

Joshua & Peter: The Sufficiency of God

Lesson 14: The Sufficiency of God's Faithfulness

Key Verse: ...yet I wholly followed the LORD my God. **9** And Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.' ~Joshua 14.8b-9

The reading of a legal decision, such as a will, involves difficult language and is considered dry and dull reading. Yet, there is an element of excitement because it answers a life-changing question, "What's in it for me?". In this case, the legal boundaries established by God in these chapters isn't where we find our "life verse", but it does answer a highly anticipated question: "What do I get from God"? The answer to this life-changing question illuminates God's **faithful** character. And as we wonder the same, God's legal document to His people foreshadows the **inheritance of the saints**. *Faithful God, I bow humbly before You in adoration of Your love for me. Thank you for giving me an inheritance as Your beloved daughter. Keep me faithful in wholehearted obedience and service to You. Amen.*

Joshua 13 Now Joshua was old and advanced in years, and the LORD said to him, "You are old and advanced in years, and there remains yet very much land to possess. **2** This is the land that yet remains: all the regions of the Philistines, and all those of the Geshurites **3** (from the Shihor, which is east of Egypt, northward to the boundary of Ekron, it is counted as Canaanite; there are five rulers of the Philistines, those of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, and Ekron), and those of the Avvim, **4** in the south, all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that belongs to the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the boundary of the Amorites, **5** and the land of the Gebalites, and all Lebanon, toward the sunrise, from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo-hamath, **6** all the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, even all the Sidonians. I myself will drive them out from before the people of Israel. Only allot the land to Israel for an inheritance, as I have commanded you.

7 Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes and half the tribe of Manasseh." **8** With the other half of the tribe of Manasseh the Reubenites and the Gadites received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond the Jordan eastward, as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them: **9** from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the tableland of Medeba as far as Dibon; **10** and all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the boundary of the Ammonites; **11** and Gilead, and the region of the Geshurites and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salecah; **12** all the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he alone was left of the remnant of the Rephaim); these Moses had struck and driven out.

13 Yet the people of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites, but Geshur and Maacath dwell in the midst of Israel to this day. **14** To the tribe of Levi alone Moses gave no inheritance. The offerings by fire to the LORD God of Israel are their inheritance, as he said to him. **15** And Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of the people of Reuben according to their clans. **16** So their territory was from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the tableland by Medeba; **17** with Heshbon, and all its cities that are in the tableland; Dibon, and Bamoth-baal, and Beth-baal-meon, **18** and Jahaz, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath, **19** and Kiriathaim, and Sibmah, and Zereth-shahar on the hill of the valley, **20** and Beth-peor, and the slopes of Pishgah, and Beth-jeshimoth, **21** that is, all the cities of the tableland, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses defeated with the leaders of Midian, Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, the princes of Sihon, who lived in the land. **22** Balaam also, the son of Beor, the one who practiced divination, was killed with the sword by the people of Israel among the rest of their slain.

23 And the border of the people of Reuben was the Jordan as a boundary. This was the inheritance of the people of Reuben, according to their clans with their cities and villages. **24** Moses gave an inheritance also to the tribe of Gad, to the people of Gad, according to their clans. **25** Their territory was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the Ammonites, to Aroer, which is east of Rabbah, **26** and from Heshbon to Ramath-mizpeh and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the territory of Debir, **27** and in the valley Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, having the Jordan as a boundary, to the lower end of the Sea of Chinnereth, eastward beyond the Jordan.

28 This is the inheritance of the people of Gad according to their clans, with their cities and villages. **29** And Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh. It was allotted to the half-tribe of the people of Manasseh according to their clans. **30** Their region extended from Mahanaim, through all Bashan, the whole kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty cities, **31** and half Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan. These were allotted to the people of Machir the son of Manasseh for the half of the people of Machir according to their clans. **32** These are the inheritances that Moses distributed in the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan east of Jericho.

33 But to the tribe of Levi Moses gave no inheritance; the LORD God of Israel is their inheritance, just as He said to them.

CH 14 These are the inheritances that the people of Israel received in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the people of Israel gave them to inherit. **2** Their inheritance was by lot, just as the LORD had commanded by the hand of Moses for the nine and one-half tribes. **3** For Moses had given an inheritance to the two and one-half tribes beyond the Jordan, but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them.

