

TRIBE OF BENJAMIN

Deuteronomy 33:12 And of Benjamin he said, The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him; and the Lord shall cover him all the day long, and he shall dwell between his shoulders.

Genesis 49:27 Benjamin shall ravine as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil. (Ravin: Violent seizure of prey or property)

The descendants of Benjamin were a warlike race.

Judges 5

Judges 19-21: All Israel rises against Benjamin over an outrage stemming from sexual immorality, including rape & sodomy. [This story is well told here.](#)

LEFT HANDED? In the Book of Judges, it is stated that two prominent Benjaminites,

1-Ehud and 700 of his men, were left-handed. This distinctive characteristic is considered to be significant and rich in meaning, although it is rarely discussed in great depth.

2-Saul, the first king of Israel was a Benjaminite and also left-handed and lends credence to the idea that this characteristic was highly regarded within the tribe.

It is believed that left-handedness was seen as a unique ability and strength in ancient Israelite culture, especially in the context of warfare and archery. The Benjaminites were known for their fierce fighting spirit and military prowess, so the fact that they were largely left-handed could have given them an advantage in battle.

Cunning fighters. Used the left hand.

Prominent Figures of Benjamin

Esther & Mordichai (Esther) - **Esther**. Queen Esther was of the tribe Benjamin. Esther, a cousin of [Mordecai](#), was a member of the [Jewish](#) community in the [Exilic Period](#) who claimed as an ancestor [Kish](#), a [Benjamite](#) who had been taken from [Jerusalem](#) into captivity. Esther is related to [Daniel](#) in that both represent a "type" for Jews living in Diaspora, and hoping to live a successful life in an alien environment.

Ehud (Judges 3)

Saul, the first Israelite king (1 Sam. 9:1–2), Benjamites Battled the Philistines for Saul when led by his son Jonathan. 1 Samuel 13. They were victorious and became respected as rulers under Saul.

<https://youtu.be/1dDDWZGIlOQ>

Paul, the New Testament Apostle (Rom. 11:1).

Commentary on Benjamin

“Benjamin”: That this tribe would have security and peace because the Lord would shield them was Moses’ request. They were given the land in the north of Judah near Jerusalem.

“Benjamin”, in (Genesis 49:27), is given a very warlike and fierce character (Judges 5:14). “Beloved of the LORD” may reflect that he had been especially loved by his father (Gen. 44:20). They would dwell in safety due to God’s presence.

God would love and protect Benjamin. He and Joseph were Rachel's children. They were beloved of their father and of God. To be between his shoulders, means that God carried Him on His back, not literally but symbolically.

Rewarded by Joseph 5x

The land inheritance of Benjamin is nestled between the Kingdoms of Judah and Ephraim. The head lies between the shoulders. What is the head of Israel? Christ. Where was Christ sacrificed? On Mount Moriah. What was built on Mount Moriah? The Temple! Where was the temple? In Jerusalem. Where was Jerusalem? In the inheritance of Benjamin. Between 2 shoulders.

Question

Was Jerusalem in Benjamin or Judah? Joshua 15:8 and 18:28

Answer

Joshua 15:8 Then it ran up the Valley of Ben Hinnom along the southern slope of the Jebusite city (that is, Jerusalem). From there it climbed to the top of the hill west of the Hinnom Valley at the northern end of the Valley of Rephaim.

Joshua 18:28 Zelah, Haeleph, the Jebusite city (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah and Kiriath - fourteen towns and their villages. This was the inheritance of Benjamin for its clans.

John Lightfoot (The Temple-Service: and the Prospect of the Temple, Chapter 1, J.F. Dove, 1823) states that according to Jewish tradition the altars and sanctuary were in Benjamin, while the courts of the temple were in Judah. So both would be correct. Regardless. Jerusalem lay outside Judah's territory (Josh 15:8) until the city was finally captured by David (2 Sam. 5:7). Butler states:

The border here is carefully defined to go just south of Jerusalem itself, while the corresponding description for Benjamin places it just inside Benjaminite territory (18:16). This is a major point used by scholars in trying to date the list (cf. Soggin, 173-74).

Reference

Butler, T. C. Vol. 7, Word Biblical Commentary: Joshua (188). Dallas: Word, Incorporated, 2002