

LIMITS OF ISRAELITE SETTLEMENT AND THE LAND YET TO BE CONQUERED

JOSH. 13:1-7; 15:63; 16:10; 17:11-18
JUDG. 1:1-3:6

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- City specified by Judges 1 as not taken by Israel
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Limit of Israelite control
- Areas yet to be conquered



BOOK OF JUDGES APPENDICES

- Chapters 17 – end occur at the time of Othniel
- Purpose is to give us a better understanding of the general condition of Israel
- Deals with the migration of Dan from their allotted territory to their new northern home

3 OBSERVATIONS

- 1) Religious and cultural syncretism quickly overtook Israel
- All 12 tribes heavily influenced by Canaanites
- Syncretism can happen rapidly, and it is not accidental
- It is natural for fallen man to mix religious beliefs with whatever seems popular or expedient
- ***“Every man did what was right in his own eyes”*** is the same thing as..... ***“....I believe what I believe”***



3 OBSERVATIONS (CONT'D)

- 2) Laws of Moses were being violated regularly
- Micah stole, did not honor his mother, had other gods, made an image of YHWH
- 3) Micah's mother was like her son
- She reneged on giving the 1100 pieces of silver to YHWH, used 200 pieces to make an image of YHWH, and had it placed in an unauthorized sanctuary



LEVITE COMES TO MICAH



- Levite from the territory of Judah
- Beit-Lechem of Judah, because there were several Beit-Lechem's
- Beit-Lechem NOT one of the 48 Levitical cities
- Young man probably left Judah because they wouldn't let him serve his idolatrous form of worship there
- Judah and Ephraim were hostile to each other for centuries, beginning immediately with the conquering of the Promised Land

