

Inheriting the Land of Promise
JOSHUA

Joshua 23 -24

Joshua's Farwell Sermons

²³ Now it came about after many days, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies on every side, and Joshua was old, advanced in years, ² that Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders and their heads and their judges and their officers, and said to them, "I am old, advanced in years. ³ And you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has been fighting for you. ⁴ See, I have apportioned to you these nations which remain as an inheritance for your tribes, with all the nations which I have cut off, from the Jordan even to the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun. ⁵ The LORD your God, He will thrust them out from before you and drive them from before you; and you will possess their land, just as the LORD your God promised you.

⁶ Be very firm, then, to keep and do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, so that you may not turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left, ⁷ so that you will not associate with these nations, these which remain among you, or mention the name of their gods, or make *anyone* swear by *them*, or serve them, or bow down to them. ⁸ But you are to cling to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.

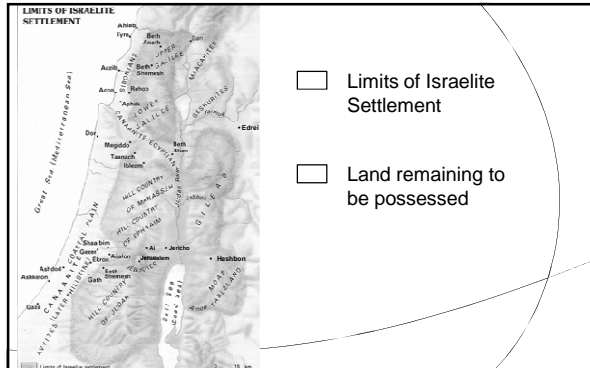
⁹ For the LORD has driven out great and strong nations from before you; and as for you, no man has stood before you to this day. ¹⁰ One of your men puts to flight a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, just as He promised you. ¹¹ So take diligent heed to yourselves to love the LORD your God.

¹² For if you ever go back and cling to the rest of these nations, these which remain among you, and intermarry with them, so that you associate with them and they with you, ¹³ know with certainty that the LORD your God will not continue to drive these nations out from before you; but they will be a snare and a trap to you, and a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

¹⁴ "Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has failed.

¹⁵ It shall come about that just as all the good words which the LORD your God spoke to you have come upon you, so the LORD will bring upon you all the threats, until He has destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God has given you. ¹⁶ When you transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you will perish quickly from off the good land which He has given you."

(Joshua 23:1-16)



Remaining Faithful

1. Rehearse Yahweh's Mighty Works

- remember all that the Lord has done on your behalf – *"in all your heart and all your soul"*
- on the basis of His past works cultivate a confident assurance of His future help

Remaining Faithful

2. Beware of Your Associations

- principle: *"do not be deceived: 'bad company corrupts good morals'"* (1 Cor. 15:33)

¹⁴ Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE."
¹⁷ "Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE," says the Lord.
 "AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; AND I will welcome you.
¹⁸ "And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me," Says the Lord Almighty.
 (2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

Remaining Faithful

2. Beware of Your Associations

- principle: *"do not be deceived: 'bad company corrupts good morals'"* (1 Cor. 15:33)
- beware of the bad company and deadly influence of media

Remaining Faithful

3. Take heed to the warnings of Scripture

- obedience to God's word is the necessary expression of love for God (cf. 1 John 2:3-5)
- those who persist in disobedience and idolatry will not inherit the kingdom of God but will experience His just wrath

³ But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

⁴ and *there must be no* filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵ For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

(Ephesians 5:3-6)

⁹ Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals,

¹⁰ nor thieves, nor *the* covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God.

(1 Corinthians 6:9-10)

²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

²⁷ but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

²⁸ Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on *the testimony* of two or three witnesses.

²⁹ How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

(Hebrews 10:26-29)

Remaining Faithful

3. Take heed of the warnings of Scripture

- the warnings of Scripture are intended as a means of keeping us from falling away