

DOES TORAH WATER DOWN OUR FAITH IN CHRIST?



- Difficult to move from agenda driven doctrines back to the Word of God
- World Biblical Commentary
- 52 volumes 30,000+ pages
- Dr. Duane Christensen, writer of 2 volume study on Deuteronomy

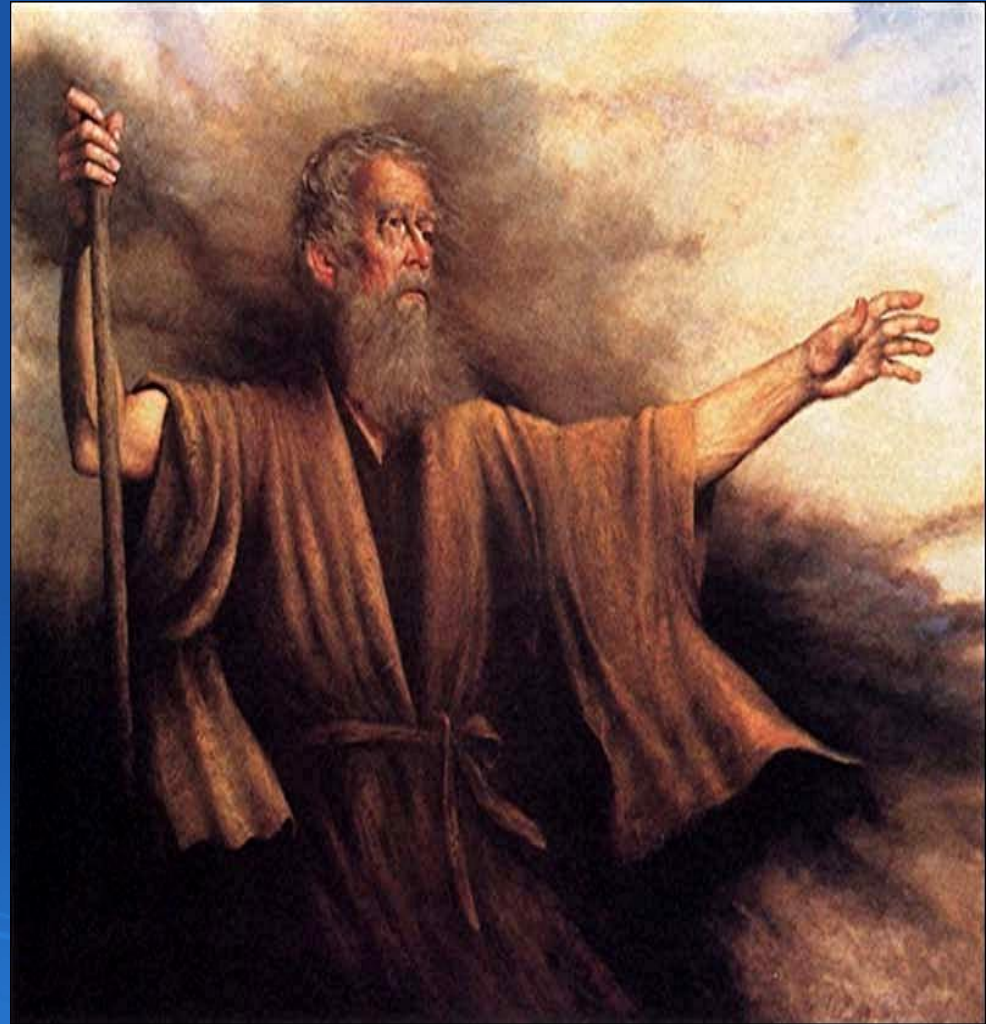
WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?



- Jesus would (and did) live the Torah life and teach the Torah principles and encourage His followers to do the same
- It's time to be pruned
- Pruning is to remove the dead and dying things in our lives, in order to allow new growth
- The ENTIRE Word is where we look for the way of life we are to live as Believers
- Our own hearts, and our own understanding, are NOT the places to look for answers

DEUTERONOMY 33: THE BLESSING OF MOSES

- SONG of Moses, Deut 32
- BLESSING of Moses, Deut 33
- SONG of Moses, history of Israel's redemption
- BLESSING of Moses is the hope of a happy future for Israel
- Each tribe blessed individually
- This was a side of Moses the people had never seen before



GRANDFATHER MOSES

- Moses was the “parent” of Israel, and so had to discipline them
- He longed for a little gratitude for what he did for them!
- A sober and serious man
- Parents are the heavies of the family
- Grandparents more relaxed



Grandparents...



MOSES' AND JACOB'S DEATHBED BLESSINGS

- “A man of God” = prophet
- The blessings took on several forms: ordination of firstborn, description of tribes in Canaan, pleas to God for protection
- Verse 1 Moses' blessings begin with praising Yehoveh
- First verses describe YHWH's approach to Canaan from the deserts of the southlands



THE APPROACH OF GOD

- Seir is in the land of Edom
- Mountains OF Paran, not Mt. Paran
- *Ribeboth-kodesh* = myriads of holy ones
- Likely is actually the area of Kadesh
- Blessing of Moses filled with odd phrases and rare Hebrew words
- Proto-Hebrew didn't even include *aleph, heh, vav, or yod*





