

## When

- 1 Chronicles is primarily a record of the reign of King David. 1 Chronicles 10 records the death of King Saul (David's predecessor). The last chapter of 1 Chronicles records the death of David.

- Saul died in approximately 1055 B.C., after reigning over Israel for 40 years.

- David became king over Judah the same year. He reigned over Judah for 7 years and 6 months, before becoming king over all Israel. His reign over all Judah and Israel lasted 33 years.

- The genealogies in 1 Chronicles 7 track the descendants of Israel across several centuries, from the time they were slaves in Egypt until after they settled in the Promised land.

## Key Characters

- **Jacob (Israel)** – He was the grandson of Abraham and the father of 12 sons, whose families would become the 12 tribes of Israel.

- **Jacob's Sons** – 6 of Jacobs sons are the focus of this chapter: Issachar, Benjamin, Naphtali, Manasseh, Ephraim, and Asher.

- **Joshua** – He led the Israelites after the death of Moses. He was from the Tribe of Ephraim (7:27).



## Where

- Each of the 6 tribes discussed in this chapter received a portion of land within the Promised Land after the conquest in Joshua's day. You can see the divisions of the land on our map.

## Outline

- **LIMITED GENEALOGIES OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL (7:1-40):**
  - + 1 Chronicles 7 provides a limited list of the descendants of 6 of the patriarchs of the Israelite nation.
  - + (1) The descendants of Issachar (7:1-5).
  - + (2) The descendants of Benjamin (7:6-12).
  - + (3) The descendants of Naphtali (7:13).
  - + (4) The descendants of Manasseh (7:14-19).
  - + (5) The descendants of Ephraim (7:20-29).
  - + (6) The descendants of Asher (7:30-40).

## Application

- Sometimes God's great plans germinate and grow in unexpected places.
- Naphtali is only discussed in one verse of this chapter. The tribe certainly didn't receive the attention given to Judah or Levi.
- In Jesus' day, the Jews (descendants of the people of Judah) didn't think much of people from the region of Naphtali (Galilee). They didn't consider it of any significance (John 7:52).
- Most of the Jews probably thought if God was going to do something great, He would do it in Jerusalem, which was the Jew's most significant city.
- But Isaiah, who lived several centuries after David, prophesied that the Lord would honor the region of Naphtali, and that a great light would one day shine from that area (Isaiah 9:1-2).
- Sure enough, when Jesus started His ministry on earth, He started it in Capernaum, a city in the original territory of the tribe of Naphtali (Matthew 4:12-17).
- Don't think God can't use you and your church in significant ways just because you're in a small town.