

# Joshua 11-16 – 5 August 2021

## “Why Conquer Our Promised Land?”

### Introduction

\*The theme of the Book of Joshua could be “*Will Israel have faith and believe God?*”

\*The prosperity of Israel’s future life will be directly proportional to:

\*How well (or not) they exterminate the evil, sinful lifestyles of the Canaanites

\*How well they act on implementing God’s ways

\*They’re here to “conquer the Promised Land” – We use this as an example of a Christian conquering all that God has for them...by faith.

\*Today we’ll talk about why we should move beyond “Just being saved” & move into all the mission & blessing God has for us

**\*Today we’ll see 4 reasons to conquer OUR Promised Land**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Reason to conquer OUR Promised Land is b/c God said to (Chap 11:1-23)

## Intro

1. Chap 10 we saw the conquest of the southern Canaanite kings
2. Chap 11 now shows conquest of the northern

## Read Chap 11:1-5

1. 300,000 infantry, 10,000 cavalry, 20,000 chariots of the Kings of North Canaan gather at Merom ready to fight Israel

## Read Chap 11:6-9

1. Israel pushed back the Canaanites' army to Lebanon...as the Lord commanded
2. God's command wasn't "fight"
  - a. God's command was "don't be afraid"
  - b. THEN God used Israel to deliver victory

## Read Chap 11:10-14

1. Israel takes the northern cities
2. Vs 12 – They did just as the Lord has been foretelling to them that they would do

## Read Chap 11:15

1. Obedience passed down from the Lord thru leaders to the executioner
2. A simple legacy of obedience
  - a. Do you trust God enough to obey Him?

## Read Chap 11:16-20

1. This was God's divine timing to wipe out the Canaanites, therefore he brought them to battle
2. Why destroyed? From man's perspective
  - a. They had 400 years to repent & knew Israel was coming
  - b. Why destroyed? From God's perspective
    - i. Can He do with what is His as He wants to?
    - ii. Turn to Jer 18:1-10 – God the Potter
    - iii. Read II Tim 2:20-21 –Vessels of (dis)honor

## Read Chap 11:21-23

1. Wiping out the giants that so scared Israel all these years
2. Only left at Philistine area to be taken by Dan

## **(Don't Read) Chap 12 – Proof text of 3-part victory**

1-6 – Kings & land taken on east of Jordan

7-12 – Kings & land taken on west of Jordan

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Reason to conquer OUR Promised Land is to rid ourselves of sin (Chap 13:1-14)**

Read Chap 13:1-6

1. They started conquering, then plateaued
  - a. Tired, lazy or just happy with little?
2. This type of Christian can tell you of past victories, but nothing up to date
  - a. Living happily w/ the flesh? That's danger!
  - b. God doesn't want us wandering in the wilderness of purposelessness
  - c. God doesn't want us eating the meager meat of temporary, earthly pursuits

Read Chap 13:7-14

1. These are all areas east of Jordan to divide
2. Vs 13 – Leaving sin & impurity to remain

## **(Don't Read) Chap 13:15-33–Division of Trans-Jordan**

15-23 – Division of land to Reuben

24-28 – Division of land to Gad

29-31 – Division of land to ½ tribe of Manasseh

32-33 – Levi's possession is God not land

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Reason to conquer OUR Promised Land is to receive God's blessings (Chap 14:1-15)**

Read Chap 14:1-5

1. 2x inheritance to Joseph for the right of 1stborn
2. No land for Levi – b/c God is His blessing

Read Chap 14:6-15

1. Caleb reminds Joshua to keep God's promise & give him Hebron for inheritance w/i Judah
2. Love the grit of this 85 y/o, driving out giants
3. Hebron was a prize (Cave of Patriarchs), but he later gave it to the Levites for a blessing
  - a. Wasn't about getting for self but about serving God – not about blessing, but Blesser

## **(Don't Read 15:1-12) – Division of Judah**

These are borders of Judah

Chap 15 – Inheritance of Judah

(Division of Canaan is chapters 15-19)

## **4<sup>th</sup> Reason to conquer OUR Promised Land is to leave a Godly legacy (Chap 15:13-19)**

Read Chap 15:13-19

1. Why would Caleb make this offer in vs 16?
  - a. Not b/c he was focused on taking the city
  - b. It's b/c he was focused on finding a godly son-in-law
2. Caleb was interested in a family legacy of faith
  - a. He wanted a son-in-law that was a man of faith and courage
  - b. He wanted a son-in-law that would press into God's promises & lead his family that way
3. Othniel marries into Caleb's family for taking Kirjath-sepher. – He'll later become a Judge

## **(Don't Read 15:20-63) – Division of Judah con't**

These are all the cities of Judah's inheritance

Analogy – If you want to write a book about the layout of your living room it would look like these chapters

Read Vs 63 – They didn't drive out all Jebusites

## **(Don't Read Chap 16) – Division of Ephraim**

1-4 – The Border between Ephraim and ½ tribe of Mannaseh

5-10 – The borders of Ephraim

Read Vs 10 – They didn't drive out all Canaanites

Judah & Ephraim will become the heads of the nations during the Divided Kingdom after Solomon

All this mapping is important to understand for later:

The Philistines influence

The Danite move to the north

The Book of Judges

## Conclusion

In the Israeli conquest of the land of Canaan, we can see our own plan for a victorious Christian life  
Don't settle for a wimpy, half conquered life that has no peace, no joy...living in guilt and restlessness  
Go conquer what God has put in from of you! Why?

### **1. B/c God said to**

- a. God is worthy of our simple obedience
- b. Learn to trust that God's plan is *gooooood*

### **2. To rid ourselves of sin**

- a. Being proactive on mission for God will keep you from sin in & of itself
- b. Any sin allowed to remain will bite you later

### **3. To receive God's blessings**

- a. We're not just obeying God for some heavenly or global benefit...it's for our benefit!
- b. God has our best interests in mind!

### **4. To leave a Godly legacy**

- a. Seek to pass on the intention to live heartily and full for Jesus Christ & His plan