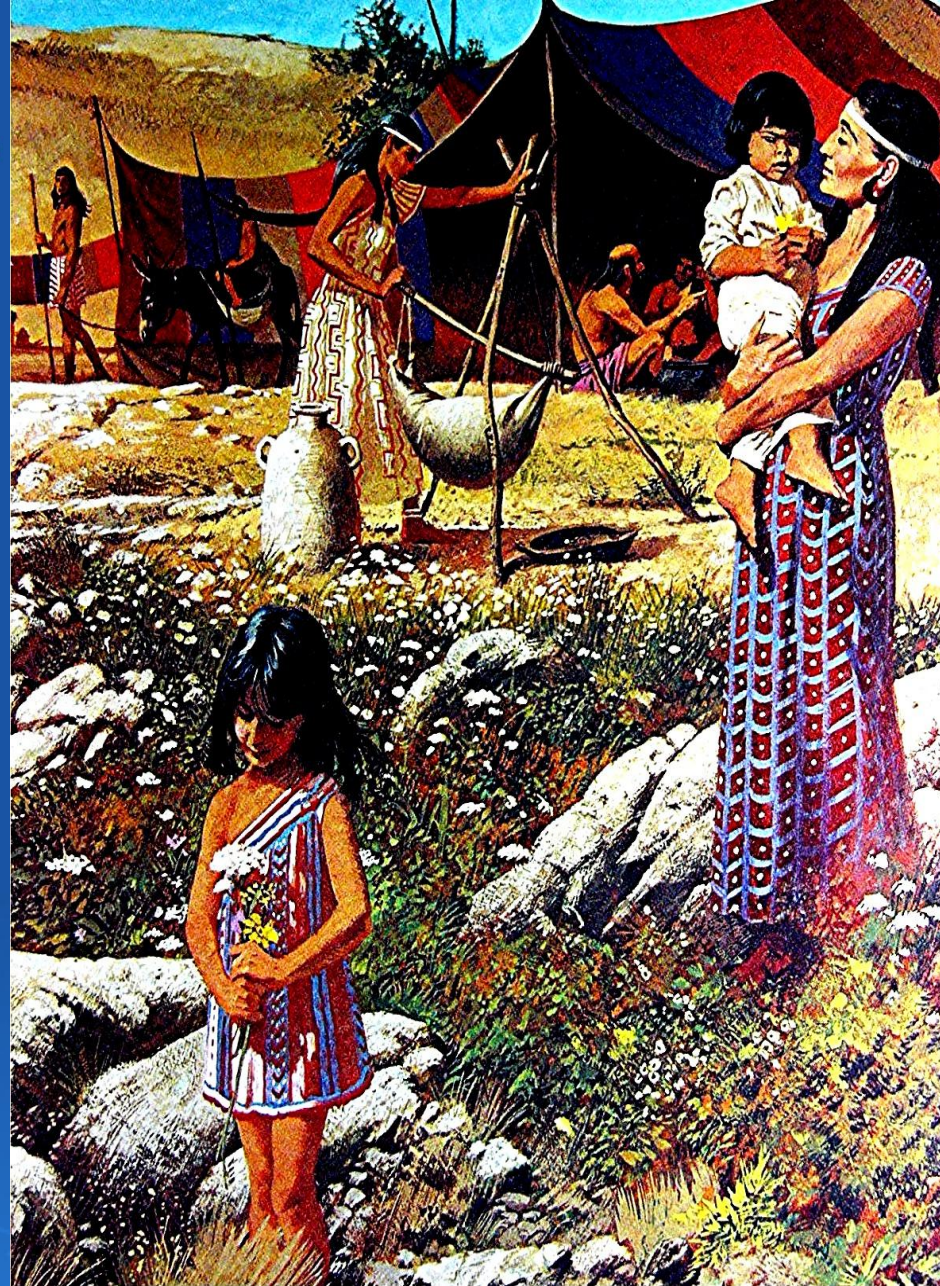


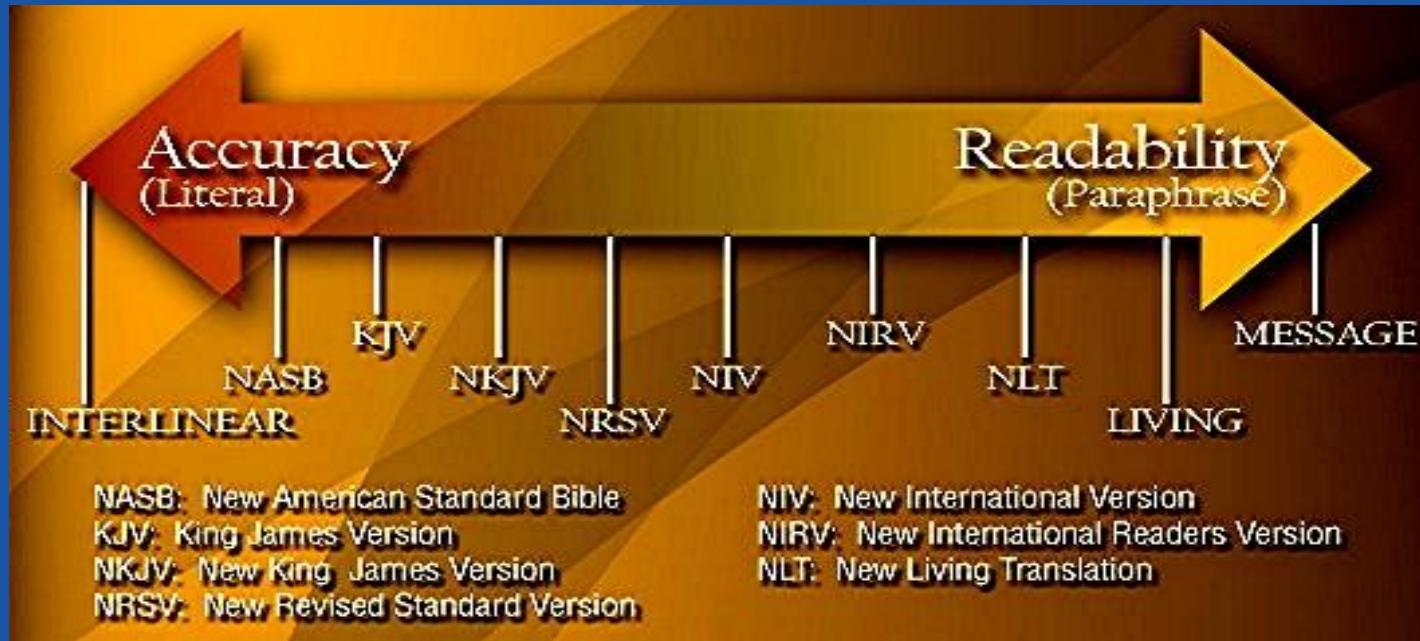


# JOINING ISRAEL

- Foreigners would bear children in Israel
- A Hebrew might marry one of the foreigner's children
- After 3 or 4 generations the foreign identity is lost and children of immigrants are now simply Israelites
- Hebrew girls discouraged from marrying foreign immigrants
- Were their children Hebrews or foreigners?



# WHICH VERSION IS INFALLIBLE?



- What we read in Deut. 23 probably came from the time of the Judges, some of it maybe a little later
- Examples of who can join Israel changed a bit over time to be appropriate to the current environment
- Bible versions can differ significantly, but mostly due to the way the English language has changed
- Names and place-names change often to reflect the NEW name that was in current use

# WHAT IS A *MAMZER*?

- A *mamzer* is NOT a bastard child
- It is the result of some kind of illicit mixture
- Exactly WHAT constituted an illicit mixture changed over time
- 3 presumptions in interpreting Deut. 23:1-9
  - 1) Marriage is what is being dealt with
  - 2) Any foreigner can convert to Judaism
  - 3) The “Assembly” are Hebrews, native-born by means of a legitimate Torah approved union

# LAWS OF MAMZERIM



- Male *mamzer* could NOT marry a native-born Hebrew girl
- Hebrew man CAN marry foreign girl provided she has converted to Judaism
- A *mamzer* CAN marry another *mamzer*
- Any regulation about *mamzerim* violated, the resulting child is consider to be a *mamzer*
- Marriage of *mamzerim* was NOT considered illegitimate
- Children of *mamzerim* were NOT shunned or considered bastards

# AMMONITES AND MOABITES EXCLUDED FROM ISRAEL



- Means they cannot become full citizen of Israel for 10 generations
- Moab hired a sorcerer (Bil'am) to curse Israel
- NO racial objection, nor are Ammonites and Moabites to be treated differently than other resident aliens living in Israel



