

~LEVITE CITIES (167)

- The Levites were given no territorial allotment, Yehowah being their inheritance.
- And Yehowah went on to say to Aaron; In their land you will not have an inheritance, and no share will become yours in their midst. I am your share and your inheritance in the midst of the sons of Israel. (**Numbers 18:20**)
- No share or inheritance with Israel should come to belong to the priests, the **Levites**, the entire tribe of **Levi**. The offerings made by fire of Yehowah, even his inheritance, they should eat. (**Deuteronomy 18:1**)
- So no inheritance should come to belong to him in the midst of his brothers. Yehowah is his inheritance, just as he has spoken to him. (**Deuteronomy 18:2**)
- But God directed that the other tribes of Israel give them a total of 48 cities and surrounding pasture grounds.
- And Yehowah went on to speak to Moses on the desert plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying; (**Numbers 35:1**)
- Give the sons of Israel the command that they must give the **Levites** cities to inhabit out of the inheritance of their possession, and they should give the Levites the pasture ground of the cities all around them. (**Numbers 35:2**)
- And the cities must serve for them to inhabit, while their pasture grounds will serve for their domestic animals and their goods and for all their wild beasts. (**Numbers 35:3**)
- And the pasture grounds of the cities, which you will give the **Levites**, will be from the wall of the city and out for a thousand cubits all around. (**Numbers 35:4**)
- And you must measure outside the city on the east side two thousand cubits and on the south side two thousand cubits and on the west side two thousand cubits and on the north side two thousand cubits, with the city in the middle. This will serve them

as pasture grounds of the cities. (**Numbers 35:5**)

- These are the cities that you will give to the **Levites**, six cities of refuge, which you will give for the manslayer to flee there, and besides them you will give forty-two other cities. (**Numbers 35:6**)
- All the cities that you will give to the **Levites** will be forty-eight cities, they together with their pasture grounds. (**Numbers 35:7**)
- The cities that you will give will be from the possession of the sons of Israel. From the many you will take many, and from the few you will take few. Each one, in proportion to his inheritance that he will take as a possession, will give some of his cities to the **Levites**. (**Numbers 35:8**)
- Such cities were ultimately assigned to the **Levites**.
- The heads of the fathers of the **Levites** now approached Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the sons of Israel. (**Joshua 21:1**)
- And they proceeded to speak to them in Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying; Yehowah by means of Moses commanded cities to be given us in which to dwell, together with their pasture grounds for our domestic animals. (**Joshua 21:2**)
- So the sons of Israel gave the **Levites**, at the order of Yehowah, these cities and their pasture grounds out of their inheritance. (**Joshua 21:3**)
- Then the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites, and thirteen cities came to belong to the sons of Aaron the priest, of the **Levites**, by lot, out of the tribe of Judah and out of the tribe of the Simeonites and out of the tribe of Benjamin. (**Joshua 21:4**)
- And for the sons of Kohath that were left over there were by lot ten cities out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim and out of the tribe of Dan and out of the half tribe of Manasseh. (**Joshua 21:5**)
- 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**)

- For the sons of Merari by their families there were twelve cities out of the tribe of Reuben and out of the tribe of Gad and out of the tribe of Zebulun. ([Joshua 21:7](#))
- Thus the sons of Israel gave the **Levites** these cities and their pasture grounds by lot, just as Yehowah had commanded by means of Moses. ([Joshua 21:8](#))
- And 13 of them were priestly cities.
- All the cities of the sons of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities and their pasture grounds. ([Joshua 21:19](#))

See Also **PRIESTS CITIES**

- Of the 48 cities, 6 were assigned as cities of refuge for unintentional manslaughter.
- Accordingly they gave a sacred status to Kedesh in Galilee in the mountainous region of Naphtali, and Shechem in the mountainous region of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba, that is to say; Hebron, in the mountainous region of Judah. ([Joshua 20:7](#))
- And in the region of the Jordan, at Jericho, toward the east they gave Bezer in the wilderness on the tableland out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh. ([Joshua 20:8](#))
- These became the cities appointed for all the sons of Israel and for the alien resident who resides as an alien in their midst, for anyone to flee there who fatally strikes a soul unintentionally, that he may not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until his standing before the assembly. ([Joshua 20:9](#))

See Also **CITIES OF REFUGE**

- The scattering of the **Levites** among the other tribes of Israel was in fulfillment of Jacob's deathbed prophecy.
- Simeon and **Levi** are brothers. Instruments of violence are their slaughter weapons. ([Genesis 49:5](#))
- Into their intimate group do not come, O my soul. With their

congregation do not become united, O my disposition, because in their anger they killed men, and in their arbitrariness they hamstrung bulls. (**Genesis 49:6**)

- Cursed be their anger, because it is cruel, and their fury, because it acts harshly. Let me parcel them out in Jacob and let me scatter them in Israel. (**Genesis 49:7**)
- The **Levites** had the right to repurchase at any time houses they sold within their cities, or these were restored to them during the Jubilee year. But the pasturelands adjacent to their cities were never to be sold.
- As for cities of the **Levites** with the houses of the cities of their possession, the right of repurchase should continue to time indefinite for the **Levites**. (**Leviticus 25:32**)
- And where property of the **Levites** is not bought back, the house sold in the city of his possession must also go out in the Jubilee, because the houses of the cities of the Levites are their possession in the midst of the sons of Israel. (**Leviticus 25:33**)
- Moreover, the field of pasture ground of their cities may not be sold, because it is a possession to time indefinite for them. (**Leviticus 25:34**)

See Also LEVITES