4 For the people of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. And no portion was given to the Levites in the land, but only cities to dwell in, with their pasturelands for their livestock and their substance. **5** The people of Israel did as the LORD commanded Moses; they allotted the land. **6** Then the people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal.

And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God in Kadesh-barnea concerning you and me. **7** I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land, and I brought him word again as it was in my heart. **8** But my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt; yet I wholly followed the LORD my God. **9** And Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.'

10 And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, just as he said, these forty-five years since the time that the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the wilderness. And now, behold, I am this day eighty-five years old. **11** I am still as strong today as I was in the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my strength was then, for war and for going and coming. **12** So now give me this hill country of which the LORD spoke on that day, for you heard on that day how the Anakim were there, with great fortified cities. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall drive them out just as the LORD said."

13 Then Joshua blessed him, and he gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance. **14** Therefore Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD, the God of Israel. **15** Now the name of Hebron formerly was Kiriath-arba. (Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim.) And the land had rest from war.

CH 15 The allotment for the tribe of the people of Judah according to their clans reached southward to the boundary of Edom, to the wilderness of Zin at the farthest south. **2** And their south boundary ran from the end of the Salt Sea, from the bay that faces southward. **3** It goes out southward of the ascent of Akrabbim, passes along to Zin, and goes up south of Kadesh-barnea, along by Hezron, up to Addar, turns about to Karka, **4** passes along to Azmon, goes out by the Brook of Egypt, and comes to its end at the sea. This shall be your south boundary.

5 And the east boundary is the Salt Sea, to the mouth of the Jordan. And the boundary on the north side runs from the bay of the sea at the mouth of the Jordan. **6** And the boundary goes up to Beth-hoglah and passes along north of Beth-arabah. And the boundary goes up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben. **7** And the boundary goes up to Debir from the Valley of Achor, and so northward, turning toward Gilgal, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim, which is on the south side of the valley. And the boundary passes along to the waters of En-shemesh and ends at En-rogel. **8** Then the boundary goes up by the Valley of the Son of Hinnom at the southern shoulder of the Jebusite (that is, Jerusalem). And the boundary goes up to the top of the mountain that lies over against the Valley of Hinnom, on the west, at the northern end of the Valley of Rephaim.

9 Then the boundary extends from the top of the mountain to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah, and from there to the cities of Mount Ephron. Then the boundary bends around to Baalah (that is, Kiriath-jearim). **10** And the boundary circles west of Baalah to Mount Seir, passes along to the northern shoulder of Mount Jearim (that is, Chesalon), and goes down to Beth-shemesh and passes along by Timnah. **11** The boundary goes out to the shoulder of the hill north of Ekron, then the boundary bends around to Shikkeron and passes along to Mount Baalah and goes out to Jabneel. Then the boundary comes to an end at the sea.

12 And the west boundary was the Great Sea with its coastline. This is the boundary around the people of Judah according to their clans. **13** According to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, he gave to Caleb the son of Jephunneh a portion among the people of Judah, Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron (Arba was the father of Anak). **14** And Caleb drove out from there the three sons of Anak, Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmi, the descendants of Anak. **15** And he went up from there against the inhabitants of Debir. Now the name of Debir formerly was Kiriath-sepher. **16** And Caleb said, "Whoever strikes Kiriath-sepher and captures it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter as wife." **17** And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, captured it. And he gave him Achsah his daughter as wife. **18** When she came to him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she got off her donkey, and Caleb said to her, "What do you want?" **19** She said to him, "Give me a blessing. Since you have given me the land of the Negeb, give me also springs of water." And he gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Judah according to their clans. **21** The cities belonging to the tribe of the people of Judah in the extreme south, toward the boundary of Edom, were Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur, **22** Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, **23** Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, **24** Ziph, Telem, Bealoth, **25** Hazor-hadattah, Keriath-hezron (that is, Hazor), **26** Amam, Shema, Moladah, **27** Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet, **28** Hazar-shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah, **29** Baalah, Iim, Ezem, **30** Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah, **31** Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah, **32** Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon: in all, twenty-nine cities with their villages.

33 And in the lowland, Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah, **34** Zanoah, En-gannim, Tappuah, Enam, **35** Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah, **36** Shaaraim, Adithaim, Gederah, Gederothaim: fourteen cities with their villages. **37** Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad, **38** Dilean, Mizpeh, Joktheel, **39** Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon, **40** Cabbon, Lahmam, Chitlish, **41** Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and Makkedah: sixteen cities with their villages.

