

Mount Gerizim



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- A high mountain in the promised land, separated from Mount Ebal by the valley of Shechem. It is 2,800 feet above sea level.
 - Upon Mount Gerizim, the blessings of Israel were pronounced, and on Mount Ebal, the curses were pronounced. **Deuteronomy 11:29; 27:9-13; Joshua 8:30-35**
 - **Joshua 8:33-34** – “Then all Israel, with their elders and officers and judges, stood on either side of the ark before the priests, the Levites, who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD, the stranger as well as he who was born among them. Half of them were in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel. And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and the cursings, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law.”
 - During the pronouncement of the blessings and curses, six of the tribes were to stand on Mount Gerizim and six on Mount Ebal. The six on Mount Gerizim were:
 - Simeon
 - Levi
 - Judah
 - Issachar
 - Joseph
 - Benjamin
 - Jothan spoke his parable to the men of Shechem from the top of Mount Gerizim. **Judges 9:7-21**

- Mount Gerizim has been the spiritual and visible center of Samaritan worship since the beginning of the schism when the Jews returned from Babylonian captivity and refused to allow the Samaritans to have anything to do with the rebuilding of the temple in Jerusalem. Thus, the Samaritans built a rival temple on Mount Gerizim where they continue to celebrate the Passover feast.
- This is thought to be the mountain referred to by the woman of Samaria as she spoke with Jesus at Jacob's well. The well is 7½ feet in circumference and is between 90 and 100' deep. **John 4**
- Mount Gerizim is still to the Samaritans what Jerusalem is to the Jews.

