

Don't be afraid to make this journey; remember when God cared for you in Egypt & in the wilderness all the way to this place - JUST LIKE a father carries his son. (Deut. 1:29-31)



Happy Father's Day

JEHONADAB

A Few Introductory Thoughts

- I know. You have never heard of this guy.
- It is possible that a good father could be an unknown, not necessarily a famous man.

LET'S TRACE THIS GUY BY GOING BACK IN HISTORY



Look at the maps.

- Map A shows the first trip of Moses from Egypt to Midian after he killed the Egyptian. Map B zeroes in on the Land of Midian where Moses ended up.
- Notice these two other items on map B: "Jethro's house" & "Mt. Sinai".
- It is possible that it took Moses a little over a week to walk that distance, depending on how fast he was walking.

1. Since Moses was wanted for murder in Egypt, why would he travel that far & also cross to the other side of the Red Sea to get to the Land of Midian? _____
2. ___Yes ___No In Exodus 2:15, do you read of any conversation between Moses and God about this sudden trip into the wilderness?
3. ___Yes ___No In Exodus 3:1, does it say that God lost track of Moses and did not know where he went?
4. ___Yes ___No Is it safe to assume that Moses may not have known where he was going (he was fleeing), but God knew where he was going (He was guiding)?
5. After possibly a 1-2 week walk:
 - a. Genesis 2:15 What country did he end up in? _____
 - b. Genesis 2:16 Who did he meet first? _____
6. The father of these daughters was named "Reuel" in Gen. 2:18, and "Jethro" in 3:1. What two jobs did he have?
 - a. Genesis 2:16 _____
 - b. Genesis 3:1 _____
7. What did Moses choose to do next? (Gen. 2:21-22) _____

OK, YOU SAY, "Who cares about this man, Jethro". OK, I'LL TELL YOU.

IT IS POSSIBLE THAT OUR FATHER OF THE HOUR (JEHONADAB) WAS RELATED TO JETHRO.

CATCH UP ON THE HISTORY

- Moses goes to deliver Israel from Egypt. He takes his family with him. (Ex. 4:20)
- On the way to Egypt, God punishes Moses for not circumcising his younger son. (Ex. 4:24-25)
- Moses sent his wife & boys back to Midian before they reached Egypt. (Ex. 18:2)
- Moses delivers Israel from Egypt & heads back to Mt. Sinai area (Ex 12:37).
- Jethro brought Moses' family back to the Mt. Sinai camp. (Ex. 18:1-3)

8. What had Jethro heard while Moses was away on his Egyptian trip? (Ex. 18:2)

9. Yes No Was the news he heard true? (Ex. 18:8)

10. What decision did Jethro make after hearing all this good news? (Ex. 18:11)

WHO IS THIS GUY, JETHRO?

1. He was from the ancient tribe of: (Judges 1:16)

Navajo Kenites Judah Ephraim Cherokee Gad

2. He was also the _____ of an area in the Land of Midian. (Ex. 3:1)

3. We already know he became the _____ - _____ of Moses. (Ex. 3:1)

4. Obviously, you picked "Kenites" for question #1. Who are these people? (Gen. 15:18-21)

a. Yes No They came from Jupiter in 1899.

b. Yes No They lived in the land that God gave Abraham's descendants.

c. Yes No The first elected Canaanite senator came from the Kenites.

Let's Review.

- See Map C. God gave Abraham all of that land.
- The Kenites lived in this land (box at the bottom)
- Moses met Jethro either near Midian or in Midian.
- Moses sent his family back to Jethro while in Egypt.
- Jethro became a believer when Moses returned.
- Moses invited the Kenites to travel with them.
- They received the good & bad with the tribe of Judah.

5. How did the Kenites treat the Jews when they first came out of Egypt? (1 Sam. 15:6)

Jeremiah 35:6-11 - The Rechabites (same as Kenites) said to Jeremiah, "We do not drink wine because our father, **Jehonadab**, told us never to do it. We have not settled down into the sinful lifestyle of Canaan; our father, **Jehonadab**, told us never to do that.

6. While Judah & the other tribes of Israel were living sinful lives, how were the Kenites doing?

7. Yes No Was God pleased with these foreigners living with His people? (Jer. 35:16)

8. How did Jehonadab get along with Israel's king (Jehu) (2 Kings 10:15-17)



9. How did the Kenites get along with King David years before? (1 Sam. 27:10; 30:26)
- True False King David painted their fences every second year.
 - True False He shared gifts with the Kenites from time to time.
 - True False King David defended the Kenites on occasion.
 - True False The Kenites could not stand King David & his snippy Jews.

THE CHECKLIST OF FATHERHOOD (This is what Jehonadab did.)

