

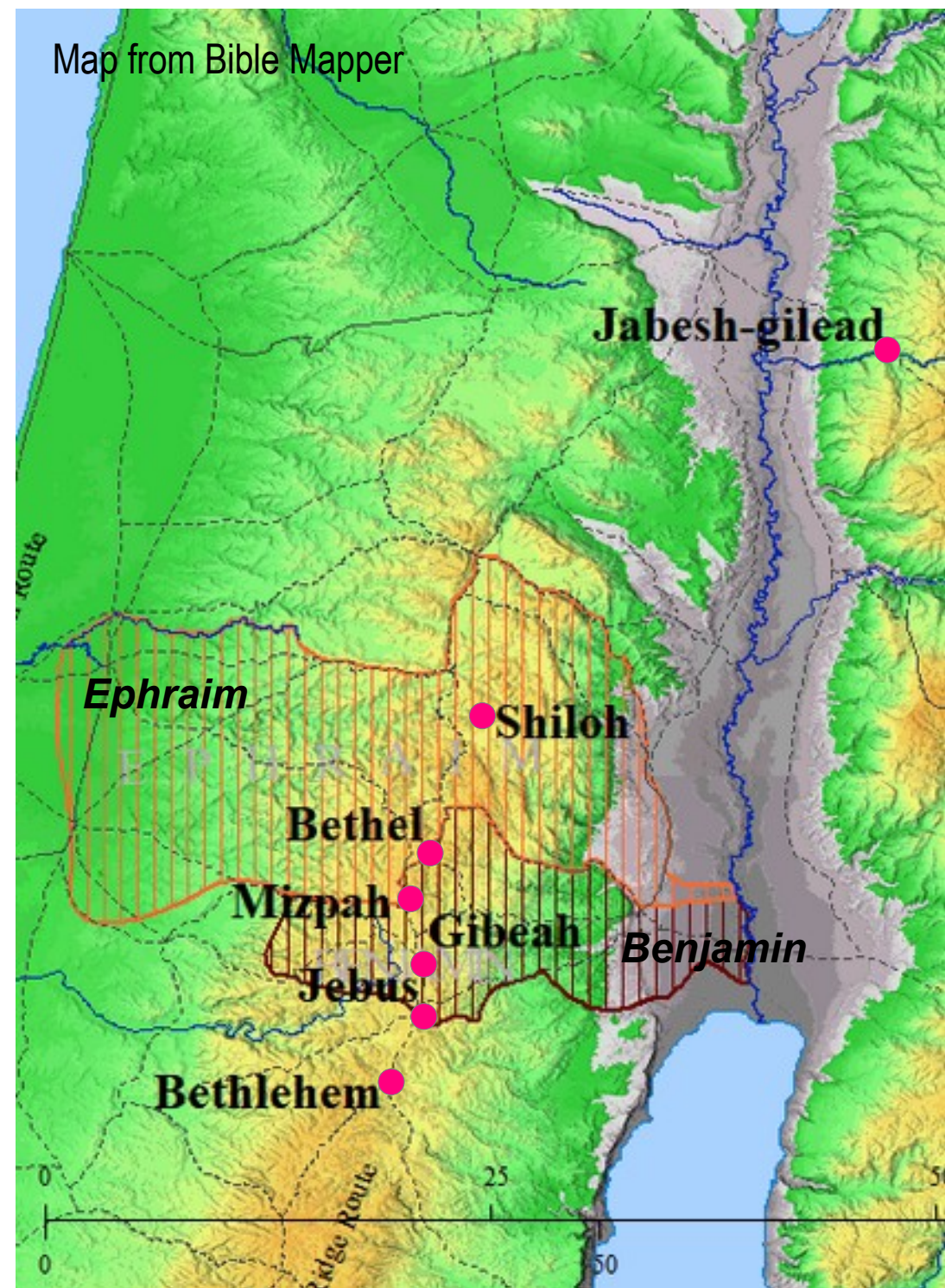
Judges 21 Wives for Benjamin

Judges 19-21, Social Strife

19, The Levite and his Concubine
1-9, Hospitality in Bethlehem
10-29, Hostility in Gibeah

20, War with Benjamin
1-17, Tribal Council
18-21, First Battle
22-25, Second Battle
26-48, Third Battle

