

Heraldic Emblems Prove the Modern Identity of *EPHRAIM!*

Where and who is the tribe of “Ephraim” in the world, today? Many scholars who are aware of the identity of the Lost Ten Tribes of Israel, in general, insist that Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand – the Anglo-Saxon Nations of the British Commonwealth -- comprise the tribe of Ephraim, and claim the United States is Manasseh. But is this true? Here is Biblical and heraldic evidence which proves beyond doubt that the majority has it all backwards -- modern Ephraim is truly the United States of America!

William F. Dankenbring

What is the truth? Is it a fact England, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand essentially comprise the modern descendants of the tribe of Ephraim, a leading tribe of ancient Israel? The proponents of this cherished theory of the so-called “British Israel” identity groups seem to claim with an impervious “finality” and have it firmly settled in their minds that such is the case. But does it really add up? Can we be open-minded on this issue? How important is it? It is a fact that old errors die hard, and it has been proven that it is ten times more difficult for people to UNLEARN long-held errors than to simply learn new truth from scratch.

In this article, we will discuss several vital KEYS that will unlock this mystery, and put to rest the erroneous and proud theories of British Israelism when it comes to the modern identity of the important Biblical tribe of “Ephraim.”

Why is this subject important, anyway? Most people probably never even heard of Ephraim, or Manasseh, his older brother, the two sons of the patriarch Joseph. But ignorance is no blessing. On the other hand, a false interpretation of the facts is no blessing, either. What is the truth of the matter? And why do we need to know?

One basic answer to this question is that knowledge of the identity of Ephraim is VITAL to understanding many key end-time Biblical prophecies found in Jeremiah and Hosea, as well as other prophecies of the Scriptures. To mix up the identities of Ephraim and Manasseh convolutes the meanings of many Bible prophecies and turns them inside out!

Ephraim & Manasseh

The patriarch Joseph, while in Egypt, had two sons – Ephraim and Manasseh. Shortly before his death, Jacob – whose name was changed to “Israel” -- blessed the two boys, and placed his own name upon them, and so they became two of the tribes of Israel. In effect, the tribe of Joseph became the two tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh – and so the 12 tribes of Israel became the 13 tribes of Israel. But since the tribe of Levi had no physical inheritance (their inheritance was the priesthood and service of God), there were still 12 tribes which were given physical inheritance in the earth.

Jacob blessed the two boys, placing his right hand on Ephraim, the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh, the older (see Gen.48:12-14). When he blessed them, he said his name would be named on them – that is, they would be like his own sons, two tribes of “Israel” (verse 16), and said that they would become “a multitude in the midst of the earth” (v.16). They would also bear the name of his father Isaac (same verse). This prophecy was fulfilled in the *Anglo-Saxons*, a major branch of the Celtic tribes which migrated to Western Europe from the region of the Caucasus, where the northern kingdom of ancient Israel had been taken captive by the Assyrian Empire in 721-718 B.C. The “Saxons” bear the name of “Isaac,” Jacob’s father – Itsak, in Hebrew, became “Tsak” – the “Saxons” are the “sons of Tsak” – or, “Tsak’s sons,” as it were!

Notice! The prophecy goes on, pronouncing the attributes and destinies of these two lads. Jacob declared of Manasseh, “He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly *his younger brother shall be greater than he*, and his descendants shall **BECOME A MULTITUDE OF NATIONS**” (verse 19). The Hebrew word for “multitude” here is *melo* and means “fullness”; the word for “nations” is *goyim* and simply means “a massing of people, a troop” – hence, it can be translated various ways, including “Gentile, heathen, nation, people.”

The British Commonwealth was never a MULTITUDE OF nations. At most, it comprised only the nations of Great Britain, Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand – although it ruled *over* other nations, at its peak, including India and parts of the Middle East (after World War I).

However, the United *States* of America IS a “multitude of states,” or “peoples,” as it consists of FIFTY individual “states,” and contains a “multitude” of peoples of many nationalities living within its borders.

The point is, in this prophecy, Jacob said the descendants of both brothers would become “great” – but that Ephraim would EXCEL and eventually surpass his older brother! This was a DIVINE decision from the beginning, and the reason why Jacob deliberately placed his right hand on the head of the younger boy, instead of the expected opposite. Since this was contrary to “nature,” as it were, and the younger was blessed above the elder, Ephraim became the inheritor of the BIRTH-RIGHT! He was to have a “double portion.” In fact, the name “Ephraim” itself means “double fruit”!

A “Last Days” Prophecy

In the very next chapter of Genesis, Jacob gathered together his sons, and told them “what shall befall you in the *last days*” (Gen.49:1). Let us notice specifically what he said of Joseph (whose inheritance passed through Ephraim and Manasseh).

