

Joshua 15

-The allotment of the land for the tribe of Judah (we will be studying only the narrative sections over the next few chapters)

Book: *The Twelve Tribes of Israel*, by Elizabeth R. Hunter

Joshua 15.1-12 - Do not read

-allotment of the land to the tribe of Judah

-**What was the birth order for Judah, son of Jacob?** Fourth son

-**Why was the fourth son taken first for the division of the land?**

Background:

-#1 son: Reuben – *Gen. 49.3-4* – he was rejected as the leading son because he had sexual relations with Bilhah (his father's concubine) – **Read Gen. 49.3-4**

-#2-3 – Simeon and Levi – *Gen. 49.5-7* – rejected because of the events in *Gen. 34.25-30*

-When Jacob and his family were living in Shechem, the son of the king of Shechem raped Dinah (the only daughter born to Jacob)

-Then the son of the king wanted to marry Dinah

-Simeon and Levi said: *"Yes, if all the men and boys of Shechem will become circumcised"*

-While the men and boys were recovering from circumcision, the sons of Jacob (led by Simeon and Levi) attacked them/killed all the males of all ages/stole the land/stole all the possessions of the people/took their wives

-They did all of this without the permission of their father Jacob

-He was ashamed of their behavior (mass murder, lying, stealing, etc.)

-So Simeon and Levi lost their positions among the 12 sons - **Read Gen. 49.5-7**

-So Judah (the fourth son) became the leading son (and the tribe through which all the kings of Israel came and through whom Jesus descended by Mary)

Joshua 15.13-19

Read Joshua 15.13-19 – more material on Caleb

V 13 – The requested land was given to Caleb

V 14 – Caleb drove out the pagan people

V 15 – He captured more territory

V 16 – **What kind of contest did Caleb make?** The man who took Kiriath-Sepher would get Caleb's daughter Achsah in marriage

V 17 – **Who captured the land?** Caleb's nephew Othniel (the Old Testament did not forbid the marriage of cousins – Tennessee: Jerry Lee Lewis – married his 13 year old cousin – it almost ended his career in music)

V 18 – **Who went to visit Caleb?** Achsah

V 19 – **Her request?** Springs of water

-**What did Caleb give her?** Upper and lower springs

-Good family relationship – she was polite to her father, and he gave her far more than she asked for

-Caleb was not a selfish man; he loved his children

Joshua 15.20-63 – Do not read

-Various cities that became a part of the tribe of Judah

V 63 – Jebusites were still in Jerusalem – not driven out until 2 *Samuel* 5.6-7

-God's work takes time/it is not done overnight

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