21, Wives for Benjamin
1-9, Tribal Council
10-15, Rape of Jabeshgilead
16-25, Rape of Shiloh



Discerning Israelite from Gentile

Judges 21 Jabeshgilead	Numbers 21 Midian	Deuteronomy 3 Bashan
10 And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest,	4 Of every tribe a thousand, throughout all the tribes of Israel, shall ye send to the war. 5 So there were delivered out of the thousands of Israel, a thousand of every tribe, twelve thousand armed for war.	
and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children.		6 And we utterly destroyed them, as we did unto Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women, and children , of every city.
11 And this is the thing that ye shall do, Ye shall utterly destroy every male , and every woman that hath lain by man.	17 Now therefore kill every male among the little ones, and kill every woman that hath known man by lying with him. 18 But all the women children, that have not known a man by lying with him, keep alive for yourselves.	

Contrast Moses in Egypt:

Act 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. 24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: 25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. 26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, **ye are brethren**; why do ye wrong one to another?

Finding Wives for Benjamin: The Problem

6-14, Jabeshgilead	15-24, The Feast of the Lord
6a And the children of Israel repented them for Benjamin their brother,	15a And the people repented them for Benjamin,
21:3 ... O LORD God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be to day one tribe lacking in Israel?	15b because that the LORD had made a breach in the tribes of Israel.
6b and said, There is one tribe cut off from Israel this day.	17 And they said, There must be an inheritance for them that be escaped of Benjamin, that a tribe be not destroyed out of Israel.
7 How shall we do for wives for them that remain,	16 Then the elders of the congregation said, How shall we do for wives for them that remain, ...
seeing we have sworn by the LORD that we will not give them of our daughters to wives?	18 Howbeit we may not give them wives of our daughters: for the children of Israel have sworn, saying, Cursed be he that giveth a wife to Benjamin.

Finding Wives for Benjamin: Solutions

6-14, Jabeshgilead	15-24, The Feast of the Lord
8 And they said, What one is there of the tribes of Israel that came not up to Mizpeh to the LORD? And, behold , there came none to the camp from Jabeshgilead to the assembly.	19 Then they said, Behold , there is a feast of the LORD in Shiloh yearly in a place which is on the north side of Bethel, on the east side of the highway that goeth up from Bethel to Shechem, and on the south of Lebonah.
10 And the congregation sent thither twelve thousand men of the valiantest, and commanded them, saying, Go and smite the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead with the edge of the sword, with the women and the children ...	20 Therefore they commanded the children of Benjamin, saying, Go and lie in wait in the vineyards; 21a And see, and, behold, if the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in dances, then come ye out of the vineyards,
12a And they found among the inhabitants of Jabeshgilead four hundred young virgins, that had known no man by lying with any male:	21b and catch you every man his wife of the daughters of Shiloh,
12b and they brought them unto the camp to Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan.	21c and go to the land of Benjamin.
14 And Benjamin came again at that time; and they gave them wives which they had saved alive of the women of Jabeshgilead: ...	23 And the children of Benjamin did so, and took them wives, according to their number, of them that danced, whom they caught: ...

Subverting the Feast of the Lord

Deut. 16:16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the **feast** of unleavened bread, and in the **feast** of weeks, and in the **feast** of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty: 17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

Ex. 38:8 And he made the laver of brass, and the foot of it of brass, of the lookingglasses of the women **assembling** צבא H6633, which **assembled** צבא H6633 at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

1Sam. 2:22 Now Eli was very old, and heard all that his sons did unto all Israel; and how they lay with the women that **assembled** צבא H6633 at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Num. 4:22 Take also the sum of the sons of Gershon, throughout the houses of their fathers, by their families; 23 From thirty years old and upward until fifty years old shalt thou number them; all that enter in to **perform** the **service** לַצְבָּא צָבָא, H6633, H6635 to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation.

21:22 The Danger of Thinking like a Lawyer

Matt 15:3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. 5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; 6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. 7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matt 23:16 Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor! ... 18 And, Whosoever shall swear by the altar, it is nothing; but whosoever sweareth by the gift that is upon it, he is guilty. ... 23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. ... 25 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of extortion and excess.