

## ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE AND MOVE ON LESSON 12

**Series Subject: Accept the Challenge and Move On!**

**Lessons 11-16: The Inheritance and Division of the Promised Land Josh. 13:1-21:45**

**Lesson 12: Countries Inherited/Courage and Loyalty Josh. 14:1-15**

**Today's Study: Josh. 14:1-15**

1. Strict Obedience Vv. 1-5
2. Steadfastness Vv. 6-14
3. Significant Reminder v. 15

**Time is available only for a brief discussion of review questions from previous lesson.**

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. Highlights from Lesson 11

Joshua chapter 13 starts the report of the dividing of the land of Canaan among the tribes of Israel and the method required by God for the distribution was the lot system (v. 6).

- (a) The preserving of this distribution would be of great use to the Jewish nation, who was obliged by the law to keep this initial distribution, and not to transfer inheritances from tribe to tribe (see Num. 36:9).
- (b) Although these chapters contained difficult names, they should not be skipped over as being useless, time consuming and not to be regarded.
  - (1) As noted above, they serve as record of the allocation of the lots which were not to be altered (Num. 36:9).
  - (2) They also help us to clarify other Scriptures and shed light on the geographical description of the country.
  - (3) Matthew Henry noted the following:
 

“Where God has a mouth to speak and a hand to write, we should find an ear to hear, and eye to read; and God gives us a heart to profit.”
- (c) Israel waited for many years to inherit the Promised Land but they were highly motivated by their **hope**.
  - (1) The **hope** of receiving the Promised Land kept them going.
  - (2) The **inheritance** was a driving force; it kept them to do good, to faithfully follow God and obey Him.
  - (3) For centuries they kept the promise of the Promised Land in focus, they had nothing but a promise, **a hope of receiving an inheritance**.

- (4) Hope was a major contributing factor to Israel, that kept Israel moving, progressing!!
- (5) At last! For the first time in their history, the Israelites were to become property owners!!
- (d) God reminded Joshua that he was old, there was yet much land to be conquered and he was to go ahead and distribute the Promised Land to the remaining nine tribes and the half tribe, noting that the other two and half tribes were settled on the east side of Jordan (Josh. 13:1-8).
- (e) The military campaigns led by Joshua, resulted in the elimination of the major city-states and thus removed the possibility of any significant resistance being formed by the enemy against the Israelites.
- (f) God promised that He would drive out the remaining enemy occupying the Promised Land (v. 6a).
- (1) The remaining enemy in Canaan were small weaker cities and their elimination were the responsibility of each tribe.
- (2) God did promise to expel these enemies but at the same time Israel had to take the initiative and go up against them.
- (3) **If Israel, through laziness, or fearfulness, or affection to the enemy, if they sit still and let them alone, they would have no one to blame but themselves, and not God, if these remaining enemies of God's righteousness are not driven out.**
- (g) For the people to actually experience such tremendous blessings was possible only because of God! The very thought that the land was their very own and not another was definitely exhilarating and gratifying, to the glory of God.
- (1) Israel was abundantly blessed by God and beloved, all of us are blessed by God and we can join the Psalmist by saying:  
 "What is man that You are mindful of him and the son of [earthborn] man that You care for him?" **(Psa. 8:4 Amplified Bible).**
- (2) I have used the following chorus in other lessons but its worthwhile repeating:  
 When I think of the goodness of Jesus,  
 And what He has done for me,  
 My soul cries out, "Hallelujah!"  
 Praise God for saving me.  
*He not only saves us from eternal damnation but our "salvation package" is one in which God's blessings come in "good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over . . ." (Luke 6:38).*  
**Psa. 31:19 Amplified Bible**  
 Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear, revere, and worship You, goodness which You have wrought for those who trust and take refuge in You before the sons of men!"

- (3) Oh, that others would taste and see that God is good; oh, beloved, there is an **“Abundant Spiritual Supply”** available to ALL who trust in Him!!
- Abundant Joys (Psa. 36:8)
  - Abundant Life (John 10:10)
  - Abundant Grace (2 Cor 9:8)
  - Abundant Power (Eph. 3:20)
  - Abundant Supplies (Phil. 4:19)
  - Abundant Entrance (2 Peter 1:11)
- (h) The account of the distribution of the Promised Land helps to bring to mind a strong symbolism of Jesus Christ our New Testament Joshua. Jesus Christ has conquered for us the gates of hell (**Rev. 1:18**; 2 Tim. 1:10; Heb. 2:14); He has opened the gates of heaven (John 14:6; 10:7-9; Rom. 5:1-2; 10:9-10) and we have the assurance of eternal bliss wherein the former negative experiences are all passed away (1 Cor. 15, NB Vv. 42-58; Rev. 21, NB v. 4; 22).
- (i) The tribes of Reuben, Gad and half tribe of Manasseh were assigned their inheritance on the east side of Jordan based on their request to Moses (Josh. 13:8-32)
- (1) Their request was regarded as an act of compromise because their inheritance was not a part of Canaan.
- One source regarded these tribes as an example of “borderline believers” because they fell short of what was promised to them . . . “The Promised Land.”
  - Another source noted: “The motive of the East Jordan tribes is a picture of selfishness, covetousness and compromise. They became prime examples of borderline believers. . . . . The Jordan River was always to separate them from the tribes who actually lived within the Promised Land. . . . .” (P.O.S.B).
- (2) The following is a listing of a few highlights relating to each of the East Jordan Tribes and the area they occupied.
- **Inheritance of Reuben** (Josh. 13:15-23)
    - Reuben was the first son of Jacob and his mother’s name was Leah (Gen. 29:32); he lost his birthright because of his infidelity (Gen. 49:3-4).
    - Mount Pisgah was located within the lot of the Reubenites.
    - It was from Mount Pisgah that Moses was allowed to view the Promised Land (Deut. 3:27; 34:1-4) and from where he took his journey to heaven
  - **Inheritance of Gad** (Josh. 13:24-28)
    - The tribe of Gad were the descendants of Gad the seventh son of Jacob whose mother was Zilpah, Leah’s handmaid (Gen. 30:11).

- The country of Gilead was located in this lot and they were well known for a rare perfume used for medical purpose from which we derive the term “Balm in Gilead”(Jer. 8:22).
- **Inheritance of the Half Tribe of Manasseh** (Josh. 13:29-32)
  - Manasseh was the first son of Joseph and Asenath (Gen. 41:50-52). The tribes of Manasseh and Epharim were used in lieu of Joseph and the tribe of Levi (*The descendants of Levi served as priests*).
  - The area of this lot was said to be exceedingly fertile and was famous for producing the best timber.
- (j) **The Levites** (Josh. 13:14, 33)
  - (1) The tribe of Levi is one of the tribes of Israel, traditionally descended from Levi, the third son of Jacob, his mother was Leah (Gen. 29:34); the descendants of Aaron who was the first High priest of Israel.
  - (2) When Israel was allocated their inheritance, the Levites were not given their own inheritance.
  - (3) As noted in Josh. 13:14, 33, the Levites were to receive a very special inheritance, the inheritance of the LORD Himself. (*If necessary, review the brief notes on the Levites in our previous lesson*).

