

# *Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

*Every word inspired.*



*Every word proclaimed.*

***“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28***

# Take My Life, and Let It Be

1 Take my life and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in endless praise,  
let them flow in endless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use  
every power as thou shalt choose,  
every power as thou shalt choose.

4 Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

# *Welcome To Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

*Every word inspired.*



*Every word proclaimed.*

***“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28***

***“Cliff-hanger”***

Ruth 4:1-12

May 22, 2016

## CLIFF-HANGER # 1

### **Ruth 3:8-9**

8 It happened in the middle of the night that the man was startled and bent forward; and behold, a woman was lying at his feet.

9 He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth your maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a close relative."

## CLIFF-HANGER #2

### **Ruth 4:4**

4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'"

## CLIFF-HANGER #3

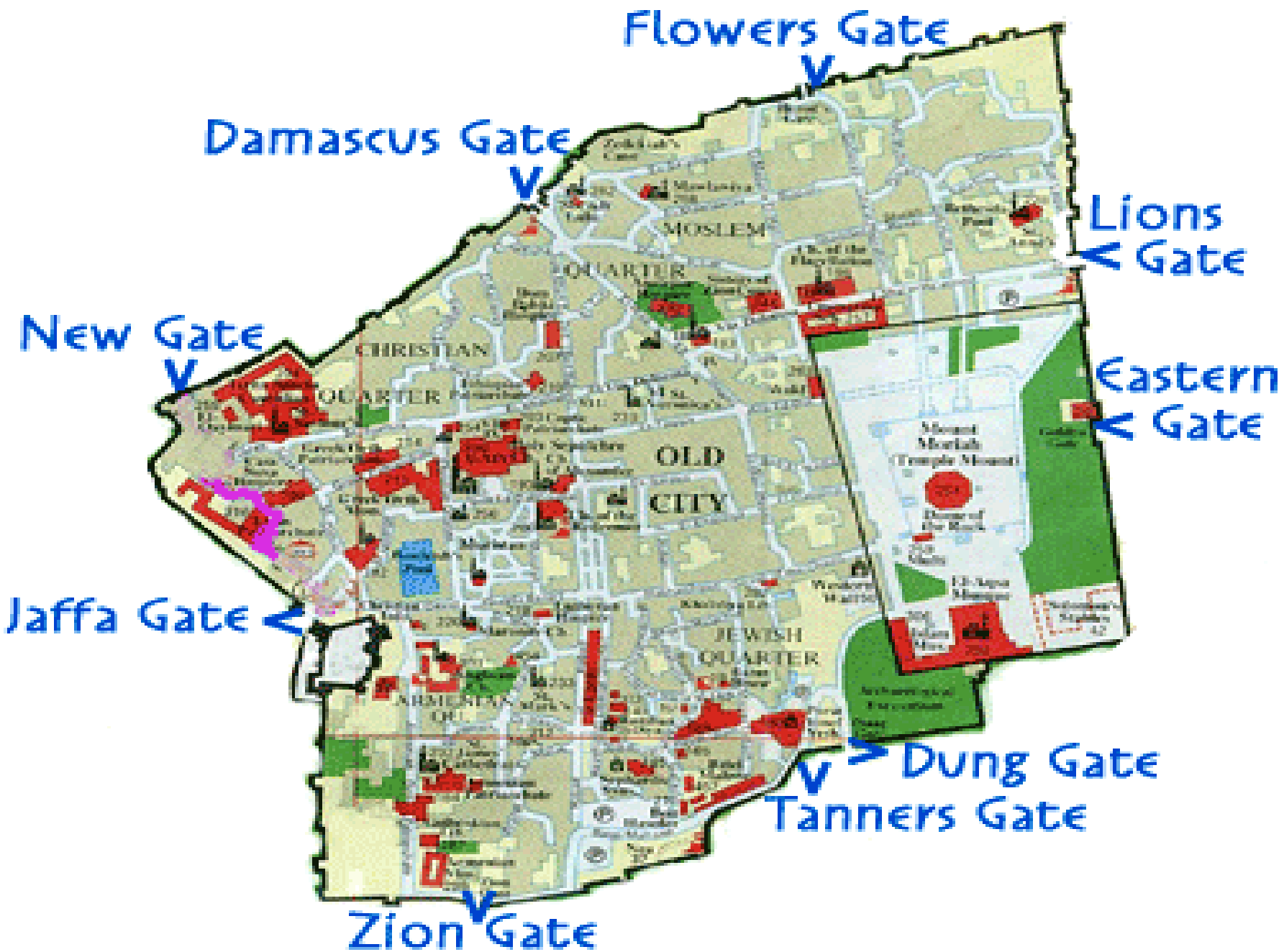
### **Ruth 4:5**

5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."

