

# Deuteronomy 34:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea,

## Analysis

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**All Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh**—God's panoramic revelation proceeds from north (Naphtali) to central Canaan (Ephraim and Manasseh, Joseph's sons). These territories would become the heartland of the northern kingdom after Solomon's reign. Moses sees not just geography but prophetic history—the tribal allotments, future kingdoms, and ultimately the Messiah's ministry in Galilee.

**And all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea**—Eretz Yehudah ad hayam ha'acharon (land of Judah to the final/western sea) indicates the Mediterranean, Canaan's western boundary. Judah's territory in the southern hill country would produce David's dynasty and ultimately the Messiah. The 'utmost sea' phrase echoes the boundaries God promised Abraham (Genesis 15:18)—from the Euphrates to the Mediterranean. Moses sees the covenantal fulfillment stretching before Israel, contingent on obedience.

## Historical Context

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This verse traces Canaan from north to south, west to east—a complete survey of the inheritance. The specific mention of Ephraim, Manasseh, and Judah is significant: Ephraim and Manasseh would dominate the northern kingdom (often called 'Ephraim' by prophets), while Judah would become the southern kingdom, preserving David's line through exile to Messiah. Moses's vision encompasses both immediate conquest and distant messianic fulfillment.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. How does recognizing the Messiah's emergence from the land Moses saw deepen your understanding of God's long-term covenantal faithfulness?
2. What promises has God shown you 'from afar' that require patient trust in His timing for fulfillment?

## Interlinear Text

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וְמִנְשָׁה הַ אֶפְרַיִם וְמִנְסָה הַ מָּנָסֶה  
H853 H3605 And all Naphtali H5321 H853 and all the land H776 H669 of Ephraim H4519 and Manasseh

וְאֶת הַ לְּכָל אֶת כָּל הַ יְהוּדָה וְעַד הַ יָּם הַ אֲטָרֶז:  
H853 H3605 and all the land of Judah H3063 H5704 sea H3220 unto the utmost H314

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 11:24** (Parallel theme): Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be your's: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

**Exodus 23:31** (Parallel theme): And I will set thy bounds from the Red sea even unto the sea of the Philistines, and from the desert unto the river: for I will deliver the inhabitants of the land into your hand; and thou shalt drive them out before thee.

**Joshua 15:12** (Parallel theme): And the west border was to the great sea, and the coast thereof. This is the coast of the children of Judah round about according to their families.

**Numbers 34:6** (Parallel theme): And as for the western border, ye shall even have the great sea for a border: this shall be your west border.

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