

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

An open scroll with Hebrew text is the central focus, illuminated by a warm, golden light. The scroll is unrolled, showing two pages of text. The background is dark and textured, possibly representing a cave or a hidden place. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and ancient.

John's Commission

¹⁹ Write the things which thou hast seen and the things which are and the things which shall be hereafter;

Revelation 1:19

- We are given a divinely inspired outline for the book
 - Thou hast seen > Chapter 1
 - The things which are > Chapter 2-3
 - Which shall be hereafter > Chapter 4-22

The Structure of Revelation 4-22

- The events we will read about in chapters 4 – 22 are all a prophetic glimpse at future events as seen and recorded by John
- In chapters 4 & 5 we see a vision of the Throne room of the Universe!
- Thrones are mentioned 51x in the New Testament:
 - 39x in Revelation,
 - 17x in chapters 4 & 5.

The Structure of Revelation 4-22

- After talking to the disciples about the events of the Tribulation, Jesus said:
- *“Pray that you be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.”* Luke 21:36.
- It is the fulfillment of this that we will see in chapters 4 & 5 when the Church will stand before the Son of Man.

The Structure of Revelation 4-22

- The events that follow, in chapters 6-19, are the *'things that shall come to pass'*,
 - But it is from these things that Jesus promises a way of escape for His own
- In chapter 19 the Tribulation will conclude with the Second Coming of Jesus
- This will lead into a literal millennial (1000 year) reign of Jesus Christ on this earth.

The Structure of Revelation 4-22

- Is this important?
- Absolutely!
- Our whole view of scripture, both Old Testament and New Testament, will be affected by our understanding of these things,
- As will our understanding of the many prophecies about this period of time.

The Structure of Revelation 4-22

- Chapters 20-22 then take us into the Millennial kingdom where Christ will reign on earth...
- and then ... *“And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”* **Revelation 21:3-4**

The background of the slide is a dramatic, fiery scene with a glowing scroll in the center. The scroll is unrolled and contains text in Hebrew characters, which is brightly illuminated from below, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a mix of dark, smoky colors and bright, orange-red flames, suggesting a divine or apocalyptic revelation. The overall atmosphere is one of intense light and heat.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 4

The Throne Room of the Universe

Our Great Hope

- 1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

John 14:1-3

Our Great Hope

- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
- 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

1 Peter 1:3-4

Our Great Hope

- 9 By faith [Abraham] sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:
- 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 11:9-10

The Original Tabernacle

- 4 For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:
- 5 Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.

Hebrews 8:4-5

We Want To Believe!

- “81 per cent of Americans and 51 per cent of Brits say they believe in heaven – an increase of 10 per cent since a decade ago. Of those, 71 per cent say it is an actual place”

— Lisa Miller, Newsweek

A Lot of Talk About Heaven!

- For Heaven's sake!
- Heaven help us!
- Heaven knows!
- It was Heavenly...
- Heaven sent
- Match made in Heaven
- Heaven forbid!
- Heaven's above!
- Move Heaven and Earth
- Heaven on Earth
- Stink to high Heaven

Quotes About Heaven

- “I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now...Come further up, come further in!”

— C.S. Lewis, *The Last Battle*

Quotes About Heaven

- “My home is in heaven, I’m just traveling through this world ”

— Billy Graham

Quotes About Heaven

- “But our homeland is in heaven, where our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, is; and we are looking forward to his return from there. When he comes back, he will take these dying bodies of ours and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same mighty power that he will use to conquer all else everywhere”

— Paul the Apostle

Phil 3:20-21

A Place of Worship

- “I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven.”

— A.W. Tozer

The background of the slide is a dramatic, fiery scene with a glowing scroll in the center. The scroll is unrolled and displays text in Hebrew characters, which is brightly illuminated from below, creating a lens flare effect. The background consists of dark, swirling clouds of fire and smoke in shades of orange, red, and black. The overall atmosphere is one of divine revelation and cosmic power.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

Chapter 4

The Throne Room of the Universe

¹ After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Revelation 4:1

- After these things... Gr. 'Meta tauta'
- The same word used in 1:19 & twice here
- After the churches...
- ...after the church age

¹ After this I looked, and, **behold, a door** was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Revelation 4:1

- **189 doors in scripture** (in the KJV) 27x7
 - **Two types;**
 - **the door to our lives**
 - Rev 3:20 / Gen 4:7 - what will we allow in?
 - **The door to God's presence / safety**
 - Gen 6:16 / Ex 12:7 - will we enter in?