## Ruth 4:1-12

- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."







## **Deut 21:18-19**

18 "If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them,  
19 then his father and mother shall seize him, and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his hometown.

## **Esther 2:21-23**

21 In those days, while Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's officials from those who guarded the door, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus.  
22 But the plot became known to Mordecai and he told Queen Esther, and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name.  
23 Now when the plot was investigated and found to be so, they were both hanged on a gallows; and it was written in the Book of the Chronicles in the king's presence.

## **Prov 31:23**

23 Her husband is known in the gates,  
When he sits among the elders of the land.

## **Prov 31:31**

31 Give her the product of her hands,  
And let her works praise her in the gates.

**Gate (sa'ar)** - the main entrance to a city. The gate of the city was the place of rule, where all matters were settled, all transfers made, public business took place. They didn't have courthouses, notary publics, or signatures on file in computers. If the elders of the city made a decision, it would stand.

### ***What took place at “the Gate”?***

1. Elders of the city would meet to:
  - Hear disputes and legal matters, weigh the evidence, and render a decision.
  - Act as witnesses on a variety of transactions.
2. Gather to buy and sell, to barter, to negotiate, to cut a deal.
3. To talk, to socialize, to catch the latest news.



## Ruth 4:1-12

- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."

“I love to think that God appoints  
My portion day by day.  
Events of life are in His hand,  
And I can only say,  
“Appoint them in Thine own good time,  
and in Thine own best way.”

- ***Anna Waring***

## Ruth 4:1-12

- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."

## **Heb 11:31**

31 By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace.

## Ruth 4:1-12

- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."



## **THERE WERE TWO IMPORTANT MARKS THAT WERE TO DISTINGUISH THE ISRAELITES:**

1. Those in the line of Abraham-Isaac, Jacob, Jacob's twelve sons, and the families that descended from them, were given special promises. So the family lines were of critical importance.
2. When the exodus took place and God sent the people out of Egypt, he sent them back to a land that he had promised them. The land of Israel was to be the land of the Jews.

***\*\*Therefore provision was made in the Law for the way families were to protect themselves and their descendants, and for the land to be preserved, not sold and thereby passed into the hands of others. When Boaz speaks to Mr. No-Name, he raises both issues. The land is under threat of loss, it must be sold, and they need to act so it doesn't leave their family. And the family name and line are going to die out.***

## Ruth 4:1-12

- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."

***Why did Mr. No-Name accept this offer?***

**Naomi**

**Land**

## Ruth 4:1-12


- 1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.
- 2 He took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
- 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.
- 4 "So I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
- 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."
- 6 The closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, because I would jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it."

# *Why did Mr. No-Name turn down this offer?*

**Naomi**

**Land**

**Ruth + Mr. No-Name**

  
**child**

  
**child(ren)**

He has to depart with his own money to redeem (purchase) the land. If another child comes into the picture through Ruth and Mr. No-Name, then Ruth's land will go to the child and Mr. No-Name is out the money he paid for the land and thus has less to give his own children, which came from a previous marriage.

- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."



## *“Sandals”*

- Sandals were the ordinary footwear of the culture.
- Sandals were also a symbolic piece of clothing, especially between a widow, her land, and a potential kinsman-redeemer.
- Land was purchased based on whatever size triangle of land the buyer could walk off in an hour, a day, a week or a month.
- Land was surveyed in triangles, and a benchmark was constructed of fieldstones to serve as a boundary marker.
- Since they walked off the land in sandals, the sandals became the symbolic title to that land.
- By removing the sandals of her guardian, a widow removed his authorization to administer the land of her household.
- Therefore the passing of the sandal symbolized Boaz's right to walk on the land as his property