## 2. Introduction to Josh. 14:1-15

Joshua chapters 13 through 21 covers an exciting and jubilant period in Israel’s history, and yes, there was yet some challenges to be faced but it took a very long time before they had reached this milestone. God had made a pledge to Abram (later Abraham) from the very outset of his call (Gen. 12:1; 15:18) and this covenant was kept alive through the years.

The Israelites experiences varied from time to time, for example: (a) the patriarchs were sojourners (Heb. 11:9) (b) Israel was enslaved for 430 years in Egypt (Ex. 1-13) (c) because of their unbelief, disobedience and rebellion against God’s will they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years (Num. 13:31-14:12; 32:10-13; Deut. 1:2-3) (d) etc. Conquering the Promise Land also had its many challenges as seen in Josh. 3 through 12, but here they were getting ready for the distribution of the Promised Land. God was with Israel and He fought for them, but as we saw earlier the entire process called for strong **commitment to God and His perfect will**.

**Commitments** are powerful because they influence how you think, how you sound, and how you act. Unlike a half-hearted hope or one’s hardest or most enthusiastic attempt, making a commitment means that you try harder, you look for solutions when faced with obstacles, you don’t consider quitting as an option, and you don’t look back.

**Whatever goals we have they require commitment for them to be realized, especially when the challenges arise and at times seems overwhelming!!** We all

have been there and by experience know that **commitment** gives us what it requires to handle difficult and seemingly devastating times. John Maxwell states: “**Commitments** separates the Doers from the Dreamers! People follow doers.” Now, make no mistake, everyone feels like quitting at one time or another but we all know that “Quitters never win and winners never quit.” Another thought that I learned many years ago says: “Where there is no **commitment** your dreams are only nightmares!!”

The Israelites were sojourners for centuries but they never lost sight of the Promised Land! As noted, before, and will be repeating in this and other lessons, despite all the challenges the Israelites hope of the Promised Land kept them going, kept them fighting because there was a goal to be realized and their trust was in the true and living God!! **Commitments** entails the ability to work hard and keep infinite fortitude, despite the pain or adversity you will press on!!! **Staying committed to your goal is one of the most fundamental principles of success.**

We have all witnessed great accomplishments and they have all displayed one common and most essential factor, and that is **commitment**. Whenever individuals are really **committed** persons, great things can be achieved.

*The following is a quote from Preacher’s Outline & Sermon Bible*

“**Commitment** is the focus of the present Scripture: wholehearted, total **commitment**. Remember, the Israelites had just conquered the major city-states of the promised land. The back of the enemy had been broken. No formidable resistance could be mobilized against God’s people. Smaller, weaker cities still remained to be conquered but it was the task of each individual tribe to drive out the enemies that still remained in its territory. Victory had been achieved.

The conquest of the promised land had taken place. Now, it was time to divide the promised land among the tribes of Israel. The promised inheritance was now to be portioned out among God’s people. For centuries—in fact, for all their lives—the Israelites had been longing for this day to come, the day when they would receive their promised inheritance. The long-anticipated day finally arrived. . . . .”

### 3. Excerpts from Josh. 14 . . . Vv.1-6, 9, 11-12, 13 NIV

“Now these are the areas the Israelites received as an inheritance in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the tribal clans of Israel allotted to them.

Their inheritances were assigned by lot to the nine and a half tribes, as the LORD had commanded through Moses. Moses had granted the two and a half tribes their inheritance east of the Jordan but had not granted the Levites an inheritance among the rest, for Joseph’s descendants had become two tribes – Manasseh and Ephraim. The Levites received no shares of land but only towns to live in, with pasturelands

for their flocks and herds. So the Israelites divided the land, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Now the people of Judah approached Joshua at Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, ‘You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God at Kadesh Barnea about you and me. . . . . So on that day Moses swore to me, The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.’

. . . . . I am still strong as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said.

Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as an inheritance . . . . . “

#### A. Strict Obedience Josh. 14:1-5

##### 1. Day Long Anticipated . . . Introduction

In the preceding chapter, we have a report of the distribution of the countries on the east side of Jordan; now we commence a report of what happened in the Promised Land (west side of Jordan).

This land was not conquered to be left deserted and remained in a useless non-productive manner; neither was it secured to be inhabited of dragons, and a court of owls (Isa. 34:13 KJV). The land was liberated for the people of Israel who for centuries lived as sojourners and not owning any property for themselves. In the past they knew no other way of living, they settled nowhere but continued as nomads having no abiding city; but here they were at a momentous time in their history, getting ready to occupy that which was promised to them by God, that which they deeply yearned for, the Promised Land!! **Just as God created the earth to be occupied (see Isa. 45:18) even so Canaan was conquered to be occupied by Israel (Num. 33:53).**

The land was conquered for the people, however, occupying the Promised Land was not going to be done by each man settling where he chooses but such would be done in an orderly manner, based on God’s directives. God had given Moses direction how this distribution should be made, and those directions were to be followed as given!

##### **Num. 26:52-53 LASB**

“Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Divide the land among the tribes, and distribute the grants of land in portion to the tribes’ populations as indicated by the number of names on the list.” (Read to verse 56)

As noted, before, the Israelites were wanderers, they had no home, they had no place to stay, it was as though they belonged to another world. This fact is true because they were the people of God. Beloved, all believers attest to this fact: “This world is not my home I am just a passing through . . .” Despite Israel’s sojourning for centuries they remained hopeful and their **hope** was a major motivating factor as they looked steadfastly to the Promised Land. That **hope** kept them going, energized them, moved them to face and conquer the enemies no matter how formidable; their **hope** was built on the assurance of Him who is not slack concerning His promises (2 Peter 3:9). And now that day had arrived for them to receive their inheritance!!

## 2. **Distribution** (Josh. 14:1-3)

### (a) **Presided Over** (v. 1)

(1) The LORD had given Moses the outlying bounds of this land (Num. 34:2-12).

(2) He had also indicated who should compose the lay clergy “Distributing Committee.”

- Joshua was the civilian teacher, **Eleazar** the Chief Priest and the ten tribal chiefs (princes) of each of the tribes that were now to have their inheritance, whom God Himself had nominated (Num. 34:16-29, NB Vv. 17-18 ).
- The involvement of each tribe was an indicator of fairness in the distribution and that each tribe’s satisfaction would be met and obtained their participation as was necessary.
- The priest **Eleazar** took a prominent role in the dividing of the land because he wore the **ephod** and the **breastplate** containing the **Urim** and **Thummim**.
  - The Urim and Thummim were two stones worn next to the High Priest’s heart.
  - They symbolized the High Priest seeking God’s will for the people.

Note the following highlights in regards to Eleazar, the Ephod and the Thummim

### (b) **Priesthood of Eleazar . . . Highlighted Features**

(1) Eleazar is the third son of Aaron and Elisheba (Ex. 6:23). His name means “God has helped.” He became the second, High Priest, succeeding his father Aaron after he died (Num. 20:23-29, NB v. 28).

