artaxerxes the king your servants, the men beyond the River.
And now. (Ezra 4:11)**

- **Let it become known to the king that the Jews who came up here from you to us have come to Jerusalem. They are building the rebellious and bad city, and they proceed to finish the walls and to repair the foundations. (Ezra 4:12)**
- **Now let it become known to the king that, if this city should be rebuilt and its walls be finished, neither tax nor tribute nor toll will they give, and it will cause loss to the treasuries of the kings. (Ezra 4:13)**
- **Now inasmuch as we do eat the salt of the palace, and it is not proper for us to see the denuding of the king, on this account we have sent and made it known to the king. (Ezra 4:14)**
- **That there may be an investigation of the book of records of your ancestors. Then you will find in the book of records and learn that that city is a city rebellious and causing loss to kings and **jurisdictional districts**, and within it there were movers of revolt from the days of old. For this reason that city has been laid waste. (Ezra 4:15)**
- **We are making known to the king that, if that city should be rebuilt and its walls be finished, you also will certainly have no share beyond the River. (Ezra 4:16)**
- **The king sent word to Rehum the chief government official and Shimshai the scribe and the rest of their colleagues who were dwelling in Samaria and the rest beyond the River. Greetings! And now. (Ezra 4:17)**
- **The official document that you have sent us has been distinctly read before me. (Ezra 4:18)**
- **So an order has been put through by me, and they have investigated and found that that city has from the days of old been one rising up against kings and one in which rebellion and revolt have been carried on. (Ezra 4:19)**
- **And there proved to be strong kings over Jerusalem and governing all beyond the River, and tax, tribute and toll were being given to them. (Ezra 4:20)**

- Now put an order through for these able-bodied men to stop, that that city may not be rebuilt until the order is put through by me. (**Ezra 4:21**)
- So be careful that there be no negligence about acting in this regard, that the harm may not increase to the injury of kings. (**Ezra 4:22**)
- Now after the copy of the official document of Artaxerxes the king had been read before Rehum and Shimshai the scribe and their colleagues, they went in a hurry to Jerusalem to the Jews and stopped them by force of arms. (**Ezra 4:23**)
- At that time Tattenai the governor beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and their colleagues came to them, and this is what they were saying to them; Who put an order through to you to build this house and to finish this beam structure? (**Ezra 5:3**)
- Then they said to them this; What are the names of the able-bodied men that are building this building? (**Ezra 5:4**)
- And the eye of their God proved to be upon the older men of the Jews, and they did not stop them until the report could go to Darius and then an official document concerning this could be sent back. (**Ezra 5:5**)
- Here is a copy of the letter that Tattenai the governor beyond the River and Shethar-bozenai and his colleagues, the lesser governor's that were beyond the River, sent to Darius the king. (**Ezra 5:6**)
- They sent the word to him, and the writing in it was in this manner; To Darius the king. All peace! (**Ezra 5:7**)
- Let it become known to the king that we went to the **jurisdictional** district of Judah to the house of the great God, and it is being built with stones rolled into place, and timbers are being laid in the walls, and that work is being eagerly done and is making progress in their hands. (**Ezra 5:8**)
- Then we asked these older men. This is what we said to them; Who put an order through to you to build this house and to finish this beam structure? (**Ezra 5:9**)

- And we also asked them their names, so as to let you know, that we might write the names of the able-bodied men that are at their head. (**Ezra 5:10**)
- And this is the word that they gave back to us, saying; We are the servants of the God of the heavens and the earth, and we are rebuilding the house that had been built many years before this, which a great king of Israel built and finished. (**Ezra 5:11**)
- However, because our fathers irritated the God of the heavens, he gave them into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, the Chaldean, and he demolished this house and took the people into exile at Babylon. (**Ezra 5:12**)
- Nevertheless, in the first year of Cyrus the king of Babylon, Cyrus the king put an order through to rebuild this house of God. (**Ezra 5:13**)
- And also the gold and silver vessels of the house of God that Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple, which was in Jerusalem, and brought to the temple of Babylon, these Cyrus the king took out of the temple of Babylon, and they were given to Sheshbazzar, the name of the one whom he made governor. (**Ezra 5:14**)
- And he said to him; Take these vessels. Go, deposit them in the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be rebuilt upon its place. (**Ezra 5:15**)
- When that Sheshbazzar came he laid the foundations of the house of God, which is in Jerusalem, and from then until now it is being rebuilt but it has not been completed. (**Ezra 5:16**)
- And now if to the king it seems good, let there be an investigation in the king's house of treasures that is there in Babylon, whether it is so that from Cyrus the king an order was put through to rebuild that house of God in Jerusalem, and the decision of the king concerning this let him send to us. (**Ezra 5:17**)
- When authorized by the king, **jurisdictional** districts could receive money from the royal treasury, and the royal decrees were sent by means of couriers to the various parts of the empire.

