

January 2003 Newsletter

Messianic Morsels- Jan 2003
Church

Living Stones

In this article, I am going to continue the discussion of Ephraim and Manasseh, who they were, and what relevance they have to the current tension in the Middle East.

In the last issue, we saw that Ephraim was the ancestor to what became the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Upon further research we find that Manasseh was Joseph's firstborn son and in Numbers 32, it states that his son and their descendants settled in a place called Gilead, which the land which is east of the Jordan River. If you look on a map today, you will see that the area we are discussing is modern day Jordan. Let us also reiterate that both Ephraim and Manasseh were half-Egyptian. As far as the dispute over land is concerned, wouldn't a possible solution be to go back to what the Bible says and let the modern day Palestinians inhabit the land of Manasseh and Ephraim, instead of Judea?

In John the fourth chapter, we see from the story of the Samaritan woman, that even 2000 years ago, a division had formed between the Jews who lived in the southern part of Palestine, which was called Judea, and the Samaritans who lived in the northern part of Palestine. We see in verse 11-12 that Samaritan woman calls Jacob (remember, his name was changed to Israel!), her father! If we look at history, we see that Samaria was the capital of the Northern Kingdom. It is clear from the discussion that the Samaritan woman has with Jesus, that the Samaritans believe in the coming of a Messiah, and that is when Jesus reveals to her that He is the one of whom she speaks.

So once again we see that our Arab brothers with whom we are fighting, have a direct link back to the nation of Israel through Ephraim and Manasseh, and that a long time ago, (before Mohammed!), they even believed in the coming Messiah! It says in John 4: 39-42, that many Samaritans believed upon Jesus because of the woman's testimony. We know as believer's in Jesus that this long-standing disagreement over the land will be solved when Jesus return's. But I the meantime I truly believe that we can show our Arab brothers, that instead of fighting with their Jewish neighbor, we can show them from the scriptures that they have a link to the nation of Israel through Ephraim and Manasseh. If we love them and show them the scriptures just like Jesus did, many of them when they see the truth, will come to believe that Jesus is the promised

Messiah!

[Home](#) | [About LBM](#) | [Newsletter](#) | [Links](#) | [Email](#)

