

This whole chapter focuses on the tribe of Benjamin from which descended Saul (v33), the first king of Israel. As noted in the previous chapter, this tribe was almost wiped out as detailed in Judges 19-21.

JFB notes: "There were more returned from Babylon of the families belonging to this tribe than to any other except Judah...."

The NIV Commentary adds this: "Chronicles elaborates on this material, not simply because of the significance of King Saul and his family, as it continued a dozen generations after him, but primarily because of the importance of Benjamin as a tribe, which ranked second only to Judah in postexilic society...."

Regarding Jonathan's son, Meribbaal (v34), Clarke notes: "The same as *Mephibosheth*; for, as the Israelites detested *Baal*, which signifies *lord*, they changed it into *bosheth*, which signifies *shame* or *reproach*."

I have no further comments.

**1Chronicles 8:1** ¶ Now Benjamin begat Bela his firstborn, Ashbel the second, and Aharah the third,

**1Chronicles 8:2** Nohah the fourth, and Rapha the fifth.

**1Chronicles 8:3** And the sons of Bela were, Addar, and Gera, and Abihud,

**1Chronicles 8:4** And Abishua, and Naaman, and Ahoah,

**1Chronicles 8:5** And Gera, and Shephuphan, and Huram.

**1Chronicles 8:6** And these *are* the sons of Ehud: these are the heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Geba, and they removed them to Manahath:

**1Chronicles 8:7** And Naaman, and Ahiah, and Gera, he removed them, and begat Uzza, and Ahihud.

**1Chronicles 8:8** And Shaharaim begat *children* in the country of Moab, after he had sent them away; Hushim and Baara *were* his wives.

**1Chronicles 8:9** And he begat of Hodesh his wife, Jobab, and Zibia, and Mesha, and Malcham,

**1Chronicles 8:10** And Jeuz, and Shachia, and Mirma. These *were* his sons, heads of the fathers.

**1Chronicles 8:11** And of Hushim he begat Abitub, and Elpaal.

**1Chronicles 8:12** The sons of Elpaal; Eber, and Misham, and Shamed, who built Ono, and Lod, with the towns thereof:

**1Chronicles 8:13** Beriah also, and Shema, who *were* heads of the fathers of the inhabitants of Aijalon, who drove away the inhabitants of Gath:

**1Chronicles 8:14** And Ahio, Shashak, and Jeremoth,

**1Chronicles 8:15** And Zebadiah, and Arad, and Ader,

**1Chronicles 8:16** And Michael, and Ispah, and Joha, the sons of Beriah;

**1Chronicles 8:17** And Zebadiah, and Meshullam, and Hezeki, and Heber,

**1Chronicles 8:18** Ishmerai also, and Jezliah, and Jobab, the sons of Elpaal;

**1Chronicles 8:19** And Jakim, and Zichri, and Zabdi,

**1Chronicles 8:20** And Elienai, and Zilthai, and Eliel,

**1Chronicles 8:21** And Adaiah, and Beraiah, and Shimrath, the sons of Shimhi;

**1Chronicles 8:22** And Ishpan, and Heber, and Eliel,

**1Chronicles 8:23** And Abdon, and Zichri, and Hanan,

**1Chronicles 8:24** And Hananiah, and Elam, and Antothijah,  
**1Chronicles 8:25** And Iphedeiah, and Penuel, the sons of Shashak;  
**1Chronicles 8:26** And Shamsherai, and Shehariah, and Athaliah,  
**1Chronicles 8:27** And Jaresiah, and Eliah, and Zichri, the sons of Jeroham.  
**1Chronicles 8:28** These *were* heads of the fathers, by their generations, chief *men*. These dwelt in Jerusalem.  
**1Chronicles 8:29** And at Gibeon dwelt the father of Gibeon; whose wife's name *was* Maachah:  
**1Chronicles 8:30** And his firstborn son Abdon, and Zur, and Kish, and Baal, and Nadab,  
**1Chronicles 8:31** And Gedor, and Ahio, and Zacher.  
**1Chronicles 8:32** And Mikloth begat Shimeah. And these also dwelt with their brethren in Jerusalem, over against them.  
**1Chronicles 8:33** ¶ And Ner begat Kish, and Kish begat Saul, and Saul begat Jonathan, and Malchishua, and Abinadab, and Eshbaal.  
**1Chronicles 8:34** And the son of Jonathan *was* Meribbaal; and Meribbaal begat Micah.  
**1Chronicles 8:35** And the sons of Micah *were*, Pithon, and Melech, and Tarea, and Ahaz.  
**1Chronicles 8:36** And Ahaz begat Jehoadah; and Jehoadah begat Alemeth, and Azmaveth, and Zimri; and Zimri begat Moza,  
**1Chronicles 8:37** And Moza begat Binea: Rapha *was* his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son:  
**1Chronicles 8:38** And Azel had six sons, whose names *are* these, Azrikam, Bocheru, and Ishmael, and Sheariah, and Obadiah, and Hanan. All these *were* the sons of Azel.  
**1Chronicles 8:39** And the sons of Eshek his brother *were*, Ulam his firstborn, Jehush the second, and Eliphelet the third.  
**1Chronicles 8:40** And the sons of Ulam were mighty men of valour, archers, and had many sons, and sons' sons, an hundred and fifty. All these *are* of the sons of Benjamin.