

Coming into our inheritance / remaining there

We want to speak on coming into our spiritual inheritance / remaining in it. Because some who come into their inheritance, later lose it.

We want to inherit every promise God has given us, and never forfeit it. Israel's journey from Egypt to the land of promise, is a pattern for us.

We have many tests to pass, before entering our spiritual inheritance God has given us many wonderful promises. We want to inherit all of them. But there are conditions that must be met, before getting our inheritance. Many of God's promises have conditions.

The word "If" is found over 1400 times in the Bible. This signifies conditions. If you do this I will give you this. But if not, you will not have what I promised

This is the main theme of Deuteronomy.

Most of Israel who came out of Egypt, failed their tests in the wilderness. 40 years later, a new generation was about to enter the land of promise. God kept saying to them continually in Deuteronomy:

When you get into the promises, beware do not forget the Lord your God. This is repeated over and over to the people coming into their inheritance. Be careful, after you've come into the promises, not to forget the Lord. So our theme today is to come into our inheritance, and then remain in it. Many Israelites were later cast out of the land of promise, their inheritance.

Let's look at Proverbs 2:20-21: we are told to "walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous. For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect [those without blemish] shall remain in it." Our main verse.

The righteous, the unblemished, shall remain in the land of promise.

They shall keep their inheritance. And retain God's full blessing

Isaiah 1:19 tells us the willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land.

Canaan was the land of promise, the inheritance of Israel.

This physical land represents our spiritual inheritance.

But first, there were battles to win and tests to pass, to obtain this land.

There were many enemies to drive out, much overcoming required.

In this land were many blessings, but most of all, Mount Zion.

Mount Zion represents the very presence of the Lord.

In his presence fullness of joy. The Lord himself wants to be our inheritance.

Mount Zion was the last fortress to be conquered.

It was conquered by King David, but later David lost it, because of sin.

For a moment: What is our spiritual inheritance?

1. The Lord himself wants to be our greatest inheritance. In his presence is fullness of joy. The Levites were given no physical land, the Lord himself was their inheritance: let's read Deuteronomy 18:2:

Deut. 18:2 Therefore shall the Levites have no inheritance [no physical land] among their brethren: the LORD is their inheritance, as he has said to them.

To have the Lord and his presence and favor, is everything.

The Lord is the source of all good things. He created all things.

To have his Full presence and favor Is to have everything.

2. Also, God wants to give us people for an inheritance. Psalm 2:8

Ps. 2:8 Ask of me, and I shall give you [nations] for your inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

Coming back now to our main theme:

Inheriting the land of promise, and remaining there.

Many who come into their inheritance, later forfeit it.

Success and prosperity can be very dangerous.

We want our works and our fruit to remain.

Jesus declared: in John 15:8* Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

But then he said: John 15:16* and that your fruit should remain:

This is so important, that our works and our fruit remains.

Many works and kingdoms are toppling today. Foundations are not good.

I am not interested in just coming into wonderful promises and blessings.

I want to be faithful and true and humble all the way to the finish line.

I want good fruit, much fruit, and fruit that remains.

I do not want just to come into a rich inheritance, I want to remain faithful.

We want the Lord to be able to say, well done good and faithful servant.

In the 1960s, I still remember vividly some pictures of skyscrapers in Brazil.

These high buildings were not built a good foundation.

They were actually beginning to tilt, and had to be demolished.

Big beautiful magnificent skyscrapers. But built upon a poor foundation.

This reminds me of Christian works and kingdoms that are toppling today.

We want our lives, our works, to be built on a good foundation.

To have many good works that remain.

An obedient life insures that our works will remain. I love Matthew 7:24:28:

Once again, this is our Creator's definition of wisdom: To hear His words and obey them. We are building our life on a solid foundation.

And when the storms of life beat upon our House, it will not fall.

Remember King Solomon. He had a rich spiritual inheritance.

He wrote 3000 proverbs. But, He disobeyed everything he preached.

1Ki 4:32 He spake 3000 proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five.

Can you imagine having 1000 women! And he preached on moderation.

Outwardly he appeared tremendously successful.

But he had a terrible end. He wrote Ecclesiastes. Depressed.

He heard the words of God but did not obey them, he was building upon the sand. And when the tests of life came, Great was his collapse.

Let's come back now to Israel journey from Egypt to the promised land. Joshua had led a new generation into the land of promise, their inheritance. The new generation had learned some lessons. They were tired of wandering with their rebellious parents in the wilderness. They crossed Jordan, we're circumcised, and began to drive out the enemies of the land, and possess their inheritance. But many of them were not wholehearted. They did not drive out all their enemies, but coexisted with them. They were filled with compromise. Many things not dealt with in their heart Many Christians Love God, but allow worldly things in their heart. Let's read Joshua 13:1:

Joshua 13:1 Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, you are old and stricken in years, and there remains yet very much land to be possessed.

