

Joshua Dividing the Land Story

SUPPLIES NEEDED

For each child you will need the following:

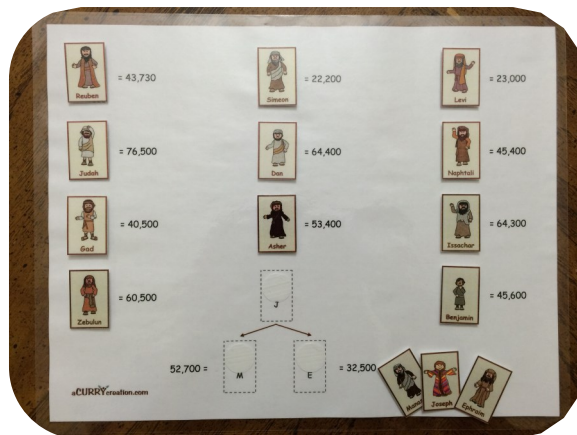
16 Sheets of Cardstock (8.5" x 11")
<http://amzn.com/B006P1EQIA>

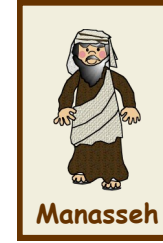
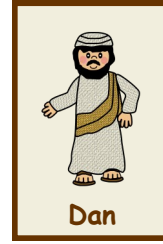
27.5 Clear Velcro dots
<http://amzn.com/B001ASD850>

16 3 mil Laminating Film
<http://amazon.com/dp/B009SOVRYM>

DIRECTIONS

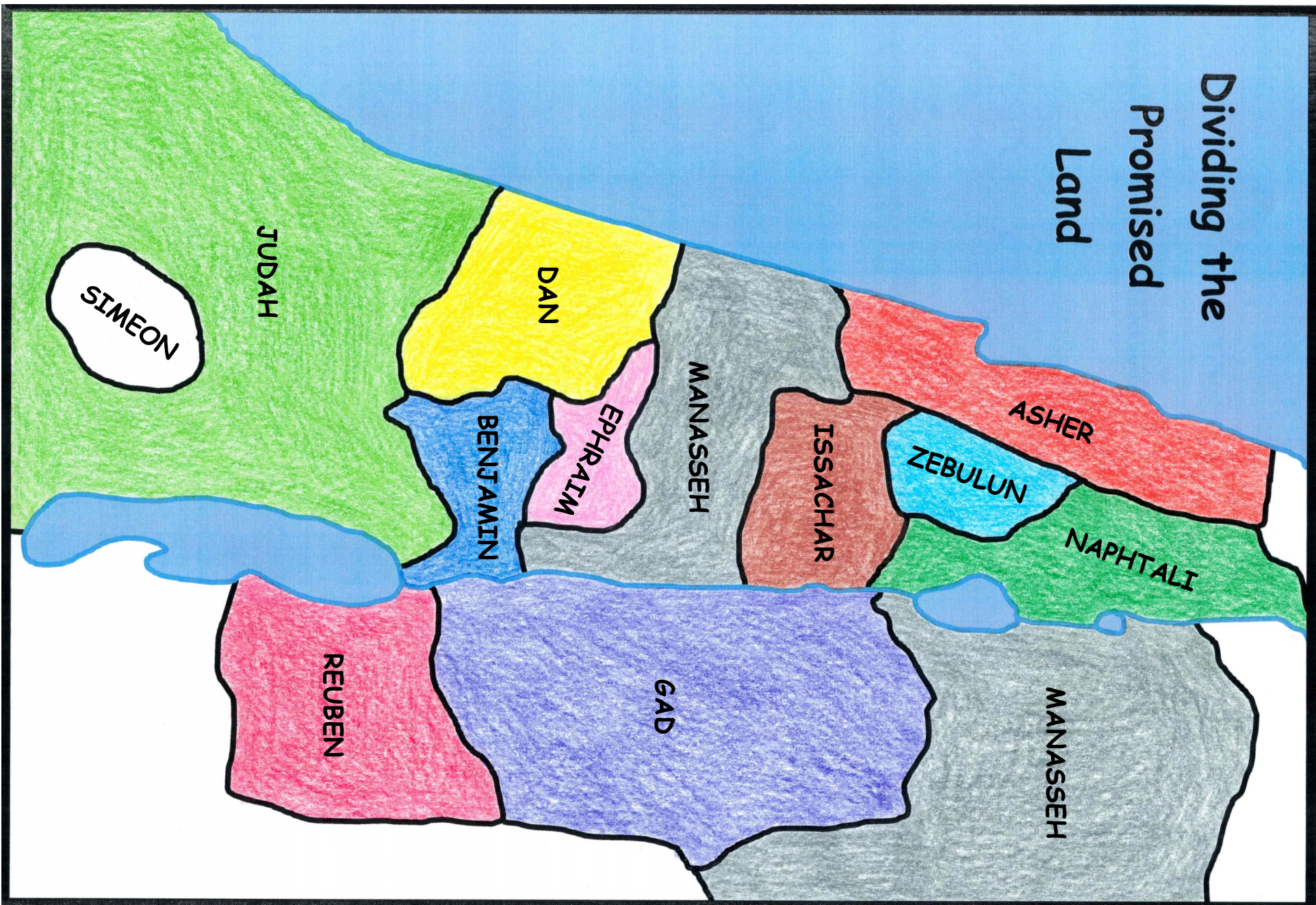
- Print pages 2-3 one-sided on cardstock. Then laminate and cut out the pieces.
- Print pages 4-31 two-sided on cardstock and laminate.
- Use clear Velcro dots to attach the pieces from pages 2-3 on the appropriate story pages.
- You will also need the file "Joshua: The Census and Dividing the Land" for preschoolers to hand out to your students during the lesson.





