



Who am I?

HOSEA 12

Who Am I?

- My story is similar to my grandfather's
- Joshua is one of my descendants
- My descendants led the 10 northern tribes in the revolt against Rehoboam
- I was given one of Jacob's blessings
- I was Joseph's younger son
- I am Ephraim



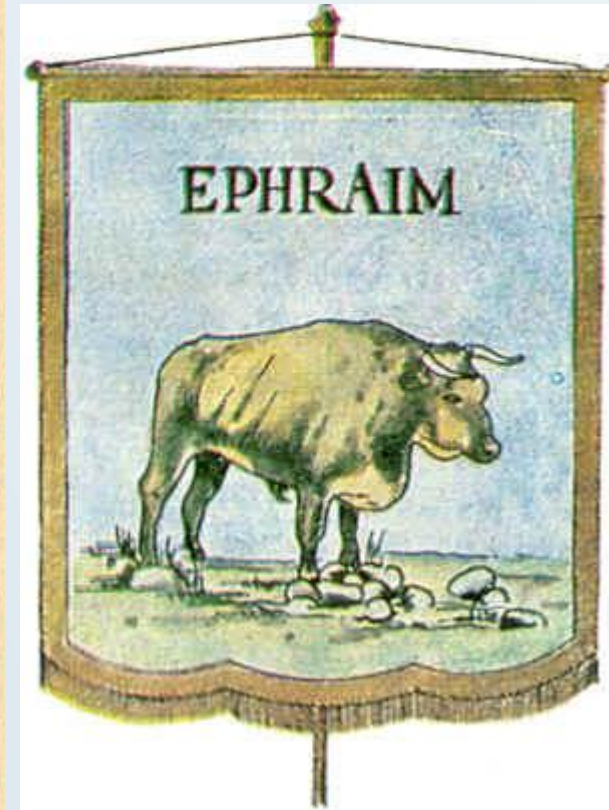
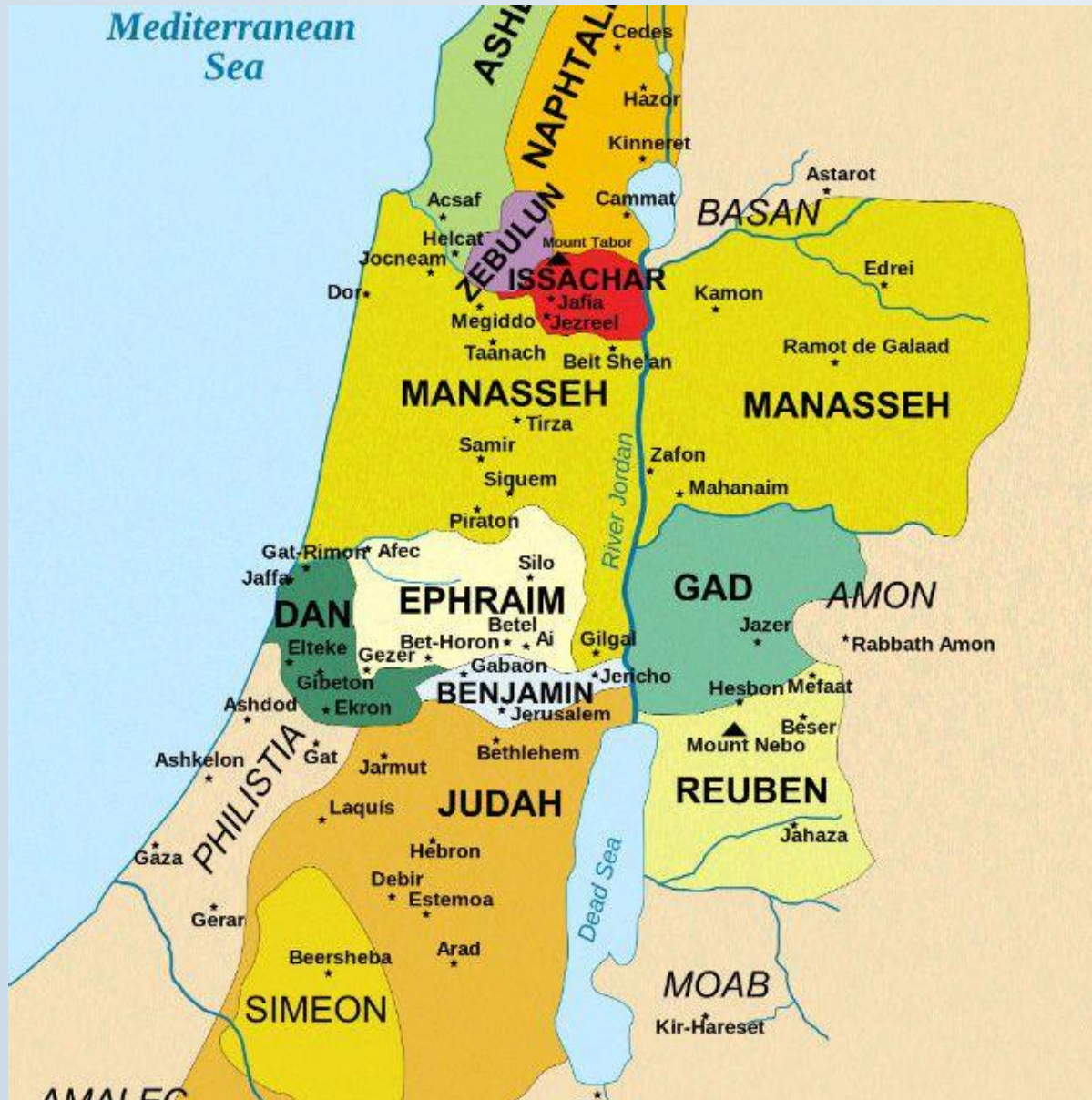
Ephraim – the person



