



**A SERMON SERIES ABOUT
GOD'S WORK IN WILDERNESS**



ISRAEL IN EGYPT

Undeveloped Relationship with YHWH

Lack of Spiritual Leadership

No Money

Enslaved (no Freedom)

Not Self-Governing

Subject to Egypt's Laws

No Military

No Understanding of Faith

Little of their own Culture

No Land

ISRAEL AFTER WILDERNESS

Relationship with YHWH

Spiritual Leadership

Money

Freedom

Self-Governing

Israelite Law

Structured Military

Faith

Culture (Festivals & Calendar)

Promised Land

THE CULTURE

What is culture?

-a system of learned and shared beliefs, language, norms, values and symbols that groups use to identify themselves and provide a framework within which to live

“Culture is the acquired knowledge people use to interpret experience and generate behaviour.”

-James Spradley-social scientist and anthropologist

THE CULTURE

“A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

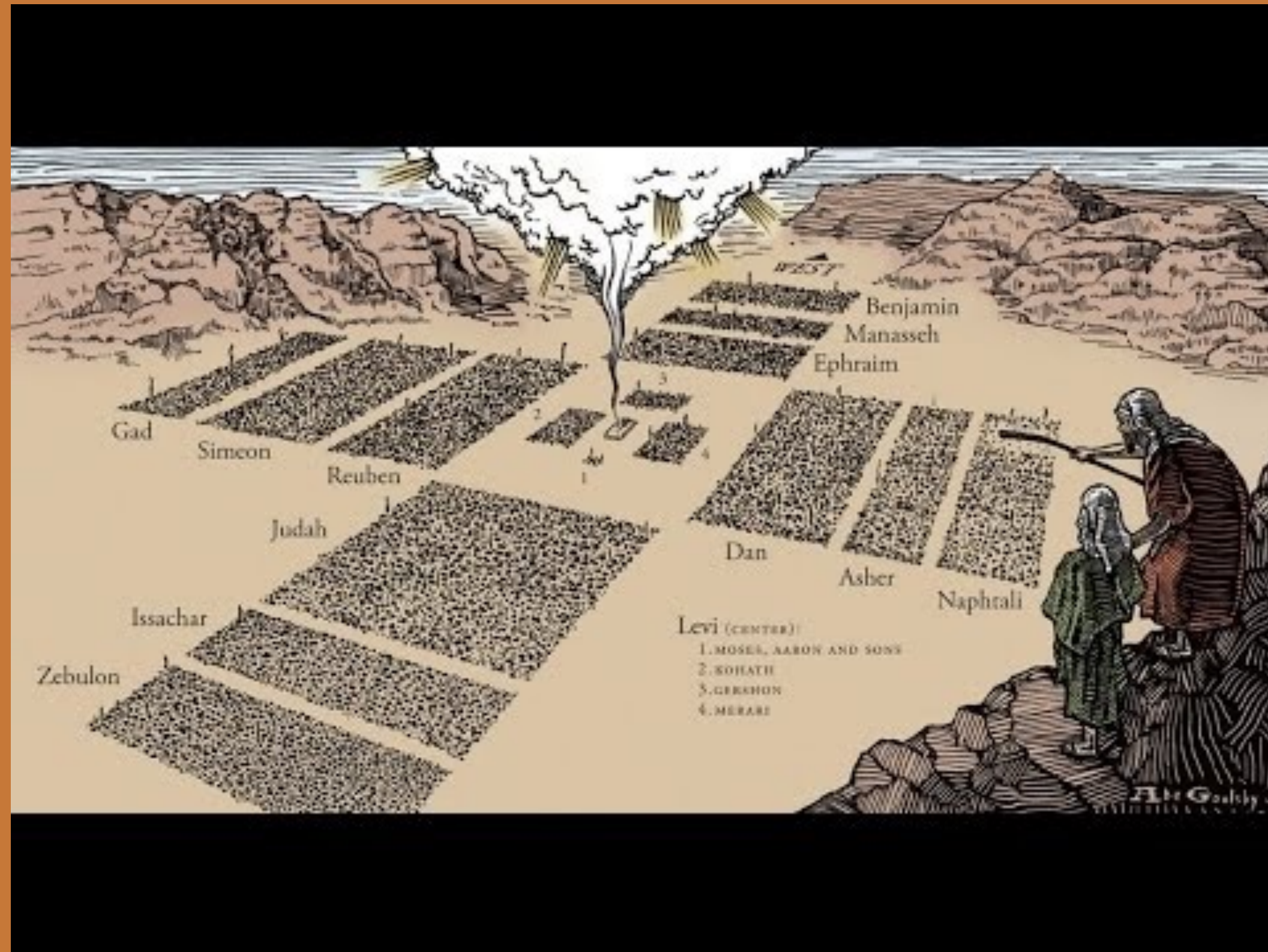
Marcus Garvey

THE CULTURE- *THE STANDARD OF CHRIST*

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron: “The Israelites are to camp around the tent of meeting some distance from it, each of them under their ***standard*** and holding the banners of their family.”

Num 2:1-2

THE CULTURE-*THE STANDARD OF CHRIST*



THE CULTURE-*THE STANDARD OF CHRIST*

Standard-a military term that indicates a rallying point; a flag or conspicuous object, raised on a pole for all the soldiers to see above the chaos of war.

THE CULTURE-*THE STANDARD OF CHRIST*

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious

Isaiah 11:10

THE CULTURE- *THE ROCK OF CHRIST*

Now there was no water for the community, and the people gathered in opposition to Moses and Aaron. They quarrelled with Moses and said, “If only we had died when our brothers fell dead before the Lord! Why did you bring the Lord’s community into this wilderness, that we and our livestock should die here? Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? It has no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!” Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them. The Lord said to Moses, “Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.”

Num 20:2-6

THE CULTURE- *THE ROCK OF CHRIST*

The Lord said to Moses, “Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink.” Moses took the staff from the Lord’s presence, just as he commanded him. He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, “Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?” Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff. Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough to honour me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them.” These were the waters of Meribah, where the Israelites quarreled with the Lord and where he was proved holy among them.

Num 20:7-13

THE CULTURE- *THE ROCK OF CHRIST*

For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

1 Cor 10:1-5

THE CULTURE-*THE HEALING OF CHRIST*

They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom.

But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!” Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. The Lord said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

Num 21:4-9

THE CULTURE-*THE HEALING OF CHRIST*

Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:14-17

THE CULTURE-*THE HEALING OF CHRIST*

Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, “Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?” Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, “Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?” No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so you may obey it.

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Deut 30:1 1-20

Next era-
God's Land Established