¹ After this I looked, and, behold, a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were **of a trumpet** talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter.

Revelation 4:1

- Jesus voice was 'as a trumpet' in 1:10
- The same voice now calls John from this realm into Heaven.
- A picture of the Rapture?
 - In both cases we here a voice as a trumpet and a call to leave this world and enter Heaven!

2 And **immediately** I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

Revelation 4:2

- How quick is immediately?
- In a moment, in a twinkling of an eye?
- Ref 1 Cor 15:52 'atomos' 10^{-17} seconds

2 And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.

Revelation 4:2

- Despite all the wonder of Heaven, the living creatures, and inexpressible things..
- John's focus is drawn to this throne!
- John was familiar with thrones...
 - What a comfort to see this Throne!
 - ...and the ONE sat on it!
- All the distractions of this life will be gone forever. It will be just Jesus

The Throne in Heaven

- “The first thing John saw in Heaven was the throne of God.....It is literal as much as the door is literal. The same things that prove that one is literal will prove the other is literal. Some cannot conceive of God sitting on a real throne, but there is no such thing as a spiritual throne. We have no ground at all for making these scenes symbolical or unreal, and not as they were actually seen by John. Our misconception of things cannot disprove their existence. If God could create literal thrones, heavens, planets, etc., it seems He should be able to sit on or in any of them He desires.” - Charles Finis Dake

3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

Revelation 4:3

- *“This jasper is a transparent stone, which yet offers to the eye a variety of the most vivid colours, signifying the glorious perfections of God; the sardine-stone is red, signifying the justice of God” - Matthew Henry*

The Jasper & Sardis Stones

- The Jasper stone was the last stone in the high priests breastplate
- ...and represented the tribe of Benjamin – whose name means ‘ the son of my right hand’.
- The Sardine stone was the first and represented Ruben – the firstborn.
- So, we have the first and the last!
- Jesus sat down at the right hand of the Father, and was the firstborn from the dead

3 And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald.

Revelation 4:3

- The rainbow was given as a reminder of the covenant between God and man
- Seemingly here it's an eternal reminder of God's covenant to redeem a special people for Himself
- God's wisdom is manifest in His plan of redemption - Eph 1:9-10

4 And round about the throne were four and twenty seats: and upon the seats I saw four and twenty elders sitting, clothed in white raiment; and they had on their heads crowns of gold.

Revelation 4:4

- Who are these 'Elders'?
- Option 1: Angels
- Option 2: Israel
- Option 3: The Church
- Option 4: an otherwise unidentified group
 - In all cases they seem to be representative
 - 1 Chronicles 24&25, 24 courses of priests & 24 courses of musicians representative of the whole

The 24 Elders

The Church

- Promised white garments
 - Promised Crowns
 - Redeemed by the Lamb
 - From every kindred
 - Kings & Priests to God
 - Promised to reign on Earth
 - Hidden in the Old Testament
 - Promised thrones
 - Elders represent the body
- Wearing white garments
 - Wearing Crowns
 - Redeemed by the Lamb
 - From every kindred
 - Kings & Priests to God
 - Destined to reign on Earth
 - 24 Elders hidden in the OT
 - Sitting on Thrones
 - Elders represent a group
- ‘Elder’ Never applied to any other created being except man

24 Elders

5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

Revelation 4:5

- Lightning and thunder usually precede a storm
– **and what a storm we find brewing here!**
- The seven lamps we have already met in chapter 1:4 and 3:1 are identified as being the seven (complete) Spirits of God.
- In the tabernacle of Moses we find the seven branched lamp stand (the Menorah) symbolic of the real thing that John is seeing here.