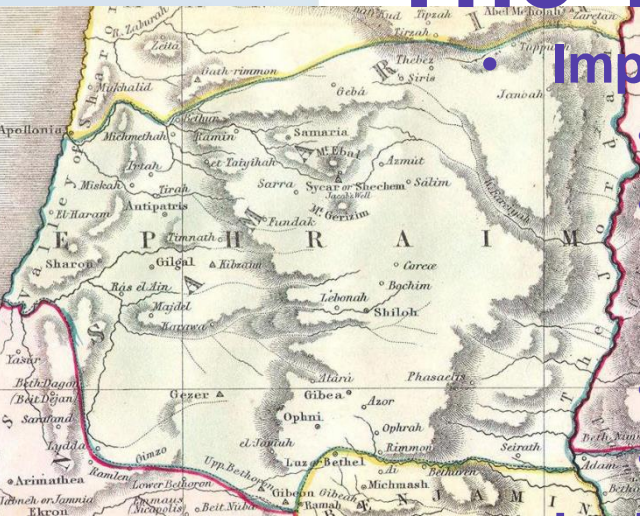
- **Second born son to Joseph and Asenath (daughter of Potiphara, priest of On)**
- **Means ‘fruitful’**
 - Joseph said, “For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction”
- **Both Ephraim & Menassah were given a blessing by Jacob**
 - Ephraim intentionally given the bigger blessing, even though the younger (like Jacob and Esau)
 - Reuben’s firstborn birthright given to Joseph’s son (therefore Ephraim) because he laid with Bilhah, Rachel’s maid (1 Chron 5:1-2)



The Twelve Tribes of Israel



The Tribe of Ephraim



- Important geographical landmarks within region
- Shiloh, resting place of the tabernacle
- Bethel ('House of God'/'Hill of God'), also resting place of the tabernacle, place to enquire of God – idols of calves set up by Jeroboam
- Shechem, where Abrahamic Covenant was made
- Prosperous, fertile hill country

- Led 10 tribes of Israel to revolt against Rehoboam and set up Jeroboam 1 as king over Northern Israel (an Ephraimite)

