

BIB 211 History of Israel I

Lesson 2 - Joshua in the occupation and settlement of the land

Intro. Only after the land has been conquered, occupied, and settled can we expect the rest that was promised. The children of Israel attempted to settle a land without victory, which is called compromise. It is useless to occupy the domain God has given the church until there has been a absolute surrender to the Lord and a learning of the walk of faith. At that point it will be easy to discern the gifts God has given to the individual. I Cor. 12:4-11

1. The Division of the Land (13-19)

Note: 13:1 much land to be possessed. Though there is dominion the enemy has retreated back into strongholds which must be subdued which is a great picture of continued sanctification in the Christian life. If not finally subdued they will cause major problems down the road. In Iraq we quickly defeated Saddam and his military but there is much work to do to subdue and settle the newly conquered territory.

Note: They conquered the land militarily but will occupy through individual battles - It is like moving into a new house. You have much help moving you into the house. However, after they leave you have much work to do to be settled.

- A. Description of land and the inheritance of the two and a half tribes (13)
- B. Some proactively requested their inheritance - Judah/Caleb/Othniel (14-15)
- C. Some received double - Joseph/Ephraim/Manasseh/Zelophehad (16-17)
- D. Seven tribes left it to chance - 3 from each tribe to survey/cast lots (18-19)

Note: how will you claim your inheritance? Proactively or through chance?

Note: Great picture of sin not having dominion and we must mortify our flesh with affections and lusts. Christ has given us dominion militarily we must finish the task of mortification of the enemy within. John Owen stated that is matters not how strong the castle if the enemy is allowed to reside within he will soon rally and attempt an overthrow.

2. The Cities of Refuge (20) necessary aspect of settlement and fair gov't and a great picture of Christ on Calvary as High Priest

- 3. 6 cities - three on each side of Jordan spread North, Central, and South
- 4. They were cities given to the Levites
- 5. The Levites Portion (21) this was necessary to maintain the worship of Jehovah
- 6. they were not given a land they were given the cities with their suburbs
- 7. 48 cities out of the tribes to the sons of Levi: Aaron, Kohath, Gershon, Merari

Note: "Ye are an holy nation a royal priesthood" no inheritance on this earth, the Lord is your inheritance Nu 18:20, Dt. 10:9 18:2 Josh. 18:7

4. The Altar at Jordan (22)

- 5. the 2 and a half tribes return and set up altar to be a witness of their relationship

6. wasn't for sacrifice

Note: it is not outward symbols that make for relationship but inward possession

Note: what ultimately happened to children of Gad and raising swine in Luke 5

5. Farewell of Joshua (23,24)

6. warning about departing from God, failing to separate from other nations and their gods (23) applies to the Christian
7. reflection on the journey with the Lord and a challenge to serve and follow Jehovah (24) counting the cost
8. death and burial

Conclusion

Lessons for occupation (victory over sin) and settlement (fulfilling the ministry you have received of the Lord) after absolute surrender; building an inheritance in the kingdom.

Comparison with the NT book of Ephesians

Joshua 24:31 and Judges 2:6-10