



# THE TRIBE SCRIBE

MATOT-MASEI: REVERSE ORDER!



IN THIS WEEK'S PARASHA OF MATOT, THE JEWISH PEOPLE HAD REACHED THE PLAINS OF MOAV AND ENTERING THE LAND OF ISRAEL WAS JUST AROUND THE CORNER.

MOSHE, OUR TRIBES OF REUVEN AND GAD HAVE MANY ANIMALS, AND THE LAND OVER HERE IS EXCELLENT FOR GRAZING CATTLE. HOW ABOUT WE STAY HERE IN JORDAN WHERE THE LAND IS PERFECT FOR PASTURE?



THIS IS WHAT WE WANT TO DO. WE WANT TO BUILD SHEEP PENS FOR OUR ANIMALS HERE AND TOWNS FOR OUR CHILDREN.

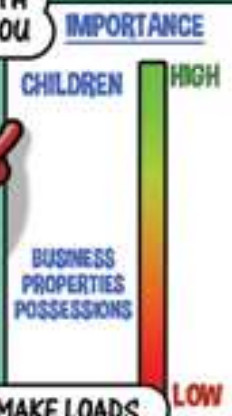
THEN WE WILL ARM OURSELVES QUICKLY AND FIGHT ON THE FRONT LINE WITH THE REST OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. WE WON'T RETURN HOME UNTIL THE LAND IS CONQUERED.



ALL RIGHT, BUILD TOWNS FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND PENS FOR YOUR SHEEP. MAKE SURE YOU KEEP YOUR WORD!

DID YOU NOTICE WHAT MOSHE DID THERE? HE REVERSED THE ORDER OF THEIR REQUEST! THE TRIBES OF REUVEN AND GAD SAID THEY WANTED TO SORT OUT THEIR ANIMALS AND THEN THEIR CHILDREN. WHEN RESPONDING TO THEM, MOSHE FIRST MENTIONED THE CHILDREN AND THEN THE ANIMALS.

MOSHE'S MESSAGE WAS VERY CLEAR - KIDS COME FIRST! IT'S ALL ABOUT PRIORITIES. FIRST DEAL WITH THE NEEDS OF YOUR CHILDREN AND AFTER THAT YOU CAN LOOK AFTER YOUR ASSETS.



1. CHILDREN
2. ANIMALS



SOMETIMES PEOPLE ARE DRIVEN TO MAKE LOADS OF MONEY, PUTTING ALL THEIR TIME AND ENERGY INTO THEIR BUSINESS, PROPERTIES AND POSSESSIONS. MOSHE REMINDS US, CHILDREN ARE PRICELESS AND THEY COME FIRST!