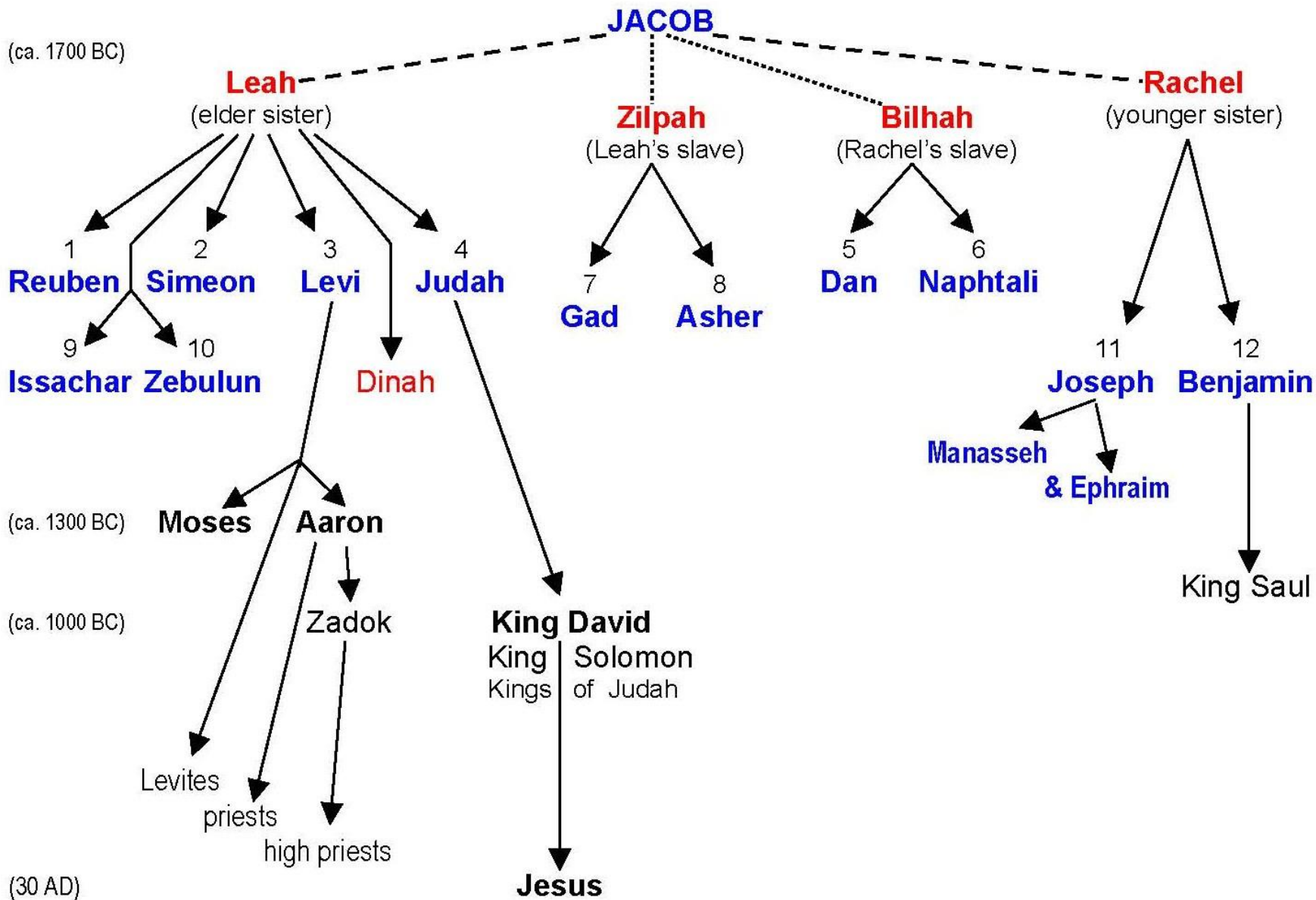
- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."

- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."

- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."

