

Entrust Joshua Excursus on the Promised Land 1/9/25

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### Israel's Boundaries According to Scripture

➤ Description of the Land:

Genesis 15:18 On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates"

Deuteronomy 11:24 Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours; your border will be from the wilderness to Lebanon, *and* from the river, the river Euphrates, as far as the western sea.

Joshua 1:3-4 Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses. <sup>4</sup> From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun will be your territory.

- According to passages like Genesis 15:18 and Joshua 1:4, God gave a large portion of the middle east to Israel. This includes everything from "the river of Egypt" (Gen 15:18; probably Wadi El Arish, the southern border of Judah) in the south, to Lebanon and everything from the Mediterranean Sea to the Euphrates River (west to east).

### **Attempts to Picture the Broad Borders of Israel's Land**

- Some have observed that the apportioned land includes that from “the great river, the river Euphrates” (Gen 15:18)<sup>1</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.khouse.org/personal\\_update/articles/2018/israels-right-land](https://www.khouse.org/personal_update/articles/2018/israels-right-land)

- An attempt to locate the land, overlayed on modern-day maps<sup>2</sup>

*\*\*Note: the map below is likely wrong as far as locating the border at the Nile.*

## Biblical Boundaries of the Land of Israel

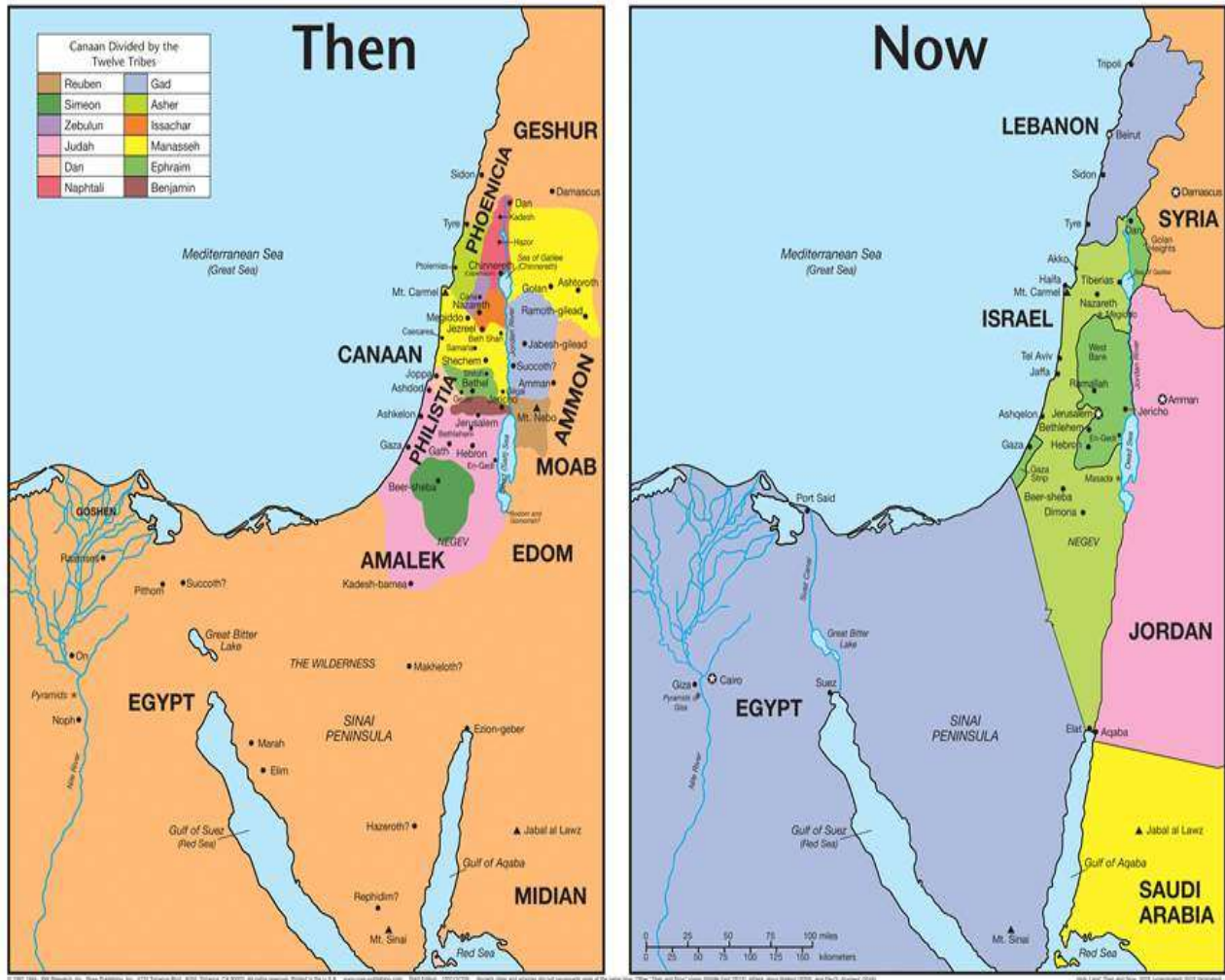


<sup>2</sup> <https://www.tyndale.com/p/the-holy-land-then-and-now-wall-map/9789901980499>

## The Borders of the 12 Tribes in Joshua vs. Today<sup>3</sup>

- Left: the specified borders for the 12 Tribes in Jos 13:8-17:18
- Right: approximate current borders

# The Holy Land



<sup>3</sup> <https://www.tyndale.com/p/the-holy-land-then-and-now-wall-map/9789901980499>

- If we consider Israel's broad borders as stated in Genesis 15:18 ("from the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates"), her God-given land includes the following:
  - everything modern-day Israel possesses
  - all of the territory occupied by the Palestinians/Hamas (the West Bank and Gaza)
  - some of Egypt and Syria
  - all of Jordan
  - some of Saudi Arabia and Iraq
  
- Conclusion
  - Today, Israel holds a fraction of the land God has specified in Scripture (Gen 15:18, Jos 1:4).
  - Israel's remaining inheritance likely awaits the return of Jesus Christ.
  - However, the borders for the 12 Tribes will be much larger during the Millennial Kingdom (see lesson on Ezekiel)
  - God has promised that the nation of Israel will never cease as long as the sun still shines by day and the moon and stars still shine by night (Jer 31:35-37).