

# Joshua 19:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph,

## Analysis

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**And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph**—Asher's territory (גָּבוּל gevul, boundary) begins with cities previously mentioned in conquest lists. **Achshaph** appears in Joshua 11:1 as a Canaanite royal city defeated by Joshua, demonstrating how conquered territories became Israelite inheritance. The tribal boundaries (גָּבוּלִת gevulot) were not arbitrary divisions but divinely appointed inheritances fulfilling Genesis 49:20, where Jacob blessed Asher with richness.

The precision of boundary descriptions reveals God's meticulous care in distributing the nachalah (inheritance). Each city name carries meaning: **Helkath** means "smooth" or "portion," **Hali** means "ornament," suggesting the value God placed on this coastal region. This detailed geography grounds redemptive history in real places, refuting mythological interpretations of Scripture.

## Historical Context

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These cities lay in the western Galilee region, bordering the Phoenician coast. Archaeological surveys have identified several of these sites, confirming the historical accuracy of Joshua's territorial descriptions. Asher's proximity to Phoenician culture presented both commercial opportunities and spiritual dangers through Baal worship.

## Related Passages

## 1 Corinthians 13:4 – Characteristics of love

## 1 John 4:8 – God is love

## Study Questions

1. How does God's detailed provision of specific boundaries for each tribe demonstrate His personal care in your life circumstances?
2. What spiritual dangers accompany material blessings, as Asher experienced living near wealthy Phoenician cities?
3. How do conquered enemies becoming inheritance illustrate Paul's promise that "all things work together for good" (Romans 8:28)?

## Interlinear Text

אַכְשָׁף: תְּהִלָּה וְגַבּוּל מִצְלָק תְּהִלָּה וְגַבּוּל מִצְלָק הַיּוֹם  
H1961 And their border was Helkath and Hali and Beten and Achshaph  
H1366 H2520 H2482 H991 H407

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