Declared Jacob, “Joseph is a *fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a well; his branches run over the wall*” (Gen.49:22). Fruitful means plenteous in numbers, bearing much fruit. Dwelling by a “well” means his land would have plenty of water, which is nourishing to productivity and wealth. Jacob continues: “The archers have bitterly grieved him [other nations attack him], shot at him and hated him [who is the greatest but most hated nation on earth, today?]. But his *bow remained in strength*, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the Mighty God of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel), by the God of your father who will help you . . .” (Gen.49:22-26).

Notice now – Joseph’s KEY attributes are listed here – and these KEY attributes would, of course, be MOST dominant in the tribe of Ephraim, which was prophesied to be greatest. They are 1) a vine of fruitfulness, having many branches; and 2) having a strong bow, that is, being a powerful archer, and subduing his enemies.

These characteristics, mentioned by their forefather Jacob, should be the identifying attributes of Joseph; and since Ephraim is the leading tribe of Joseph, these “signs” or attributes should be identified with HIM more so than with his brother Manasseh!

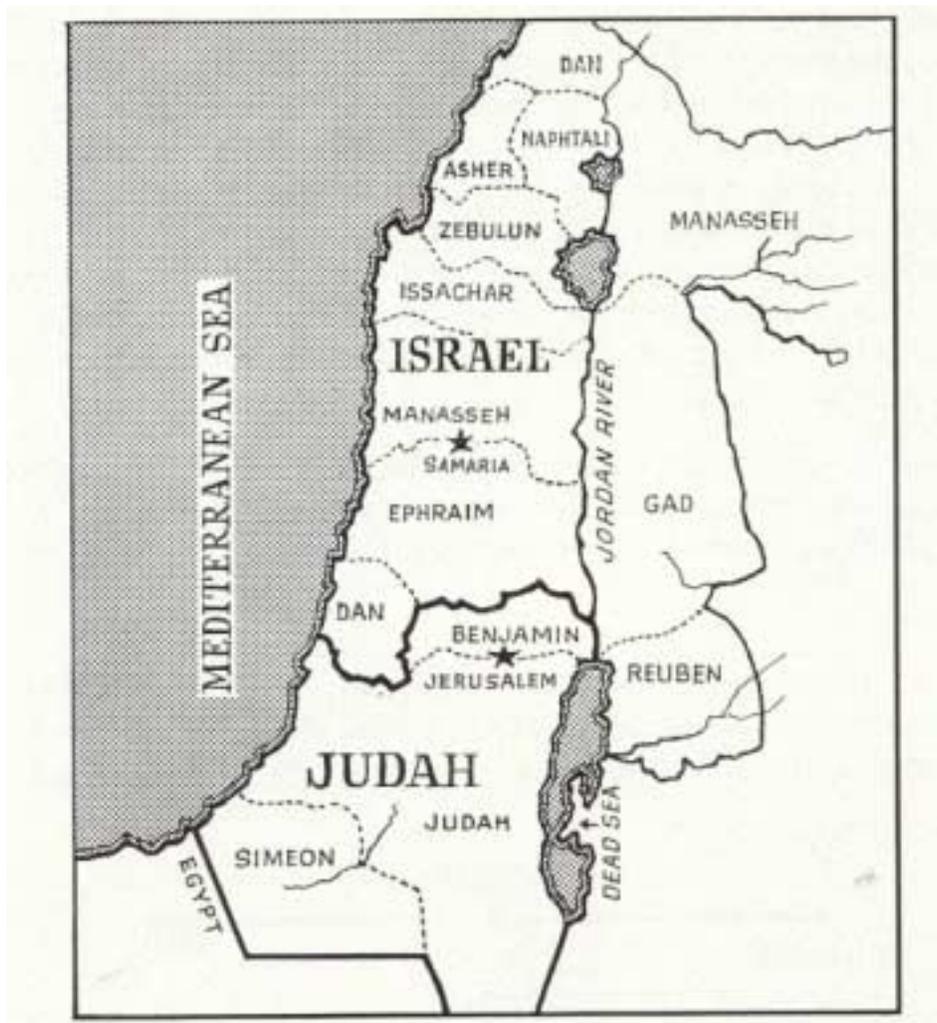
Now let’s look at the evidence!

Which great nation today, between the United States and Great Britain and Canada, has the sign of the fruitful vine or tree, with many branches running over the wall? And which has the sign of the bow and arrows of the powerful archer? Remember, *these are the first two SIGNS that Jacob said would identify Joseph IN THE LAST DAYS – OUR DAY, TODAY!*

In the book *Symbols of Our Celto-Saxon Heritage*, by W. H. Bennett, the author discusses the science of hereditary symbolism, as it is expressed in heraldry. He devoted his study of heraldic emblems to the ancient tribes of Israel, each of which had a “standard” given to it, depicting its major attributes. He connects these ancient heraldic symbols of the tribes of Israel with their counterparts in the modern world, notably, in western Europe, Scandinavia, the British Isles, Ireland, and America and Canada.

