

# Numbers 26:48

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Of the sons of Naphtali after their families: of Jahzeel, the family of the Jahzeelites: of Guni, the family of the Gunites:

## Analysis

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**The sons of Naphtali after their families**—Naphtali ( Napתְּלִי, "my wrestling") descended from Rachel's handmaid Bilhah. Rachel named him to commemorate her wrestling with Leah, yet this "wrestling" tribe produced peace. The families—Jahzeel ( יְחִזְאֵל, "God divides"), Guni ( גּוּנִי, "protected"), Jezer ( יְצֵר, "form/purpose"), Shillem ( שִׁלְעָם, "recompense")—carry theological meanings.

Each name tells a story: God divides inheritances, protects His people, forms them with purpose, and brings recompense. Family names become prophetic declarations. Your lineage speaks—what does it prophesy?

## Historical Context

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Naphtali's territory became Upper Galilee, where Jesus conducted much of His ministry (Matthew 4:13-15 cites Isaiah 9:1's prophecy about Naphtali). The "wrestling" tribe's land witnessed God incarnate wrestling with human sin. Geography becomes theology; census becomes prophecy.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How do the meanings of Naphtali's clan names (God divides, protected, formed, recompensed) describe God's dealings with His people?
2. What significance does Naphtali's later role as Jesus's primary ministry territory add to this census record?
3. If your family name or spiritual heritage were prophetic, what would it declare about God's purposes?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּנִים	בְּנֵי	נָפְתָּלִי	נָפְתָּלִי	מִשְׁפָּטִת	מִשְׁפָּטִת	לִי	חִזְאֵל	לִי	חִזְאֵל	מִשְׁפָּטִת	מִשְׁפָּטִת
Of the sons	of Naphtali	after their families		of Jahzeel			of Jahzeel			after their families	
H1121	H5321		H4940			H3183			H4940		

  
בְּנֵי	לִגְנִים	מִשְׁפָּטִת	מִשְׁפָּטִת	גָּנְעִים	גָּנְעִים						
of the Jahzeelites	of Guni	after their families		of the Gunites							
H3184	H1476		H4940			H1477					

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Chronicles 7:13** (Parallel theme): The sons of Naphtali; Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shallum, the sons of Bilhah.

**Genesis 46:24** (Parallel theme): And the sons of Naphtali; Jahziel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem.