
Joshua Chapter 12

- Sometimes people get frustrated when trying to read their Bibles because it is not always written in exact chronological order.
 - Often times, as is the case with part of our text this morning, the Bible will cover in a somewhat general way various events, the cities and territories that were conquered which is more of an overview of the story.
 - Then in following chapters the Bible will fill in the details of what we just read about, so in a sense we read the same thing twice, just worded a little differently with more detail added in the 2nd time. Repetition being a time honored form of instruction.
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- **Chapter 12** is a review of the land that has already been conquered starting on the East side of the Jordan River and ending with the West side of the Jordan, or the promised land which we have previously studied through.

V: 24

- 31 kings and kingdoms conquered.

Deuteronomy 7:24 “And He shall deliver their kings into thine hand, and thou shalt destroy their name from under heaven: there shall no man be able to stand before thee, until thou have destroyed them.”

Joshua Chapter 13

V: 1 To be old is one thing, that just means you're old – but to be stricken in years means that the years have taken their toll. Failing eye sight, hair falling out, teeth falling out, not moving quite so quickly physically or mentally...

- There remains much land to be taken, to be possessed.
- The children of Israel went through and conquered the larger cities and their kings, but there was still much of the land in between to take control of and remove the people.

V: 2-6 Describing the coastal plains, which were still controlled by the Canaanites: the Philistines, etc.

V: 6 God says He will drive out these inhabitants – just give each tribe their inheritance as God has commanded.

V: 7-12 Describes again the inheritance of Reuben, Gad, and the ½ tribe of Manasseh on the East side of the Jordan, an over view.

V: 13 Highlights that fact that they didn't expel all the inhabitants of the land as God had commanded.

V: 14 Points out that the Levites did not receive an inheritance in the form of land; but that the Lord Himself and the sacrifices were their inheritance.

Psalm 73:26 "My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever."

V: 15-33 Details again the inheritance of Reuben, Gad, and ½ tribe of Manasseh.

V: 22 Special mention of the fact that they slew Balaam who caused the children of Israel to sin.

Joshua Chapter 14

V: 1-5 Begins to describe the inheritance of the other 9 ½ tribes on the West side of the Jordan in the land of Canaan.

- Their inheritance was by lot drawn out by Joshua, Eleazar the High Priest, and the heads of the tribes.
- Again the Levites didn't receive a tract of land, but they did receive specific cities later referred to as "Levitical" cities along with their suburbs, the land just around it for their cattle and so on.

V: 6-15 Caleb is given his inheritance.

- He wants the place where his feet walked, he wants Hebron, he wants to kick the Anakim out of "his property".
- 85 years old, but not stricken in years...

Genesis 13:18 "Then Abram removed his tent, and came and dwelt in the plain of Mamre, which is in Hebron, and built there an altar unto the Lord."

- Abram is worshipping God; he's living between Mamre which means "richness" and Hebron, which means "communion" – living, worshipping between "richness" & "communion" with God.
- I can see why Caleb wanted it. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are all buried there in the cave of Machpelah.

Joshua Chapter 15

V: 1-12 The Lot, the inheritance of the children of Judah:

- South to the Wilderness of Zin, Kadesh-Barnea, the river of Egypt.
- East to the Salt Sea / Dead Sea.
- North to the Valley of Hinnom, right at Jerusalem.
- East to the “great sea”.

V: 13-14 Caleb takes Arba, later known as Hebron. Caleb takes it from Anak – of the Anakim, defeating the 3 sons of Anak in the process.

V: 15-19 Caleb sets out to conquer Debir / Kirjath-sepher.

- Caleb offers the reward that whoever takes the city will have his daughter as a wife.
- Caleb’s nephew Othniel takes the city and is given Achsah, Caleb’s daughter to be his wife.
- Achsah then asks her father for a gift, he not only gives her the field, but the upper and lower springs as well.

[We see a typology here in Caleb:](#)

1. When Joshua who is a type of Jesus first came to the promised land – he was accompanied by Caleb, a type of the Holy Spirit.
2. Caleb raised his daughter Achsah, preparing a bride that he eventually gave away to the one who would overcome and conquer.
3. The Holy Spirit is preparing the bride for the groom who is victorious over sin, death, and the world.
4. Who got the bride? Othniel: “God is powerful”. The city of Kir-jath-sepher was later re-named Debir, which means “back” or “back room” which was eventually the name used for the “back room” of the temple or the Holy of Holies. So the one who was able to enter into the Holy of Holies victoriously got the bride.
5. Caleb gave not only a field, gifts for the bride and groom, but also the upper and lower springs – from which flowed living water.