# WHOLENESS IS THE REQUIREMENT



- People who are involved in or are products of illicit unions, or are not physically “perfect” cannot join Israel
- Matthew 5: “....*be perfect just as your Father in heaven is perfect....*”
- Yeshua is our unstained garment of righteousness
- OT or NT admission to membership in Israel was ALWAYS a spiritual issue

# MOAB AND AMMON REFUSED TO HELP GOD'S PEOPLE

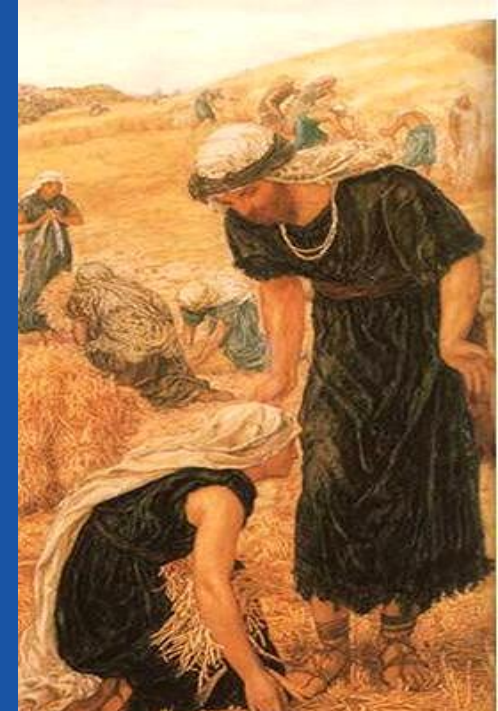


- Insulted Israel and the Lord
- Did not OFFER to give to Israel food and water
- Therefore the Lord denied Moab and Ammon the blessing of joining Israel
- Matthew 25:34 *“....for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me...drink...”*
- All men will be judged based on both an individual (Salvation) and national (how Israel is treated) level
- How will the Lord look at a Church that does not befriend Israel OR stands with it's enemies?

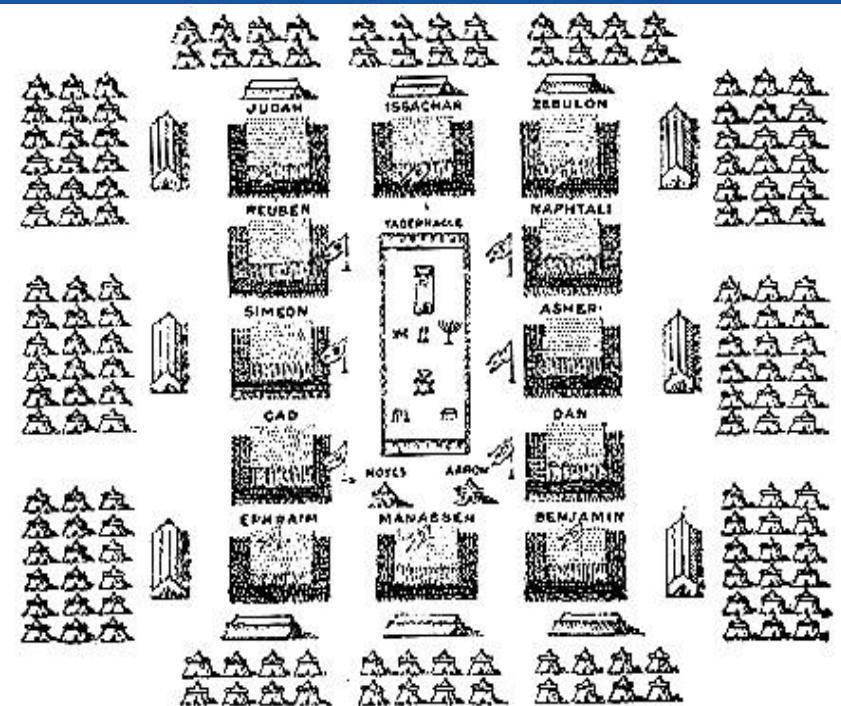


# EGYPT AND EDOM ACCEPTED

- Marriage of Ruth (Moabitess) to Boaz (Hebrew) shows how law of the *Mamzerim* operated
- Ruth “converted”
- After 3 generations Egyptians and Edomites CAN become full citizens of Israel
- Edom = Esau twin brother of Jacob/Israel
- Egypt at first offered safe haven for Israel and allowed Israel to thrive