42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan, **43** Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib, **44** Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah: nine cities with their villages. **45** Ekron, with its towns and its villages; **46** from Ekron to the sea, all that were by the side of Ashdod, with their villages. **47** Ashdod, its towns and its villages; Gaza, its towns and its villages; to the Brook of Egypt, and the Great Sea with its coastline. **48** And in the hill country, Shamir, Jattir, Socoh, **49** Dannah, Kiriath-sannah (that is, Debir), **50** Anab, Eshtemoah, Anim, **51** Goshen, Holon, and Giloh: eleven cities with their villages. **52** Arab, Dumah, Eshan, **53** Janim, Beth-tappuah, Apekah, **54** Humtah, Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), and Zior: nine cities with their villages. **55** Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah, **56** Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah, **57** Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah: ten cities with their villages.

58 Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor, **59** Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon: six cities with their villages. **60** Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), and Rabbah: two cities with their villages. **61** In the wilderness, Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah, **62** Nibshan, the City of Salt, and Engedi: six cities with their villages. **63** But the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the people of Judah could not drive out, so the Jebusites dwell with the people of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.

CH 16 The allotment of the people of Joseph went from the Jordan by Jericho, east of the waters of Jericho, into the wilderness, going up from Jericho into the hill country to Bethel. **2** Then going from Bethel to Luz, it passes along to Ataroth, the territory of the Archites. **3** Then it goes down westward to the territory of the Japhletites, as far as the territory of Lower Beth-horon, then to Gezer, and it ends at the sea. **4** The people of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, received their inheritance.

5 The territory of the people of Ephraim by their clans was as follows: the boundary of their inheritance on the east was Ataroth-addar as far as Upper Beth-horon, **6** and the boundary goes from there to the sea. On the north is Michmethath. Then on the east the boundary turns around toward Taanath-shiloh and passes along beyond it on the east to Janoah, **7** then it goes down from Janoah to Ataroth and to Naarah, and touches Jericho, ending at the Jordan. **8** From Tappuah the boundary goes westward to the brook Kanah and ends at the sea. Such is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Ephraim by their clans, **9** together with the towns that were set apart for the people of Ephraim within the inheritance of the Manassites, all those towns with their villages.

10 However, they did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, so the Canaanites have lived in the midst of Ephraim to this day but have been made to do forced labor.

CH 17 Then allotment was made to the people of Manasseh, for he was the firstborn of Joseph. To Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead, were allotted Gilead and Bashan, because he was a man of war. **2** And allotments were made to the rest of the people of Manasseh by their clans, Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hephher, and Shemida. These were the male descendants of Manasseh the son of Joseph, by their clans.

3 Now Zelophehad the son of Hephher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh, had no sons, but only daughters, and these are the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. **4** They approached Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the leaders and said, "The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance along with our brothers." So according to the mouth of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the brothers of their father. **5** Thus there fell to Manasseh ten portions, besides the land of Gilead and Bashan, which is on the other side of the Jordan, **6** because the daughters of Manasseh received an inheritance along with his sons. The land of Gilead was allotted to the rest of the people of Manasseh.

7 The territory of Manasseh reached from Asher to Michmethath, which is east of Shechem. Then the boundary goes along southward to the inhabitants of En-tappuah. **8** The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, but the town of Tappuah on the boundary of Manasseh belonged to the people of Ephraim. **9** Then the boundary went down to the brook Kanah. These cities, to the south of the brook, among the cities of Manasseh, belong to Ephraim. Then the boundary of Manasseh goes on the north side of the brook and ends at the sea, **10** the land to the south being Ephraim's and that to the north being Manasseh's, with the sea forming its boundary. On the north Asher is reached, and on the east Issachar.

11 Also in Issachar and in Asher Manasseh had Beth-shean and its villages, and Ibleam and its villages, and the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, and the inhabitants of En-dor and its villages, and the inhabitants of Taanach and its villages, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its villages; the third is Naphath.

12 Yet the people of Manasseh could not take possession of those cities, but the Canaanites persisted in dwelling in that land. **13** Now when the people of Israel grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but did not utterly drive them out. **14** Then the people of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, "Why have you given me but one lot and one portion as an inheritance, although I am a numerous people, since all along the LORD has blessed me?" **15** And Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up by yourselves to the forest, and there clear ground for yourselves in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you."