Says the author, “That the animals, objects and personal characteristics mentioned in Genesis 49 and Deuteronomy 33 did become the emblems of the Israel people has been recognized by all Biblical authorities, both Christian and Jewish. As I write this I have before me a Jewish calendar of some ten years ago, in which the emblems of all the tribes are given almost exactly as mentioned in Genesis 49 and Deuteronomy 33” (p.22).

The Two Kingdoms, Israel and Judah



The northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah are depicted in the map shown above. Israel was taken into captivity by Assyria in 721-718 B.C. Judah fell to king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon in 607-604 B.C., over one hundred years later. Judah returned to the Holy Land after being punished for 70 years. Only a few from the northern kingdom ever returned; the vast majority migrated beyond the Caucasus mountains and Caspian sea, becoming the Celts and Anglo-Saxons of ancient history, finally settling in Western Europe. Notice that in ancient Israel, the territory of the tribe of Ephraim stretched from the Jordan River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea, or “Western sea.” Notice that Western Manasseh lay just to the north of Ephraim, and Eastern Manasseh lay to the East and North, across the Jordan. Even so, today, Ephraim – the United States – lies south of Western Manasseh (Canada) and southwest of Eastern Manasseh (England and the United Kingdom). Today, both Western Manasseh and Ephraim are once again bordered by two bodies of water – the Pacific Ocean in the west, and the Atlantic Ocean in the east. What remarkable historical parallels!

This is not the place to go into the emblems of all the tribes, but we will focus on the tribes of Joseph – Ephraim and Manasseh. Referring back to Genesis 49, W. H. Bennett says, “Joseph is here likened to a Bough or Branch which, in view of other statements in the Bible referring to Israel as an Olive Tree (Rom.11:24), has always been understood to be an Olive Branch. In the next verse enemy archers are said to shoot at Joseph and, as archers shoot arrows, it follows that there is an implied relationship between him and some Arrows” (p.30).

Let us stop right here, and analyze this! The key prophecy foretelling JOSEPH’s attributes, especially those of the leading tribe of Ephraim, tells us He is like an OLIVE TREE, and is very FRUITFUL, and is militarily powerful, as is shown by His “BOW” and arrows, connected with him. *These characteristics should be seen in the heraldic emblems of EPHRAIM most of all, for they are the FIRST AND FOREMOST identifying signs of JOSEPH.*

This is a vital point. The author, W. H. Bennett, gets this backwards, having undoubtedly been influenced by British Israelism. But as we have just seen, these major attributes should be identified with *Ephraim, primarily*, and with *Manasseh, secondarily*.

Now, in the history and science of heraldic emblems, what nation is associated in the world today with the “Olive Branch” and “Arrows”? Is it Great Britain? Or the United States of America?

Emblems in Early America

In the United States, of course, the Eagle is a predominant symbol. The Eagle is connected with the tribe of Dan. Dan’s ancient flag or symbol was that of an Eagle. Many Danites, descended from Dan, came to the shores of America, and were among its earliest inhabitants, together with the Anglo-Saxons. (Descendants of Dan are mainly found in Ireland and Denmark – “Dan’s mark”, as it noted by the appearance of “Dan”, “Dn,” “Don,” “Din,” etc., in many of their place names. See my article, “The Tribe of Dan in Bible Prophecy!”).

Dan was one of the four most powerful tribes in ancient Israel (together with Joseph, Judah, and Reuben). The camp or brigade of Dan was to the north of the Sanctuary, Judah to the East, Reuben to the south, and Joseph to the West. This seems to have been a prophecy for the location of these tribes in the world today. Joseph is primarily in the West (England, North America); Judah is primarily in the Holy Land, the Middle East; Dan is in the North (Denmark, Northern Europe, and Ireland); and Reuben is modern France, is the Southern part of Europe).

But concerning the national emblems of Joseph, we should expect to see an Olive Branch, and a bundle of Arrows (mentioned in Genesis 49). These should primarily be found in the emblems of the tribe of Ephraim, the birth-right tribe. So then, what do we find?

Emblem of the United States



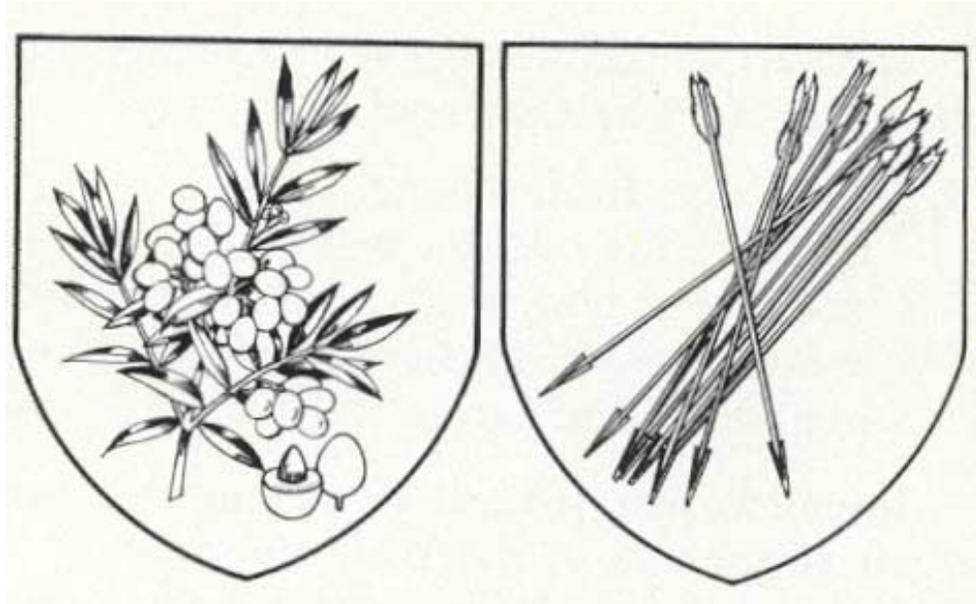
The Olive Branch and Arrows of Joseph-Ephraim and the Eagle of the tribe of Dan and the shield of 13 stars and stripes comprise the emblem of the United States of America.

Great Seal of the United States



The Great Seal of the United States has many key elements showing its connection with the tribe of Ephraim: Note in particular the Olive Branch with 13 leaves, the 13 arrows, 13 stripes on the flag/shield, the 13 letters in “E Pluribus Unum,” and the 13 stars above the Eagle. Ephraim was the youngest “son” of Jacob and therefore the thirteenth and final tribe. The number “13” is a good number according to the Jewish authorities – it denotes super-abundance, just as “Ephraim” means “doubly fruitful.”

Two Major Traits of Joseph/Ephraim



Two of the major identifying attributes of the birth-right tribe of Joseph, which should be especially visible in the identification of EPHRAIM, the son who was given the greater of the blessings, are illustrated in the pictures above. On the left is the Olive Plant, with its abundance of olives. The olive plant is a symbol of richness of oil, and is an emblem of peace.

On the right is a bundle of arrows, symbolical of war-waging prowess and military might; the arrows depict Air Power; today they would represent the power of guided missiles, smart bombs, cruise missiles such as the Tomahawk missile, so effective in both the Gulf war in 1991, and the Afghanistan conflict in which American air power soon devastated the Taliban and Al Qaeda terrorist bases, and drove the terrorists to hiding undercover in the mountain and cities.

These are the two major symbols of Joseph, according to Jacob's blessing of the tribes, in Genesis 49. What nation on earth today is more famous for its AIR POWER than the United States of America? What nation has used air power more successfully than the United States? What nation has taken the lead to bring peace in the Middle East? What nation has been a "peace maker" in the earth?

On the U.S. dollar bill is the official emblem of the United States – the U.S. Seal. It pictures an Eagle with an *Olive Branch* grasped in one claw, and a *Bundle of Arrows* clasped in the other claw!

Thus the United States, by this evidence, stands identified as the tribe of EPHRAIM! But the story is even more interesting.

The “13th” Tribe

If you count the number of leaves in the Olive Branch grasped in the talens of the Eagle, you will see there are *13 leaves*; if you count the number of olives, you will also see there are *13 olives*; and if you count the number of arrows in the Eagle’s other claw, you will see there are *13 arrows*!

Also, in looking closely at the Seal, you will see that in the cloud above the Eagle’s head, there are *13 stars*; and in the inscription on the Seal, “E Pluribus Unum,” (which means “in many, one”) you will count *13 letters*. In the shield before the Eagle, you will also count *13 stripes*, red and white.

Of course, we know there were originally 13 colonies which became the United States. But the important thing to recognize here is that there were originally *13 tribes of ancient Israel, when we count Ephraim and Manasseh as separate tribes*. And indeed, they both had separate inheritances in the ancient Holy Land. Manasseh lay to the *due north and east* of the inheritance of Ephraim. Just like today – modern Manasseh, which is largely Canada and England, lie *north and east* of modern Ephraim – the United States.

It is of course vital to take note of the fact that it is AMERICA – NOT ENGLAND OR CANADA – which has the important heraldic emblems of the Olive Branch and the Arrows in its national insignia. These were the two MAJOR ATTRIBUTES that Jacob said would characterize JOSEPH – and he himself placed EPHRAIM before Manasseh!

