

The Twelve Tribes of Israel

1. Their Origin
 - a. Genesis 12:1-3, God's institution of the nation
 - b. Genesis 28:1-4, Blessing came through Isaac to Jacob
 - c. Genesis 32:28, 35:10, Jacob becomes Israel
 - d. Genesis 35:23-26, Jacob's twelve sons become the 12 tribes of Israel
2. How 12 became 13, and 13 became 12
 - a. Genesis 48:5, 22, Joseph receives a double portion, becomes 2 tribes
 - b. Numbers 1:32-35, Ephraim and Manasseh are each listed as a tribe
 - c. Numbers 1:49-50, Levi is set apart for the Lord's service
 - d. So we have 12 tribes, plus the tribe of the Levites
3. The Primacy of the Tribe of Judah
 - a. Genesis 49:3-10, the first 3 sons of Jacob in order of birth are disqualified from primacy, Judah attains to kingship authority, prophetically
 - b. Matthew 1, verses 2, 6-11, and 16, Jesus a descendant of Judah, His ancestral line is that of the kings of Judah, Matthew 4:17, the King arrives on earth

4. The Geographical Location of the Tribes of Israel

- a. Pictured on the map below, snapshot is from the days of Joshua; historically there have been variation in territory.
- b. Re: the Map: Some Rights Reserved. Used by Permission under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with the Invariant Sections, and cover texts being “The Twelve Tribes of Israel”.



5. National Privilege and National Responsibility

a. National Privilege of Israel

- i. Genesis 12:1-3
- ii. Exodus 4:22
- iii. Zechariah 2:8
- iv. Romans 3:2

b. National Responsibility of Israel

- i. Leviticus Chapter 26
- ii. Deuteronomy Chapter 28
- iii. Ezekiel Chapter 16

6. The Divided Kingdom

- a. One nation under Moses and Joshua
- b. Loose Confederation in Judges
- c. United under David and Solomon
- d. Divided under Rehoboam, 1 Kings 11:43-12:3, 12:16-25
 - i. Judah received primacy over the Southern Kingdom (2 tribes, Judah and Benjamin)
 - ii. Ephraim receives primacy over the Northern Kingdom (other 10 tribes)

7. The Dispersion and the Regathering of Israel

- a. Initially a result of the Assyrian captivity of Ephraim, and the Babylonian captivity of Judah.
- b. Partial regathering of Israel under Zerubbabel
- c. Dispersion as a result of the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD
- d. Two regatherings of Israel

- i. Regathering of unbelief
 - 1. Daniel 9:26-27
 - 2. Zephaniah 2:1-2
- ii. Regathering of belief
 - 1. Jeremiah 16:14-15
 - 2. Romans 11:26-27
- e. Genealogical records destroyed in 70 AD
 - i. Remnant of pure Jewish blood preserved by God and known to Him
 - 1. Revelation 7:4-8
- f. Israel in the Millennial Kingdom
 - i. Isaiah 2:1-4
 - ii. Isaiah Chapter 65
 - iii. Zechariah Chapter 14