16 The people of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us. Yet all the Canaanites who dwell in the plain have chariots of iron, both those in Beth-shean and its villages and those in the Valley of Jezreel." **17** Then Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, "You are a numerous people and have great power. You shall not have one allotment only, **18** but the hill country shall be yours, for though it is a forest, you shall clear it and possess it to its farthest borders. For you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have chariots of iron, and though they are strong."

CH 18 Then the whole congregation of the people of Israel assembled at Shiloh and set up the tent of meeting there. The land lay subdued before them. **2** There remained among the people of Israel seven tribes whose inheritance had not yet been apportioned.

3 So Joshua said to the people of Israel, "How long will you put off going in to take possession of the land, which the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you? **4** Provide three men from each tribe, and I will send them out that they may set out and go up and down the land. They shall write a description of it with a view to their inheritances, and then come to me. **5** They shall divide it into seven portions. Judah shall continue in his territory on the south, and the house of Joseph shall continue in their territory on the north. **6** And you shall describe the land in seven divisions and bring the description here to me. And I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God. **7** The Levites have no portion among you, for the priesthood of the LORD is their heritage. And Gad and Reuben and half the tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance beyond the Jordan eastward, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them."

8 So the men arose and went, and Joshua charged those who went to write the description of the land, saying, "Go up and down in the land and write a description and return to me. And I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh." **9** So the men went and passed up and down in the land and wrote in a book a description of it by towns in seven divisions. Then they came to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh, **10** and Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD. And there Joshua apportioned the land to the people of Israel, to each his portion.

11 The lot of the tribe of the people of Benjamin according to its clans came up, and the territory allotted to it fell between the people of Judah and the people of Joseph. **12** On the north side their boundary began at the Jordan. Then the boundary goes up to the shoulder north of Jericho, then up through the hill country westward, and it ends at the wilderness of Beth-aven. **13** From there the boundary passes along southward in the direction of Luz, to the shoulder of Luz (that is, Bethel), then the boundary goes down to Ataroth-addar, on the mountain that lies south of Lower Beth-horon. **14** Then the boundary goes in another direction, turning on the western side southward from the mountain that lies to the south, opposite Beth-horon, and it ends at Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), a city belonging to the people of Judah. This forms the western side.

15 And the southern side begins at the outskirts of Kiriath-jearim. And the boundary goes from there to Ephron, to the spring of the waters of Nephtoah. **16** Then the boundary goes down to the border of the mountain that overlooks the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, which is at the north end of the Valley of Rephaim. And it then goes down the Valley of Hinnom, south of the shoulder of the Jebusites, and downward to En-rogel. **17** Then it bends in a northerly direction going on to En-shemesh, and from there goes to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim. Then it goes down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben, **18** and passing on to the north of the shoulder of Beth-arabah^[g] it goes down to the Arabah. **19** Then the boundary passes on to the north of the shoulder of Beth-hoglah. And the boundary ends at the northern bay of the Salt Sea, at the south end of the Jordan: this is the southern border. **20** The Jordan forms its boundary on the eastern side. This is the inheritance of the people of Benjamin, according to their clans, boundary by boundary all around.

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the people of Benjamin according to their clans were Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz, **22** Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel, **23** Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, **24** Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, Geba—twelve cities with their villages: **25** Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, **26** Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah, **27** Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, **28** Zela, Haeleph, Jebus (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah and Kiriath-jearim—fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the people of Benjamin according to its clans.

CH 19 The second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of the people of Simeon, according to their clans, and their

inheritance was in the midst of the inheritance of the people of Judah. **2** And they had for their inheritance Beersheba, Sheba, Moladah, **3** Hazar-shual, Balah, Ezem, **4** Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, **5** Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah, **6** Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhem—thirteen cities with their villages; **7** Ain, Rimmon, Ether, and Ashan—four cities with their villages, **8** together with all the villages around these cities as far as Baalath-beer, Ramah of the Negeb. This was the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Simeon according to their clans. **9** The inheritance of the people of Simeon formed part of the territory of the people of Judah. Because the portion of the people of Judah was too large for them, the people of Simeon obtained an inheritance in the midst of their inheritance.