Notice also that above the head of the Eagle, there is a “cloud” with rays of sun. This cloud is reminiscent of the “pillar of cloud” that stayed over the Tabernacle, as the ancient Israelites journeyed through the wilderness for 40 years (Exo.13:21-22). Says W. H. Bennett, “In the dry air of the Sinai wilderness and Western Arabia this cloud would be visible for many miles, and to a distant observer would indicate the presence of the Israel people. As such, the use of this cloud as an emblem today is an IMPORTANT MARK OF IDENTITY indicating that the nation which uses it is *one of the Israel family of nations*. With this in mind let us note that this symbol hold an *important place is the official heraldry of the United States, for there above the Eagle we see a circular cloud enclosing 13 Stars*” (p.139, emphasis mine).

Bennett concludes, “Thus, by its official national emblem and by each item in it, the United States declares itself to be an Israel nation” (p.141). But more than that. By these official emblems, the United States declares itself to be the TRIBE OF EPHRAIM!

If you have not read it, be sure to send for my article, “The United States in Bible Prophecy,” which gives 22 proofs that Ephraim IS the United States, the most powerful nation on earth, today!

Why all this emphasis on the number “13”?

Which Tribe Is “13th”?

Much ado has been made of the question, which tribe in ancient Israel really was the 13th tribe. Bennett and British Israelites claim that “Manasseh” was the thirteenth tribe, and so they attempt to identify the United States with the tribe of Manasseh. Bennett claims that since Joseph was the 11th tribe, followed by Benjamin, the 12th tribe, when Manasseh and Ephraim were born, Ephraim took the place of Joseph, becoming the 11th, and this left Manasseh with being the 13th tribe.

However, this appears to be circular reasoning – pure subterfuge. It is arguing a point to make the answer to come out the way the person desires. It could just as readily be concluded that since there were 12 tribes, but Joseph’s two sons took his place among the sons of Israel, that this moved Benjamin up to the 11th tribe, and then Manasseh would be moved up to the 12th, and thus Ephraim – *the youngest of all the “sons of Israel”* – *would have logically and inevitably been the 13th tribe!*

What must be seen is that indeed the number 13 – the number of the FULLNESS of Israel – is clearly associated with the United States. That is beyond question! The United States therefore represents the 13th tribe. But which tribe is really the 13th – Ephraim? Or Manasseh?

Looking at it from a logical point of view, the 13th tribe would be the YOUNGEST – THE LATEST to appear on the world scene. *In order of birth*, Ephraim was the *youngest son*. And likewise, the United States was the YOUNGEST NATION, of the nations of Israel, having been “born” much later than England. England’s history traces far back into the mist of history, but the United States became a nation in 1783, at the Treaty of Paris, just a little over 200 years ago! But we have surely been “double-fruitful” since that time, exploding in population, wealth, and military might – just as was prophesied of Ephraim.

Joseph’s Dream

In another passage we find another strong hint relating to the identity of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh. We read that Joseph had a dream and said, “The sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me” (Gen.37:9). He told the dream to his father and brothers, and Jacob said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?” (v.10). Joseph’s brothers envied him, but Jacob kept these things in his mind (v.11).

Since Ephraim was the last and 13th son born, all these things should primarily be fulfilled in him! That is, HIS FLAG would contain ALL THIRTEEN STARS representing all thirteen tribes. And HIS EMBLEM should contain ALL thirteen stars, AND the rays of the Sun (Jacob) and the phases of the Moon (his mother), all bowing as it were before him. And so the United States President's SEAL contains above the Eagle the 13 stars complete, with the Sun's rays shining down, and the Moon in 13 phases. Again – this seems to clearly picture the fulfillment of the DREAM of Joseph, that his whole family would bow down to him – and whose emblem should this be? Ephraim's! The holder of the BIRTH-RIGHT!

Says W. H. Bennett, “Whether or not Joseph was aware of the symbolism of his dream is not stated, but it is evident that his father Jacob recognized himself as symbolized by the Sun, Joseph's mother as symbolized by the Moon, and Joseph's eleven brothers as symbolized by the eleven Stars. So in this prophetic dream, the Sun, the Moon and eleven Stars appear as the symbol of the whole Jacob-Israel family with the exception of Joseph himself.”

Bennett goes on: “But Joseph was also a son of Jacob and therefore a part of the Israel family. Consequently, if each of Jacob's sons, and the tribe or tribes to be descended from him, are to be symbolized by a Star, then Joseph too will have to be counted (Note Rev.12:1). Yet from an heraldic standpoint this would not be a true symbol of Israel for Joseph's descendants were divided into two tribes, bearing the names of his two sons Ephraim and Manasseh and, according to the record in Genesis 48, these two sons of Joseph, as heads of tribes, were made EQUAL in status with their uncles. Consequently, to truly represent the Israel people, this symbol would have to contain the Sun, the Moon and *thirteen Stars*” (p.141-142).

Where do we find a people, whose emblem fulfills this symbolism, which SUMS UP the blessings of ALL THIRTEEN TRIBES? The tribe or nation which is the SUM of the blessings God gave all tribes – the tribe to which all the others will look, in terms of physical leadership, governance, prosperity, military strength, and blessings?