(2) Although all the Levites could be priests, Moses instituted the eternal priesthood of Aaron and his descendants (Ex. 28:1-3). (**NOTE: Moses is designated as the original priest for the people of Israel**).

(3) Sacred garments were made for Aaron and his sons to wear as they served as priests. **The garments include a breastplate, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash** (Ex. 28:4-43) . . . garments varied by levels, etc.

- (4) The **main duty** of the priests was to maintain a proper relationship with God. This was done by caring for the tabernacle and administering the law (For example see Num. 18).
- (5) As the Israelites moved from place to place, **Eleazar's** specific duty was to carry "the oil for the lampstand, the fragrant incense, the regular grain offering, and the anointing oil. He was in charge of the entire tabernacle and everything in it, including its holy furnishing and articles" (Example see Num. 4:16).
- (6) Eleazar played a number of roles during the course of the Exodus in various areas, for example: performing the ritual of the red heifer (Num. 19:1-22, NB v. 2); etc. After the death of his older brothers, Nadab and Abihu (Lev. 10:1-7), he and his younger brother Ithamar were appointed to the charge of the sanctuary (Num.3, NB Vv. 1-4, highlight v. 4).
- (7) When it was time to pass on leadership to Joshua, Moses was instructed by God to tell Joshua to "consult with Eleazar the priest who . . . will prayerfully advise him in the presence of God" (Num. 27:18-23, NB v. 21).
- (8) Together with Moses, Eleazar helps determined the settlement of plunder and captives following victories (Example Num. 31:19-24). He also assisted Moses to determine the settlement of the East Jordan Tribes (Num. 32:1-5, NB v. 2).
- (9) God told Moses to appoint Eleazar and Joshua, along with one prince of each tribe of Israel to be in charge of the distribution of the inheritance of the Promise Land (Num. 34:16-29, NB v. 16).
- (10) On Mount Hor Eleazar was clothed with the sacred vestments, which Moses took from his father and put upon him as successor to his father in the High Priest's office (Num. 20:28-29)
- (c) **Priest's Garment ... Brief Presentation**  
Highlighting the Ephod, also the Urim and Thummim.

The **Ephod** was part of the ceremonial dress of the High Priest and upon which the **breastplate** containing the **Urim** and **Thummim** rested (Ex. 28, NB Vv. 6-29; 29:5; 39; Lev. 8:7-9). *A similar vestment was made of linen, and was worn by persons other than the High Priest; Samuel wore the **ephod** when he served before the tabernacle in Shiloh (1 Sam. 2:18).*

The High Priest wore a **breastplate** containing 12 semi-precious stones upon which were engraved the name of the 12 tribes of Israel; this was worn over the **ephod**. *Scholars vary but it is obvious, especially from Scripture, that the **Urim** and **Thummim** were carried in the breastplate, so they may be near the priest's heart whenever he enters the presence of the LORD (NOTE: **Ex. 28:30; Lev. 8:6-9, NB v. 8**). The **Urim** and **Thummim** were two sacred stones of onyx, used to give an affirmative or negative response to "inquiry of God."*



*The following is a quote from Bible Odyssey*

“The Urim and Thummim were a way of receiving revelation from God and apparently consisted of one or more objects. This oracular means (*“oracular”: prophetic . . . insert mine*) was entrusted to the High Priest who kept them in his breastplate (Ex. 28:30; Lev. 8:8). The Hebrew terms, *Urim* and *Thummim*, have traditionally been understood to mean “lights and perfection” or “perfect light”. Sometimes this means of revelation is simply referred to as Urim (Num. 27:21; 1 Sam. 28:6). It was used at critical moments when divine guidance was necessary for God’s people.”

(d) **Prescribed Method** (Josh. 14:2)

- (1) The method to assign the land was to be by lot (v. 2).
- (2) It should be noted that God had repeatedly insisted that the inheritance be divided by lot (Josh. 13:6; 14:2; compare with Num. 26:55; 33:54; 34:13).
  - As a result of this method of distribution, divine guidance was obvious as an outstanding factor.
  - It removed doubt or any dispute and the people unanimously accept the process as a direct decree of God.
- (3) The acceptance of the method of distribution to each tribe was determined by God and resulted in beneficial consequences for all the Israelites.
  - They were made aware of a Power in life that was higher than material gains.
  - They referred themselves to God, and to His wisdom and sovereignty, trusting Him capable above all else to determine what was best for them.
  - Reflecting on the outcome and the realization of their inheritance, thanksgiving became spontaneous and overflowing with deepest gratitude!!
  - Discontent and distrust in the distribution was removed or was minimal which attest that the distribution process was not a divisive issue.
  - Unrestrained feeling or behavior and self-interest were totally restrained.
  - The people accepted the distribution with an attitude of unity and respected the rights and interest of others.
  - They openly declared a willingness to abide by the distribution; realizing that it was necessary for everyone to abide according to his lot and to make the best use of it.

➤ Beloved, believers are assured of obtaining an inheritance in Jesus Christ!

**Eph. 1:11 NKJV**

“In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.”

*(predestinated: “determined before” or “planned”, etc.)*

- Jesus Christ has given eternal life to all who are His!!

**John 17:2 NKJV**

“as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.”

- (4) **Exactly how** this process of distribution (Josh. 14:2) was done we are not told in Scripture.

- This we do know, God Himself had given instructions on how the land was to be distributed (The boundaries were given in advance Num. 34).
- The important thing to be noted is that the method of distribution was done as God had commanded (see Num. 26:52-56; 33:54; Josh. 13:6; 14:2).

- (5) God promised them an inheritance!! It was God who made the realization possible!! God was there all the way even how to make the distribution!! These people were abundantly blessed!! All God’s people are abundantly blessed!!

- **Psa. 47:4 ESV**

“He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob whom He loves.”

- **Prov. 16:33 Amplified Bible**

“The lot is cast into the lap, but the decision is wholly of the Lord [even the events that seem accidental are really ordered by Him].”

- (e) **Partial Inheritance** (Josh. 14:3)

- (1) As noted in the previous lesson the East Jordan Tribes, Reuben, Gad and half tribe of Manasseh, fell short of what God had in place for them when they chose to settle on the east side of Jordan and not in the Promised Land which was on the west side of Jordan.

- It is a possibility that when the soldiers of the East Jordan Tribes, who were involved in liberating the Promised Land, saw what the land was really like they may have had regrets for making such hasty decision to settle on the other side.
- Irrespective of any regrets they may have had, their choice was without revocation ; they had made a decision with which they had to adhere to, it was their choice.

- (2) We have already discussed this matter in our previous lesson; lesson 11, example pages 14-15.

3. **Devoted Servants** (Josh. 14:4)

*The Levites were briefly discussed in our previous lesson pages 20-21 (Lesson 11).*

- (a) The fact that the Levites were not given an inheritance as the other tribes distinguished and dignified them because it was required that they retain their distinctiveness as dedicated servants of God.

- (1) As a result, emphasis was placed on the necessity for separation of those who were chiefly dedicated to spiritual work.

