

# 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 (נַפְתָּלִי, "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 (יַחְזֵעַל, "God divides"), Guni (גֻּנִי, "protected"), Jezer (יֶזֶר, "form/purpose"), Shillem (שִׁלֵּם, "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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בְּנֵי י	נַפְתָּלִי	מִשְׁפֵּחַת	לִי יִהְיֶה	מִשְׁפֵּחַת
Of the sons	of Naphtali	after their families	of Jahzeel	after their families
H1121	H5321	H4940	H3183	H4940
הַיְהֻזִּי	לְגֻנִי	מִשְׁפֵּחַת	הַגֻּנִי:	
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; Jahzeel, and Guni, and Jezer, and Shillem.