Ephraim! And which nation today has all these elements in “The President's Seal”? The United States of America!

Says Bennett: “The emphasis placed on the details of this dream is a clear indication that we are intended to notice its symbolism and, consequently, that a symbol or emblem consisting of the Sun, the Moon, and a Star for each of Israel's Thirteen Tribes, *must be regarded as an emblem of Israel*. Where then do we find a people or a section of a people using this emblem today?

“The evidence presented . . . is irrefutable proof that the Celto-Saxon peoples are the continuation of ancient Israel. Among these peoples, Britain and the United States are undoubtedly the leaders and, consequently, we would expect to find the Israel symbol – the Sun, the Moon and the Thirteen Stars – in the national emblem of one or both of them. But it does not appear in either.

“Yet this emblem is still with us, for when we turn to the emblems on the Flag of the President of the United States, and also on his Seal, we find that the Sun, the Moon and the Thirteen Stars hold a very prominent place among them” (p.142-143).

And I ask you again: Should not this vital key symbol be the mark or emblem of the leading tribe of all Israel and Joseph – the tribe of *EPHRAIM*? *Ephraim is the thirteenth tribe – and so fulfills this whole prophetic picture! Ephraim is the “baker’s dozen” – the THIRTEENTH – that overflows in abundance!* This picture of “13” would not properly typify any other of the tribes, but only the LAST one, which sums up the total of them all.

Another fact which ties in with the prophecy is the notable item that the President’s Flag contains also four Stars in each of the four corners. These are reminiscent of the fact that Israel anciently was divided into *four camps* surrounding the Sanctuary. Three tribes were on each side of the Sanctuary, with the dominant tribe representing the three, in the middle. Thus the President’s Flag pictures four Stars – the stars of Judah, Reuben, Joseph and Dan (Dan being the fourth). This once again calls attention to the connection between the United States of America and the ancient Camp of Israel, as they traveled through the Sinai desert, arranged in four Camps. The Four Stars represent the Four Star-Camps of Israel!

As Israel traveled in the wilderness on its journey to the Promised Land, the tribes were organized in the format shown above. The leader on the north side of the Tabernacles was the tribe of Dan; Judah was the leader in the east; Rueben was the leading tribe to the south of the Tabernacle; and Joseph (led by Ephraim) was the leading tribe in the west. Together with Joseph was Benjamin, the brother of Joseph. These four tribes were the dominant tribes in Israel. Joseph inherited the “birth-right” promises, and Judah inherited the “scepter” promise (see I Chron.5:2).

Joseph, today, is the English-speaking peoples of the earth. Manasseh, the oldest son of Joseph, is represented by Great Britain and Canada, with portions of South Africa, and New Zealand. Ephraim is represented by the UNITED STATES, the fifty states of America, as well as (very probably) Australia (the Aussies are very much like the Americans in personality, character, and ruggedness). In the world today, Joseph is – like in the camps of Israel in the wilderness – once again located mainly in the WEST, Dan is located primarily in the NORTH of Europe, Judah is located mainly in the Middle EAST, and Reuben is primarily in modern day France, in the SOUTH of Europe.

Interestingly, this same feature is found in the Flag of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War (now Defense), the Secretary of Commerce, the Attorney General, the Postmaster General, the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of Labor, the Chief of Staff, the Generals of the Army, and the Admirals of the Navy.

What other nation today declares itself to be a RANKING tribe of ancient Israel, as the United States does, in its heraldic symbolism?

