

of Israel. There were many from outside who became part of the people of Israel. But what is said to Hobab here is that the promises made by Moses, he said- says, What the Lord will do for us, the same we will do to thee. He doesn't say the Lord will do it. He says We will do it. We will share with you the good things that God gives us. Now we could not tell from this passage in Numbers whether Hobab stuck by his original intention of going back to his home in the wilderness or whether he went on with the people. We could not tell it from that, but we find over in Judges 4:11 we find there ~~there~~ the statement that when Barak was fleeing -- when Sisera was fleeing after Barak had destroyed most of his army: Now Heber, the Kenite, who was of the children of Hobab, the father-in-law of Moses, had severed himself from the Kenites, and pitched his tent in the plain of Zaanaim which is by Kedesh." He was not considered one of the Israelites. He was a separate group from them with which they shared some of the blessings that God gave them, but which they did not consider as a part of the people of Israel. And the Kenites are mentioned also in the very beginning of the Book of Judges, in Judges 1:16, we read, "And the children of the Kenite, Moses' father-in-law, went up out of the city of palm trees with the children of Judah into the wilderness of Judah, which lieth in the south of Arad; and they went and dwelt among the people." There are many other references -- not many, but maybe a dozen other references to the Kenite who had ~~had~~ evidently seemed to be a people which were all, or at least many of them the descendants of this Hobab. They are separate from the Israelites clear to the end ~~of~~ of their history. We have to think then that Moses' relation with Jethro his father-in-law was a relation with one who had become a true believer, one who was a partaker of the blessings that God gave but who did not stay with them but who went back into the wilderness, but that Hobab it would seem that his descendants while they were well treated by the Israelites, and they continued to live among them in the land there for a long ~~of~~ time, they were not given land as part of the Israelites, they were not treated as part of the group. They wandered about in the land doing various services for which they were paid by the Israelites. So that I think that we are wise, we are right in considering that here they are dealing with one who