

# Joshua 18:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance: and Gad, and Reuben, and half the tribe of Manasseh, have received their inheritance beyond Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.

## Analysis

---

**But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance**—Levi's 'portion' is God Himself (Numbers 18:20). The Hebrew *kehunnat YHWH nachalatam* (כְּהֻנַּת יְהוָה נַחֲלָתָם) literally reads 'the priesthood of Yahweh [is] their inheritance.' This paradox: they possess nothing geographically yet possess everything spiritually.

Gad, Reuben, and half-Manasseh already received Transjordan territory under Moses (Numbers 32). This verse clarifies the eastern tribes' exclusion from the western land division while affirming Levi's unique calling. Ministers' true reward is serving God, not earthly wealth (1 Corinthians 9:13-14).

## Historical Context

---

Levites received 48 cities scattered throughout Israel (Joshua 21) but no contiguous tribal territory. Their dispersion enabled nationwide priestly ministry. The eastern tribes' settlement across the Jordan preceded Joshua's leadership, fulfilling Moses' allocation.

## Related Passages

---

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

---

1. What does it mean for God Himself to be your inheritance rather than material possessions?
2. How does the Levitical model challenge or affirm vocational ministry today?

## Interlinear Text

---

כִּי	אֵין	לֵךְ	לְלֵוִיִּם	בְּקִרְבְּךָ	פִּי	קָהַנְתָּ
H3588	H369	have no part	But the Levites	among	H3588	you for the priesthood
		H2506	H3881	H7130		H3550
יְהוָה:	נַחֲלָתָם	וְגָד	וּרְאוּבֵן	וְחֶצִי	שֵׁבֶט	
of the LORD	is their inheritance	and Gad	and Reuben	and half	the tribe	
H3068	H5159	H1410	H7205	H2677	H7626	
הַמְנַשֵּׁשׁ	לָקְחוּ	נַחֲלָתָם	מֵעַבְרָה	לְיַרְדֵּן	מִזְכָּה	הָעֵרָב
of Manasseh	have received	is their inheritance	beyond	Jordan	on the east	
H4519	H3947	H5159	H5676	H3383	H4217	
אֲשֶׁר	נָתַן	לָהֶם	מֹשֶׁה	עַבְדְּךָ	יְהוָה:	
H834	gave	H0	which Moses	the servant	of the LORD	
	H5414		H4872	H5650	H3068	

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Joshua 13:33** (References Lord): But unto the tribe of Levi Moses gave not any inheritance: the LORD God of Israel was their inheritance, as he said unto them.

**Numbers 18:20** (References Lord): And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)