- (2) **A priest is a ministering servant, a bridge-builder; Israel was to be the bridge between God and the nations of the earth. The way for this to be done was to be a holy people.**

**Ex. 19:6a Amplified Bible**

“And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation [consecrated, set, apart to the worship of God]. . . .”

- (3) The Levites, who were the ministers of Israel, had the responsibility of ministering to the people of Israel and as a result they were scattered all over the nation.
- Being scattered they were not able to possess any large area of land.
  - Their source of income was paid from tithes and other gifts given by the people.
  - As we saw in previous lesson, their inheritance is clearly stated as ***The LORD Himself*** (Josh. 13:33).
- (b) The Levites were specially chosen, set apart to the service of God.
- (1) They were God’s representatives!!
- (2) Because of their unique place as God’s representatives they were not numbered among the people as a tribe of Israel.
- (3) To keep the basic number of 12 tribes God had it so ordained that the Levites were replaced by one of Joseph’s sons.
- Jacob, himself had adopted Manasseh and Epharim, Joseph’s sons, as his own sons (Gen. 48:5-6).
  - To simplify: Levi and Joseph were not specifically listed among the 12 tribes.
    - The Levites served as ministers and not in the normal political aspect as the other tribes.
    - In Josh. 14:4 the writer explained how the full number of tribes were maintained. There was no tribe of Joseph and no allotment to Levi. Manasseh and Epharim filled out these two vacancies.
- (c) What was given to the Levites?
- (1) We have already noted that they were given the tithes and other gifts (see Lesson 11, pages 20-21).
- (2) The Levites were given land only for housing and for pasture to feed their livestock.
- (3) Being scattered over the land to minister to the people, they would need permanent housing in which to live and permanent pasture to feed their livestock.
- (d) The scattering of the Levites throughout the tribes enabled them to minister spiritual benefits to the whole nation. (**NOTE:** Josh. 21 shows the arrangements made for the Levites).

**4. Dutiful (Josh 14:5)**

**Josh 14:5 ESV**

“The people of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses; they allotted the land.”

(a) The outstanding feature to be noted in these first five verse of Josh. 14, is:

**Israel’s “strict obedience!”**

(1) This consistent loyalty under Joshua’s leadership has been noted in other lessons and serves as an example for all believers.

(2) Note carefully, Israel did **exactly what God had commanded** and they divided the land based on these guidelines.

(b) In a previous lesson we noted the necessity and importance of teamwork; in this situation (Josh. 14), we have the emphasis repeated. **Beloved, God’s providence leaves no room for human agency; God’s will must be done and we must follow His plan as He makes it known!** *Note again v. 5: “The people of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses”. (ESV)*

(1) God had designed the plan, but the people were to employ it.

(2) God had brought them into the Promised Land, but they were to take possession of it.

(3) Condemnation falls upon those who refuse to use the possibilities of good within their reach.

- **Matt. 25:27 KJV**

“Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury”  
(“usury” or “interest”)

- **James 4:17 KJV**

“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”

- See also Matt. 7:26; Luke 12:47; James 2:14.; etc.

(c) **“Obedience!” . . . Practical Lesson**

*We have time only for a brief account about this subject; but it is a most essential one for us all to practically apply daily!!*

(1) Israel did precisely as they were commanded, such example of obedience is a very strong lesson for all believers.

(2) Unfortunately, to so many, Christianity is a feel good, look good, etc. external display that is eye-catching. However, Christianity is not limited to one bearing the name Christian but it is a way of life; it is something that we live practically and daily!!

- Often, we believe that **almost** is close enough, and this idea can carry over into our spiritual lives.

- For example, we may follow God’s Words as long as we agree with it, but ignore it when the demands seem harsh (see John 6, NB Vv. 25-71, highlight Vv. 60-61).

- This we all need to be aware of: **God is looking for people who follow instructions thoroughly.**

- I have used the following periodically but it also says a lot: “Christianity is Christ and Christ is Christianity; it says who we are because **we are Christlike!!**
    - Christians are people who are “**in Christ!!**” (2 Cor. 5:17).
    - The life that we live is a result of “**Christ who lives in us!!**” (Gal. 2:20).
    - **Christians entire life is a reflection of Jesus Christ who we imitate because He is our example, our role model, etc.! (Eph. 5:1-2)**
      - “**Followers**” in the KJV (Eph. 5:1), means “**mimic**”, “**to be an imitator**”
      - The command for us is to be imitators of Jesus Christ!! “Oh to be like Him!!”
  - Etc.
- (3) We have noted the Israelites “strict obedience” (Josh. 14:5, etc.) as they were led by an obedient leader, Joshua the son of Nun. Our New Testament Joshua, Jesus Christ was obedient in totality, even unto death, the death of the cross (Phil. 2:8).
- We are called to follow the example of Christ (**1 Peter 2:21**; Matt. 16:24; Luke 9:23; etc.)
  - We must follow in strict obedience
    - **John 8:31 NKJV**  
“Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, ‘If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.’”
    - See also Luke 11:28; John 14:15, 21-24; James 1:22-25; etc.
- (4) We must keep the commandments of God . . . “**What He says, we will do!!**”
- **If** we are obedient, we too shall receive the inheritance of God but it is essential to remain obedient.
  - **Matt. 7:21**; John 14:23; 1 Peter 1:3-5; Rev.22:14; Ex. 19:5; etc.
- (5) Beloved, “Ninety-Nine And A Half” won’t do . . . partial quote:  
“Lord I’m runnin’, to make a hundred  
Ninety-nine and a half won’t do

*Chorus*

Lord I’m runnin’, trying to make one hundred because,  
Ninety-nine and a half won’t do

On my knees every day,  
Lord please hear me when I pray  
Please forgive me when I stumble  
Lord, I wanna be in that number

**B. Steadfastness Josh 14:6-14**

1. **Estate Inherited . . . Sought Wholeheartedly** (Josh. 14:6-9)
  - (a) **Caleb the Son of Jephunneh the Kenezite** (v.6)

*We are once more presenting a series of subjects that will bring more benefit if you continue to explore them. May you be enriched as you continue to explore the depths of God's Words.*

(1) Was Caleb a born or full Israelite?

*In regards to Caleb ancestry I am briefly presenting three opinions of which the third is the most foundational and well accepted.*

- **Caleb was purely Judahite ancestor**
  - This opinion noted that Caleb had a younger brother Kenaz who was the father to Othniel (Josh. 15:17; Judges 1:13)
  - This account is seen as only a statement that Othniel was also a Kenizzite and not a proof of parentage. There is also no proof of Jewish ancestry.
- **Caleb was related to Moses by marriage and was adopted by the tribe of Judah.**
  - Caleb had some relation to the Kenite that was the father-in-law of Moses (Ex. 18; Jud. 1:16) and that man's children are noted to have specifically joined the tribe of Judah.
  - As with our third point, this noted that he became a part of the tribe of Judah by naturalization. It should also be noted that the Kenites were not the same as the Kenezites.
- **Caleb is related to Esau and was adopted in the tribe of Judah**
  - Kenezite (KJV) (or Kenizzite) identifies Caleb as belonging to a leading family springing from Eliphaz, Esau's first son (Gen. 36:11, 15, 42; 1 Chron. 1:36).
  - Part of this family had joined with the tribe of Judah, apparently at the Exodus and was a part of the mixed multitude that joined Israel (Ex. 12:38; Num. 11:4). The Kenezites were numbered with the tribe of Judah.