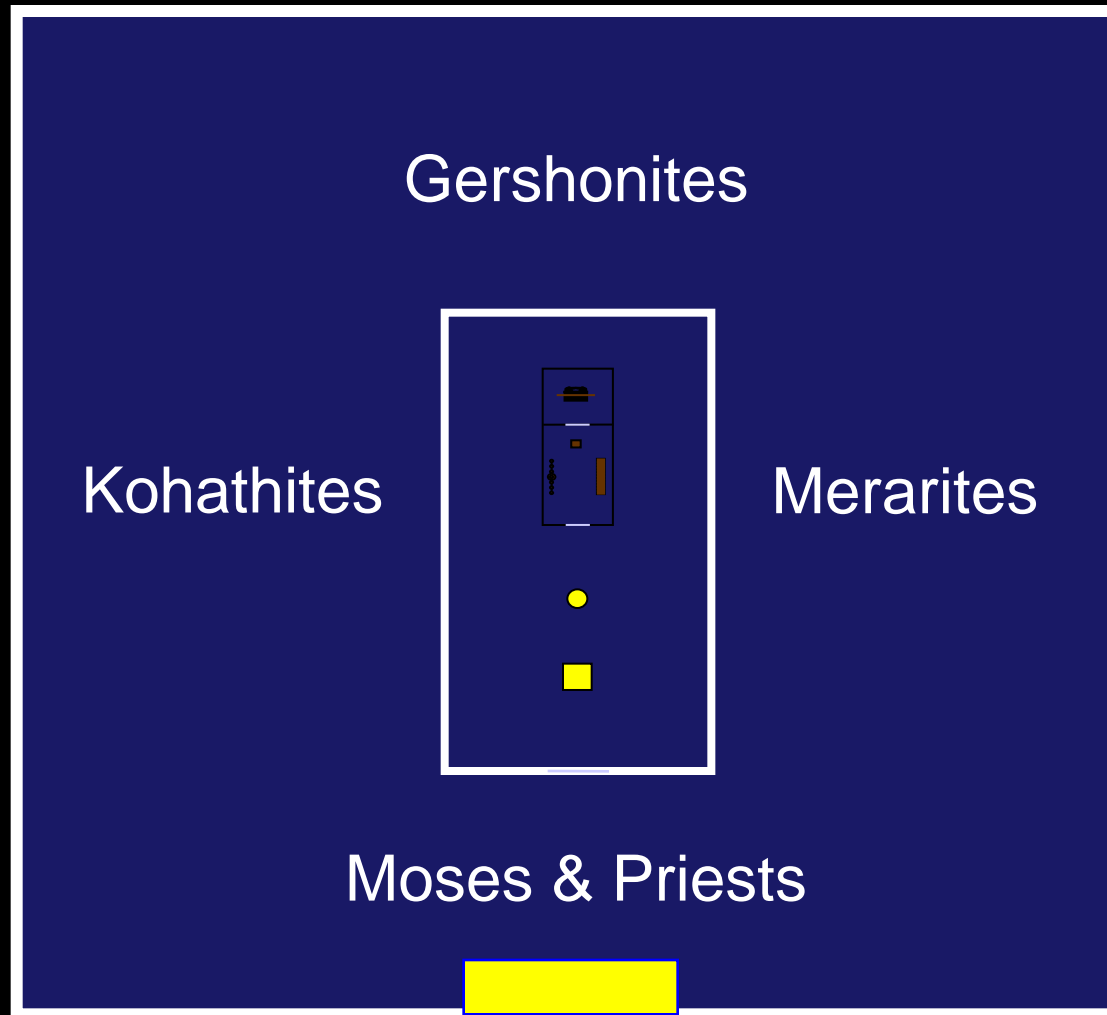
6 And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.

