

15th May 2019.

BEWARE OF THE FAILURE OF COMPLETE VICTORY.

Joshua 16 & 17.

In continuance with our study in the book of Joshua, seeing the apportioning of the land promised to the children of Israel by God, being administered by Joshua and Eleazar the priest. As noted from chapter 14, this was done by lots, and having seen the tribe of Judah get their portion last week, as well as Caleb the choice parts, because he wholeheartedly obeyed the Lord, even as we learnt from his daughter last week of the necessity to seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit as the only means by which we can fully benefit of our Divine inheritance.

As we see the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim get their portions today, being the sons of Joseph that Jacob/Israel had adopted to take Josephs' inheritance in him in both chapters 16 and 17. We are reminded that the whole experience of the children of Israel getting out of the bondage in Egypt passing through the wilderness is a spiritual allegory, representative of we as Christians getting out of the bondage of sin, the crossing of the Red Sea being equivalent to our Baptism, and coming into the land of promise being representative of coming into the walk with God in the Spirit that He desires each of us to know and enjoy, in full victory over every area that the enemy has had a stronghold in our lives. And that if we allow any of the enemy's strongholds to remain in our lives they are going to become a continual and constant problem to us in our spiritual growth and fulfillment. As we noted last week, we may well learn from the failures of Israel to beware lest we ourselves fail to judge every evil thing that Satan would use to hinder our enjoyment of the things of Christ. We are called to deal unsparingly with every unholy thought and every sinful tendency, cleansing ourselves from "all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."(2 Cor.7:1)

God has provided all we need to have our complete victory in life as we walk in the Spirit, as it is written in 2 Peter 1:2 - 4 that "Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you

may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” Yet like the Israelites many of us fall short of fully paying the price it takes for us to live in that victory, holding on to our fleshly tendencies that limit our potential in God. As though God would give us anything that isn’t good for us.

Let us read the passages [chapters 16&17].....

Note 16:10....

[After verse 6 ch.17].... Because the inheritance was passed to the firstborn son in every family, when Zelophehad died, his daughters came to Moses in Numbers 27 and said, “Just because our father had no sons, does that mean we don’t get any inheritance? Are we left out of the equation?” When he sought the Lord, the Lord told Moses that the daughters were to indeed receive the inheritance.

However, in Numbers 36, further information was given when the stipulation was made that they had to marry within their tribe lest their inheritance be transferred to another tribe, causing the boundaries to change.

[Read on.....]

The tribesmen of Manasseh, typical of many of us, complained that Joshua did not allot them land sufficient to their numbers and that the Canaanites were too tough for them to drive out altogether!

He permits them the extra land in forested hills that they could clear. And that they should drive out the Canaanites for God had promised to be with them in victory against chariots.

Deut. 20:1 “When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.”

Which gets back to our own need to realize the victory God has given us as stated in all the scriptures as written in Psalms 19:7-14.....

As already noted in 2 Peter 1:2 – 4; It is through God’s exceedingly great and precious promises, that we become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Yet verses 5 – 11 spell it out that.....