601,730

Dividing the Promised Land





Before the Israelites had crossed the Jordan River into the Promised land, God had told Moses to take a census of the "children of Israel from 20 years old and above...all who are able to go to war."

A census is when you count all the people in a nation.

Give each child the "Our Class Census" paper from the "Joshua: The Census and Dividing the Land (PreK)" file. You should write each child's name in a blank before class.

Let's see if we can take a census of our class. Child A, how many people are in your family? (Only count immediate family: Dad, Mom, Brothers, Sisters. Repeat for each child)

We have # families in our class, so we need to divide our country into # sections. Whoever has the most people in their family should get the most land. So let's color in our map.

This is similar to how the Israelites counted their own people and divided the Promised Land. God told them to count themselves according to their fathers' houses. So they counted all the men in the families of the twelve sons of Jacob.

R = 43,730

S = 22,200

L = 23,000

J = 76,500

D = 64,400

N = 45,400

G = 40,500

A = 53,400

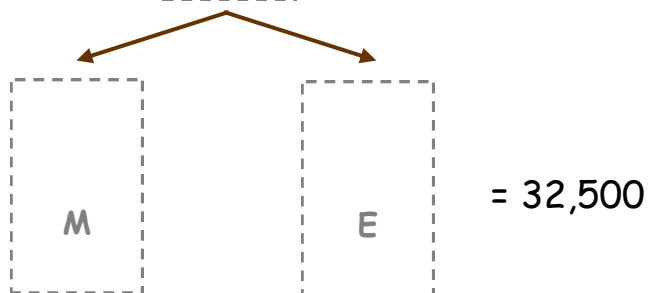
I = 64,300

Z = 60,500

J = 52,700

B = 45,600

52,700 =



Do you remember the twelve sons of Jacob? Let's sing the song as we put the pictures on here:

