

Inheriting the Land of Promise JOSHUA

Then the whole congregation of the sons of Israel assembled themselves at Shiloh, and set up the tent of meeting there; and the land was subdued before them.

² There remained among the sons of Israel seven tribes who had not divided their inheritance.

³ So Joshua said to the sons of Israel, "How long will you put off entering to take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you?"

⁴ Provide for yourselves three men from each tribe that I may send them, and that they may arise and walk through the land and write a description of it according to their inheritance; then they shall return to me.

⁵ They shall divide it into seven portions; Judah shall stay in its territory on the south, and the house of Joseph shall stay in their territory on the north.

⁶ You shall describe the land in seven divisions, and bring *the description* here to me. I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God.

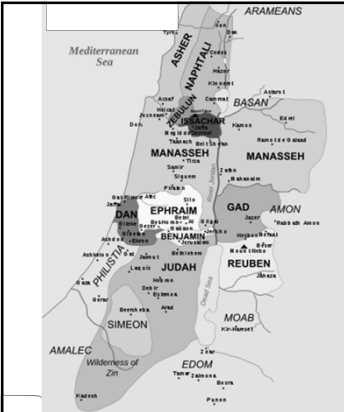
⁷ For the Levites have no portion among you, because the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance. Gad and Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh also have received their inheritance eastward beyond the Jordan, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them."

⁸ Then the men arose and went, and Joshua commanded those who went to describe the land, saying, "Go and walk through the land and describe it, and return to me; then I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh."

⁹ So the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities in seven divisions in a book; and they came to Joshua's camp at Shiloh.


¹⁰ And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD, and there Joshua divided the land to the sons of Israel according to their divisions.

(Joshua 18:1-10)



Joshua 18-19
Allotment of Seven Tribes:

- 1st – Benjamin
- 2nd – Simeon
- 3rd – Zebulun
- 4th – Issachar
- 5th – Asher
- 6th – Naphtali
- 7th – Dan



Joshua 20-21
Cities of Refuge & Cities of the Levites

⁴³ So the LORD gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they possessed it and lived in it.

⁴⁴ And the LORD gave them rest on every side, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers, and no one of all their enemies stood before them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hand.

⁴⁵ Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass.

(Joshua 21:43-45)

God's Unfailing Promise

1. The comprehensiveness of the fulfillment

- not one word failed!
- every tribe, clan, family and person received their specific inheritance
- e.g. daughters of Zelophehad

God's Unfailing Promise

2. The essence of the fulfillment – “rest”

Biblical Theology of “Rest”

A. Old Testament

- Genesis 2:2-3: God's rest is the culmination and goal of creation
- Exodus 20:8-11: the Sabbath was an ongoing sign of Israel's covenant relationship with Yahweh
- Joshua: enjoyment and peace in the land was a form of entering God's rest
- Psalm 95: indicates that enjoyment of the land was not the substance of God's rest

Biblical Theology of “Rest”

B. New Testament (fulfillment in Christ)

- Hebrews 4:1-11: Canaan pointed to the “salvation-rest” we possess through faith in Christ
- Revelation 21-22: this rest is consummated in the eternal kingdom (the New Jerusalem)

¹⁵ For this reason, they are before the throne of God; and they serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tabernacle over them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no longer, nor thirst anymore; nor will the sun beat down on them, nor any heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of the water of life; and God will wipe every tear from their eyes.”

Revelation 7:15-17