(2) **Son of Jephunneh the Kenezite** (Josh. 14:6, 14).

- The Kenezites are listed (Gen. 15:19) as one of the nations who lived in the land of Canaan, at the time that God covenanted with Abram (Abraham) to give that land to his descendants forever (Gen. 15:18; 17:18).
- Note the following quote:  
 "Caleb's story does not hide his Kenezite status, so Caleb's blessings were not due to solid family connections to Judah but instead were a result of his choice to follow God fully. . . ."

(3) **Caleb: Committed, Constant, Courageous!**

- He lived up to the Hebrew rendition of his name which is: "faithful, devotion, wholehearted, brave."
- His record authenticated the facts that he was noteworthy among the spies, along with Joshua, who were sent into the Promised Land. Although he saw the great walled cities and giants, he was fully

persuaded that God would help Israel to conquer the land (Num. 13:31-14:9).

- Note the account of his wholehearted devotion. The word “wholly” in Josh. 14:8, 9, 14 is the same as “wholeheartedly”
- Caleb was faithful from the start! He believed God and kept his focus steadfastly upon the true and living God!!
  - He was not of a designated tribe of Israel but received a **personal inheritance** because of his faith and loyalty to God. This inheritance was personally promised by God!! (see Num. 14:24; Deut. 1 :34-36).
  - Note also that Caleb was given his inheritance before the remaining nine and half tribes! Along with Joshua they were the oldest among the nation and it was of some honor to bestow upon Caleb the blessing of his inheritance.

(b) **Caleb Presents His Petition** (Josh. 14:6b-9)

(1) Reminded and Presented to Joshua (v. 6b)

- Caleb approached Joshua personally and reminded him of the promise the LORD made to them at Kadesh-barnea (Num. 14:24; Deut. 1:34-36).
- He took with him the leaders of Judah in order to be more effective in his petition (v.6).
  - These leaders were there to pay their respect to that which was decreed by God and for them to give their consent and had no objection to Caleb receiving a **personal inheritance**.
  - As noted above, this allocation was done before the general distribution to the nine and half tribes. The allocation to Caleb was already divinely ordained and there was no further consultation to be done by the High Priest, Eleazar.
- Caleb was assured of such blessing because of his loyalty and this reminds us that those who obey God and seek His presence will always enjoy His blessings.
- Caleb followed God with all his heart and was rewarded for his obedience. How are you doing? **Are you wholehearted in your commitment to God?**

(2) Reflection (v. 7a)

- It was as if Caleb took a step back in time to focus on how this transaction should be brought about.
- He reminded Joshua of his personal awareness (v.6) and that he, Caleb, was forty years old when Moses sent him to spy out the land of Canaan (v. 7a).
- Caleb was seen as a patriarch and the only survivor other than Joshua of those who left Egypt, and was given the privilege of choosing his own land.

(3) Reaffirm His Faithfulness (v. 7b)

- Caleb reminded Joshua that he had faithfully carried out the mission that was assigned and that he had been strongly convinced of victory through the power of God.
- This was a testimony of his conscience concerning his integrity in regards to his report and the conviction he had after spying Canaan:

**Josh. 14:7b NKJV**

“... and I brought back word to him as it was in my heart.”

- He confirmed the riches of the land (Num. 13:26-27).
- He confirmed the land was occupied with great warriors, giants and walled cities (Num. 13:28-29).
- He was confident of the power of God to conquer the enemy and put Israel in possession of that which was promised by God (Num. 13:33-14:9).

- Caleb’s report was not to please Moses or anyone else nor to contradict the other spies but because he was convinced of what he said and firmly believed the divine promise!!

(4) Refuted and Remain Steadfast (v. 8)

- Caleb’s and Joshua’s, report was not controversial in nature but was a rebuttal of the negative response produced by the other ten spies (Num. 13: 28-14:9).
- Caleb’s (not excluding Joshua’s) response confronted the evil, negative report of the other spies who were determined to discourage the people (Josh. 14:8)
- Beloved, the fact is, Caleb followed the LORD **wholeheartedly!**

**Josh.14:8b LASB**

“... For my part, I **wholeheartedly** followed the LORD my God.”

- Caleb kept close to his duty, and sincerely aimed at the glory of God in what he did!!
  - He conformed himself to the divine will with an eye to divine favor.
  - Caleb was not ashamed of nor intimidated by his convictions although he was in the minority.
  - **While others were advocating a fear-driven course, Caleb had “wholly followed the LORD my God” (v. 8b KJV).**
- Unfortunately, a generation passed away in the desert because of their unbelief, except Joshua and Caleb (Num. 32:11-13).
  - The testimony that he shared was given by God Himself (Num. 14:24) and was not a means of self-glory.
  - Matthew Henry notes:  
**“Those that follow God fully when they are young shall have both credit and comfort of it when they are old, and the reward of it forever in the heavenly Canaan.”**



## (5) Reward (v.9)

- Caleb had demonstrated beyond doubt that he followed the LORD completely.
- Because of his wholehearted commitment Caleb had been given an oath by Moses, an oath that guaranteed his inheritance (v. 9).
- The oath was, he would inherit the land that the spies focused upon, Hebron and southern Canaan (Num. 14:24; Deut. 1:36; Josh. 14:13-15); they had spied out all of Canaan (Num. 14:21).

**Josh. 14:9 LASB**

“So that day Moses solemnly promised me, The land of Canaan on which you were just walking will be your grant of land and that of your descendants forever, because you wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.”

## (6) Resolved and Remained Focused

- We do need to emphasize Caleb’s wholeheartedness and his commitment in seeking the inheritance of God.
- From day one, he had been totally committed to the promised inheritance of God.
  - The inheritance had been his yearning desire and the aspiration of his heart – the momentum, the driving force that energize and kept him seeking the promise given to him by God.
  - The hope of the inheritance filled his heart and gave him the courage to keep pressing on, to persevere until the day when he would receive it.

**1 Peter 1:3-4 Amplified Bible**

“Praise (honored, blessed) be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (the Messiah)! By His boundless mercy we have been born again to an ever-living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [Born anew] into an inheritance which is beyond the reach of change and decay [imperishable], unsullied and unfading, reserved in heaven for you.”

2. **Enemy to Be Faced Wholeheartedly** (Josh. 14:10-14)(a) **Gratitude for God’s Goodness** (Vv. 10-11)

- (1) Caleb was saying: “It was forty-five years ago when I was sent to spy the land and it was then the promise was made to me that I and my descendants would have an inheritance in the Promised Land” (Num. 14:24; Josh. 14:7-11).
- (2) Here he was, forty-five years later to take possession of the land promised him (Josh. 14:10-12).
- (3) **But before receiving, he was deeply moved to give thanks to God!!**  
“And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive . . .” (v. 10a NKJV).

- (4) He praised God for a long life, notably, for keeping him alive during the wilderness wandering.
- It was a period of 40 long drawn out years of testing, trials, tediousness and troubling situations.
  - It was a long and hard, severe and harsh, backbreaking and exhausting experiences.
  - It was a time of pain and sorrow as the nation experienced the loss of all male who were 20 years and older, who came out of Egypt (except Joshua and Caleb) (Num. 32:11-13).
  - Caleb was moved with a deep sense of gratitude and heartfelt appreciation for the goodness and mercy of God towards him.
  - As Caleb looked back and saw all that God had done, his innermost must have said:  
 "Give thanks with a grateful heart  
 Give thanks to the Holy One  
 . . . . .
- (5) **Physically**, Caleb was just as he was 45 years before (v. 11) **AMAZING!!!**
- God was still saturating his body with the strength of the LORD, and this was evident by the strong, vigorous body and health he was experiencing!!
  - He was just as able to go out to battle as he was when sent out on the spy mission (Num. 13).
- (6) **Spiritually**, Caleb's faith in God was still strong and unwavering and he was **still wholeheartedly committed to God!!**
- His faith in God had not wavered during the time of living with disobedient and dying people who were wandering in the wilderness.
  - He came through all these experiences "**as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me**" (v. 11 KJV).
  - The backsliders had nothing with which to entice him; they choose their way, he had a made-up mind to remain steadfast in the LORD.  
**1 Cor. 15:58 ESV**  
 "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."
  - His experience and example is saying to us: "**Through It All**" (Partial Quote)  
 Through it all  
 Through it all  
 I've learned to trust in Jesus  
 I've learned to trust in God  
  
 Through it all . . . . Through it all  
 I've learned to depend upon His Word

(7) Beloved, in essence Caleb was authenticating and reverberating Isa. 40:25-39 as well as other similar references (**NB Isa. 40:31**).

(8) **Focusing on Caleb's fitness at 85 years, a few Practical Lessons to be noted.**

- **While we live, it is God that keeps us alive, it is by His grace, mercy and faithfulness to us.**
  - It is by His power that He protects us from death, and by His bountiful supplies He comforts and supports us.
  - Unfortunately, many take the gift of life for granted and live as though they can do without God except in times of needs; but our all is wholly dependent on God's mercies and grace!!
- **The longer that we live the more realistic we should be of God's goodness to us in keeping us alive!!**
  - It is His goodness that we are kept alive and by His loving care that our frail lives are prolonged.
  - Our prolonged lives should daily remind us of God's patience in extending our forfeited lives.
  - It is the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, His mercies are poured out on us each day! (Example, see Lam. 3:19-30, NB v. 23).  
**Lam. 3:23 Amplified Bible**  
"They are new every morning; great and abundant is your stability and faithfulness [Isa. 33:2.]"
- **Caleb witnessed the death of so many . . . likewise the death of many others around us should make us more thankful to God for sparing us and keeping us alive.**
  - With this fact of so many passing on, it brings upon us a strong obligation to our personal responsibility to God.
  - There is an old saying that still says a lot: "We have a life to live and a God to glorify." As we noted before, "The time is coming when no one will be able to work" (John 9:4).
  - Joshua was notified of his age and was commanded to distribute the Promised Land among the nine and half tribes (Josh. 13:1-14).  
Beloved, we must be duly involved in the things of God while we have the opportunity (Eph. 5:15-16; Psa. 90:12; John 4:35; Col. 4:5).

(b) **Great Challenge** (Josh. 14:12b)

(1) Caleb's request was: ". . . **give me this mountain . . .**" "mountain" here refers to "Mount Hebron" (See Vv. 14, 15).

- Hebron lies between Jerusalem and Beersheba and believed to have been one of Abraham's favorite places. It was here he purchased Machpelah as a burying ground (Gen. 13:18; 23, NB Vv. 1-4; 35:27).
- It is revered by both Jews and Muslims and remains a disputed area between Israel and the Palestinians.

- (2) Caleb's inheritance was still occupied by giants but he was not afraid to go up and conquer the occupants.
- Caleb had a made-up mind and made his intention known that he was willing and ready to expel the enemy who was a source of opposition to the people of God.
    - Joshua had already reduced the city of Hebron during the Southern Campaign (Josh. 10:3, **36-37**).
    - The mountains which were a part of Hebron and was inhabited by the sons of Anak was yet to be conquered.
    - During the conquest of Canaan, Joshua expelled the Anakims from the hill country (Josh. 11:21-23); as we noted in other lessons Joshua's accomplishments took care of the major cities and stronger armies and what was remaining were the smaller and weaker cities which was the responsibility of each tribe.
  - Caleb was confident that with God's enabling he would be able to drive out the sons of Anak who were occupying Hebron.
    - Note, **Caleb did not say:** "Because I am now as strong for war as I was at forty, therefore, I shall drive them out." Such an attitude would reflect the fact that he was depending on personal valor.
    - Neither was he depending on the great warriors of Judah whose leadership was with him, neither was he expecting Joshua to help!! Note carefully his statement: "**It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said**" (Josh. 14:12b NKJV).
    - **Prov. 3:5-6 ESV**  
"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths."
  - Caleb also displayed a humbled attitude.
    - He said (Josh. 14:2b): (a) "It may be that the LORD ..." (NKJV); (b) "If so, be the LORD will be with me ..." (KJV).
    - **Note, however his assurance of success:**
      - "I shall be able to drive them out . . ." (v. 12b KJV)
      - **Rom 8:31 Amplified Bible**  
"What then shall we say to [all] this? If God is for us, who [can be] against us? [Who can be our foe, if God is on our side?] [Psa. 118:6]"
- (3) We must not forget, Caleb was 85 years old; but here he was requesting the right to march against the enemies in the Promised Land.
- He was an old man, however, he had no intention of taking life's easy and relaxing pathway, not when the demands were so obvious.
    - Beloved, Caleb's understanding was: "**A life of ease and comfort of selfish indulgence and pleasure was not the call of God.**"

