

Joshua 15 to 18:10

FIRST DAY: Introduction to Joshua 15–18:10

Have you begun to live in God's Word and take possession of His promises? As you know, the Bible is filled with *exceedingly great and precious promises* through which we become *partakers of the divine nature*. Jesus opened all the promises of God to us by fulfilling the righteous requirement of the law. Through His death on the cross and resurrection, He purchased all of God's promises. It is not enough to see and know them; by faith and prayer, we are to live in and lay hold of God's Word and promises!

In our study this week, the tribes of Israel began to move into the Promised Land and lay claim to the territories allotted to them. There was a difference between the way these tribes took possession of their allotments. While the tribe of Judah took full possession, some tribes failed to fully possess, another was intimidated by the enemy, and seven were slow to even seek out their inheritance. However, both Caleb's daughter, Achsah, and the daughters of Zelophehad were zealous to claim an inheritance in the land.

Use your study this week to measure your own disposition toward God's promises. It is time to know God's Word, seek His blessing through His Word, and live in the promises He has given you through Jesus!

Ask God to make you zealous for His promises.

SECOND DAY: Read Joshua 15

1. Having given Caleb his inheritance first (Joshua 14), Joshua apportioned *the lot of the tribe of the children of Judah*. Skim Joshua 15:1–13 and mark the following key features on the map at the end of this lesson:
 - a. Wilderness of Zin b. Salt Sea c. Kadesh Barnea
 - d. Jerusalem e. Beth Shemesh f. Hebron
2. Joshua 15:13 reiterates the details of Caleb's inheritance. Use Joshua 15:14 to note and comment on how Caleb possessed this land.
3. When Caleb went to face the *inhabitants of Debir* (Kirjath Sepher), what conditional promise did he make? Joshua 15:15–16
 - a. What took place in response to this promise? Joshua 15:17
 - b. Use Judges 3:9–11 to describe Othniel.
4. From Joshua 15:18–19, summarize Achsah's request.

- a. How does her request speak to you?

- b. Link her father's response with Matthew 7:11. What do you see?

- (1) How does this inspire your prayers? See 1 John 5:14–15.

- 5. Recall from Joshua 14:12 that Caleb was bold and acted in faith to claim his inheritance. How do you see Caleb's influence on:
 - a. His nephew (son-in-law) Othniel

 - b. His daughter Achsah

- (1) What influence do you desire to have on those around you?

JOSHUA

6. From Joshua 15:20–62, skim the cities listed which Judah possessed. What do you find interesting about this long list?
7. Describe and comment on Judah's dilemma concerning the Jebusites. Joshua 15:63
 - a. Use 2 Samuel 5:6–10 to note how Jerusalem was eventually conquered.
8. In Joshua 15 we see that, overall, the tribe of Judah was zealous to possess their inheritance. What promise are you zealous to pursue?

THIRD DAY: Read Joshua 16

1. Joshua 16:1–9 records the boundaries of the territory of the children of Joseph, specifically the inheritance of Ephraim. Circle the following key landmarks of their territory on the map at the end of the lesson:
 - a. Jordan River
 - b. Jericho
 - c. Shiloh
 - d. Bethel
 - e. Beth Horon

2. Record the failure of Ephraim from Joshua 16:10.
 - a. Link this with Judges 1:28–29 to document Ephraim’s failure.
 - b. Read Psalm 78:9–11 to remark on why Ephraim was unable to completely drive out the Caananites.
- (1) How is Ephraim’s failure a warning to you?

FOURTH DAY: Read Joshua 17

1. Joshua 17:1–2 lists the male descendants of Manasseh and their inheritance. This is followed by an account of a situation involving the daughters of Zelophehad. Use Joshua 17:3–6 to note and remark on:
 - a. Their predicament (verse 3)
 - b. Their action (verse 4a)
 - c. The command concerning them (verse 4b)

JOSHUA

- (1) Connect this with Numbers 27:1–8 to record your observations.
 - (2) What do you find most admirable about the daughters of Zelophehad?
- d. The decision (verses 4c–6)
- (1) Compare these women with Achsah (Joshua 15:17–19) and share your thoughts.
2. Joshua 17:7–11 describes the *territory of Manasseh*, which you can observe on the map at the end of the lesson. According to Joshua 17:12–13, what did *the children of Manasseh* fail to do?
 - a. Note the attitude of the Canaanites as opposed to Manasseh's complacency. Read Zephaniah 1:12 to comment on the danger of Manasseh's attitude.

3. Joshua 17:14–18 records a dialogue between Joshua and *the children of Joseph*. Use these verses to note and comment on:
 - a. Their complaint (verse 14)
 - b. Joshua's solution (verse 15)
 - c. Their excuse (verse 16)
 - (1) Contrast this with Caleb's attitude in Joshua 14:11–12.
What do you see?
 - (a) What lesson do you receive from this?
 - d. Joshua's exhortation (verses 17–18)
 - (1) Use Joshua 1:5–9 to remark on why Joshua had the authority to speak this way to Manasseh.

4. The Canaanites are a picture of sin that we allow in our lives. From your study today, remark on the attitude needed to possess the promises of God.

FIFTH DAY: Read Joshua 18:1–10

1. In Deuteronomy 12:10–11, God promised to choose a place in Israel where His name would abide. Link this with what happened when *the whole congregation* was gathered together. Joshua 18:1
 - a. What issue did they face? Joshua 18:2
2. As a result, Joshua rebuked *the children of Israel*. What had they neglected to do? Joshua 18:3a
 - a. Observe Joshua 18:3 from the NLT, *Then Joshua asked them, “How long are you going to wait before taking possession of the remaining land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has given to you?”* How does this highlight their neglect? Joshua 18:3b
 - (1) How can you avoid this same neglect?

3. Joshua then proposed a solution to Israel's problem. From Joshua 18:4–7, note and comment on what he commanded concerning:
 - a. Israel's task (verses 4–5a, 6)
 - b. The tribes who had already *received their inheritance* (verses 5b, 7b)
 - c. The Levites (verse 7a)
4. From Joshua 18:8–9, observe and remark on the response of the Israelites to Joshua's command.
 - a. What was the conclusion of the matter? Joshua 18:10

5. As with Israel, the Lord has *given* you a great inheritance in Christ. Read the following Scriptures to record some of the amazing aspects of your inheritance:

a. Acts 26:18

b. Ephesians 1:11

c. Colossians 3:23–24

d. Hebrews 9:15

e. 1 Peter 1:3–5

- (1) Which of the above promises elicits the greatest joy in your heart today?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. From your study this week, share something that stood out to you about:
 - a. Caleb
 - b. Othniel
 - c. Achsah
 - d. The children of Ephraim and Manasseh
 - e. The daughters of Zelophehad
 - f. Joshua
2. Share a way you are possessing God's promises.

