



Sermon Series: Joshua: Power of God
Sermon Title: God is Our True Inheritance
Scripture: Joshua 13
Pastor Chris Fritz
Sunday, May 31, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Preparing the Nation (1-5)
Defeating the Enemy (6-12)
Claiming the Inheritance (13-21)
Renewing the Covenant (22-24)

Note: It will help us if we can begin to see these chapters - this land distribution - the way that the Nation of Israel would have seen it!

I. TAKE HOLD OF YOUR INHERITANCE

A. General Overview:

Verses 1-7: Joshua is now old and there's still a lot of work left to do.

Verses 8-13: Two and a half tribes would receive their inheritance east of the Jordan River, and yet, sadly, they would fail to fully possess their inheritance.

Note: Verse 13 is both an accusation (against these tribes) and a warning (to us).

Verses 14: The tribe of Levi would not receive land as part of their inheritance.

Verses 15-23: The details of Reuben's inheritance brings to mind the past faithfulness of God and the foolishness of opposing Him.

"This is the biblical prescription for faith; faith finds both steadfastness and expectancy by rehearsing and reveling in Yahweh's past acts of faithfulness." (Dale Ralph Davis)

Verses 24-28: The details of Gad's inheritance are included with great precision!

Verses 29-31: The details of Eastern Manasseh's inheritance is also included here and reminds us of the sovereign grace and generosity of God.

Note: The word "inheritance" is found over 50 times in Joshua chapters 13-21.

Verses 32-33: Once again it is emphasized that the Tribe of Levi would not receive land as their inheritance because God was to be their inheritance.

"I cry to You, O Lord; I say, 'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.'" (Psalm 142:5)

"The Lord is my portion, ' says my soul, 'therefore I will hope in Him.' The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him." (Lamentations 3:24-25)

B. Three Humbling and Encouraging Take-Away Truths:

GRACE: Your inheritance is freely given to you in Christ by God Himself.

GRASP: Allow God's grace to motivate you to aggressive and tenacious obedience.

GOD: Never forget that God Himself is the greatest gift, the most glorious aspect of your inheritance.

"Trust is not a passive state of mind. It is a vigorous act of the soul by which we choose to lay hold on the promises of God and cling to them despite the adversity that at times seeks to overwhelm us." (Jerry Bridges)

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

1. Why is it difficult to read and study sections of the Bible, like Joshua chapters 13-21?
2. Why would these chapters have been exciting for the Israelites to read and study?
3. Why does this chapter begin by emphasizing Joshua's age?
4. How is Joshua 13:13 a rebuke to the Israelites and a warning to us?
5. Why didn't the Levites receive land as their inheritance? What was their inheritance?
6. What is trust? Why is it not merely a passive thing?
7. Can you make a list of the inheritance that God gives to those who are in Christ?