- There were still enemies who were trying to keep God’s people from receiving their full inheritance. It was a time for continued action and not a time to be at ease in Zion.
    - **Amos 6:1 ESV**  
“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the first of the nations to whom the house of Israel comes!”
    - See also Psa. 123:4; Isa. 32:9; 47:8; Matt. 22:5; 24:12.
- (4) Like Caleb, we must be faithful to God, not only at the start of our walk with Him, but throughout our entire lives.
- We must never allow ourselves to rest on our accomplishments or reputation; our ultimate goal is the will of God to His honor and glory.
  - Several outstanding things noted in **Phil 1:27** . . . we will briefly note one, by cross-referring with Eph. 4, etc.
- Highlighting:** “. . . stand fast in one spirit . . .” (Phil 1:27)
- The true essence of unity of the Spirit consist of living in a worthy manner (compare with Eph. 4:1-3). We will be most effective where there is the bond of genuine love and unity (John 13:35) and possible ONLY through the Holy Spirit (See Phil. 2:1-2, etc.)
  - **NOTE ALSO:**
    - We must stand firm in ONE spirit and purpose (compare with Eph. 4:3).
    - **We must strive side by side like warriors for the defense of the Gospel according to apostolic revelation** (Phil 1:15-17; Eph. 4:13-15). I can also hear Jude appealing for the defense of our Christian faith (Jude 3)  
*Beloved Israel fought unitedly to conquer the enemies of Canaan; we have also seen Caleb, despite his age, was willing to continue the fight in order to fully realize his inheritance!!*
  - As we have noted before, we must defend the Gospel truth against the “enemies of the cross” (Phil. 3:18).
  - Beloved, this is warfare and just as Caleb, despite his age, was not ready to lay down arms, even so we must remain fully clothed and be ready for action (Eph. 6:10-19).
- (c) **Granted and Blessed** (Josh. 14:13-14)
- (1) The wholehearted commitment and courage of Caleb touched Joshua’s heart.
- Joshua gave Caleb just what was asked for, the promised inheritance of the great city of Hebron (v. 13).
  - By giving Caleb his portion of the Promised Land, it fulfilled a promise made to Caleb 45 years earlier (Num. 14:24).
- (2) God has always been faithful to his promise and we expect such integrity and reliability from God. However, the same is duly expected from His followers!!

- **How about you?**
    - Is your word reliable?
    - Would you **faithfully honor** a 45-year-old promise?
    - Do you sincerely love the LORD with **ALL** your heart, soul, mind and strength (Mark 12:29-31; Matt. 22:37-40)?
    - Does God genuinely have **FIRST PLACE** in your life? Does He truly have the preeminence? (Matt. 6:33; etc.)
  
  - **Caleb . . . “wholly followed the LORD” (Josh. 14:14 KJV).**
    - Caleb remained faithful to God and received fully his promised inheritance (Vv. 9, 13-14).
    - His life illustrated the believer’s faithfulness and acceptance of the promise of the Father under the New Covenant . . . by the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:14-5).
    - After repentance and acceptance of God’s new covenant terms; believers must go on to receive whatever spiritual gifts God wishes to bestow (Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-31).
      - To manifest the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-25)
      - To demonstrate wisdom (Acts 6:3; 1 Cor. 2:6-16; Eph. 1:17; James 3:13-18)
      - **All these are included in the inheritance package of God’s people; these, in particular, relate to those filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4-8; 2:4; etc.). Oh, beloved claim your inheritance!!**
  - Beloved, we have the assurance, God is faithful to honor ALL His promises (Deut. 7:7; 1 Kings 8:56; Psa. 36:5; 89:1; Heb. 6:18).
    - Even today, He is honoring promises He made thousand years ago!!
    - The awesome reality is some of His greatest promises are yet to be fulfilled!!
    - Oh, beloved! Let your faith grow as you realize that God keeps His word!!
  - God is faithful!! **“Great is Thy Faithfulness”** ... *Partial quote;*  
“Great is Thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not  
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
- (3) Joshua also blessed Caleb!
- He prayed for him and for his success against the sons of Anak.
  - Matthew Henry Notes:  
“Joshua was both a prince and a prophet, and upon both accounts it was proper for him to give Caleb his blessings, for the *less is blessed of the better.*”

- This we are also sure of: “Who God bless no man curse!” (Gen. 12:1-3; Num. 23:8, 20).

### 3. Essential Features

*The following is a listing of some characteristics of Caleb that provides valuable lessons for all believers . . . Briefly Noted.*

#### (a) Confidence

- (1) Whether it was when the spies were sent out (Num. 13-14:10) to the time he received his inheritance (Josh. 14:6-16) Caleb remained confident and dependent on God.
- (2) The Christian is dependent upon the LORD and we live in confidence, despite our challenges “. . . in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.” (Rom. 8:37).

#### (b) Covenant Focused

- (1) Caleb remembered the promises that had been made to him (Num. 14:24). He could quote the date and place, when those promises were made (Josh. 14:7-9).
- (2) The Christian must keep himself informed of God’s promises. Only then can he claim that which has been provided for him (Matt. 6:25-34; 7:11; 2 Peter 3:9; etc.).

#### (c) Courageous

- (1) Caleb was ready to face any danger, to be experienced, in conquering the enemies of Canaan no matter how formidable they were; at first when he spied the land (Num. 13 & 14) and when claiming his inheritance (Josh. 14: 6-15)
- (2) The Apostle Paul also sets the example for us, because likewise, he didn’t glory in the soft way of life in which there as so many examples of his courageous commitment, for example 2 Cor. 12:10.

#### **2 Cor. 12:10 NKJV**

“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak then I am strong.”

#### (d) Consistency

- (1) Caleb radiated loyalty and faith without waiting to receive promotion. He was not dependent on promotion in order to be active; he was naturally committed to consistent service at any cost!!
- (2) **Many people have found the experience of a cleansed heart because of the consistent testimony of some lay person who was seldom in any prominent place of leadership.**
- (3) All believers should be a model by (a) what we say (b) what we do (c) demonstrating selfless sacrificial love of God (d) showing a right spirit or attitude (e) adhering to the truths of the Christian faith and (f) maintaining moral purity and integrity (1 Tim. 4:12; Titus 2:7; Gal. 6:9; 1 Cor. 15:58).

**(e) Character**

- (1) Caleb's character was made known by God (Num. 14:24) and that's very important, oh beloved, God sees even in the dark (Psa. 94:9), etc. God also made reference of His servants Moses and Job (Josh. 1:1-2; Job 1:8; 2:3).
- (2) We must all present ourselves to God wholly as such is our reasonable service and He would not have us otherwise (Rom. 12:1-2; Heb. 12:14; etc.)

**2 Cor. 10:18 NASB**

**"It is not who commend himself that is approved, but he whom the Lord commends."**

- (3) Character is what makes a person distinct as it relates to morality. God can enable us to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" (Matt. 5:13-16); to His honor and glory!!

**(f) Conviction**

- (1) Caleb's belief in God was firmly entrenched. As seen before, Caleb and Joshua were in the minority in regards to the spies report (Num. 13:31-14:12); but they maintained their faith in the true and living God!!
- (2) We are living in dark and dismal days when the Church (Universal) is adapting to the corrupt environment in which we serve (Rev. 3:14-22); it is a time when good is regarded as evil and evil as good, etc. (Isa. 5). Beloved, we **must** hold fast to the wholesome Word of God (2 Tim. 1:8-14, NB Vv. 12-14).

*Remaining pointers and sub-points will be reduced due to the time factor.*

**(g) Cooperative**

- (1) No power struggle occurred between Joshua and Caleb . . . Caleb remained focused, wholeheartedly committed and worked in compliance with Israel's leadership.
- (2) The interdependence of the parts of the physical body illustrate the interdependence of believers with their varying spiritual gifts in the Church (Rom. 12:1-8; 1 Cor. 12, NB Vv. 12-31; Eph. 4:7-16).

**(h) Commitment**

- (1) This was the underlying reason for Caleb's success. He was wholeheartedly committed and at no time wavered in his faith in God.
- (2) I have discussed commitment regularly, as a reminder commitment is a call to be dedicated (Deut. 6:5; Psa. 37:5; Col. 3:23; 2 Tim. 4:27; etc.). This subject was also commented on in the introduction of this lesson.

