

Jacob's 12 Sons and Family Tree

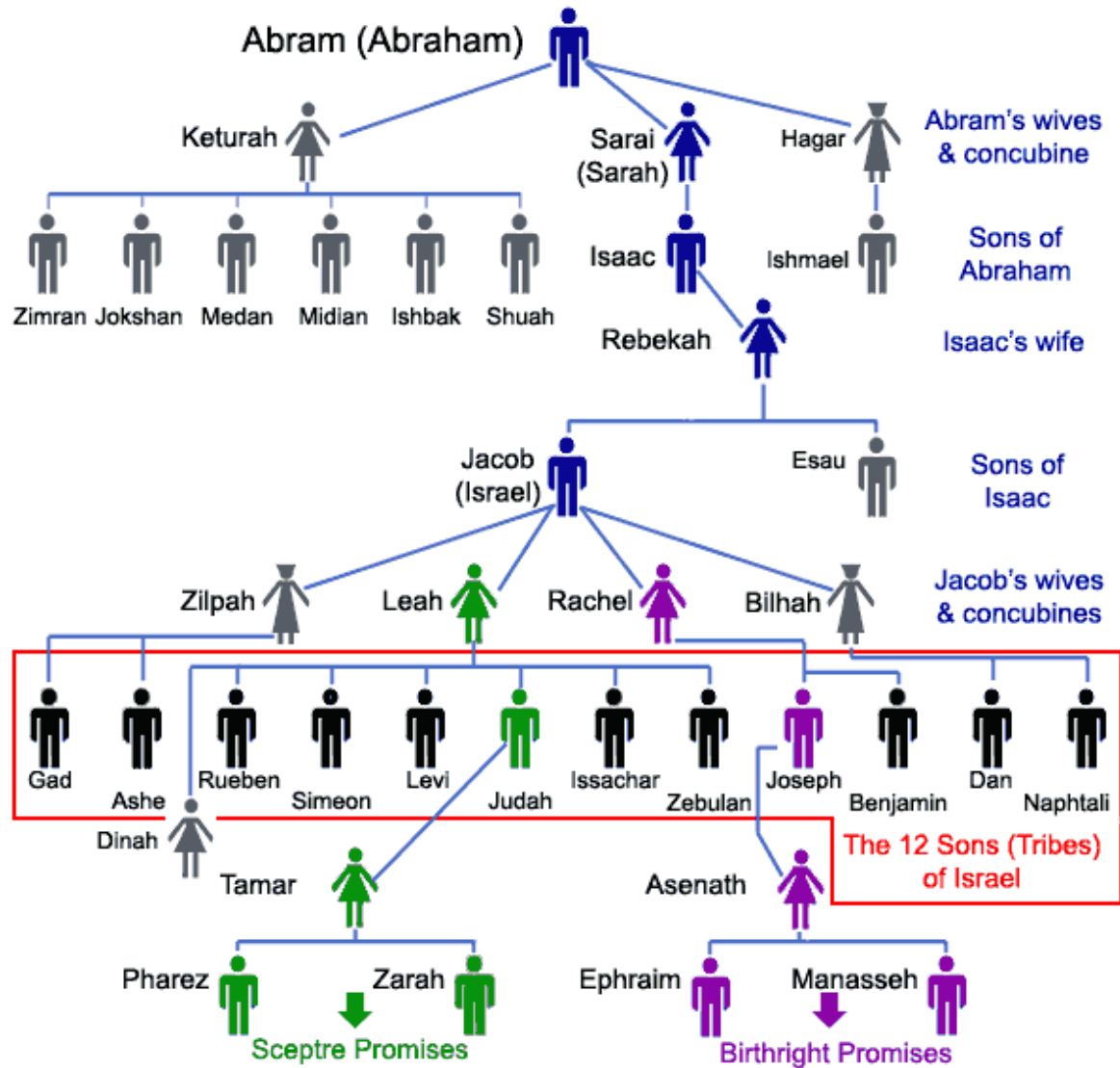
Jacob (later given the name Israel) is a Patriarch of the Israelites. According to the Book of Genesis, Jacob was the third Hebrew Patriarch with whom God made a covenant. He is the son of Isaac and Rebecca, the grandson of Abraham and Sarah as well as the younger twin brother of Esau. Jacob had twelve sons and at least one daughter by his two wives, Leah and Rachel, and by their handmaidens Bilhah and Zilpah.

Jacob's twelve sons, named in Genesis, were Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Joseph, and Benjamin. His only daughter is Dinah. The twelve sons became the progenitors of the "Tribes of Israel".

Enumerations of the twelve tribes vary. Because Jacob adopted two of his grandsons by Joseph and Asenath, namely Ephraim and Manasseh, the two grandsons were often substituted for the Tribe of Joseph, yielding thirteen tribes, or twelve if Levi is set apart.

As a result of a severe drought in Canaan, Jacob and his sons moved to Egypt at the time when his son Joseph was viceroy. After 17 years in Egypt, Jacob died and Joseph carried Jacob's body to the land of Canaan, and gave him a stately burial in the same Cave of Machpelah as were buried Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebecca, and Jacob's first wife, Leah.





Abraham's Family Tree