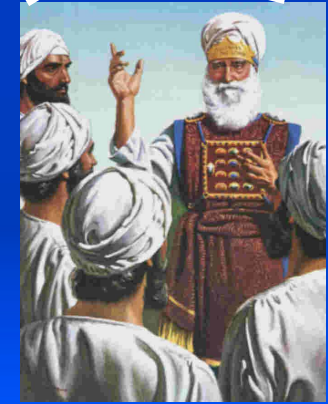
HIGH PRIEST



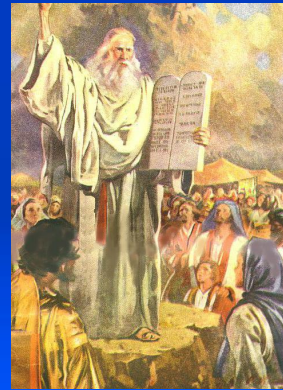
**ORDINARY
PRIESTS**



AARON



MOSES



ALL OTHER LEVITES

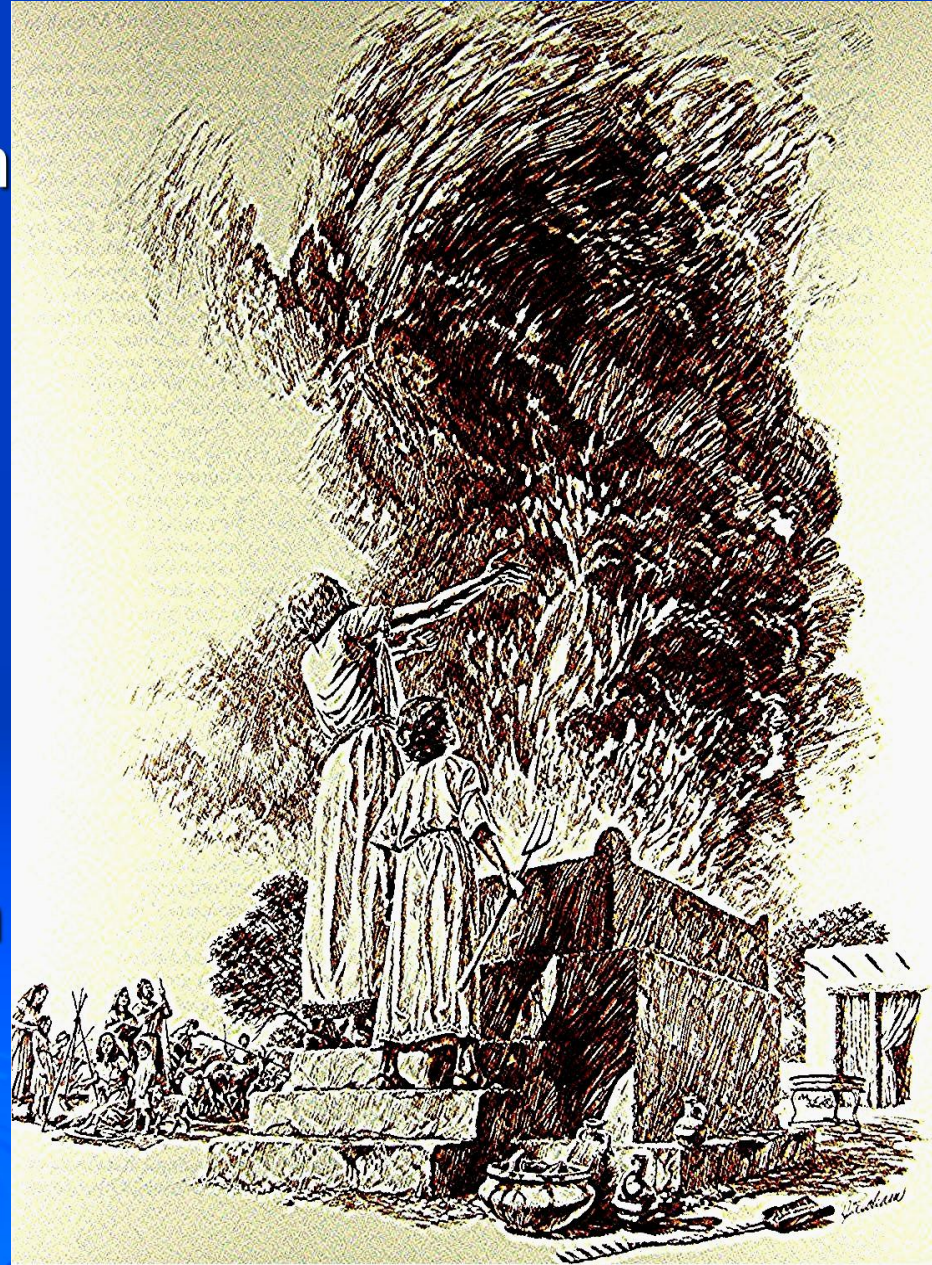
**MUSICIANS
GUARDS
LABORERS
SINGERS
TEND FIRES
FILL WATER BASINS**



TRIBE OF LEVI

THE FAMILY PRIEST

- Back in Egypt, Israel operated much like here in the story of Micah
- Starting at Mt. Sinai, a power struggle within the Hebrews to give up their family priestly roles to a single tribe, the Levites
- This issue was displayed in the destruction of Korah at the Tabernacle



“Now I know God will treat me well”



- Micah’s statement was NOT divine reality, it was superstition
- The Bible is full of false statements and lies made by men!
- God does NOT bless us for breaking His commandments
- Scriptural words uttered by God, His messengers and prophets are truth
- Words uttered by many bible characters at times do not reflect Godly principle and are erroneous

JUDGES 18

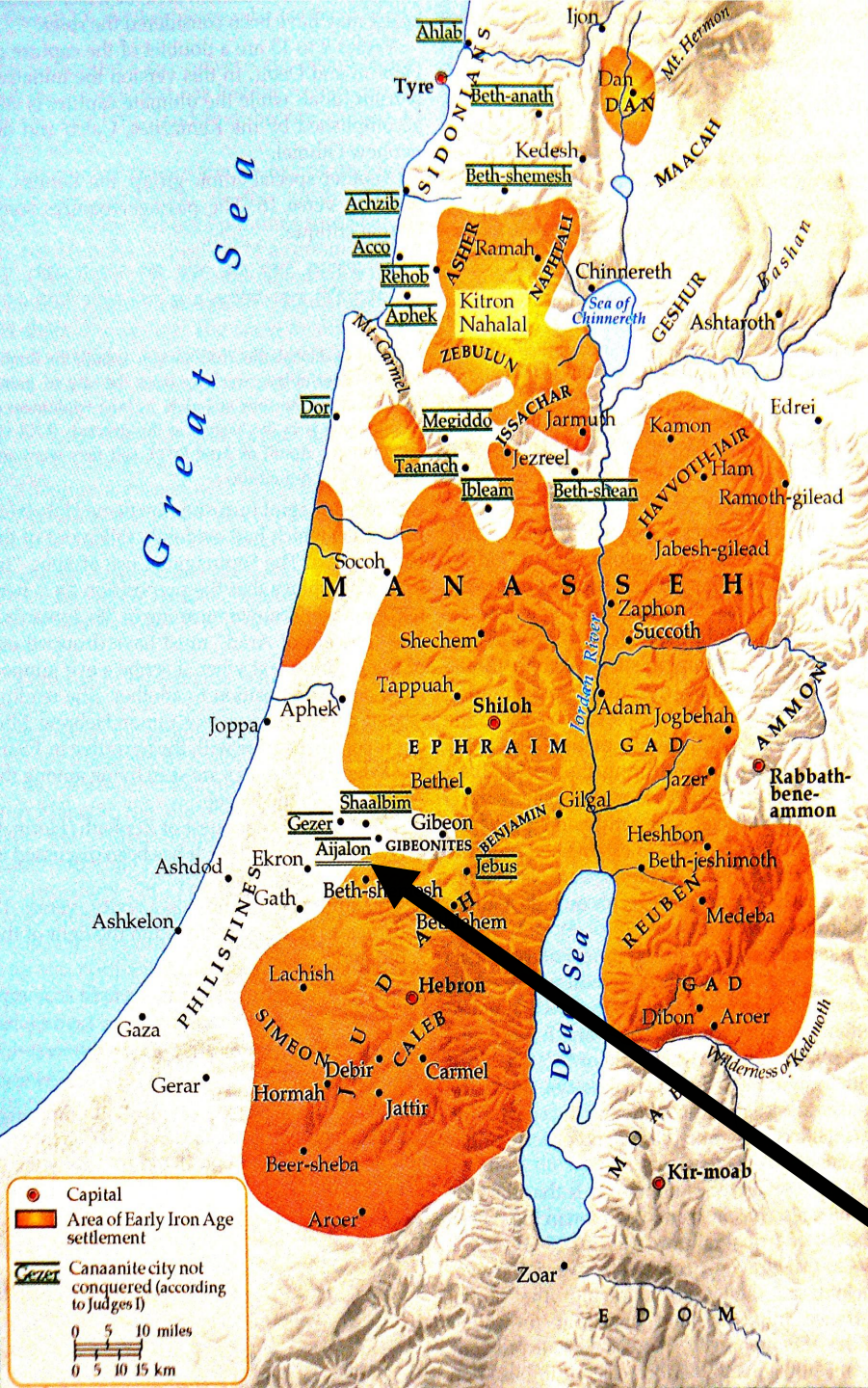
“.....there was no king in Israel”



