

## Sunday Night Message

February 18, 2018

Joshua 12 and 13 – *A Review of Israel's Conquests*

Series – *Joshua*

Text – Joshua 14

### Introduction

Beginning in this chapter, we will see how Israel develops as a nation finally within their own land. For the most part, the battles are over, and the people will divide and settle into the land. We will in the coming chapters, which tribes get which portion of land. In this chapter, we will get a very broad view of the land division on the west and east of the Jordan River. We will also meet an old acquaintance who, now forty-five years older than when we last saw him in the Book of Numbers, is still just as faithful to the Lord, and just as feisty. He is eighty-five and he still wants to conquer mountains for the Lord.

#### I The Boundaries within the Land (vs. 1 – 5)

The attached map will show us where all of the tribes will end up, but as far as our text is concerned, we only see the broad divisions east and west of the Jordan River. There are eight and one-half tribes on the west side of the Jordan; and two and one-half tribes on the east side of the Jordan River. There was one tribe – Levi- who did not receive any land, only cities and suburbs within the borders of the other tribes. These were Levitical cities (48 total), and some were called cities of refuge. (Joshua 21:41; Numbers 35:9 – 28; Joshua 20:1 – 9)

#### II The Boldness of Caleb (vs. 6 – 12)

Six times in Scripture it states that Caleb “*wholly followed the Lord.*” Could that be said of you or me?

There were only two people out of the congregation who were assured that would not see death until after Israel entered into the land: Joshua and Caleb.

Caleb was 85 years old when he conquered Hebron for the Lord.

**The Bible is full of examples of other older people who accomplished amazing things:**

Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90 when she gave birth to Isaac.

Moses was 80 when he was called by God to deliver the Israelites out of Egypt.

Joshua was 80 years old when he took over for Moses.

Daniel was over 80 years old when he was thrown into the lion’s den.

Zacharias and Elizabeth were both “well stricken in years” when she gave birth to John the Baptist.

Anna was 84 and was serving the Lord with prayer and fasting when the Lord Jesus was presented in the temple.

Paul was “aged” but was still just as fervent in his service for the Lord.

History records countless achievement made by older people:

Benjamin Franklin signed the Declaration of Independence at 70 and remained active in American politics for years later.

Laura Ingalls Wilder whose books inspired the famous television series, Little House on the Prairie, did not begin writing until she was 64.

The famous architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, designed his masterpiece, the Guggenheim Museum when he was 90.

Colonel Sanders didn’t open his first Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant until he was 65.

Thomas Edison invented the telephone at 84.

At our church, we are blessed to have several men and women who are still fighting the battle for the Lord, even though they are in their retirement years. (Bob Berthold – treasurer and detention center; Bob Fenton – detention center, senior care; Don Price – deacon and building committee chairman; Mrs. Hand – in her 90’s, yet still actively intercedes in prayer for this church)

## **1 Caleb Was a Man of Great Faith When He Was Young**

Turn to Numbers 13:1 – 3; 6; 17 – 33; 14:1 – 10

a Caleb did not follow the crowd.

b Caleb respected and revered Moses, a much older man.

*"The hoary head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness." (Proverbs 16:31)*

*"With the ancient is wisdom; and in length of days understanding." (Job 12:12)*

Young people would do very well to learn as much as you can from the older generation.

*"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." (1 Peter 5:5)*

Young ladies should learn from the older women.

*"The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed." (Titus 2:3-5)*

## **2 Caleb Was A Men of Great Forbearance (Patience) When He Was Middle-aged**

Because the people of Israel didn't trust God, God had to postpone their entrance into the Promised Land. Caleb did not get bitter at God or the people. He just continued to serve his Lord and the people of God. He waited 40 years while they wandered in the wilderness, and then he waited some more as they fought other battles when they first entered into the Land.

*"For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the LORD, they shall inherit the earth."  
(Psalm 37:9)*

*"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)*

### **3 Caleb Was a Man of Great Fight When He Was Old**

At eighty-five, he was still fighting zealously for the Lord. He didn't retire to the easy chair. He was no longer fighting for his own benefit, but was fighting for the Lord, for his family, and for future generations.

*"And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in. Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said." (Joshua 14:10-12)*

*"And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak." (Joshua 15:14)*

Caleb was still conquering mountains for the Lord at eighty-five; he was still in the battle. What is your excuse?

Young People – Serve the Lord with Zeal and listen to the wisdom of your elders.

Middle-Aged People – Be patient. Don't get discouraged because you are still serving but maybe have not yet seen a great amount of fruit from your labors.

Old Timers – Don't put down your sword yet. Keep fighting for as long as you can, and work to mentor and train the next generation.

There may be some more mountains for you to conquer – don't retire from the Lord's work.

### **The Blessing of Joshua (vs. 13 – 15)**

Caleb is the first to receive his portion of the land, beside the divisions that were already given on the other side of the Jordan River.



**THE TRIBAL ALLOTMENTS OF ISRAEL**

JOSH 13:8-19:49

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak

