

to the extreme north. Jacob said that each of Joseph's two sons would be counted as ~~his~~ one of his sons, and we ~~never~~ rarely find ~~no~~ mention of a tribe of Joseph; generally, instead, the tribe of Ephraim, and the tribe of Manasseh. ~~The~~ Thus the Levites were scattered throughout the tribes as representing God, and were not given a division in the division of the land among the twelve tribes. However, in mentions of the tribes at various places in the Scripture quite frequently the tribe of Levi is mentioned as one of the tribes. Then in order to keep the number down to twelve one of the others is omitted, and the one omitted is different in different listings. Some ingenuity has been wasted on trying to decide why a certain tribe should have been omitted in a certain list; the fact is, of course, that the tribes ~~never~~ were mixed together to quite an extent. The world, the universe, as God as ~~has~~ made it, does not divide up into the neat little watertight compartments that seem so desirable to so many of us. I was thinking even about the states of the United States. If we were to plan a country we might make them all square or rectangular. In this case there would be more than 40 places where ~~a~~ four states would come together. Actually, as the states have developed, there is only one place in the country where four states meet at one point. The states are all different in shape from one another. Every continent is different in shape from every other continent. If you take the length of them, the month, that is the ~~length of~~ time it takes ~~for~~ the moon to go around ~~the~~ the earth, it cannot be divided exactly by days. The same is true of a year, the time it takes the earth to go around the sun. It cannot be divided exactly into days or into months. God has made all of these so that they ~~are~~ are distinct from each other. The relationship between the diameter and the circumference of ~~circle~~ a circle/cannot be expressed in a simple fraction or a simple decimal. It has been figured out (calculated) by scientists to as much as 100 decimal points (places beyond the decimal point), and still they would (could) go on indefinitely. Neither life nor the universe, as God made them, divides into the simple little neat packets that we might think natural.