

Joshua 21:1-42 **Levi - Cities appointed for the three tribes of the Levites**

Request of the Levites for their allotted cities

¹ Then the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest, to Joshua the son of Nun, and to the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel. ² And they spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, "The LORD commanded through Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with their common-lands for our livestock."

Tribal Allotment of cities for the tribes of the Levites

³ So the children of Israel gave to the Levites from their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their common-lands:

⁴ Now the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites. And the children of Aaron the priest, who were of the Levites, had thirteen cities by lot from the tribe of Judah, from the tribe of Simeon, and from the tribe of Benjamin. ⁵ The rest of the children of Kohath had ten cities by lot from the families of the tribe of Ephraim, from the tribe of Dan, and from the half-tribe of Manasseh.

⁶ And the children of Gershon had thirteen cities by lot from the families of the tribe of Issachar, from the tribe of Asher, from the tribe of Naphtali, and from the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

⁷ The children of Merari according to their families had twelve cities from the tribe of Reuben, from the tribe of Gad, and from the tribe of Zebulun.

⁸ And the children of Israel gave these cities with their common-lands by lot to the Levites, as the LORD had commanded by the hand of Moses.

Cities for the Priests – The sons of Aaron

⁹ So they gave from the tribe of the children of Judah and from the tribe of the children of Simeon these cities which are designated by name, ¹⁰ which were for the children of Aaron, one of the families of the Kohathites, who were of the children of Levi; for the lot was theirs first. ¹¹ And they gave them Kirjath Arba (Arba was the father of Anak), which is Hebron, in the mountains of Judah, with the common-land surrounding it. ¹² But the fields of the city and its villages they gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as his possession.

¹³ Thus to the children of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron with its common-land (a city of refuge for the slayer), Libnah with its common-land, ¹⁴ Jattir with its common-land, Eshtemoa with its common-land, ¹⁵ Holon with its common-land, Debir with its common-land, ¹⁶ Ain with its common-land, Juttah with its common-land, and Beth Shemesh with its common-land: nine cities from those two tribes; ¹⁷ and from the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with its common-land, Geba with its common-land, ¹⁸ Anathoth with its common-land, and Almon with its common-land: four cities. ¹⁹ All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities with their common-lands.

Cities for Kohath – tribe of the Levites

²⁰ And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites, the rest of the children of Kohath, even they had the cities of their lot from the tribe of Ephraim. ²¹ For they gave them Shechem with its common-land in the mountains of Ephraim (a city of refuge for the slayer), Gezer with its common-land, ²² Kibzaim with its common-land, and Beth Horon with its common-land: four cities; ²³ and from the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with its common-land, Gibbethon with its common-land, ²⁴ Aijalon

with its common-land, and Gath Rimmon with its common-land: four cities; ²⁵ and from the half-tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with its common-land and Gath Rimmon with its common-land: two cities. ²⁶ All the ten cities with their common-lands were for the rest of the families of the children of Kohath.

Cities for Gershon – Tribe of the Levites

²⁷ Also to the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, from the other half-tribe of Manasseh, they gave Golan in Bashan with its common-land (a city of refuge for the slayer), and Be Eshterah with its common-land: two cities; ²⁸ and from the tribe of Issachar, Kishion with its common-land, Daberath with its common-land, ²⁹ Jarmuth with its common-land, and En Gannim with its common-land: four cities; ³⁰ and from the tribe of Asher, Mishal with its common-land, Abdon with its common-land, ³¹ Helkath with its common-land, and Rehob with its common-land: four cities; ³² and from the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with its common-land (a city of refuge for the slayer), Hammoth Dor with its common-land, and Kartan with its common-land: three cities. ³³ All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with their common-lands.

Cities for Merari – Tribe of the Levites

³⁴ And to the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, from the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with its common-land, Kartah with its common-land, ³⁵ Dimnah with its common-land, and Nahalal with its common-land: four cities; ³⁶ and from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with its common-land, Jahaz with its common-land, ³⁷ Kedemoth with its common-land, and Mephaath with its common-land: four cities; ³⁸ and from the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with its common-land (a city of refuge for the slayer), Mahanaim with its common-land, ³⁹ Heshbon with its common-land, and Jazer with its common-land: four cities in all. ⁴⁰ So all the cities for the children of Merari according to their families, the rest of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.

⁴¹ All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty-eight cities with their common-lands. ⁴² Every one of these cities had its common-land surrounding it; thus were all these cities. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ The Priests and Levites received no tribal territorial inheritance – God is their Inheritance. [Deuteronomy 10:9, 18:1-2, Joshua 13:33, 18:7]
- ✧ All the Tithes of Israel are the inheritance for the tribe of Levi. [Numbers 18:21-24]
- ✧ The Tithes of the Levites is the inheritance for the Priests along with all the offerings to Yehowah. [Numbers 18:1-20, 25-32, Joshua 13:14]
- ✧ The Priests and Levites are to be apportioned cities with their common lands from each tribe of Israel. [Numbers 35:1-8]

Request of the Levites for their allotted cities

- ✧ Then the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest, to Joshua the son of Nun, and to the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel. And they spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, "The LORD commanded through Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with their common-lands for our livestock." [Joshua 21:1-2]
- ✧ At Shiloh the Levites made request for their appointed cities with their common lands according to the commandment of Yehowah through Moses.

Tribal Allotment of cities for the tribes of the Levites

- ☆ So the children of Israel gave to the Levites from their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their common-lands: [\[Joshua 21:3-8\]](#)

Kohath – Tribe of Aaron and Moses

- ◇ Thirteen cities from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin for the Priests, sons of Aaron.
- ◇ Ten cities for the rest of the children of Kohath from Ephraim, Dan, and half tribe of Manasseh.

Gershon

- ◇ Thirteen cities from the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

Merari

- ◇ Twelve cities from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun.

Cities for the Priests – The sons of Aaron [\[Joshua 21:9-19\]](#)

- ◇ **Kirjath Arba** (Arba was the father of Anak), which is Hebron, in the mountains of Judah.
 - ✧ The fields and their villages were given to Caleb the son of Jephunneh.
 - ✧ Hebron with its common lands was designated a City of Refuge.
 - ◇ **Libnah** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Jattir** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Eshtemoa** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Holon** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Debir** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Ain** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Juttah** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Beth Shemesh** with its common-land.
- Nine cities from Judah and Simeon.

- ◇ **Gibeon** with its common-land, .
 - ◇ **Geba** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Anathoth** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Almon** with its common-land
- Four cities from the tribe of Benjamin.
Thirteen cities in all.

Cities for Kohath – tribe of the Levites [\[Joshua 21:20-26\]](#)

- ◇ **Shechem** with its common-land in the mountains of Ephraim (a city of refuge).
 - ◇ **Gezer** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Kibzaim** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Beth Horon** with its common-land.
- Four cities from the tribe of Ephraim

- ◇ **Eltekeh** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Gibbethon** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Aijalon** with its common-land.
 - ◇ **Gath Rimmon** with its common-land.
- Four cities from the tribe of Dan

- ◇ **Tanach** with its common-land.
- ◇ **Gath Rimmon** with its common-land
two cities from the half-tribe of Manasseh.

All the ten cities with their common-lands were for the rest of the families of the children of Kohath.

Cities for Gershon – Tribe of the Levites [Joshua 21:27-33]

✧ **Golan** in Bashan with its common-land (a city of refuge).

✧ **Be Eshterah** with its common-land.

Two cities from the other half-tribe of Manasseh

✧ **Kishion** with its common-land.

✧ **Daberath** with its common-land

✧ **Jarmuth** with its common-land.

✧ **En Gannim** with its common-land.

four cities from the -tribe of Issachar

✧ **Mishal** with its common-land.

✧ **Abdon** with its common-land.

✧ **Helkath** with its common-land.

✧ **Rehob** with its common-land.

Four cities from the -tribe of Asher

✧ **Kedesh in Galilee** with its common-land (a city of refuge).

✧ **Hammoth Dor** with its common-land.

✧ **Kartan** with its common-land

three cities from the -tribe of Naphtali

All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with their common-lands.

Cities for Merari – Tribe of the Levites [Joshua 21:34-40]

✧ **Jokneam** with its common-land.

✧ **Kartah** with its common-land.

✧ **Dimnah** with its common-land.

✧ **Nahalal** with its common-land.

Four cities from the -tribe of Zebulun

✧ **Bezer** with its common-land.

✧ **Jahaz** with its common-land.

✧ **Kedemoth** with its common-land.

✧ **Mephaath** with its common-land.

Four cities from the -tribe of Reuben

✧ **Ramoth in Gilead** with its common-land (a city of refuge).

✧ **Mahanaim** with its common-land.

✧ **Heshbon** with its common-land.

✧ **Jazer** with its common-land.

Four cities from the -tribe of Gad

So all the cities for the children of Merari according to their families, the rest of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.

- ☆ All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty-eight cities with their common-lands. [\[Joshua 21:41\]](#)
- ◇ Every one of these cities had its common-land surrounding it; thus were all these cities. [\[Joshua 21:42\]](#)