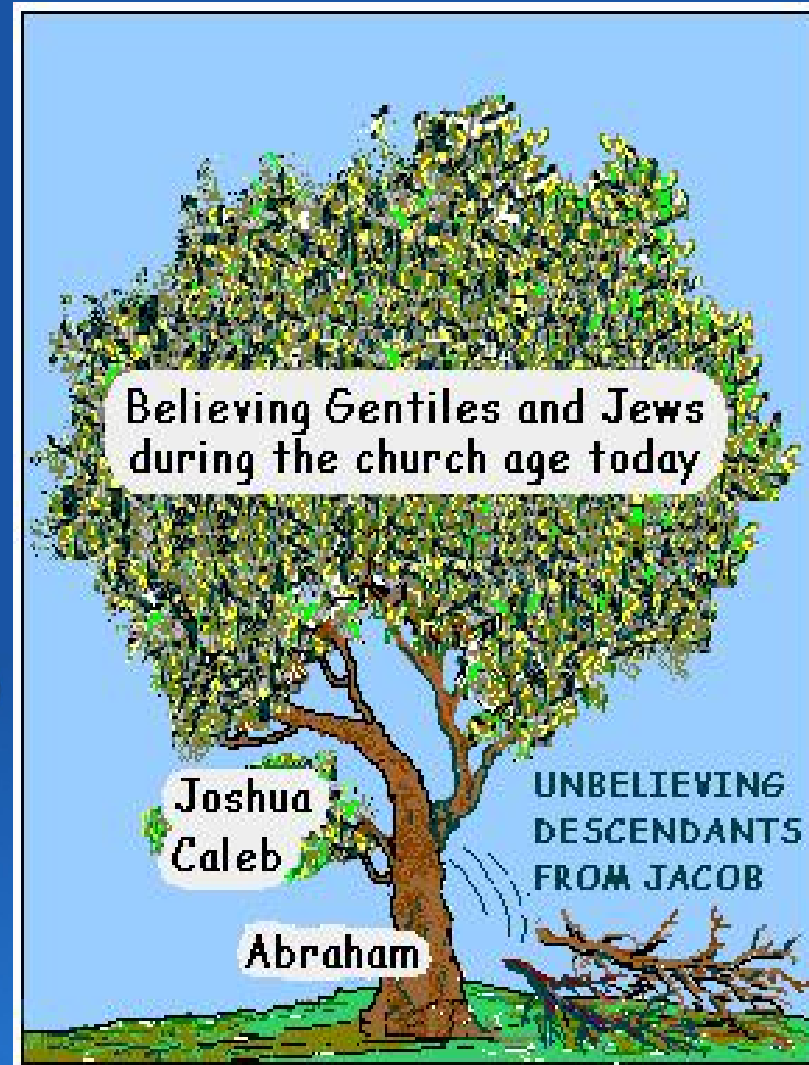
# HOLY WAR AND “THE CAMP”



- YHWH is the divine warrior leader, Israel is His army
- Because this is Holy War the camp must be held in sanctity
- Nocturnal emissions= accidental flow of semen
- Male becomes impure so must leave the camp
- A Wash and a Wait
- Was NOT sin! Sin only happened if the purification procedure was not followed

# PAUL EXPLAINS SAME PRINCIPLE IN ROMANS 11

- Impure are removed, but can return when purified
- Branches removed for lack of faith, can be grafted back in
- Bodily waste NOT to be deposited inside the area of the Holy War Camp
- God “walking” inside the camp is figurative; used as an expression of possession
- Fugitive foreign slaves are NOT to be returned to their former slave masters



# KEDESHAH: THE CULT PROSTITUTE

- ***Kedeshah*** means literally “holy woman”
- Refers to pagan priestess
- Became a Hebrew idiom for “prostitute”
- LAW: no gain from prostitution to be offered to Yehoveh
- Priests and Priestesses would have ritual sex to mimic mating of god and goddess
- Brothels established as sources of income for various pagan temples. Prime example was Temple of Aphrodite in Corinth
- **PRINCIPLE:** *The Lord will not accept the gain from any kind of an illicit mixture*