7 And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle.

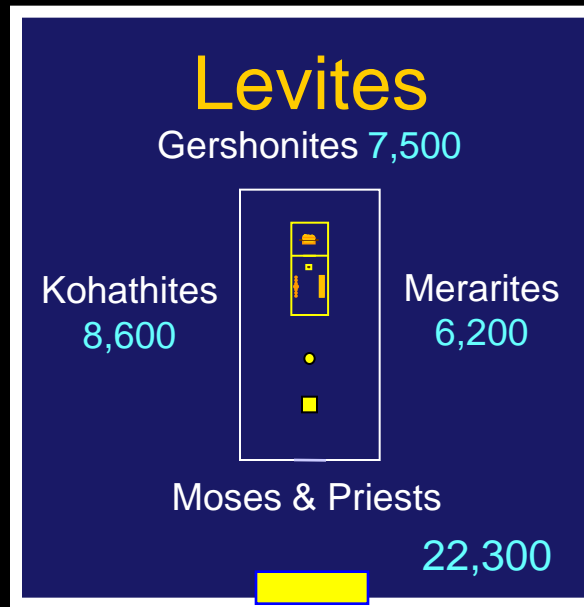
Revelation 4:6-7

- See of Glass: The Laver?
- Four beasts = 'Living ones' ref Is 6 & Ezek 1&10
- Isaiah calls them Seraphims, Ezekiel, Cherubim

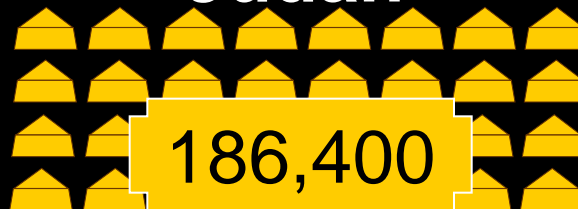
Arrangement of the Camp



The Camp of Judah



Judah



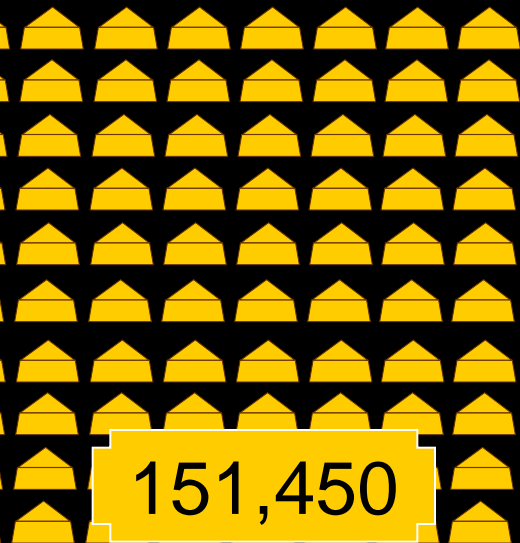
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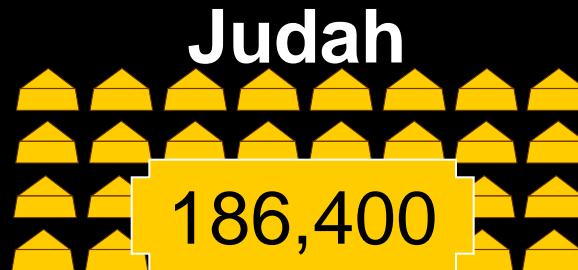
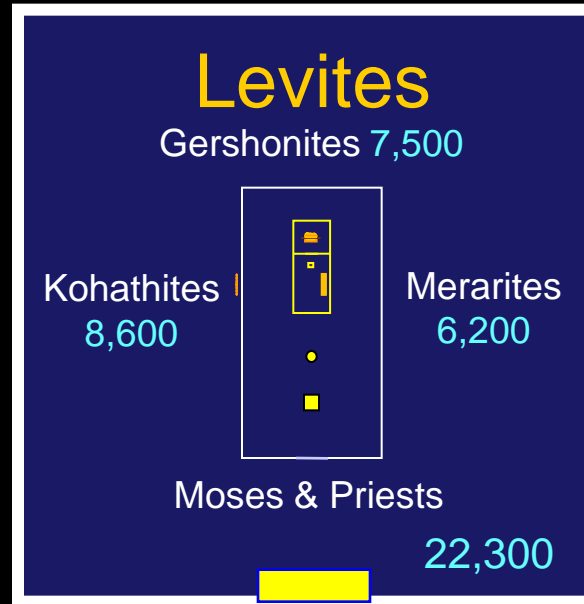
Rabbinical Precision