There was still much unconquered territory in the land promise. Yes, they had gained their inheritance, but allowed mixture in their heart. Were coexisting with many of their enemies, in the land of their inheritance.

Now let's read Joshua 18:1-3. "And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them. And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance. And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?" Joshua 18:1-3, KJV.

Yes, they were in the land of inheritance, but were not wholehearted. Joshua exhorted them not to be so slack or halfhearted. Not to coexist and compromise with the evil in the World. This represents unsundered areas in their hearts. Not fully committed.

**This truth continues throughout the book of Judges.
Many of the 12 tribes, did not drive out all their enemies.
They settled for coexistence with their enemies, in their inheritance.
This caused many of them to lose their inheritance. Even exiled.
Or to lose some of their inheritance.
They could have had God's full blessing in the land of their inheritance.**

Let's look at several verses in Judges chapter 1:

1:21 "And the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites that inhabited Jerusalem; but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem unto this day."

1:27 "Neither did Manasseh drive out the inhabitants of Bethshean and her towns..."

1:29 "Neither did Ephraim drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwelt in Gezer among them."

1:30 "Neither did Zebulun drive out the inhabitants of Kitron, nor the inhabitants of Nahalol; but the Canaanites dwelt among them, and became tributaries."

1:31 "Neither did Asher drive out the inhabitants of Accho, nor the inhabitants of Zidon,..."

1:33 "Neither did Naphtali drive out the inhabitants of Bethshemesh,..."

**And there are many other verses saying the same thing. God's people did not deal with enemies inwardly or outwardly. In lost their inheritance.
So we need to be wholehearted, fully committed, no compromise.**

I am saying this for a reason. God is about to move in great revival power. God is about to bring his church into a great spiritual inheritance. He's going to show his great power, miracles, and blessings. But many Christians will lose these blessings, if not fully committed Jesus warns us in Matthew 24:9-13 that in the days just before he comes, Many Christians will be offended and hate one another, And that the love of many will turn cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.

So friends, we are not only interested in God's mighty moving and blessing. Yes, we want to see his glory and his miracles, and his power. But... When these blessings come upon us, we want to remain faithful and true. For there are also coming great difficult times. Jesus warned: There is coming a time of trouble that the world has never seen. So, We need to be rooted and grounded and fully committed.

Called, Chosen, and Faithful

The Lord is coming for a beautiful bride without spot or blemish. Revelation 17:14 describes the people who are coming back with him to rule and reign upon the earth for 1000 years. These are a group of over-comers. Re 17:14* describes the Lamb ... that He is “the Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Let's talk about three different stages of growth in Christians. The Called, the chosen, and the faithful. Many are called but few are chosen. A call, is an invitation. Please come. Everybody is invited or called to eternal life. But many ignore the invitation. Of course, a call is also a task to perform, a mission, a ministry. But... Many avoid the needed preparation. So they do not qualify for the position. Every Christian is called to be conformed to Christ's image. To be his Bride. This requires much preparation, and obedience. The bride must make herself ready. Then we must be faithful all the way to the end.

Being unblemished

In the New Testament, every believer is called to be a priest unto God. To offer up spiritual sacrifices (1 Pet. 2:5,9, Rev.1:6, 5:10).

Every saint of God is beckoned to come within the veil, into the presence of God. Access into God's presence has been opened for us because of Christ's perfect Sacrifice (Mt. 27:51, Heb.10:19-20).

Yet, any priest who had a blemish was limited in his approach to God within the veil. He was also limited in his ability to minister to others. The 12 blemishes in Leviticus 21:16-24, have a remarkable spiritual significance for all of us. Let's consider these twelve blemishes:

These physical defects represent spiritual problems that hinder our growth

Blindness - no ongoing vision. Without vision we live carelessly.

Lameness-injured walk. Sometimes wrong choices injure our effectiveness.

Flat nose - no discernment. Nose instrument of discernment.

Superfluous - monstrosity. Over emphasis of something. Imbalance truth

Brokenfooted - unreliable. A foot that goes out of joint unexpectedly

Brokenhanded - no grasp. We must have ability to understand truth

Crookbackt - no moral uprightness. Immorality can ruin our life.

Dwarf - never growing up. Paul - the Corinthian's were spiritual babies

Blemish in eye - blindspots, hypocrisy. Not seeing things correctly

Scurvy - poor spiritual diet. We need good spiritual food.

Scabbed - oversensitive, unhealed. Unforgiveness or bitterness

Stones broken - unproductive. Not fruitful

May the Lord bring us into our inheritance.

May we allow God to deal with every area of our heart.

We need to drive out every enemy. And enter into rest.

May we be an unblemished person. Called, chosen and faithful.

Not only to come into our inheritance, but to remain in it.

God bless you.