10 The third lot came up for the people of Zebulun, according to their clans. And the territory of their inheritance reached as far as Sarid. **11** Then their boundary goes up westward and on to Mareal and touches Dabbesheth, then the brook that is east of Jokneam. **12** From Sarid it goes in the other direction eastward toward the sunrise to the boundary of Chisloth-tabor. From there it goes to Daberath, then up to Japhia. **13** From there it passes along on the east toward the sunrise to Gath-hepher, to Eth-kazin, and going on to Rimmon it bends toward Neah, **14** then on the north the boundary turns about to Hannathon, and it ends at the Valley of Iphtahel; **15** and Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah, and Bethlehem—twelve cities with their villages. **16** This is the inheritance of the people of Zebulun, according to their clans—these cities with their villages.

17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, for the people of Issachar, according to their clans. **18** Their territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, **19** Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, **20** Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, **21** Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, Beth-pazzez. **22** The boundary also touches Tabor, Shahazumah, and Beth-shemesh, and its boundary ends at the Jordan—sixteen cities with their villages. **23** This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Issachar, according to their clans—the cities with their villages.

24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of the people of Asher according to their clans. **25** Their territory included Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph, **26** Allammelech, Amad, and Mishal. On the west it touches Carmel and Shihor-libnath, **27** then it turns eastward, it goes to Beth-dagon, and touches Zebulun and the Valley of Iphtahel northward to Beth-emek and Neiel. Then it continues in the north to Cabul, **28** Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, Kanah, as far as Sidon the Great. **29** Then the boundary turns to Ramah, reaching to the fortified city of Tyre. Then the boundary turns to Hosah, and it ends at the sea; Mahalab, Achzib, **30** Ummah, Aphek and Rehob—twenty-two cities with their villages. **31** This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Asher according to their clans—these cities with their villages.

32 The sixth lot came out for the people of Naphtali, for the people of Naphtali, according to their clans. **33** And their boundary ran from Heleph, from the oak in Zaanannim, and Adami-nekeb, and Jabneel, as far as Lakkum, and it ended at the Jordan. **34** Then the boundary turns westward to Aznoth-tabor and goes from there to Hukkok, touching Zebulun at the south and Asher on the west and Judah on the east at the Jordan. **35** The fortified cities are Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth, **36** Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, **37** Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor, **38** Yiron, Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath, and Beth-shemesh—nineteen cities with their villages. **39** This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Naphtali according to their clans—the cities with their villages.

40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of the people of Dan, according to their clans. **41** And the territory of its inheritance included Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir-shemesh, **42** Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah, **43** Elon, Timnah, Ekron, **44** Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath, **45** Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon, **46** and Me-jarkon and Rakkon with the territory over against Joppa. **47** When the territory of the people of Dan was lost to them, the people of Dan went up and fought against Leshem, and after capturing it and striking it with the sword they took possession of it and settled in it, calling Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their ancestor. **48** This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Dan, according to their clans—these cities with their villages.

49 When they had finished distributing the several territories of the land as inheritances, the people of Israel gave an inheritance among them to Joshua the son of Nun. **50** By command of the LORD they gave him the city that he asked, Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim. And he rebuilt the city and settled in it.

51 These are the inheritances that Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the people of Israel distributed by lot at Shiloh before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting. So they finished dividing the land.

Diamonds:

There are useful maps available that will “bring to life” the legal boundaries established in these seven chapters ([colorful map of land division of Joshua 13-19](#)). They also help us understand the kindness of God in His thoughtful placing of the tribes of His people. For instance, Issachar and Zebulun's allotments are next to one another, sharing a boundary. These brothers, born of Leah and Jacob, were likely close and well-suited to be close, and share a border (Joshua 19.10-23).

But rather than leave this lesson an expert on land division and Israelite real estate, we will focus on God's

revelation of Himself and the people's response. In doing so, our faith will be restored, confirmed, strengthened, and established in the sufficiency of God's faithfulness.

1. God called Joshua "old", *really* old in Joshua 13.1!!! Review Lesson 2, question 1, briefly listing Joshua's life up to the point that God remarks about him being "advanced in years":

Over the past seven years Joshua has been leading God's people in an action-packed and gruesome holy war, under God's command and guidance, to cleanse God's land He promised to His people roughly 400 years before. Yet, there is more God instructs Joshua to do!

2. List God's "to-do" list for Joshua from Joshua 13.1-7, 18.2-10, 19.49-50:

3. What is God's "to-do" list for you? Or, if it's more appropriate, what has God yet to do in your life? (Prayerfully consider this answer in light of His promises and His character!)

While it is normal to be awed by the life of Joshua, rather than placing him in on a "pedestal", we must look to the same God Joshua looked to and be in awe of Him, of His work through His people, and of His faithfulness to us despite our struggle to be faithful to Him.

