

**Sermon Series:***“Power of God”*

**Sermon Title:***“How Long Will You Wait?”*

**Scripture:** Joshua 18-19

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, June 21, 2020

**Introduction:** Blessings become hindrances when we lose sight of God’s purposes.

***Scripture:*** *Matthew 6:33; Ephesians 5:15-17*

1. **Israel’s complacency was the result of prolonged immobilization.** (18:1-2)

***Scripture:*** *Psalm 33:21*

* Misplaced contentment feeds spiritual complacency. *(Matthew 5:6; Psalm 107:1)*
* God does not simply save the believer from hell, but to be eternally satisfied in Christ. *(1 Peter 1:8-9)*

1. **Joshua’s rebuke emphasized Israel’s responsibility.** (18:3-10)

***Scripture:*** *Exodus 10:3; 16:28; Numbers 14:11; Philippians 3:8-14; Hebrews 6:11-12*

* Actively trusting God’s promises leads us where we would not naturally go.

1. **The assignment of Israel’s inheritance affirmed God’s sovereignty & goodness.** (18:11-19:48)

* Trusting God’s sovereign goodness is the antidote for grumbling and complaining. (*Proverbs 16:33, 18:18; Exodus 16:8; Philippians 2:14)*
* God provided a place (belonging) and work (purpose) for each tribe.

1. **Joshua’s Inheritance highlighted God’s faithfulness.** (19:49-41)

***Scripture:*** *Psalms 37:3-5*

* The reward for faith in God’s faithfulness may be delayed, but never denied.

**Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…**

* How might Israel have justified their complacency and immobilization?
* How did Joshua’s solution (v. 4-6) help overcome Israel’s complacency?
* In what ways have you grown content in God’s present blessings leading to complacency?
* How does trusting God’s sovereignty and goodness overcome a complaining spirit? Do you struggle with complaining, either internally or externally?
* What was significant about Joshua receiving his inheritance after everyone else?