**JOSHUA, Chapter 17**

1 And this is the portion that fell by lot to the tribe of Menashe—for he was Joseph’s ﬁrst-born. Since Machir, the ﬁrst-born of Menashe and the father of Gilad, was a valiant warrior, Gilad and Bashan were assigned to him.

2 And now assignments were made to the remaining Menashe-ites, by their clans: the descendants of Aviezer, Chelek, Asriel, Shechem, Chefer, and Sh’mida. Those were the male descendants of Menashe son of Joseph, by their clans.

3 Now Tz’lofchad [Zelophehad] son of Chefer son of Gilad son of Machir son of Menashe had no sons, but only daughters. The names of his daughters were Machlah, Noah, Choglah, Milcah, and Tirtzah.

4 They appeared before the priest Eleazer, Joshua son of Nun, and the chieftains, saying: “The Lord commanded Moses to grant us a portion among our male kinsmen.” So, in accordance with the Lord’s instructions, they were granted a portion among their father’s kinsmen.

5 Ten districts fell to Menashe, apart from the lands of Gilad and Bashan, which are across the Jordan.

6 Menashe’s daughters inherited a portion in these together with his sons, while the land of Gilad was assigned to the rest of Menashe’s descendants.

7 The boundary of Menashe ran from Asher to Michm’tat, which lies near Shechem. The boundary continued to the right, toward the inhabitants of En-tappuach.

8 The region of Tappuach belonged to Menashe; but Tappuach, on the border of Menashe, belonged to the Efraimites.

9 Then the boundary descended to the Wadi Kanah. Those towns to the south of the wadi belonged to Efraim as an enclave among the towns of Menashe. The boundary of Menashe lay north of the wadi and ran on to the Sea.

10 What lay to the south belonged to Efraim, and what lay to the north belonged to Menashe, with the Sea as its boundary. [This territory] was contiguous with Asher on the north and with Yisachar on the east.

11 Within Yisachar and Asher, Menashe possessed Bet-sh’an and its dependencies, Yivl’am and its dependencies, the inhabitants of Dor and its dependencies, the inhabitants of En-dor and its dependencies, the inhabitants of Ta-nach and its dependencies, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its dependencies: these constituted three regions [meaning of Hebrew uncertain].

12 The Menashe-ites could not dispossess [the inhabitants of] these towns, and the Canaanites stubbornly remained in this region.

13 When the Israelites became stronger, they imposed tribute on the Canaanites; but they did not dispossess them.

14 The Josephites complained to Joshua, saying, “Why have you assigned as our portion a single allotment and a single district, seeing that we are a numerous people whom the Lord has blessed so greatly?”

15 “If you are a numerous people,” Joshua answered them, “go up to the forest country and clear an area for yourselves there, in the territory of the P’rizzi and the Refa-im, seeing that you are cramped in the hill country of Efraim.”

16 “The hill country is not enough for us,” the Josephites replied, “and all the Canaanites who live in the valley area have iron chariots, both those in Bet-sh’an and its dependencies and those in the Valley of Yizrael.”

17 But Joshua declared to the House of Joseph, to Efraim and Menashe, “You are indeed a numerous people, possessed of great strength; you shall not have one allotment only.

18 The hill country shall be yours as well; true, it is forest land, but you will clear it and possess it to its farthest limits. And you shall also dispossess the Canaanites, even though they have iron chariots and even though they are strong.”

**JOSHUA, Chapter 18**

1 The whole community of the Israelite people assembled at Shiloh, and set up the Tent of Meeting there. The land was now under their control;

2 but there remained seven tribes of the Israelites which had not yet received their portions.

3 So Joshua said to the Israelites, “How long will you be slack about going and taking possession of the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, has assigned to you?

4 Appoint three men of each tribe; I will send them out to go through the country and write down a description of it for purposes of apportionment, and then come back to me.

5 They shall divide it into seven parts—Judah shall remain by its territory in the south, and the house of Joseph shall remain by its territory in the north.—

6 When you have written down the description of the land in seven parts, bring it here to me. Then I will cast lots for you here before the Lord our God.

7 For the Levites have no share among you, since the priesthood of the Lord is their portion; and Gad and Reuven and the half-tribe of Menashe have received the portions which were assigned to them by Moses the servant of the Lord, on the eastern side of the Jordan.”

8 The men set out on their journeys. Joshua ordered the men who were leaving to write down a description of the land—“Go, traverse the country and write down a description of it. Then return to me, and I will cast lots for you here at Shiloh before the Lord.”

9 So the men went and traversed the land; they described it in a document, town by town, in seven parts, and they returned to Joshua in the camp at Shiloh.

10 Joshua cast lots for them at Shiloh before the Lord, and there Joshua apportioned the land among the Israelites according to their divisions.

11 The lot of the tribe of the Benjaminites, by their clans, came out ﬁrst. The territory which fell to their lot lay between the Judahites and the Josephites.

12 The boundary on their northern rim began at the Jordan; the boundary ascended to the northern ﬂank of Jericho, ascended westward into the hill country and ran on to the Wilderness of Bet-aven.

13 From there the boundary passed on southward to Luz, to the ﬂank of Luz—that is, Bet-El; then the boundary descended to Atrot-addar [and] to the hill south of Lower Bet-choron.

14 The boundary now turned and curved onto the western rim; and the boundary ran southward from the hill on the south side of Bet-choron till it ended at Kiryat-baal—that is, Kiryat-y’arim—a town of the Judahites. That was the western rim.

15 The southern rim: From the outskirts of Kiryat-y’arim, the boundary passed westward [emendation yields “eastward”] and ran on to the fountain of the Waters of Neftoach.

16 Then the boundary descended to the foot of the hill by the Valley of Ben-hinnom at the northern end of the Valley of Refaim; then it ran down the Valley of Hinnom along the southern ﬂank of the Y’vusi to En-rogel.

17 Curving northward, it ran on to En-shemesh and ran on to G’lilot, facing the Ascent of Adummim, and descended to the Stone of Bohan son of Reuven.

18 It continued northward to the edge of the Aravah and descended into the Aravah.

19 The boundary passed on to the northern ﬂank of Bet-chawglah, and the boundary ended at the northern tongue of the Dead Sea, at the southern end of the Jordan. That was the southern boundary.

20 On their eastern rim, ﬁnally, the Jordan was their boundary. That was the portion of the Benjaminites, by their clans, according to its boundaries on all sides.

21 And the towns of the tribe of the Benjaminites, by its clans, were: Jericho, Bet-chawglah, Emek-ketzitz,

22 Bet-aravah, Tz’maraim, Bet-El,

23 Avvim, Parah, Ofrah,

24 K’far-ammonah, Ofni, and Geva—12 towns, with their villages.

25 Also Giv’on, Ramah, B’eirot,

26 Mitzpeh, K’firah, Motzah,

27 Rekem, Yirp’el, Taralah

28 Tzela, Elef, and the Y’vusi—that is, Jerusalem—Givat [and] Kiryat[-Y’arim]: 14 towns, with their villages. That was the portion of the Benjaminites, by their clans.