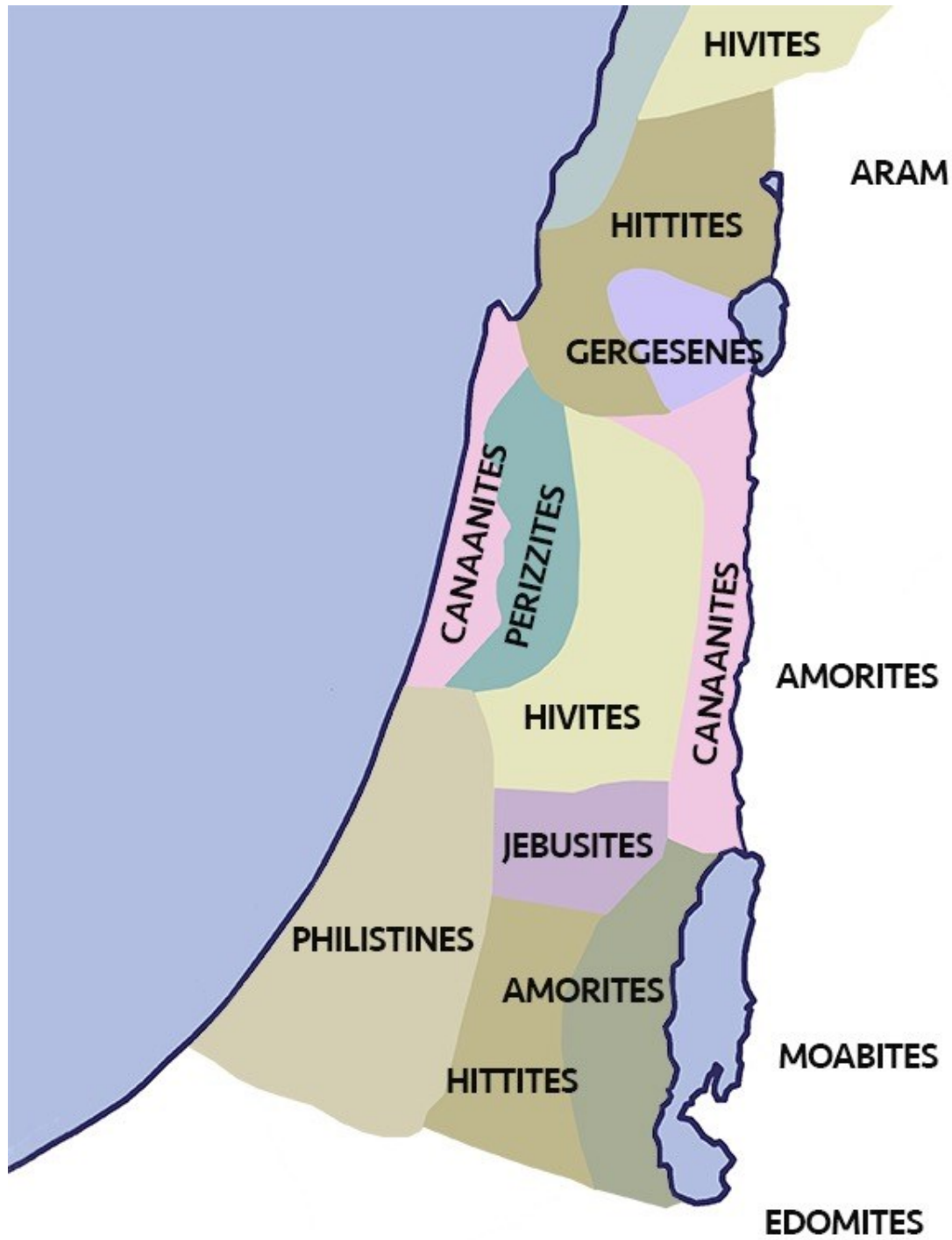
Reuben, Simeon, Levi,
Judah, Dan, Naphtali,
Gad and Asher, Isaachar,
Zebulun, Joseph and Benjamin.
These are the twelve sons of Jacob.

Good job! Now do you see that we have TWO others to add? Well, the tribe of Joseph was special. It had been divided into TWO tribes named after Joseph's sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. Let's add their pictures on here.

Now do you see all these numbers next to the tribes? That's how many men were in each tribe!



Do you remember the three promises God made to Abraham? The first promise was that God would make Abraham's descendants a great nation: as many as the stars! And the Bible tells us in the book of Numbers (26:51) that there were 601,730! (attach yellow sunburst with number) And that was just the men! There were also women and children, so it was probably closer to a MILLION Israelites! God kept his promise didn't He?



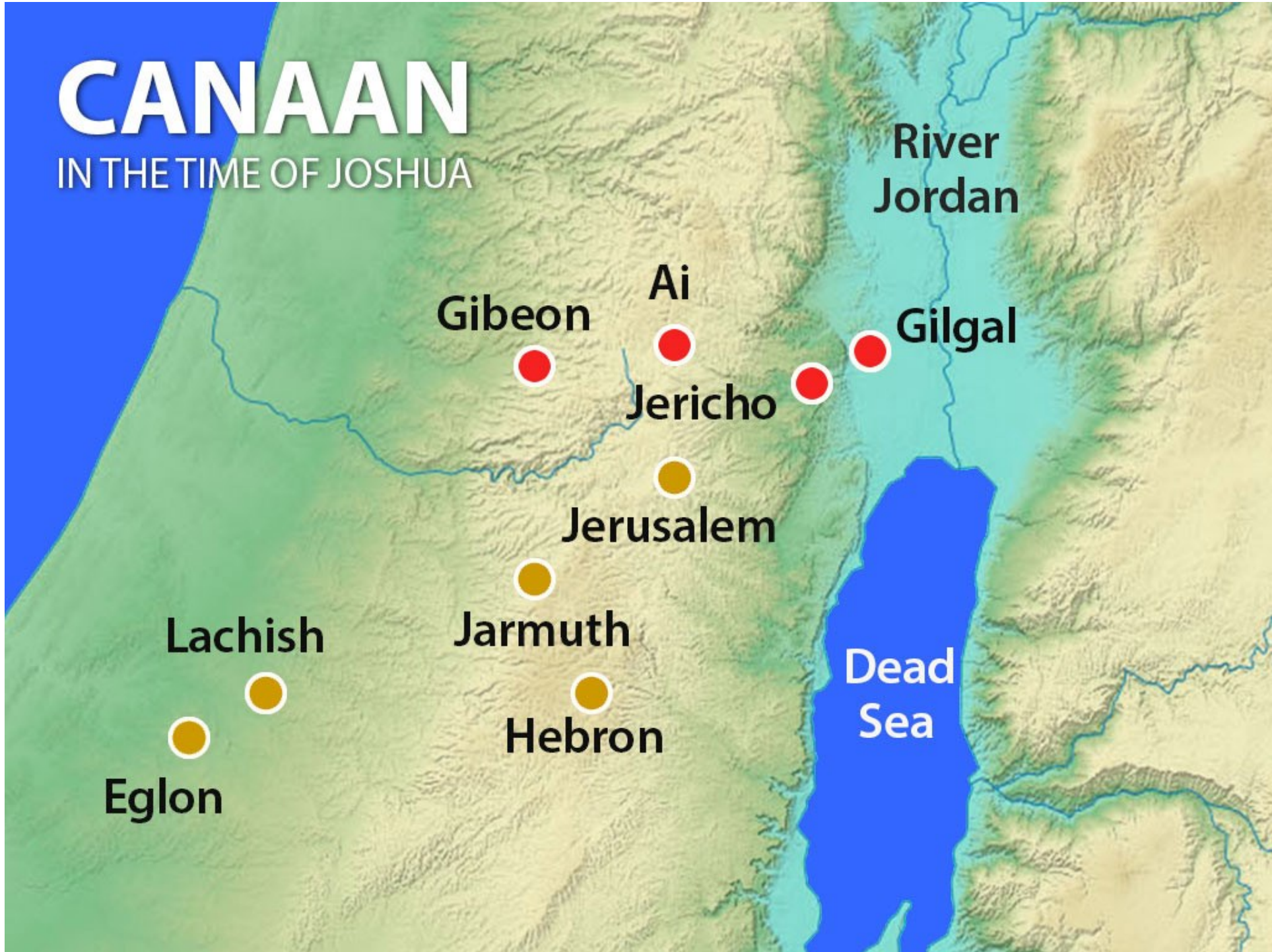
CANAAN

PRIOR TO JOSHUA

Now God is going to keep his second promise to Abraham. He is giving the Israelites the Promised Land of Canaan. But living in the land of Canaan were many different nations who worshipped idols and were known for their wicked ways.

