

## **Evangelists of the Tribulation**

- I. The Racial Jews regenerated
- II. They were from all over the world.
- III. 12 Operational tribes and one Priestly tribe – 13 tribes in Israel.
- IV. Joseph was given a double portion, which includes Ephraim and Manasseh. Joseph stands for 2 tribes.
- V. God spanked Reuben the firstborn – As first-born, he was entitled to 3 things:
  - (1) Rulership of Israel
  - (2) Priest
  - (3) He was to receive a double portion.He lost rulership to Judah – Priesthood to Levi and double portion to Joseph. Joseph had two sons – Ephraim and Manasseh and that is the reason for 13 tribes.
- VI. Roster of Evangelists – [Revelation 7:4-8](#)
  - 1. Judah – [Genesis 49:8](#) – Ruling tribe – aristocratic tribe. Jesus Christ is the lion from the tribe of Judah. Jesus Christ is David's greater son – David was from the tribe of Judah.
  - 2. Reuben was the first-born – [Genesis 49:3](#) – He lost out – rulership to Judah, Priesthood to Levi – double portion to Joseph (two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh).
  - 3. Gad – [Genesis 49:19](#) mentioned 3<sup>rd</sup>, but he is the 7<sup>th</sup> son of Jacob
  - 4. Asher – [Genesis 49:20](#) – 8<sup>th</sup> son of Jacob – a number of completeness.
  - 5. Naphtali – the 6<sup>th</sup> son of Jacob – 6 is the number for man. God used, and uses, man. The name also means "*wrestlings*", a reference to Tribulation period fights.
  - 6. Manasseh – [Genesis 48:20](#) – One of the weakest tribes of Israel.
  - 7. Simeon – [Genesis 49:5](#) – Also weak and unworthy. Because of weakness, they were scattered throughout the land ([II Corinthians 12:9](#)).

## **Evangelists of the Tribulation (Continued)**

8. Levi – [Genesis 49:5](#) – Here is the principle of cursing turning to blessing. Levi was one of the 2 brothers involved in a terrible stunt; it was so awful that the Lord said: “You are one group that will never inherit the land,” Note: In the Palestinian Covenant God promised the land to the 12 sons of Jacob. Levi was such a stinker that God made an exception, “No land for Levi” – a curse – then Levi was Restored (restoration to fellowship); then God said: “NO land, but you *can be* the Spiritual administrator of the land (curse turned to blessing). Now we have the LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT. Levi is the Priestly tribe, and the Levites are scattered for spiritual blessings. GOD USES THE WEAK, HOPELESS, HELPLESS (That’s really the only kind living)! Levi was restored, and God used him – Simeon was not, and remained weak.
9. Issachar – [Genesis 49:14](#) – Name translated “*beast of burden*” – Literally means “*strong donkey*” or someone who is a producer, and is to be rewarded. Issachar produced by Grace, to the point of reward. 12,000 came from this tribe.
10. Zabulon – [Genesis 49:13](#) – 10<sup>th</sup> son of Jacob. The word means “*haven for ships*”; Zabulon emphasized business, commerce for God’s glory.
11. Joseph – [Genesis 49:22](#) – Refers to the tribe of Ephraim, but this tribe cannot be named because it was this tribe that led the revolt against Judah. There was a split in Israel (God’s plan for His people is that there be no splits, no jealousy, no antagonism).
12. Benjamin – [Genesis 49:27](#) – The Hebrew word means “*son of the right hand*”, which is the same title for the Lord Jesus Christ. Benjamin was the tribe faithful to Judah in the split, which illustrates that faithfulness to God’s Word has wonderful results.

Note: There are 13 tribes – 12 mentioned here. WHICH ONE IS LEFT OUT? DAN – [Genesis 49:17](#) – From this tribe comes the false prophet – dictator of Israel in the Tribulation. This tribe originated and led in idolatry ([Leviticus 24:11](#); [Judges 18:2](#); [18:30, 31](#)). The golden calf was set up by Dan – [I Kings 11:26](#); [I Kings 12:28-30](#). This was the idolatrous tribe, who produces the dictator of the Jews in the Tribulation.