- The Camp of Judah: **East** of Levites
- The Camp of Reuben: **South** of Levites
- Strict obedience denies area **Southeast**
- Thus, only **cardinal directions** ordained
- Only **width** of Levite's camp allowed
- Length **proportional** to population

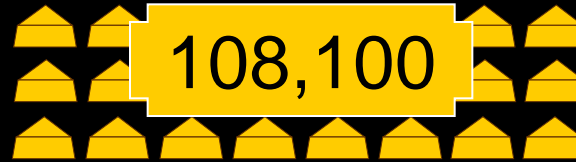
The Camp of Reuben



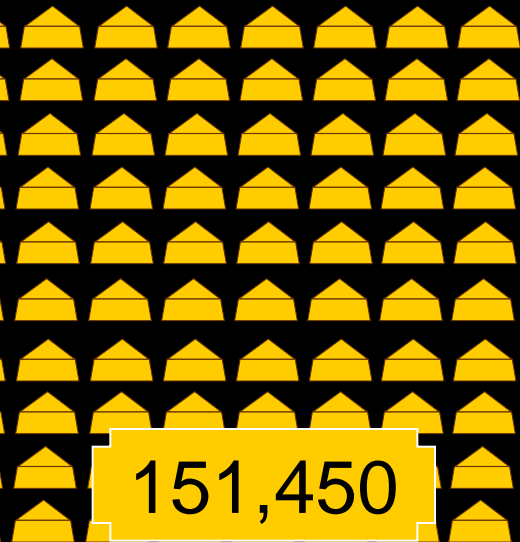
Reuben



The Camp of Ephraim

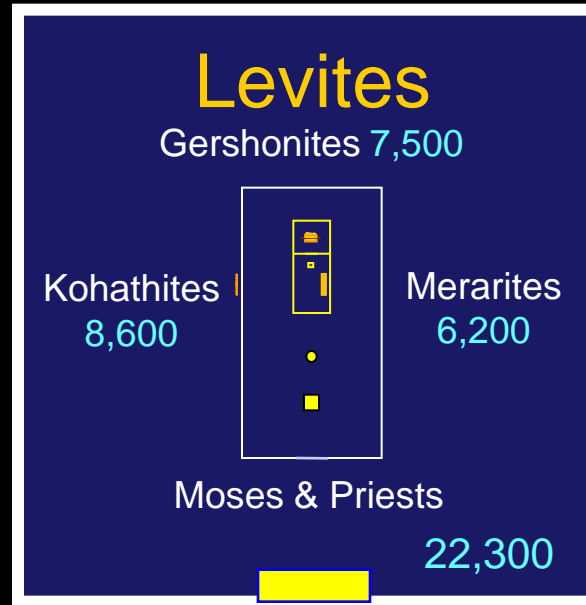


Ephraim



Reuben

151,450



Levites

Gershonites 7,500

Kohathites
8,600

Merarites
6,200

Moses & Priests