ISRAEL CHOOSES GOD AS KING

- *Yeshurun* = upright one
- Israel decided it did NOT want a human king, but would follow YHWH instead
- Tribal politics would have made a choice of a human king nearly impossible
- Tribalism looks to the welfare of their own tribe FIRST

Vs. 6

BLESSINGS OF THE TRIBES BEGIN

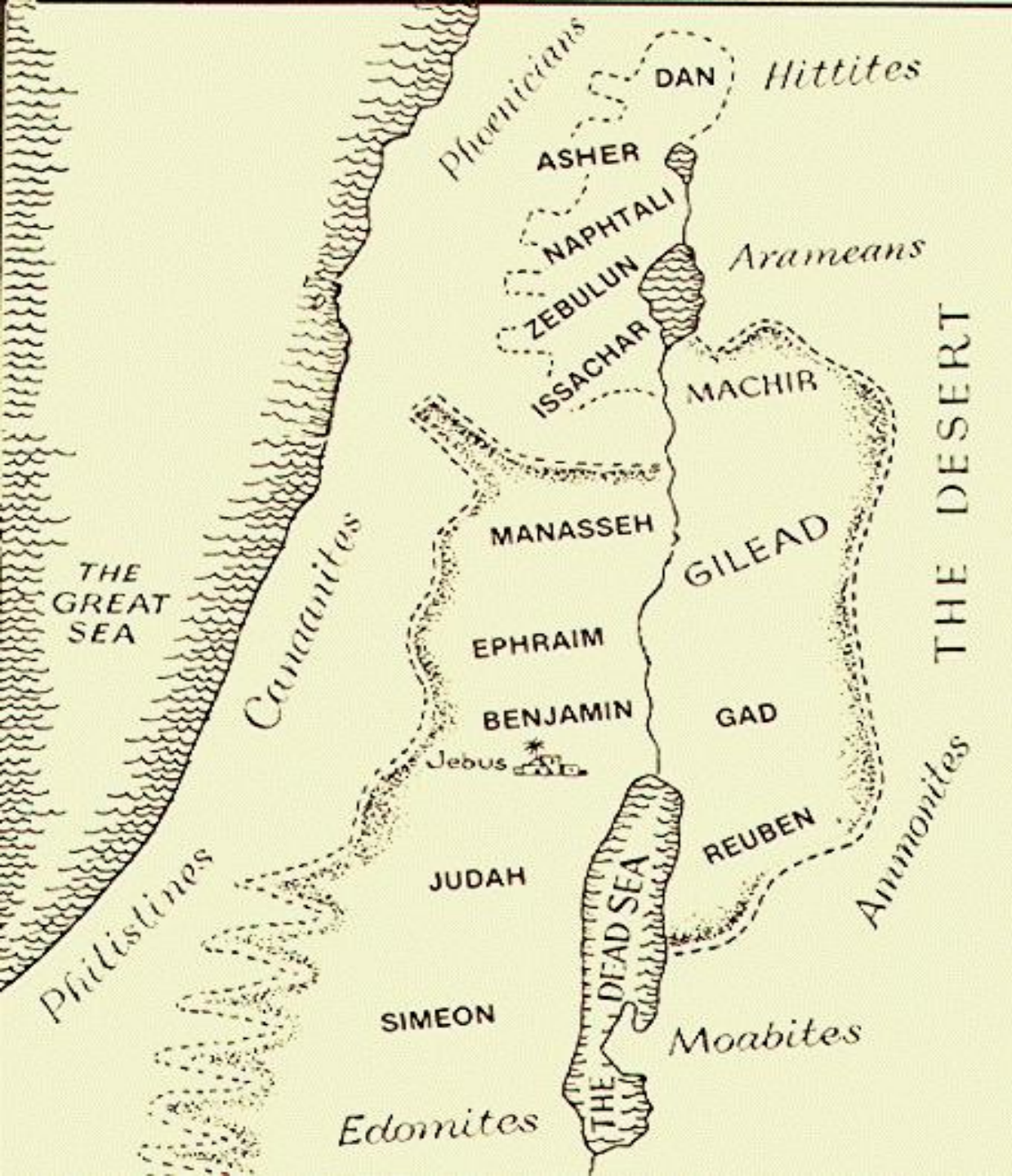
- First tribe mentioned is Reuben
- Moses standing in Reuben's territory at the time of the blessing
- Reuben Jacob's firstborn, but lost status due to having sex with Bilah



REUBEN SHOULD LIVE AND NOT DIE

- Reuben survived as a separate tribe until the early era of the Kings
- In time they became insignificant
- Tribes ebb and flow
- Intermarriage drains off population from one tribe to another
- The issue was NOT extinction, it was the loss of a separate tribal identity





**ORDER OF
TRIBAL
LISTING
IS BY
GEOGRAPHY
AND
TERRITORIAL
BOUNDARY
LINES**

JUDAH

- Judah's blessings imply a war and so Judah needs God's help
- Moses ask Yehoveh to "shema" Judah's prayers
- **Shema** = hear and obey, OR hear and take action



LEVITES



- Urim and Thummim
- Worn in pouch on High Priest's Breastplate
- Explains that the OBJECT of the "testing" at Massah and Meribah was the tribe of Levi
- At the Golden Calf, Aaron and many Levites saw their error and stood with Moses
- They killed many Israelites and even their own children and parents
- It was this act that brought them merit in the Lord's eyes to become His Priestly tribe
- Exodus 32 & Deut 33 connected to Luke 14:25