

For a long time it was quite a puzzle to me why the Levites were given no land for their inheritance. Oh, I know that they were appointed priests and thus served throughout the whole country, but it seemed odd that to make up for this fact and to keep twelve tribes, God appointed Joseph's sons Ephraim and Manasseh a portion of the land. They were generally called half-tribes, but there were 12 separate parcels of land distributed. But I was reading the other day in Joshua 13:32-33, and it made me think. Let me read it to you, "This is the inheritance Moses had given when he was in the plains of Moab across the Jordan east of Jericho. But to the tribe of Levi, Moses had given no inheritance; the LORD, the God of Israel, is their inheritance..." Most of the nation was given a material inheritance, but a select group was given a spiritual inheritance. There is an appropriate parallel in the world today. Christians are to be priests, just like the Levites were. We are not to be concerned with material things as the rest of the world is, but spiritual life has been given to us to be our inheritance. We can as Christians rejoice with Peter as he says in 1 Pet 1:3-4, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade--kept in heaven for you." The Levites then, can be said to be a symbol to us today, that we in truth own nothing, but are heirs to the greatest thing that exists for us, a life eternally with God.