V: 20-62 Describes the specific areas that the various families within the tribe of Judah receive: all the cities and their villages.

V: 63 There was still a stronghold in their midst, they couldn’t drive the Jebusites out of Jerusalem – not until the reign of King David.

- This was and has been a repeated notation and sadly this is the seed of corruption. We’ll find as we get into the book of judges that their failure to take all the land, failing to eradicate all the inhabitants leads to their own corruption to

eventually their being punished by God and being conquered by those they refused to deal with in the beginning.

1 Corinthians 15:33 “Be not deceived: evil communications / company corrupt good manners / habits.”

Joshua Chapter 16

V: 1 The lot or inheritance that fell to the children of Joseph through Ephraim & Manasseh.

Genesis 48:5 “And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.”

- This amounts to a double blessing for Joseph
Genesis 48:14 “And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim’s head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh’s head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn.”
- This chapter describes the portion that fell specifically to Ephraim.

V: 10 They weren’t able to drive out the Canaanites either, they were able to put them under tribute, not they weren’t completely rid of them.

Joshua Chapter 17

V: 1 The inheritance given to Manasseh:

V: 3-6 Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah: Their father Zelophehad had no sons, so a special provision was made for these women to receive a portion of the inheritance that the name of their father would not disappear from Israel.

V: 7-18 Continues with a detailed description of the inheritance to the ½ tribe of Manasseh on the West side of the Jordan.

V: 12-13 The notation that they could not drive out the inhabitants of the land so they put them to tribute.

V: 14-18 The children of Manasseh complained that their lot was too small for such a great tribe. Joshua tells them if that be the case go out and get more – go to the mountain, the forests, cut down the trees, drive out the giants with their chariots.

- Put up or shut up!

Joshua Chapter 18

V: 1 The Tabernacle is set up in Shiloh, which is within the territory of Ephraim.

- The whole congregation gathers at Shiloh.
- The camp moves from Gilgal to Shiloh which becomes the capitol of Israel until the days of Samuel.
- The land was subdued before them – generally speaking, no major kingdoms to defeat all the kings having been killed.

V: 2 There were still 7 tribes that had yet to receive their inheritance.

V: 3 Joshua rebukes the 7 remaining tribes; they seemingly had a responsibility to do something toward apprehending their inheritance.

V: 4-10 Joshua devises a plan to survey the remaining land and divide it up.

- He sends men out to accomplish the task, they return to Shiloh and Joshua casts lots for the remaining tribes and their inheritance.

V: 11-28 Describes the inheritance of Benjamin.

Joshua Chapter 19

V: 1-8 The lot of Simeon, which was within the inheritance of Judah.

V: 9 Simeon got this portion because the inheritance for Judah was too much for them.

- The tribe of Simeon doesn't disappear outright, but over time they are pretty much assimilated into the tribe of Judah.
- This is what was prophesied by Jacob as he pronounced blessings upon his sons:

Genesis 49:5-7 ⁵Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations. ⁶O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their self will they digged down a wall. ⁷Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel."

V: 10-16 Describes the inheritance of Zebulun.

V: 17-23 The inheritance of Issachar.

V: 24-31 The land of Asher.

V: 32-39 The land of Naphtali.

- The region of Galilee.

Isaiah 9:2 “The people that walking darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.”

V: 40-48 The final lot, the inheritance of the tribe of Dan.

- The tribe of Dan couldn't subdue the Canaanites, they looked for an easier place to live and eventually migrated to the North – where they were the first to fall into idolatry, and the first to be conquered by the Assyrians and the Babylonians.

V: 47 Their inheritance wasn't big enough so they expanded.

V: 49-50 Joshua receives an inheritance, Timnathserah.

V: 51 Conclusion: “... so they made an end of dividing the country.”

- This is all a fulfillment of God's Word, the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob now as numerous as the sand on the sea shore, like the stars in the sky are receiving all the land promised to them.

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”