CANAAN

IN THE TIME OF JOSHUA



River
Jordan

Gilgal

Ai

Gibeon

Jericho

Jerusalem

Jarmuth

Lachish

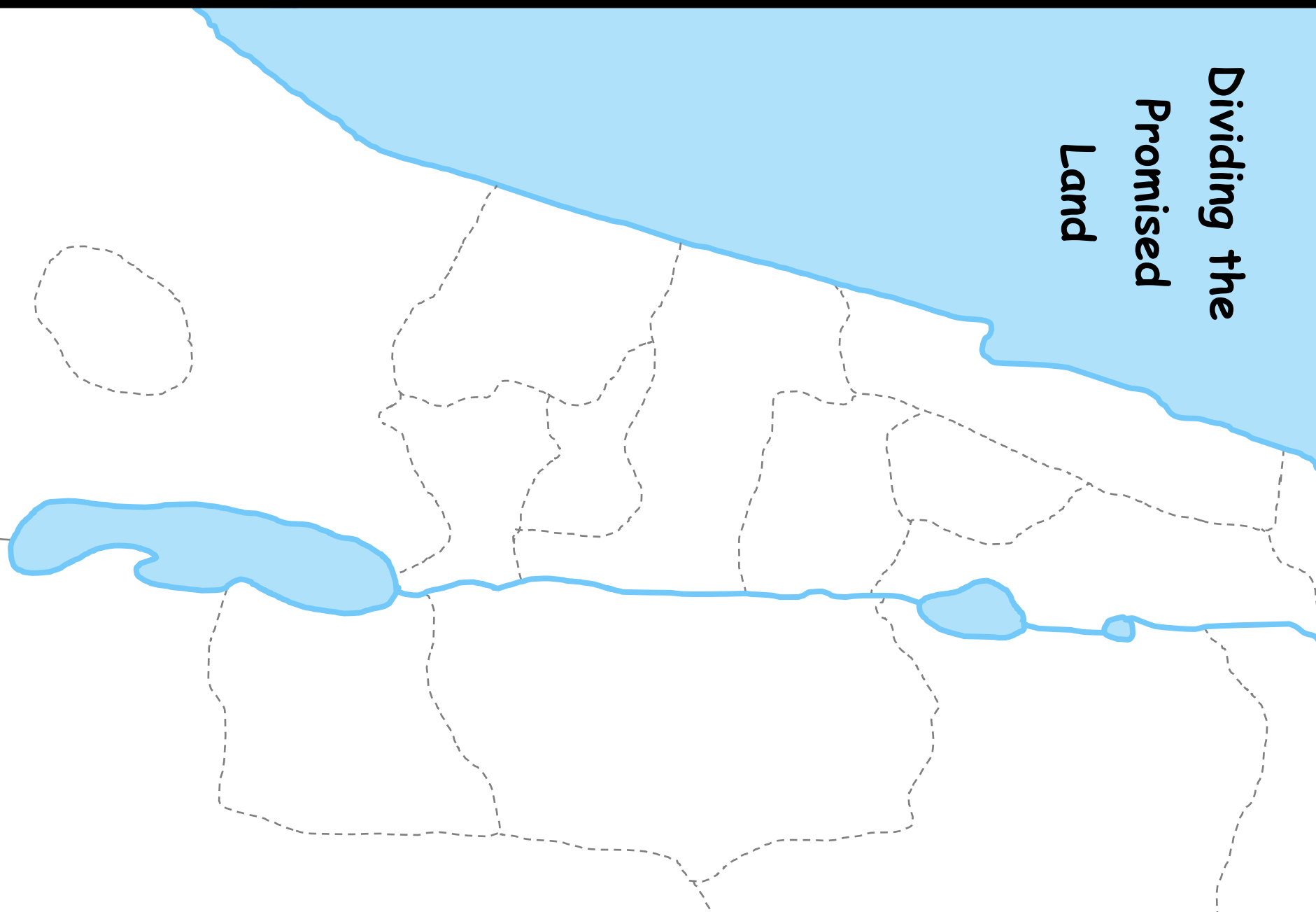
Dead
Sea

Hebron

Eglon

With God's help, the Israelites have already crossed the Jordan River and have defeated the cities of Jericho, Ai, and all these other cities, but there are still a lot of enemies living in the Promised Land.

Dividing the Promised Land



So God told Joshua how to divide the land among the Israelites. And each tribe was supposed to defeat the enemies who lived in their land.

(Give each student the take-home map page with their land puzzle pieces in a Ziploc bag and piece the map together as a class.)

On the east side of the Jordan River were the tribes of Reuben, Gad and half of the tribe of Manasseh. Let's put them on our maps.

On the west side of the Jordan River was the other half of the tribe of Manasseh. And to the north was Issachar, Zebulun, Asher and Naphtali. Put those on your maps.

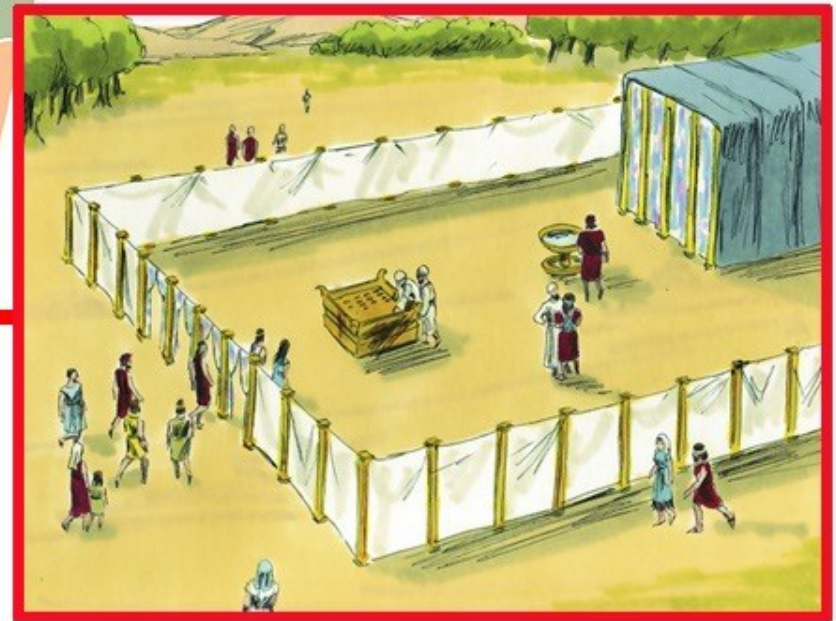
And to the south, was Ephraim, Dan, Benjamin, and Judah. Simeon had some cities inside of Judah. So add those to your map.

Did you notice that we're missing a tribe? It's the tribe that starts with the letter L. Can you name it? LEVI! That's right! Why doesn't the tribe of Levi have any land?



CITIES FOR LEVITES
IN TIME OF JOSHUA

The tribe of Levi was not given any land because their inheritance was the "priesthood of the Lord" (Joshua 18:7). Their job was to take care of the Tabernacle and all the sacrifices. However, the Levities were given cities to live in and have their homes and cattle.



TABERNACLE
LOCATED AT SHILOH

The Tabernacle was set up in the city of Shiloh in the middle of the Promised Land.