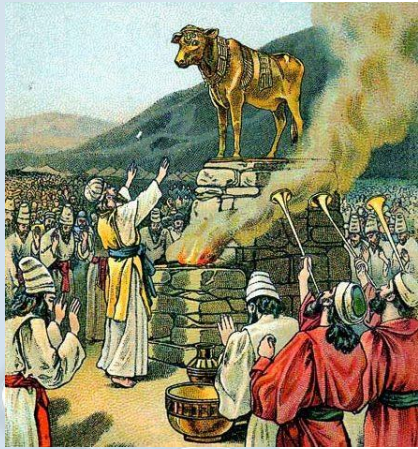
- Good & bad Ephraimite leaders:

- Joshua led the Israelites into the promised land
- King Ahab led Israel in idolatry & sinful practices

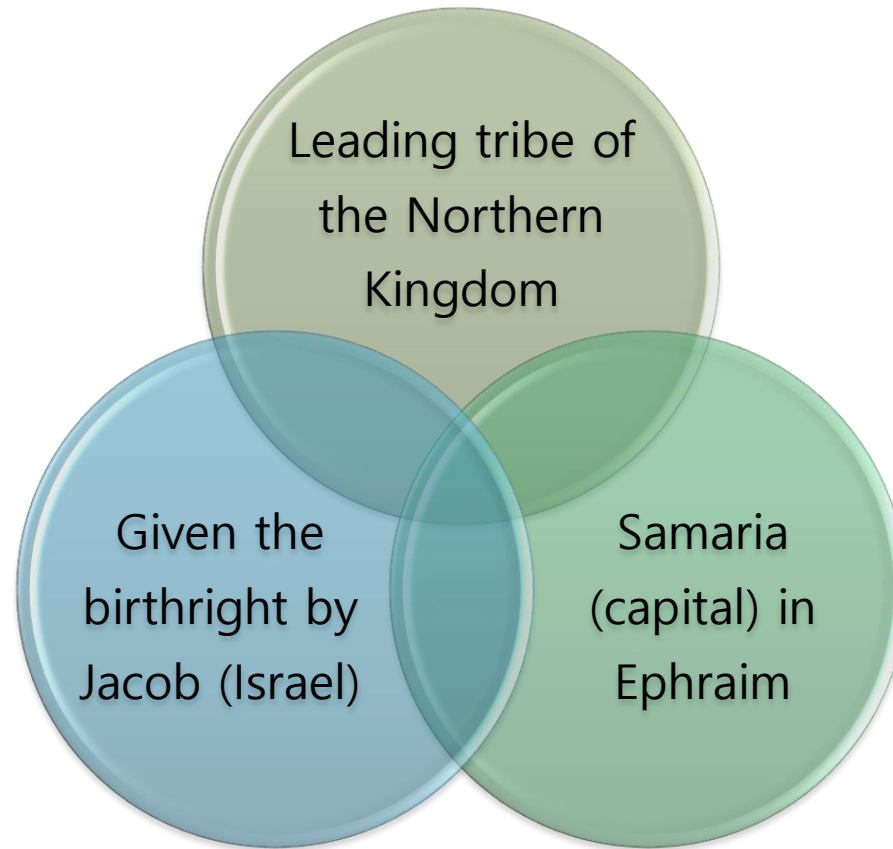
- Psalms 78:67-68 says God rejected Ephraim in favour of Judah

- Ark of covenant removed from Shiloh to Zion
- David selected as king

Northern Kingdom conquered by Assyrians 721 BC



Why Ephraim?



What can we learn?

Jacob & Ephraim

- It is not necessarily the oldest that gets the biggest blessing



Ephraim & Judah

- Only those who are worthy & obey God will retain their blessings & leadership
- If you try to exalt yourself without God's blessing you will fall

**We ought to
OBEY GOD
rather than men.
Acts Five: Twenty-Nine**



Thanks for listening!