**(i) Claims**

- (1) Caleb had to ask for that which had been promised him; he had to claim the promise. There is no indication that he doubted; it was his and he asked, he believed and he received (Josh. 14:6-15)
- (2) God knows our needs; He has promised to supply them all (Phil. 4:19) and He told us to ask, seek, and knock; which means we are to **"A.S.K"** (Matt. 7:7-12; etc.). Beloved, David said that the years went by and although he was now



very old, he has **NEVER** seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread!! (Psa. 37:25).

(j) **Creator's Presence**

- (1) “. . . if so, be **the LORD will be with me**, then I shall drive them out . . .” (Josh. 14:12b). Everything else may be realized but without God it is all in vain!!!
- (2) This is another subject that we have discussed regularly because of its utmost importance. At this time I simple call to mind a Psalm that speaks loud and clear of the futility of human enterprise if God is ignored . . . see Psa. 127.

**NOTE ALSO: Ex. 33:13-14 Amplified Bible**

“Now therefore, I pray you, if I have found favor in your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You [progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with You, perceiving and recognizing and understanding more strongly and clearly] and that I may find favor in your sight. And [Lord do] consider that this nation is Your people. **And the Lord said, My Presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.**”  
(*Read the chapter . . . Ex. 33, NB Vv. 12-17*)

**C. Significant Reminder Josh. 14:15**

1. **Prominent Founder . . . “Arba”** (Josh. 14:15a)

- (a) Here we are told that Hebron had been the city of Arba who was regarded as the greatest man among the Anakim (Josh. 14:15).
  - (1) He was the founder of Hebron, to which he gave its ancient name “Arba” (Josh. 15:13; 21:11).
  - (2) He was the father of Anak, who was the forefather of the Anakims.
  - (3) As a reminder the Anakims/Anakites were a formidable race of giants, warlike people (Deut. 2:10, 21; 9:2) who occupied the lands of southern Palestine before the Israelites’ occupation (Josh. 11:21-22; 15:13).
- (b) The city was also referred to as Kirjath-Arba.
  - (1) Sarah died there and Abraham went there to mourn for her (Gen. 23:1-2), there he purchased a burial ground where Sarah as well as Abraham, Isaac Jacob Rebecca and Leah were buried.
  - (2) Jacob came unto Isaac his father at Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which is Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned (Gen. 35:27).
  - (3) Frequent references in regards to Hebron are seen throughout Scripture (Josh. 15:13, 54; 20:7; 21:11; Judges 1:10; etc.)
    - It was one of the cities belonging to the priests (Josh. 21:13) and a city of refuge (Josh. 20:7).
    - It was a royal city, and in the beginning of David’s reign, became the metropolis of the kingdom of Judah; there the people turned to David and there he reigned seven years and six months (2 Sam. 5:1-5).



**2 Tim. 2:15**

**Amplified Bible**

“Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved (tested by trial), a workman who has no cause to be ashamed, correctly analyzing and accurately dividing [rightly handling and skillfully teaching] the Word of Truth.”

**LESSON 12 REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Complete the following:

“Where God has a (a) \_\_\_\_\_ to speak and a (b) \_\_\_\_\_ to write, we should (c) \_\_\_\_\_ an (d) \_\_\_\_\_ to (e) \_\_\_\_\_, and eye to (f) \_\_\_\_\_; and God gives us a (g) \_\_\_\_\_ to profit.” (Matthew Henry)

2. What was the result of Joshua’s military campaigns in Canaan?

---



---



---



---



---

3. Complete by choosing the correct answer:

“If Israel \_\_\_\_\_, or affection to the enemy, if they sit still and let them alone, they would have no one to blame but themselves, and not God, if these remaining enemies of God’ righteousness are not driven out.”

- (a) through hardship, trials, pain
- (b) through courage, diligence, dedication
- (c) through laziness or fearfulness
- (d) through dependence on faith

4. Match the statements on the left with the correct reference on the right. (*In reference to . . . “God’s Abundant Supply”*).

STATEMENTS	CORRECT REFERENCE	JUMBLED REFERENCES
Abundant Entrance		2 Cor. 9:8

Abundant Grace		Phil. 4:19
Abundant Life		Eph. 3:20
Abundant Power		Psa. 36:8
Abundant Joys		2 peter 1:11
Abundant Supply		John 10:10

5. Briefly explain what “commitment” is and why it is important.

---



---



---



---



---



---

6. Complete the following:

“Whatever goals we (a) \_\_\_\_\_ they require (b) \_\_\_\_\_ for them to be (c) \_\_\_\_\_, especially when the (d) \_\_\_\_\_ arise and at (e) \_\_\_\_\_ seems (f) \_\_\_\_\_.”

7. Complete by choosing the correct answer:

“Commitments \_\_\_\_\_ and keep infinite fortitude, despite the pain or adversity you will press on!! Staying committed to your goal is one of the most fundamental principles of success.”

- (a) encourage the need to be complacent
- (b) entails the ability to work hard
- (c) promotes the urgent need to sleep
- (d) entails the need to ignore the facts.

8. (a) Answer True or False. (b) Explain your answer.

“Based on their history, the nation of Israel waited a total of forty years to inherit the Promised Land.”

---



---



---



---

---

---

9. What Scriptural proof shows in advance Israel’s occupation of Canaan and that the land would be liberated especially for their occupation? Briefly note the significance of such prophecy.

---

---

---

---

10. Who were pre-selected by God to be in-charge of the distribution of lots in the Promised Land, give reference?

---

---

---

---

---

11. In regards to the Levitical priests (a) list the parts of their sacred garment used when officiating. (b) What was their “**main duty**”.

---

---

---

---

---

---

12. List five outstanding facts about Eleazar the High Priest.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





(c) Condemnation falls upon those who refuse to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

18. (a) Answer True or False (b) Explain your answer.  
"Caleb was born into the tribe of Judah."

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

19. Briefly explain why Caleb was given a "personal inheritance".

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

20. In what ways did Caleb "wholeheartedly" served God? (Briefly)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

21. Complete the following:

*(Focusing on Caleb's steadfastness)*

"The backsliders had (a) \_\_\_\_\_ with which to (b) \_\_\_\_\_  
him; they (c) \_\_\_\_\_ their way, he had a (d) \_\_\_\_\_  
mind to (e) \_\_\_\_\_ (f) \_\_\_\_\_ in the  
(g) \_\_\_\_\_."



22. (a) Answer True or False (b) Explain your answer.

“Caleb, at age 85 years old, intended to attack the Anakims solely because he felt physically fit, even as fit as he was when he was 40 years old (Josh. 14:11-12).

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

23. We briefly discussed Phil. 1:27, in our lesson, note two important truths shared in our discussion.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

24. In regards to Caleb’s characteristics we note 10 in our lesson. (a) List all ten. (b) Briefly comment on any two.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

25. Caleb's inheritance was known as :Hebron" /"Arba" /"Kirjath-Arba". Briefly explain the significance relating to these names.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---