- **Now Tattenai the governor beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai and their colleagues, the lesser governor's that are beyond the River, keep your distance from there. (Ezra 6:6)**
- **Let the work on that house of God alone. The governor of the Jews and the older men of the Jews will rebuild that house of God upon its place. (Ezra 6:7)**
- **And by me an order has been put through as to what you will do with these older men of the Jews, for rebuilding that house of God, and from the royal treasury of the tax beyond the River the expense will promptly be given to these able-bodied men without cessation. (Ezra 6:8)**
- **And what is needed, young bulls as well as rams and lambs for the burnt offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine and oil, just as the priests that are in Jerusalem say; Let there be given them continually day by day without fail. (Ezra 6:9)**
- **That they may continually be presenting soothing offerings to the God of the heavens and praying for the life of the king and his sons. (Ezra 6:10)**
- **And by me an order has been put through that, as for anybody that violates this decree, a timber will be pulled out of his house and he will be impaled upon it, and his house will be turned into a public privy on this account. (Ezra 6:11)**
- **And may the God who has caused his name to reside there overthrow any king and people that thrusts his hand out to commit a violation and destroy that house of God, which is in Jerusalem. I, Darius, do put through an order. Let it be done promptly. (Ezra 6:12)**
- **So he sent written documents to all the kings **jurisdictional** districts, to each jurisdictional district in its own style of writing and to each people in its own tongue, for every husband to be continually acting as prince in his own house and speaking in the tongue of his own people. (Esther 1:22)**
- **The kings secretaries were then called in the first month on the thirteenth day of it, and writing went on according to all that Haman commanded the kings satraps and the governor's who**

were over the different **jurisdictional districts**, and the princes of the different peoples, of each **jurisdictional district**, in its own style of writing, and each people in its own tongue, in the name of King Ahasuerus it was written and it was sealed with the kings signet ring. ([Esther 3:12](#))

- And there was a sending of the letters by means of couriers to all the kings **jurisdictional districts**, to annihilate, to kill and to destroy all the Jews, young man as well as old man, little ones and women, on one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, that is, the month Adar, and to plunder the spoil of them. ([Esther 3:13](#))
- A copy of the writing to be given as Law in all the different **jurisdictional districts** was being published to all the peoples, for them to become ready for this day. ([Esther 3:14](#))
- The couriers themselves went out, being moved to speed because of the kings word, and the Law itself was given in Shushan the castle. As for the king and Haman, they sat down to drink, but as for the city of Shushan, it was in confusion. ([Esther 3:15](#))
- And he proceeded to write in the name of King Ahasuerus and do the sealing with the kings signet ring and send written documents by the hand of the couriers on horses, riding post horses used in the royal service, sons of speedy mares. ([Esther 8:10](#))
- That the king granted to the Jews that were in all the different cities to congregate themselves and stand for their souls, to annihilate and kill and destroy all the force of the people and **jurisdictional district** that were showing hostility to them, little ones and women, and to plunder their spoil. ([Esther 8:11](#))
- On the one day in all the **jurisdictional districts** of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, that is, the month of Adar. ([Esther 8:12](#))
- A copy of the writing was to be given as Law throughout all the different **jurisdictional districts**, published to all the peoples, that the Jews should become ready for this day to avenge themselves upon their enemies. ([Esther 8:13](#))

- The couriers themselves, riding post horses used in the royal service, went forth, being urged forward and being moved with speed by the kings word, and the Law itself was given out in Shushan the castle. (**Esther 8:14**)
- Therefore, all the inhabitants of the **jurisdictional districts** were familiar with the laws and decrees of the central government.
- All the kings servants and the people of the kings **jurisdictional districts** are aware that, as regards any man or woman that comes in to the king at the inner courtyard who is not called, his one Law is to have him put to death, only in case the king holds out to him the golden scepter, he will also certainly stay alive. As for me, I have not been called to come in to the king now for thirty days. (**Esther 4:11**)
- The system of **jurisdictional districts** existing in nations of antiquity often made the lot of the subject peoples more difficult. This fact is acknowledged by the wise writer of;
- If you see any oppression of the one of little means and the violent taking away of judgment and of righteousness in a **jurisdictional district**, do not be amazed over the affair, for one that is higher than the high one is watching, and there are those who are high above them. (**Ecclesiastes 5:8**)

See Also PROVINCE