Seal of the President of the United States

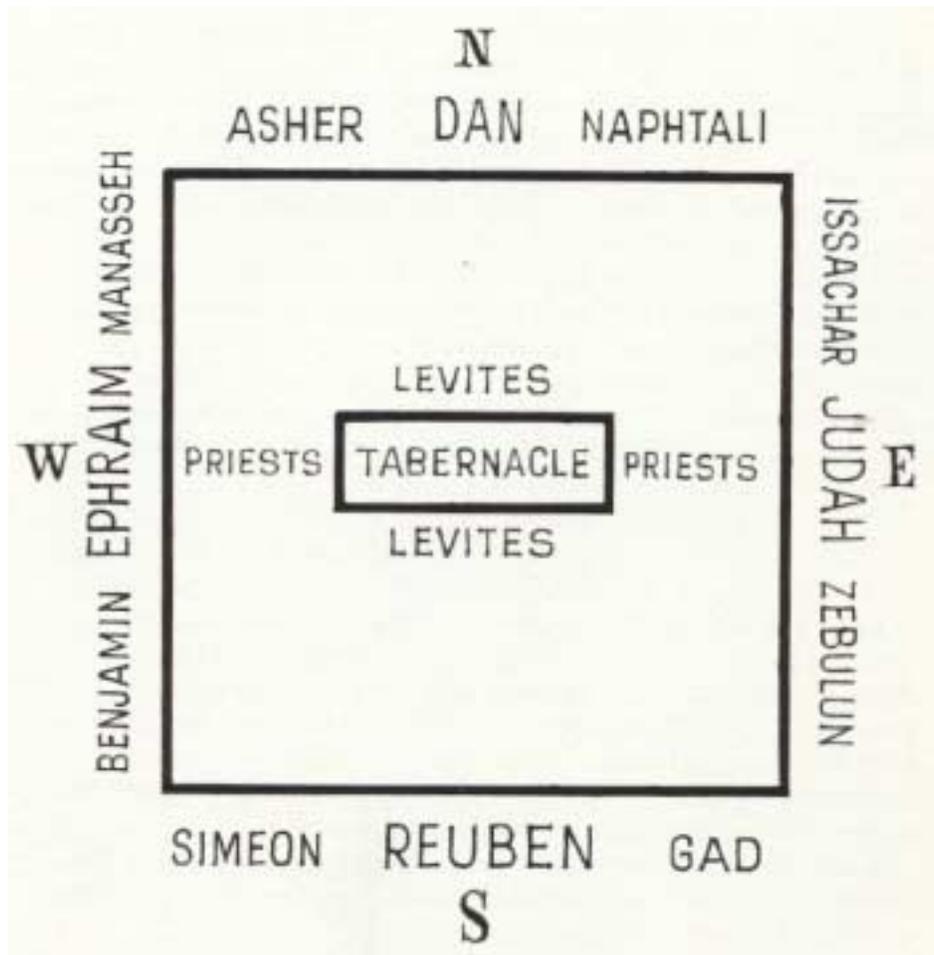


Notice the 13 stripes in the shield, 13 leaves on the Olive Branch, 13 Arrows, 13 stars above the Eagle, 13 letters in "E Pluribus Unum," 13 phases in the Moon, as well as the rays of the sun – this shows how Ephraim – the last and 13th tribe – fulfills the fullness of the prophecies given to Joseph and Israel. "13" is the proverbial "baker's dozen" – a sign of super-abundance!



Note the four Stars, representing the four Camps of Israel, led by the most powerful tribes – Judah, Reuben, Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh), and Dan.

The Camps of Israel in the Wilderness



Symbols of the Bull and Unicorn

So far we have discussed the amazing symbolism of the characteristics mentioned by Jacob, in his blessings of Joseph and his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. But another key listing of identifying marks is given by Moses, in his blessings on the tribes of Israel, as they came to the Holy Land, after departing from Egypt.

Moses prophesied of Joseph in Deuteronomy 33: “His glory is like a firstborn bull, and his horns like the horns of a wild ox; together with them he shall push the peoples to the ends of the earth; they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh” (Deut.33:17, NKJV). The King James Version has this verse, “His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns” (first part). The Hebrew word *rem* can be translated either “wild ox” or “unicorn,” from the word *raam*, “to be lifted up” (i.e., the horns).

I have pointed out elsewhere (see “The United States and Great Britain in Prophecy!”) that this Scripture clearly shows that Ephraim would be “doubly-fruitful” and outnumber Manasseh, in the last days, something like *ten to one*. This passage is plainly talking about POPULATION! Some try to argue otherwise, but the sense is very plain. This is talking about armies, and pushing peoples to the ends of the earth. So we would expect to find that Ephraim is a much more mighty power, militarily, than Manasseh, in the end of days – and so it is. It is the United States of America which is the world’s only true Superpower, today. It is the United States which saved the allies from German conquest in World War I, and especially in World War II. England, of course, was vital in both conflicts, and their courage and boldness sustained the wars until the United States intervened, and swayed the balance of power to the allies.

Again, it was the United States which led the fight against Communist aggression in the Korean War, and Vietnam, and it was the United States which sent over 200,000 troops to the Middle East to fight Saddam Hussein in the Gulf War. And, more recently, it was again the United States which sent troops and its Air Force to pummel the Taliban and Al Queda forces in Afghanistan. It was the “Arrows” of Ephraim which struck at the heart of the terrorist empire and devastated their forces, in massive missile and bombing sorties, destroying the terrorist infrastructure. And side-by-side with Ephraim, has been the support of his older brother, Manasseh. Prime Minister Tony Blair, and the British, have been America’s leading allies and supporters in all these conflicts, as would be expected since they are true brothers. Yet the dominant power has been that of Ephraim – the “ten thousands of Ephraim” (Deut.33:17).

How accurately world events have fulfilled these prophecies of Moses, inspired by God, 3,500 years ago! To mix up the promises to Ephraim and Manasseh does justice to neither of the two sons of Joseph!

But now take note – Joseph is compared in this prophecy to a great bull, and a wild ox – or a unicorn -- noted for their massive brute strength. The notable, conspicuous feature of the bull or wild ox is its horn, and so it is with the unicorn, a horse with a prominent horn in the middle of its forehead.