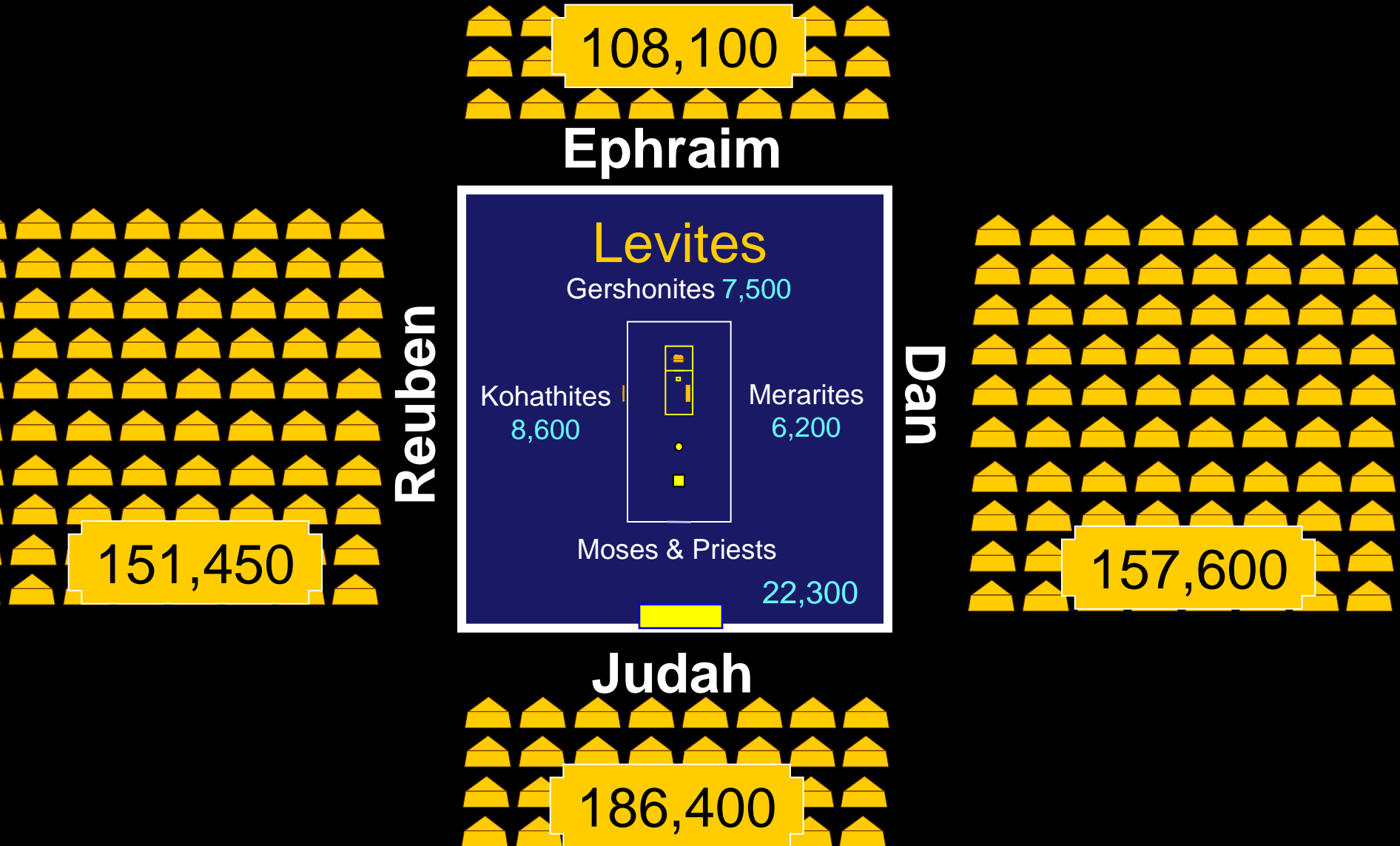
22,300

Judah



186,400

The Camp of Dan



The Camp of Israel

Numbers 2

Judah 74,600

Issachar 54,400

Zebulun 57,400

186,400

Ephraim 40,500

Manasseh 32,200

Benjamin 35,400

108,100

Reuben 46,500

Simeon 59,300

Gad 45,650

151,450

Dan 62,700

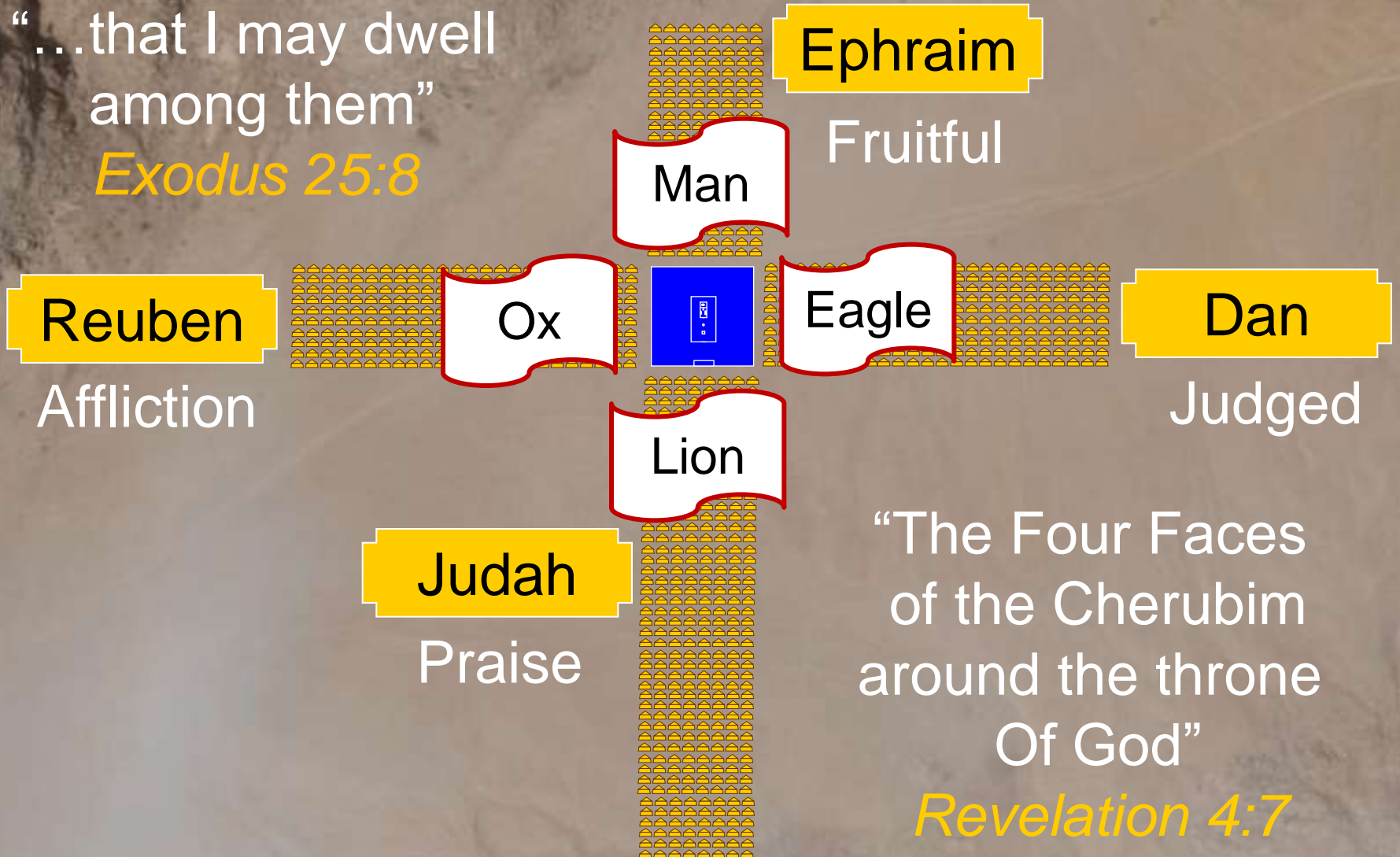
Asher 41,500

Naphtali 53,400

157,600

The Camp of Israel

“...that I may dwell
among them”
Exodus 25:8



“The Four Faces
of the Cherubim
around the throne
Of God”
Revelation 4:7

The Fourfold Presentation of Jesus

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Presents as:	Messiah	Servant	Son of Man	Son of God
Genealogy:	Abraham (Legal)	--	Adam (Blood line)	Eternal (Preexistence)
What Jesus	Said	Did	Felt	Was
To the:	Jew	Roman	Greek	Church
1st Miracle:	Leper cleansed (Jew = sin)	Demon expelled	Demon expelled	Water to Wine
Ends with	Resurrection	Ascension	Promise of Spirit: Acts	Promise of Return: Revelation
Camp Side:	East	West	South	North
Ensign:	Judah	Ephraim	Reuben	Dan
Face:	Lion	Ox	Man	Eagle
Style:	Groupings	Snapshots	Narrative	Mystical

8 And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Revelation 4:8

- 3 x Holy because they are worshipping Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9 And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

10 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

Revelation 4:9-10

Heavenly Award Ceremony

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

- We will be judged according to our works
- Our Sin was 'paid in full' at Calvary

Judgments

Various judgments in scripture

- Judgment seat of Christ (Beamer Seat)
- Great White Throne Judgement (Judgment Day)
- Judgment of the Nations (Sheep & Goats)
- Judgment of the 'Great Whore' (False Religion)
- *“Judgement to begin with the house of God”*

1 Peter 4:17

Judgment Seat of Christ

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

11 Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

Judgment Seat of Christ

¹⁴ For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:
¹⁵ And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

2 Corinthians 5:10-15

- We will all stand at the Beamer Seat
- We will be rewarded
- What Christ has done is our motivation

Judgment Seat of Christ

2 Cor 5:10 / Rom 14:10

- Award ceremony for the saints
- Sin is not part of the equation
- How we have lived as Christians will be the critical issue
- Our deeds will be judged (good or bad)
- Salvation is assured
- Rewards are not
- Where our treasure has been will be the key

Heavenly Reward

8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.

2 John 8

Heavenly Reward

26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

1 Cor 9:26-27

- Castaway – Gr. *adokimos*
- rejected, reprobate, having nothing

Our Rewards?

Crowns:

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Incorruption

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.



1 Cor 9:24-25

Isthmian Games (Isthmus of Corinth)

The Crown of Incorruption

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

1 Cor 9:24-25

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Life

¹² Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

James 1:12

¹³ There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Cor 10:13

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Rejoicing

¹⁹ For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?

²⁰ For ye are our glory and joy.

1 Thes 2:19-20

- The joy of seeing the lost found
- Luke 15:7 – “joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repents”

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Glory

- 1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:
- 2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
- 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
- 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Peter 5:1-4

Crowns

- The Crown of Incorruption – 1 Cor 9:25
- The Crown of Life – James 1:12
- The Crown of Rejoicing – 1 Thes 2:19-20
- The Crown of Glory – 1 Peter 5:1-4
- The Crown of Righteousness – 2 Tim 4:8

The Crown of Righteousness

8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:8

What do we do with our Crowns?

- Spend eternity bragging about how well we've done?

Before the throne...

⁹ And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

¹⁰ The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne,

Revelation 4:9-10

¹² Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

¹³ Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

¹⁴ But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

What do we do with our Crowns?

- Cast them before the throne

What Happens to the Crowns?

What Happens to the Crowns?

¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 19:11-13

What Happens to the Crowns?

- We are rewarded with crowns
- We will cast our crowns before the throne
- Jesus will receive and wear the crowns we give Him

Significance?

- However great our reward, Jesus will receive the glory
- We will not be able to 'brag' throughout eternity
- Once the crowns are cast down we are all the same – sinners saved by grace
- This is our one opportunity to give something back to Jesus
- Today is our opportunity!

Significance?

- Representative of every time you wanted to quit the race
- Representative of every time you faced temptation
- Representative of every time you had the opportunity to talk to someone about Christ

*"Have you no wish for others to be saved?
Then you are not saved yourself.
Be sure of that." C.H.S*

Significance?

- Representative of every time you wanted to quit the race
- Representative of every time you faced temptation
- Representative of every time you had the opportunity to talk to someone about Christ
- Representative of your faithfulness in ministry
- Representative of your looking for his return

Our Response

- The Crown of Incorruption
 - A disciplined Christian life, no compromise
- The Crown of Life
 - Overcoming temptation
- The Crown of Rejoicing
 - Winning souls for Christ
- The Crown of Glory
 - Faithful in ministry
- The Crown of Righteousness
 - Looking for His coming (Sanctified)

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 4:11

An open scroll with Hebrew text, illuminated by a warm light, set against a dark, textured background. The scroll is unrolled, showing two pages of text. The lighting is dramatic, with a bright glow emanating from the center of the scroll, creating a sense of revelation and importance. The background is dark and textured, possibly representing a cave or a hidden place.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

To be continued...