↓ Fill in

Father Quality	Did My Father?	Did Your Father?	Verses
Very supportive of our family	Yes		Ex. 18:6-7
Interested in things about God (spiritual stuff)	No		Ex. 18:8
Glad for any good that God had done	No		Ex. 18:9
Honor or recognize God out loud in front of us	No		Ex. 18:10
Accepted God above all other gods & religions	No		Ex. 18:11
Supported & traveled (helped) with his/our friends	No		Num. 10:32-33
Supported government leaders in whatever way possible	Served in military		2 Kings 10:15-17
Was recognized & respected by others	In service/at work		2 Kings 10:15-17
Fought & stood against evil & all our potential enemies	In service		Judges 4:21
Did not drink nor allow drinking in family all their lives	No		Jer. 35:8
Did not settle into the subtle & evil lifestyle	Tried		Jer. 35:10
Obedied the instructions & leadership of their fathers	Tried		Jer. 35:10

Jeremiah 36:15-16 - God said to Israel, "You have not listened to Me nor obeyed Me. However, the sons of Jehonadab have obeyed him (and all the ancestors)".

Jeremiah 35:18 - God said to Jehonadab's family, "Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jehonadab your father everyone in your family will stand in service before Me forever."

10. Yes No Do you think God honored these people (Kenites) through the years?
11. What do you think "being honored by God" means?

LOOK IN THE FAMILY HALLWAY MIRROR

- Yes No Was your father supportive of your family through the years?
- Yes No Have you been supportive of your family?
- Yes No Did your father accept God as his Savior (became a believer)?
- Yes No Have you accepted God as your Savior (become a believer)?
- Yes No Was your father glad for the good things God did?
- Yes No Are you glad for the good things that God has done in you?
- Yes No Did your father settle for the evil lifestyle everyone else lived?
- Yes No Have you settled for the evil lifestyle everyone else is living?

LET'S LOOK IN THE APOSTLE PAUL'S MIRROR

1 Tim. 1:12-14 - I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. ¹³ Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴ The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

- Saul (Paul's name before) was a nasty guy: a blasphemer, a persecutor, a violent man.
- When we don't know the answers, we go on the attack to protect ourselves:
 - Blaspheme = God is a worthless loser; I will hurt Him any way I can.
 - Persecutor = Everybody around me is a loser; I will hurt them any way I can.
 - Violent = I am a loser; I will hurt myself any way I can.

1. "I was shown _____." (God is not going to give me what I deserve (punishment).)
2. "Jesus has given me _____." (He needed this because he was weak).
3. He considered me _____." (He needed this because he felt worthless).
4. He appointed me to _____. (He needed this to have purpose.)

WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE HERE?

- I dishonored God with my habits, my words, and my actions.
- That behavior dishonored my parents, my family, and our future.
- God honored me with an opportunity to serve Him; a second chance is an honor.
- God's mercy = Not giving me what I do deserve
- God's grace = Giving me what I don't deserve.



I don't know how to tell you this, son.

- a. I don't want you to drink; but, I drank as a boy.
- b. I don't want you to do sex until you are married; yes, I did.
- c. I don't want you to use drugs; I was arrested selling drugs.
- d. Please don't hurt others; I'm afraid I did.
- e. When I was 37, I gave my rebellious heart to God; He took it and saved me.
- f. I am still ashamed of the lousy example I have been to you. I need two things:
 - (1). Will you forgive me for the time I have wasted in both of our lives?
 - (2). Will you love me again? My love for me got in the way of loving you.

BACK TO JEHONADAB AND YOU

5. Jehonadab's ancestor gave his life & heart to God. Maybe, your dad never did. Tell me about you. _____
6. Jehonadab had the courage to live an example to his kids, and then to expect them to honor him by doing the same. Tell me about you.

7. Jehonadab was a sinner like the rest of us. I would imagine there were times he had to confess and apologize to the family. Tell me about you.

8. It appears that Jehonadab had earned the respect from those around him. Tell me about you. _____
9. God told Jehonadab's family that He loved them, honored them, and would use them in the future. ___Yes ___No Is that what you want?

A Parting Shot at You

- Philippians 1:6** *God, Who has begun a good work in you, is completing that work from now until when He returns. [That work includes what you need to lead your family.]*
- Jeremiah 29:11-14** *God said, "I know the plans that I have for you, plans of peace & not evil, to give you a future and a hope. With that in mind, talk to Me; I will listen. Search for Me; you will find me. I will bring you back". [This can happen inside or outside the prison fence.]*
- Jonah 3:1** *[After Jonah ran from God, refused to obey Him, and put other people at risk]. GOD SPOKE TO JONAH A SECOND TIME ..."*

A SECOND CHANCE - THIS IS THE BEST NEWS I COULD EVER SHARE WITH YOU.