How is this symbology important to our discussion of the relative identities of Ephraim and Manasseh?

In the Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom, or Great Britain, there is a rampant lion on the right side, and a unicorn on the left side standing on its hind feet. Which of the two tribes, Ephraim and Manasseh, has the unicorn for its emblem?

The answer? Manasseh! Notice the proof – study the Royal Coat of Arms in the following illustration!



Royal Coat of Arms of Scotland

Notice that the Royal Coat of Arms of Scotland, shown to the left, has two unicorns, left and right of the shield with a lion, and a crown above the shield. The lion represents the influence and presence of the tribe of Judah, the crown represents the kingly line of Judah, Pharez and Zerah, united in the offspring of David, and the two unicorns represent the tribe of Joseph (Deut.33:17). The unicorn itself is an ancient symbol of the tribe of Manasseh, as is shown by the Midrash of Numbers 2:7.

The relationship between the throne of David and the tribe of Mansseh goes back to ancient times when many of Manasseh were among the first of the tribes to support David in his war against king Saul who sought to kill him (I Chron.12:19-22).



Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom

The Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, shown at the left, contains a rampant lion and a unicorn standing on its hind feet. The lion is a symbol of the kingdom of Judah and David (Gen.49:8-10). The unicorn is a symbol of the house of Joseph (Deut.33:17). In particular, the unicorn was represented on the standard or flag of Manasseh, the oldest son of Joseph, and is identified with his descendants. So says the Midrash on Numbers 2:7.

Thus the combination of the lion of Judah and the unicorn of Manasseh, reveals that the throne of Judah and David rests in England, the inheritance of Manasseh. Manasseh as a tribe favored the house of David. Ephraim, on the other hand, led the rebellion against the house of David (I Kings 11:26).

Now this is where the story gets interesting. Yair Davidy, author of several books on the identity of the lost Tribes of Israel, believes strongly that England and Canada represent modern Ephraim, and that the United States is Manasseh. Yet, in his book *The Tribes*, he makes this astonishing statement:

“A lion represents the kingdom of David and Judah. Moses (Deut.33:17) compared Joseph to a bull and to a unicorn. In the blessing of Balaam the strength of all Israel is compared to that of a unicorn (Num.23:22). A UNICORN (Raem) was represented on the STANDARD OF MANASSEH *son of Joseph, according to the MIDRASH*” (Yair Davidy, *The Tribes*, p.220, second edition, Russell-Davis Publishers, Israel, 1999).

Read that candid admission once again!

Davidy admits that the “unicorn” was the emblem or sign of THE TRIBE OF MANASSEH!

And the unicorn – a symbol of Manasseh – is featured prominently on the ROYAL SEAL OF GREAT BRITAIN!

The very Seal of the Royal Coat of Arms of Great Britain BEARS THE IDENTIFYING SIGN of the Israelite tribe of MANASSEH!

The Canadian Coat of Arms – the western branch of Manasseh – ALSO bears the same emblem! It, too, has a rampant lion on the right-hand side, and a standing unicorn on the left!

Thus the coats of arms of both countries – their royal seals – portray boldly the UNICORN, which ancient Jewish sources tell us was the ROYAL STANDARD OF THE TRIBE OF MANASSEH!

So there it is! Proof positive, I believe, to anyone with a truly open mind! *If Great Britain were truly Ephraim, then why does their Royal Standard bear the clear representation of the Unicorn – the symbol or sign of the tribe of Manasseh? The Unicorn of Great Britain identifies the British as primarily of the tribe of Manasseh.*

The Proof of Heraldic Emblems

The study of the heraldic emblems of the tribes of Israel, and their counterparts in the nations of the world today, prove beyond question that the sons of Joseph, true to the prophecies of their destinies, became great in the world, and have pushed the peoples to the “ends of the earth.” The United States is noted for its manifest attempts to bring about “world peace” – symbolized by the OLIVE BRANCH in its national emblems – and which represents the fruitful Olive branch portrayed in Jacob’s description of this

mighty people. They have contributed mightily to world peace, even though at times woefully misguided. Their intent is well known.

Likewise, the picture of an Eagle holding a bundle of Arrows, reminds us of the description of Jacob, that Joseph would be a mighty archer, and the Lord God would help defend him and fight for him. Even so, Ephraim has been the world's number one AIR POWER! Arrows are of course ancient "missiles" that fly through the air, striking their enemies with incredible force. Modern arrows would be guided missiles, laser-guided bombs, dropped from airplanes or launched from ships at sea. The United States has more of these in its arsenal than any other nation. Again – more evidence that the United States is the predominant son of Joseph – that is, Ephraim!

It's about time that some people begin to re-examine this issue and take a careful look at this amazing Biblical evidence, and open their minds to understand the TRUE IDENTITY of both Ephraim and Manasseh, today!