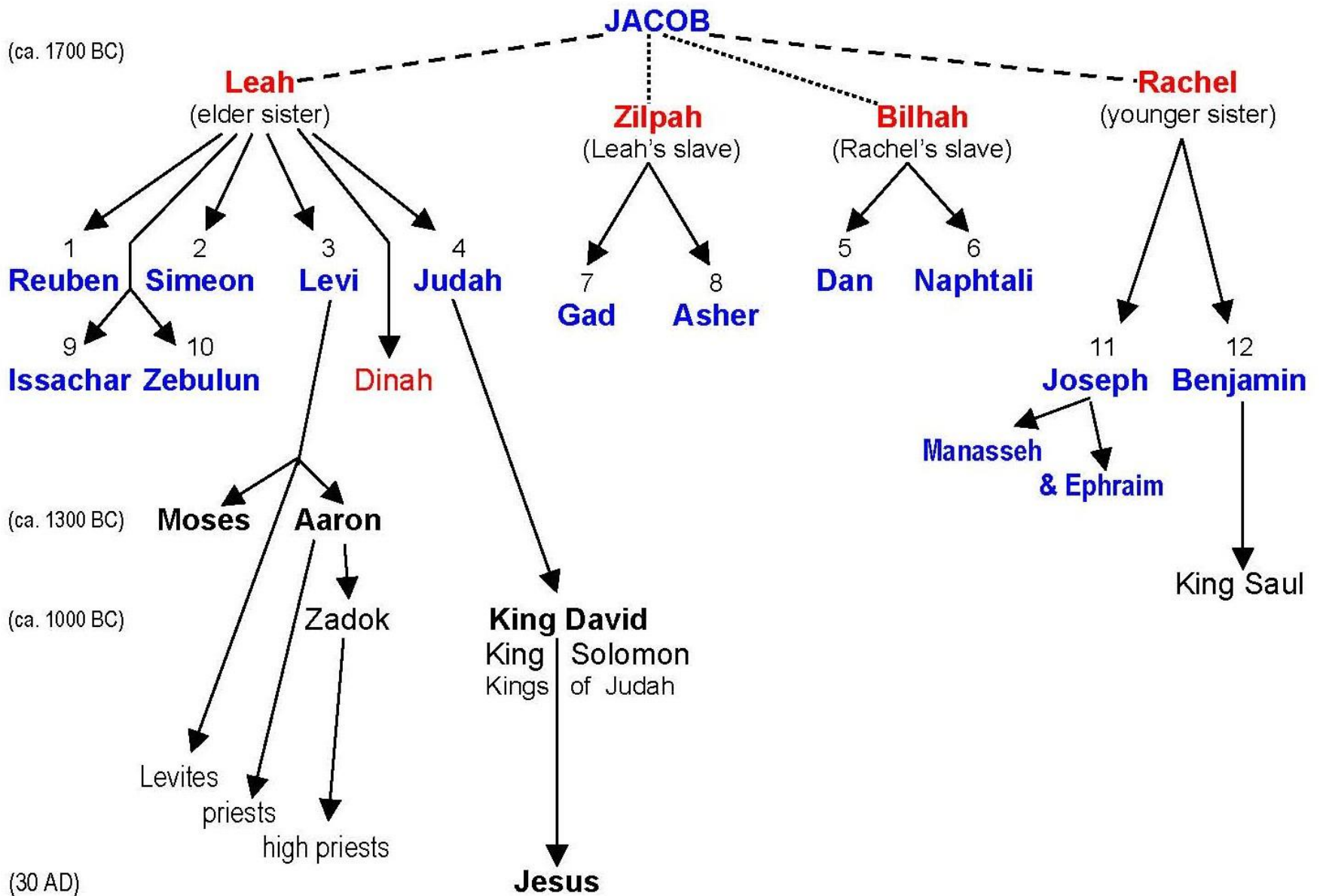
- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."

