

THE TRIBE SCRIBE

Run to Safety!

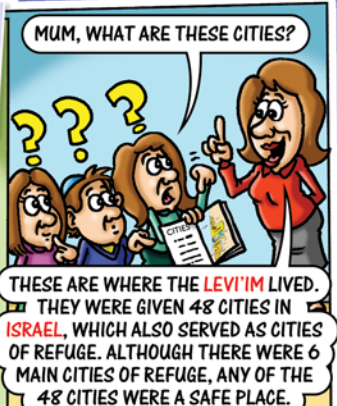
The **Land of Israel** was finally divided amongst the **12 tribes**, and God instructed **Yehoshua** to continue **Moshe's** (Moses') work of making cities for the **Levi'im** (Levites).



Yehoshua reads from a scroll left by **Moshe** which reads, 'Dear **Yehoshua**, I have set up 3 of the 6 safe cities east of the **River Jordan**, as **God** commanded me.'



MOSHE BEGAN THIS WORK, NOW I MUST FINISH IT AND BUILD THE 3 REMAINING CITIES.



MUM, WHAT ARE THESE CITIES?

THESE ARE WHERE THE **LEVI'IM** LIVED. THEY WERE GIVEN 48 CITIES IN **ISRAEL**, WHICH ALSO SERVED AS CITIES OF REFUGE. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE 6 MAIN CITIES OF REFUGE, ANY OF THE 48 CITIES WERE A SAFE PLACE.



WHAT IS A CITY OF REFUGE?!

NO, NOT REFUSE, BUT REFUGE, AND IT WAS A PLACE FOR SOMEONE TO RUN, IF THEY HAD KILLED SOMEONE BY MISTAKE. JUST IN CASE THEIR RELATIVES WANTED TO TAKE REVENGE!



EVERYONE DESERVES A PLACE TO FEEL SAFE.

...AND WHEN THEY WERE SAFELY IN THE CITY, THE JUDGES COULD TAKE THEIR TIME TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED.



SO HOW EXACTLY DID IT WORK?

WELL, FOR EXAMPLE; 2 FRIENDS ARE GOING INTO THE FOREST TOGETHER TO CHOP WOOD. UNFORTUNATELY, ONE OF THEIR AXE HEADS FLIES OFF THE HANDLE AND BY MISTAKE KILLS THE OTHER ONE.



THEN THE ACCIDENTAL KILLER, REALISING WHAT HE'S DONE, RUNS TO THE NEAREST CITY OF THE **LEVI'IM**, ALSO KNOWN AS AN **IR MIKLAT**, OR CITY OF REFUGE.



BUT WHAT IF HE COULDN'T FIND THE WAY, OR GOT LOST?



GOOD QUESTION! THERE WOULD BE CLEAR SIGN-POSTS EVERYWHERE, DIRECTING HIM TO THE NEAREST CITY OF REFUGE.

THESE CITIES TEACH US TO BE FAIR TO EVERYONE AND GIVE PEOPLE A SAFE OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD, JUST AS **MOSHE** TAUGHT US IN THE PAST!