- The statement is meant to indicate that what follows is a RESULT of having no king
- Israel in a state of spiritual anarchy
- Story about the migration of Dan takes place about 200 years before Samson
- Individuals, families, and clans moved between territories regularly

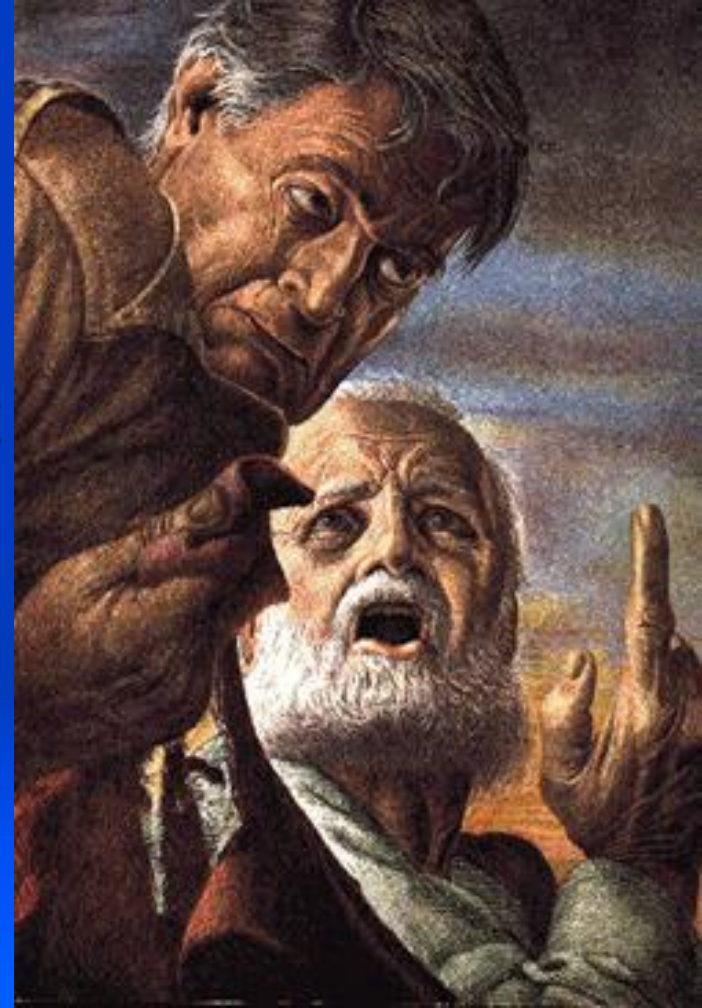
DAN SAYS THEY DIDN'T GET LAND

- ALL the tribes received land allotments
- It was each tribe's duty to deal with the Canaanites in their territory
- Dan was up against the Philistines
- The statement means that in Dan's view, God had not handed that territory over to them
- Tzorah and Eshta'ol



5 SCOUTS QUESTION MICAH'S PRIEST

- 5 Danite scouts stopped at Micah's for the customary hospitality offered to travelers
- They seemed to recognize the young Levite by his unique accent
- Scouts asked the Levite 3 questions:
 - 1) what brought you here?
 - 2) what do you do here?
 - 3) What have you here?



LAYISH

- Layish a peaceful city
- Citizens originally from Sidon
- No alliance with Sidon (Tzidon), or with any other known king
- Beautiful, lush, well watered, the scouts found Paradise!
- Because Micah's priest told them their journey would be successful, to them that meant Layish would be theirs
- Dan assembled a rather small force of 600 soldiers



DOCTRINES Vs. GOD'S WORD

- 5 scouts intentionally led their troops back to Micah's house
- Teraphim = strictly pagan god images
- Bayith = houses
- Did Micah, or Levite, or Dan's scouts think they were being wicked or rebellious against God? NO!!
- Christians (and Jews) often go by sayings that are attributed to Scripture, but don't exist
- Israel was given the Torah, but they didn't refer to it
- There IS an earthly and eternal cost to preferring men's religious doctrines to the truth of God's Word