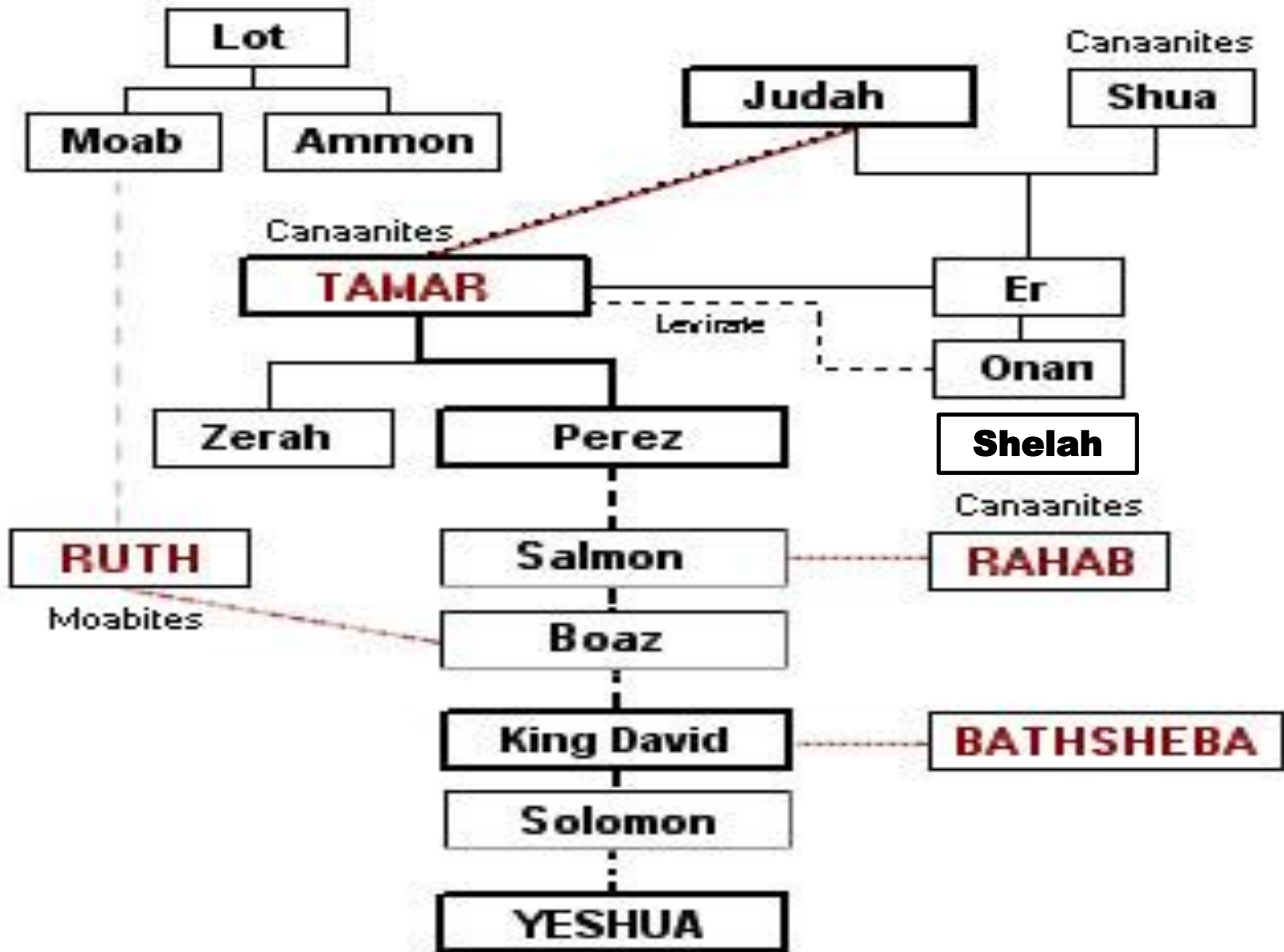
# Sons of Jacob / Tribes of Israel



- 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel.
- 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.
- 9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon.
- 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today."
- 11 All the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem.
- 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the Lord will give you by this young woman."

# Sons of Jacob / Tribes of Israel









**Ira Stanphill**  
**1914 – 1993**

Ira and his family spent most of his younger years in Coffeyville, Kansas. He was saved when he was 12. By the age of 10, Stanphill had already become a fluent musician, having learned to play the piano, organ, ukulele, and accordion. He went on to learn to play xylophone, guitar, saxophone, and clarinet. At 17, he was composing and performing his own music for church services, revival campaigns, and prayer meetings. Stanphill began preaching when he was 22. He became an evangelist, traveling to churches and Bible camps around the country, sometimes accompanied by his wife. They played and sang some of his compositions in addition to his preaching. In 1941, they joined the team of evangelist Raymond T. Richey. An ad for a crusade Stanphill held in 1964 described him as "Preacher of Old Time Religion." In addition to traveling throughout the United States, he preached in 40 other countries. In the 1970s, Stanphill's ministry included a 30-minute weekly television program. *Young At Heart* originated on WCFC in Chicago. In the 1990s, he appeared on several Southern gospel music videos produced by Bill Gaither. Stanphill composed more than 500 gospel songs.

# I Know Who Holds Tomorrow

1. I don't know about tomorrow;  
I just live from day to day.  
I don't borrow from its sunshine  
For its skies may turn to grey.  
I don't worry o'er the future,  
For I know what Jesus said.  
And today I'll walk beside Him,  
For He knows what is ahead.

## ***Refrain***

***Many things about tomorrow***

***I don't seem to understand***

***But I know who holds tomorrow***

***And I know who holds my hand.***

2. Every step is getting brighter  
As the golden stairs I climb;  
Every burden's getting lighter,  
Every cloud is silver-lined.  
There the sun is always shining,  
There no tear will dim the eye;  
At the ending of the rainbow  
Where the mountains touch the  
sky.

## ***Refrain***

3. I don't know about tomorrow;  
It may bring me poverty.  
But the one who feeds the sparrow,  
Is the one who stands by me.  
And the path that is my portion  
May be through the flame or flood;  
But His presence goes before me  
And I'm covered with His blood.

## ***Refrain***

# **Application**

1. “An honest heart loves the truth”. A.W. Pink
2. Spiritual risk for the believer is never greater than the security found in the sovereignty of God.
3. We must not let the cares of this world rob us of the joy of caring for others.
4. Often out of “cliff-hangar” events come greater opportunities for service.