SHECHEM



JOSHUA GIVES HIS
FINAL CHALLENGE

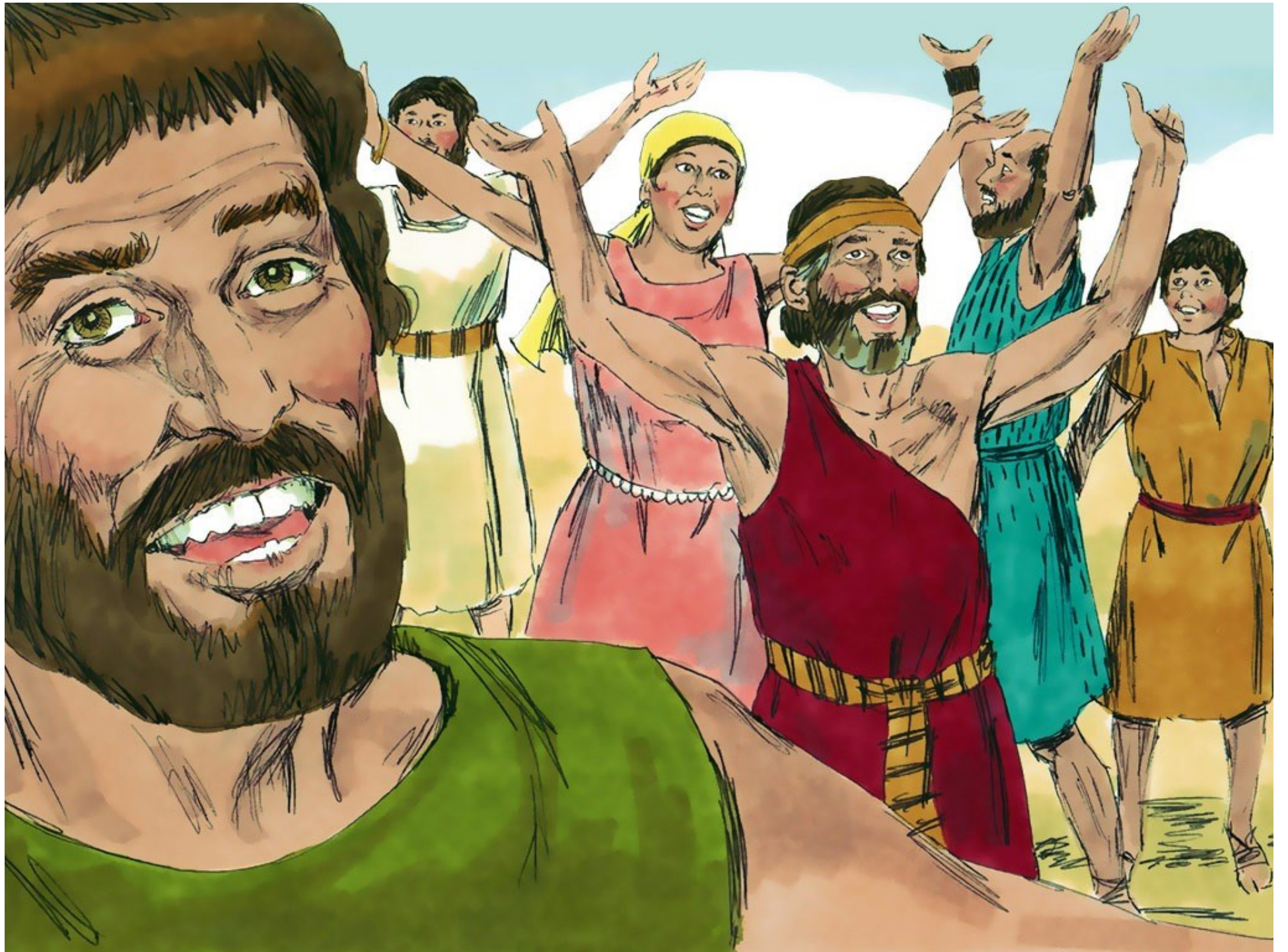
Joshua then summoned everyone, including the leaders, to a big meeting at Shechem. He then gave them his final address reminding them how God had led and cared for the Jews from the time of Abraham to the conquest of the Promised Land.



"I am an old man now and soon I shall die. You have seen all that the Lord your God has done for you,' he declared.' Make sure you obey God's laws and do not worship the false gods of the heathen people still living in the land. If you do, God's anger will rise against you.'



'Worship God and serve him in sincerity and truth,' Joshua urged. 'Choose today whom you will serve, the Lord or the gods of the nations around you. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.'



The people replied, 'We will not forsake the Lord to serve other gods!' Joshua questioned them again. The people declared, 'We will serve the Lord.' Joshua said. 'You have chosen to obey the Lord. You must destroy any idols.' 'We will worship and obey the Lord alone,' they replied.



Joshua recorded the people's reply in the book of the laws of God. He then took a huge stone as a reminder and rolled it beneath the oak tree that was beside the Tabernacle. 'This stone will be a witness to testify against you if you go back on your word, Joshua declared. The people then returned to their homes.



Soon after this Joshua died at the age of 110. Joshua was buried on his own estate in the hill country of Ephraim.