4. As you review Joshua's life story, what characteristics of God do you see? And/or, what encouragement does He reveal to you through His work in the life of Joshua?

The allotment of the land was completed as God commanded Joshua by two unique instructions: the allotment God provided under Moses's leadership (Joshua 13-17), and the allotment God provided by lot under Joshua's leadership (Joshua 18-19). Joshua 18.1-10 describes the process of surveying the remaining land, and the division of under God's sovereignty through Joshua casting lots. Casting lots was not controversial in the Old Testament because God had instructed Moses to do so in Numbers 26.52-56. As such, Joshua continues in obedience to God's command, as taught by Moses. Today we have the indwelling Holy Spirit who guides us in obedience to God's commands, and in Christ-like living (Mark 13.11; John 14.26; Romans 15.13; 1 Corinthians 6.19-20; Jude 20-21).

As the land is allotted, three unique situations arise that require Joshua to lead in godly obedience and to decide according to God's will. The first situation is Caleb's inheritance from Joshua 14.6-15 and Joshua 15.13-19. Caleb's life devotion was "wholly" following God.

5. From Numbers 13-14, as well as Joshua 14.6-15, and Joshua 15.13-19, list all the circumstances, situations, and actions Caleb took that showcase his whole-hearted devotion to God:

Again, we must avoid the natural temptation to “pedestal” Caleb, holding awe for him. Rather, Caleb would likely desire for us to come alongside him and hold the LORD His God in awe.

6. What would having coffee with Caleb be like? What do you think you both would share in worship of the LORD God? What parts of his story as God’s wholehearted servant would he share to encourage you to remain a wholehearted servant of God?

The second situation is in the cultural norm-shattering allotment to the five daughters of Zelophehad (Joshua 17.3-6). The backstory to this allotment comes under Moses’ leadership in Numbers 27.1-11 and Numbers 36.1-12.

7. Read the story of these five daughters from the identified passages in Numbers. List all God does in advocacy for His daughters’ allotment or inheritance from Him:

8. What does this teach you about God?

In the third situation, Joshua is accused of depriving the tribe of Joseph with enough land to support the land given to them through the sons Ephraim and Manasseh (Joshua 17.12-18). While Joshua responds with an opportunity to expand their allotment (Joshua 17.15), the people respond with an unwillingness to do what was necessary (Joshua 17.16). Joshua was right to demand that they drive out those dwelling in their territory.

9. After the prior seven years of victorious war campaigns fought by God, why do you think the people of Joseph’s tribe refused to possess their allotment, and take up the opportunity for expansion? What do you think was the real source of their unwillingness?

10. What caution do you take from this story?

Joshua shifts his headquarters from Gilgal to Shiloh, located in the middle of the country (Joshua 18.1). From here lots are cast for the final seven tribes who are to be given land (Joshua 18.2).

11. What question does Joshua ask “the people of Israel” in Joshua 18.3? What is implied by his question?

12. What are you refusing to “take possession of” as God has commanded you? In other words, in what call or command of God are you unnecessarily delaying, and refusing to obey Him?

Confess your disobedience to God, remembering as He told Joshua in Joshua 1.9, and as Peter told us in 1 Peter 5.10 (these are our anchor verses for this study!). “Think of what God has promised you and go for it!”~David Jackman (*Joshua*, p.138)

Deity: Faithful~ To say that God is faithful is to say that He is steadfast in affection or allegiance. He firmly adheres to every one of His promises. He can be trusted for constant support or loyalty. He will never fail us or forsake us. (See Lamentations 3.22-24; 1 Corinthians 1.9; 2 Thessalonians 3.3; Hebrews 6.18)

- Rather than ponder God's faithfulness here, you will ponder the sufficiency of His faithfulness in your Scripture-Soaked Prayer below.

Doctrine: Inheritance of the Saints¹~ In an extravagant expression of love, God adopts believers into his family, so that we may relate to Him not only as the Giver of spiritual life and the provider of legal righteousness but also as our living and compassionate Father (1 John 3.1).

When speaking about sinful men becoming sons of God, it is necessary to distinguish between the Father's adopted sons and daughters, on the one hand, and His one and only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, on the other...though we relate to God as sons and daughters, [Jesus'] position as Son was of a distinct and unique character (John 20.17)...God's "only Son" (John 3.16).

It is only those who receive Jesus and believe in His name that authority is given to become children of God (John 1.12), for all of God's adoptive children are "sons of God, through faith" in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3.26) as a result of His work of redemption (Galatians 4.5).

In human relations, sons and daughters inherit the estate of their parents at the time of their passing. All that belonged to the parents is bequeathed to the children as they carry on the family legacy. In a similar way, though by nature we had no rightful claim to all the riches of the kingdom of God, by grace we have become God's adopted children and have thus become legal heirs of "an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven" for us (1 Peter 1.4).

So genuine is our inheritance that we are described as fellow heirs with Christ (Romans 8.17). Everything that Christ will receive by divine right as the natural Son of God, we will receive by divine grace as adoptive children of God. Because Christ is God's Son, all that the Father has belongs to Him. And because we are in Christ, everything that is Christ's is ours, "whether...the world or life or death or the present or the future" (1 Corinthians 3.22-23)—all things belong to the children of God (Revelation 21.7).

What, then, are those rights and privileges to be enjoyed by members of the family of God?

- The Holy Spirit Himself takes up permanent residence in our hearts, freeing us from sin and fostering our fellowship with God (Romans 8.16; 1 Corinthians 2.9-12; Galatians 4.6-7; Ephesians 1.13-14)
- We share in the richness of His loving compassion, protection, provision, and beneficence (Psalm 103.13; Matthew 7.7-11; Luke 12.22-32; Romans 8.35-39)
- Prayer....to approach the throne of grace with confidence that the sovereign Lord is our heavenly Father, eager to hear our requests and bless us from His bounty! (Matthew 6.7-13; Romans 8.26-28; Hebrews 4.14-16)
- Loving, fatherly discipline we receive from God...the God of the heavens has taken a personal interest in our spiritual welfare--not only to declare us righteous but to also work practical righteousness by His great grace! (2 Samuel 12.7-14; Proverbs 3.11-12; 1 Corinthians 11.31-32; Hebrews 12.5-11)
- Unity with our brothers and sisters in Christ...as long as Christians [pursue "the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4.3)], we will never be alone...we face life's darkest trials alongside our brothers and sisters as the family of God (1 Thessalonians 5.11-18, 25; Philemon 1-25).
- The future inheritance of eternal life (1 Corinthians 15.50-57; 2 Corinthians 5.1-10; 1 Peter 1.3-5; Revelation 21.1-7)
- Progressive sanctification...He graciously pursues the welfare of His people with the same zeal with which He upholds the honor of His reputation, because [His people] bear His name (1 Samuel 12.22; Jeremiah 14.7; Daniel 9.17-19; 2 Corinthians 3.18, 7.1; 1 Peter 1.14-16).

13. What allotment, or inheritance, was given to the "tribe of Levi", the Levites? (see Joshua 13.14, 33; 14.3-4; 18.7)

¹J. MacArthur & R. Mayhue, "Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Biblical Truth" ppgs. 628-631

14. According to this definition, what inheritance have you been given? How is your inheritance the same, and/or different, from what God gave the Levites?
15. What does this recognition teach you about God, and how does it impact, shape, or encourage your faith today?

Your Scripture-Soaked Prayer: Ponder, meditate, and consider the sufficiency of God's faithfulness throughout your life. Use any scripture you like to praise God for the sufficiency of His faithfulness.

Lecture Outline:

Aim: Believers claim their spiritual inheritance through wholehearted faith.

- I. Authority of God (Joshua 13.1-14.5) T1: T1: Believers claim their spiritual inheritance through wholehearted obedience to the authority of the LORD God Almighty!
 - a. In which areas of your life is your obedience to God's authority non-existent or half-hearted?
 - b. How might you be missing the blessings of your inheritance because of your failure to wholeheartedly obey God?
 - c. What steps will you take to surrender to His authority in wholehearted obedience?
- II. Abandoned to God (Joshua 14.6-15) T2: Believers claim their spiritual inheritance through wholehearted trust in God's great faithfulness.
 - a. Which "what ifs" are causing you to doubt God's faithfulness?
 - b. What will you do to abandon those "what ifs" & abandon yourself to God instead?
- III. Allotments from God (Joshua 15-19) T3: Believers claim their spiritual inheritance by using their God-given gifts and talents to do all He commands them.
 - a. What gifts and talents has God allotted to you?
 - b. What commands has God given you to follow?
 - c. How does His divine 'allotment' for you inspire your obedience to His call and commands?