

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in Message
Worship in Giving

Wayne Braudrick

Inheritance Choices

Joshua 13:1-7

Legacy Series

Life Change: We execute God’s will.

Pitfalls in probate...

Joshua is old and has achieved much

1

Joshua the man

Joshua the leader

Joshua the legal writer

Joshua is commanded to execute God’s will

2-7

The import of the term “inheritance”

The nature of the inheritance:

It is God-given

It changes everything

It requires hard work to fully possess it

It is for their testing and development

How does this affect my life?

Premise – Why we are studying this:

The Christian today needs to cling to the Lord our God, learning that the life of possessing our inheritance is a life of faith. We are quick to abandon that singular trust in God which has brought us life, hope, joy, justification, and every spiritual blessing. We become so enamored with ourselves, the stuff of life, or even the good spiritual blessing we’re granted that we lose sight of the Giver Himself.

Objective – What we hope to see God accomplish in us through the study: That we choose to serve the Lord with our inheritance.

Theme – What the study is about:

For Israel, this study details the granting of the land of inheritance and the instructions for fully possessing it. Further, it re-emphasizes the themes of reliance upon the Lord God, His Word, and the keeping of the covenant. For the Christian, this last section of Joshua reminds us of our great inheritance in Christ (our Joshua) and of the need to live by trust in the Lord and His Word. Otherwise, our inheritance will become fouled, our sanctification sullied.

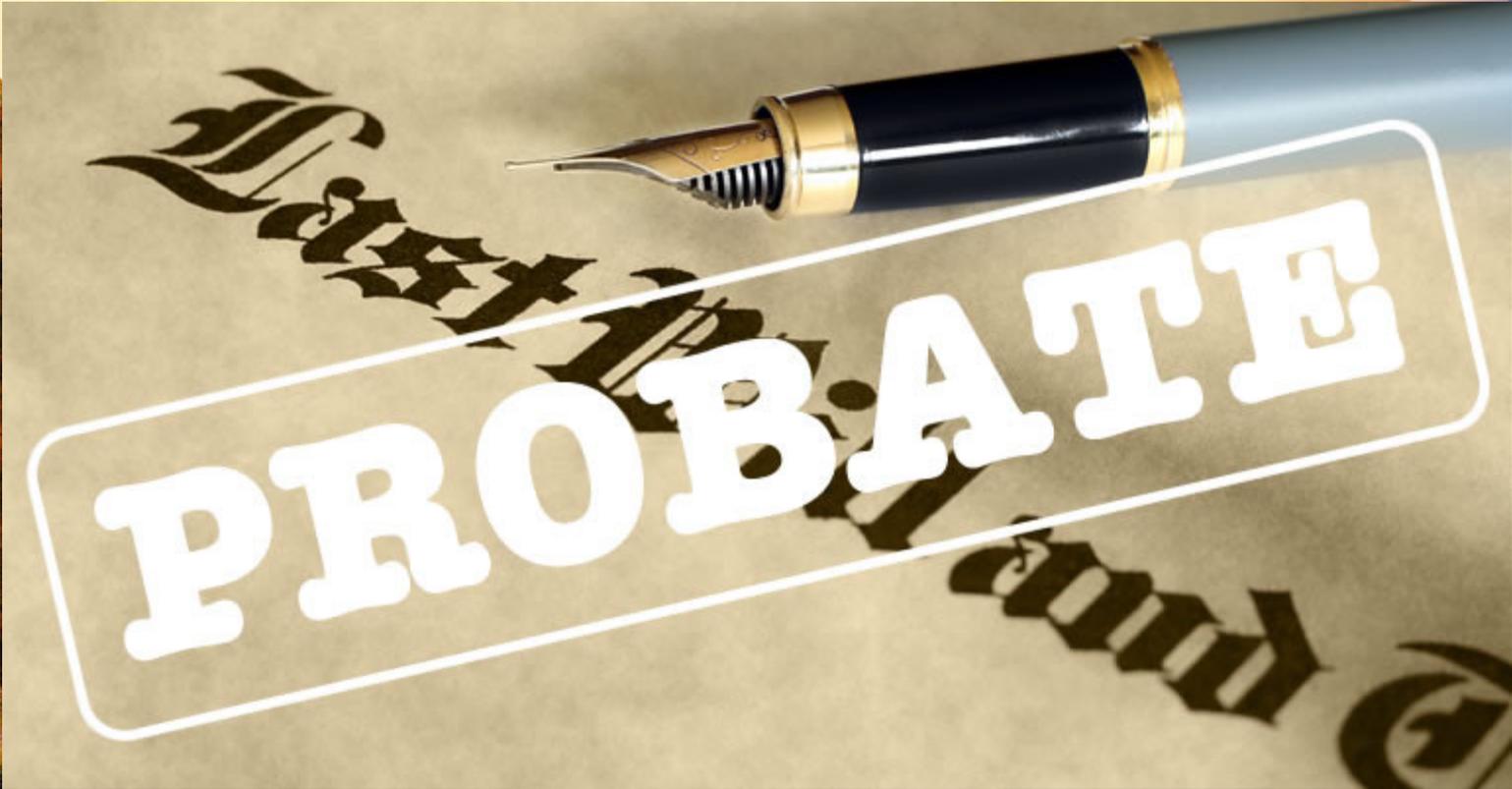
Big question: Will I execute God’s will?

A scenic mountain valley with a river, overlaid with a large diamond-shaped graphic. The background shows a wide valley with a river winding through it, surrounded by steep, rocky mountains. The sky is filled with soft, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. A large, semi-transparent diamond shape is centered over the image, with a gradient from yellow to green.

LEGACY

a study of Joshua 13-24

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE



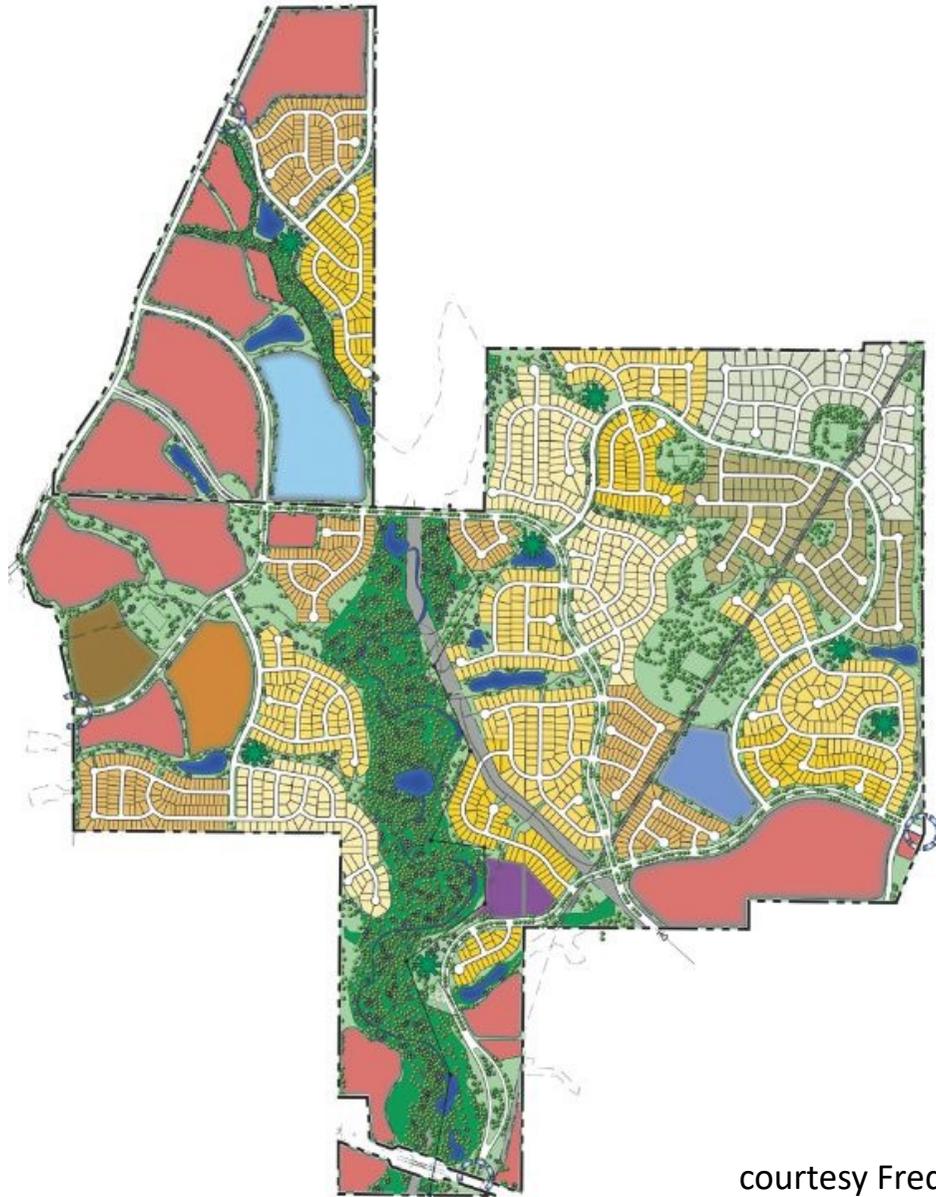
courtesy Laroche firm



courtesy guncounseling

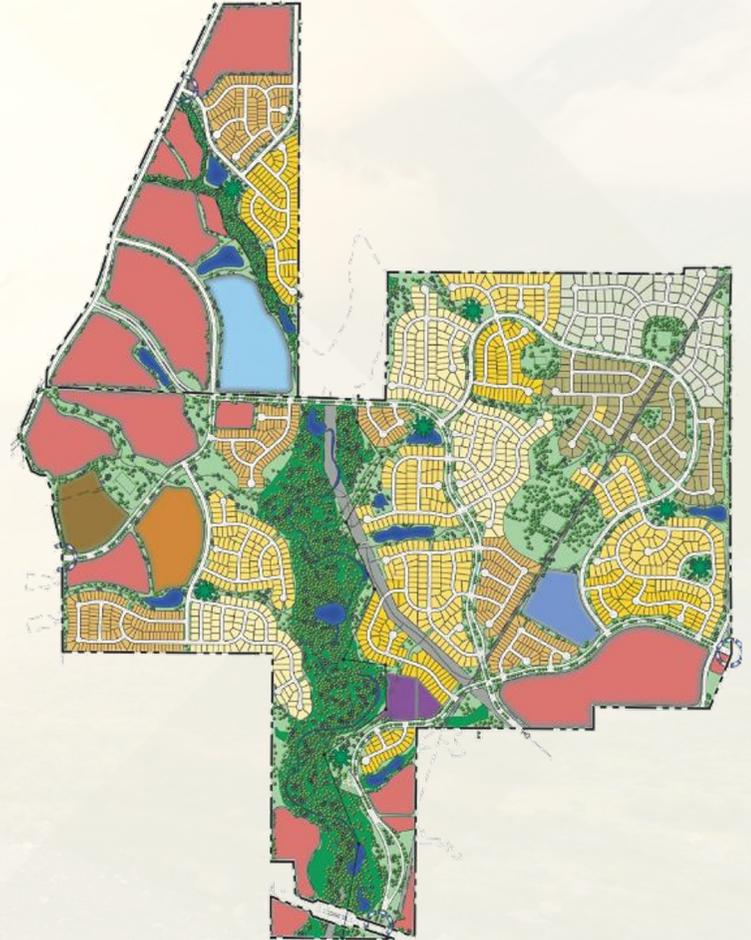


courtesy Frederick Willis



courtesy Frederick Willis

This one child absurdly thought he was owed something more. He kept an army of lawyers employed for years and prevented an entire family from doing what their parents had wanted.





courtesy Frederick Willis



*The Prodigal Son
Collects His
Inheritance to Waste*
Bartolomé Esteban
Murillo
1660s

**Why not give
the legacy to
your children
right now?**

**They don't know
how to handle
money; they'd
just waste it all.**



Won't they squander it as badly after you're dead?

I'll be gone then, so who cares?



GOD.

**I'll be gone
then, so who
cares?**



The cumulative effect is horrible – not only for the legatee but also for the community. This explains why



under old British common law anybody who didn't take possession of their inheritance lands had to forfeit those properties.

GOD.

**I'll be gone
then, so who
cares?**



Joshua 13

¹ Joshua was now old, advanced in age, and the LORD said to him, “You have become old, advanced in age, but a great deal of the land remains to be possessed.”

CSB

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Joshua

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1 Sa

2 Sa

We got old
Amy Davis
2014



courtesy Baltimore Sun

Joshua 13

¹ Joshua was now old, advanced in age, and the LORD said to him, “You have become old, advanced in age, but a great deal of the land remains to be possessed.”



Hebrew: זָקֵן zaqen = old; when combined with a participle like “advanced,” zaqen describes great accomplishment; [Modern: “You’re the Man!”]

Joshua the slave learned...

That by His hand, the true God brings freedom from slavery.

- Hoshea – “salvation”
- Joshua – “YHWH saves”



Joshua the soldier learned...

- **God has His people fight for right.**
- **The battle is won by the Lord.**



Exodus 33

⁹ And it came about, whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the LORD would speak with Moses. ¹⁰ When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent. ¹¹ Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent. ^{NASB}

Joshua the worshipper learned...

**To witness God's
power and to
honor Him in
everything.**



Joshua humbled in Numbers 11 learned...

- **God's Word and work are paramount.**
- **Everything else (even respecting leaders) is secondary.**

Joshua the scout learned...

- To trust God even when all others said they were too scared to take God's promise.
- To trust God even in the face of death.

Book of Hours, French ca. A.D. 1500



Joshua 13

¹ Joshua was now old, advanced in age, and the LORD said to him, “You have become old, advanced in age, but a great deal of the land remains to be possessed.”

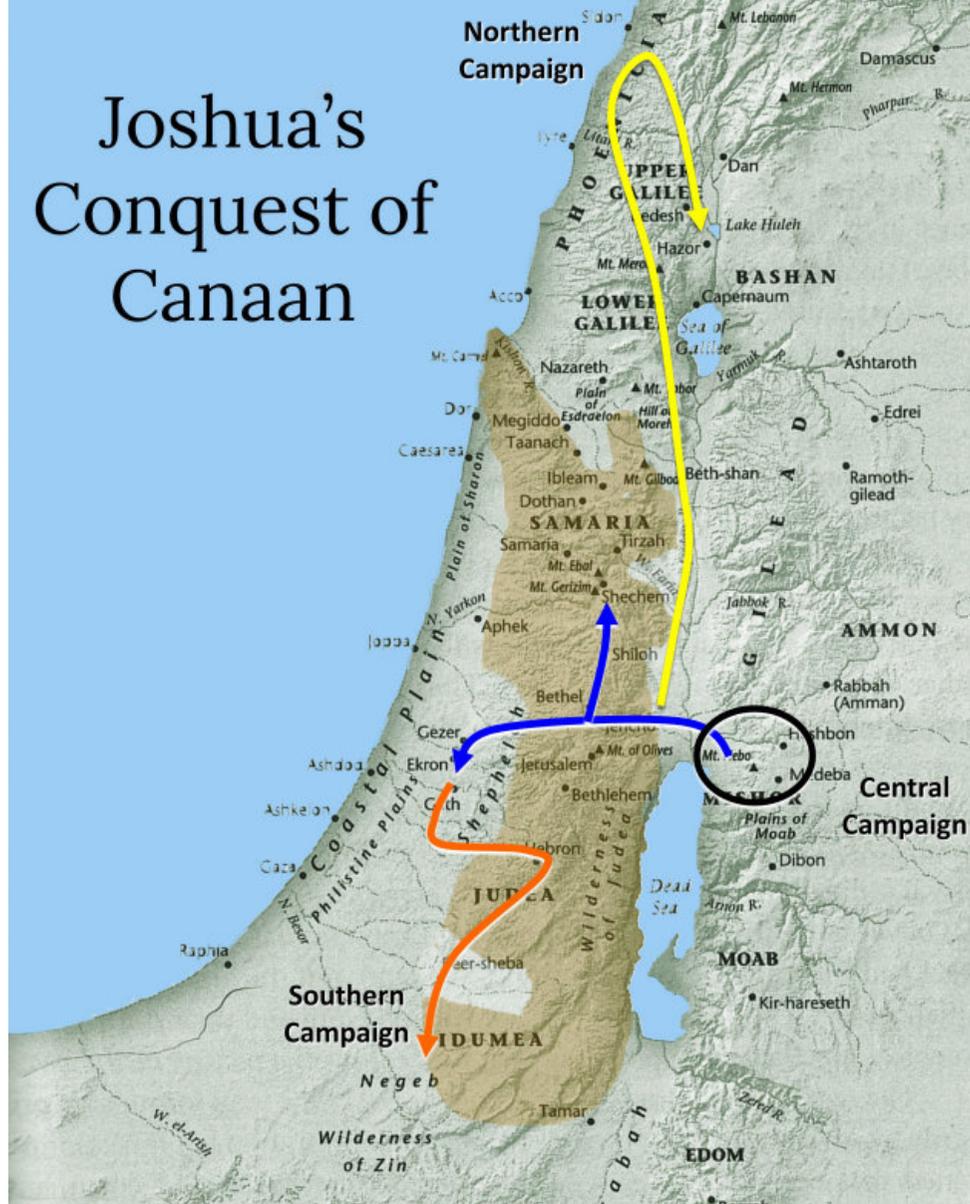


courtesy Middlesex University



courtesy Middlesex University

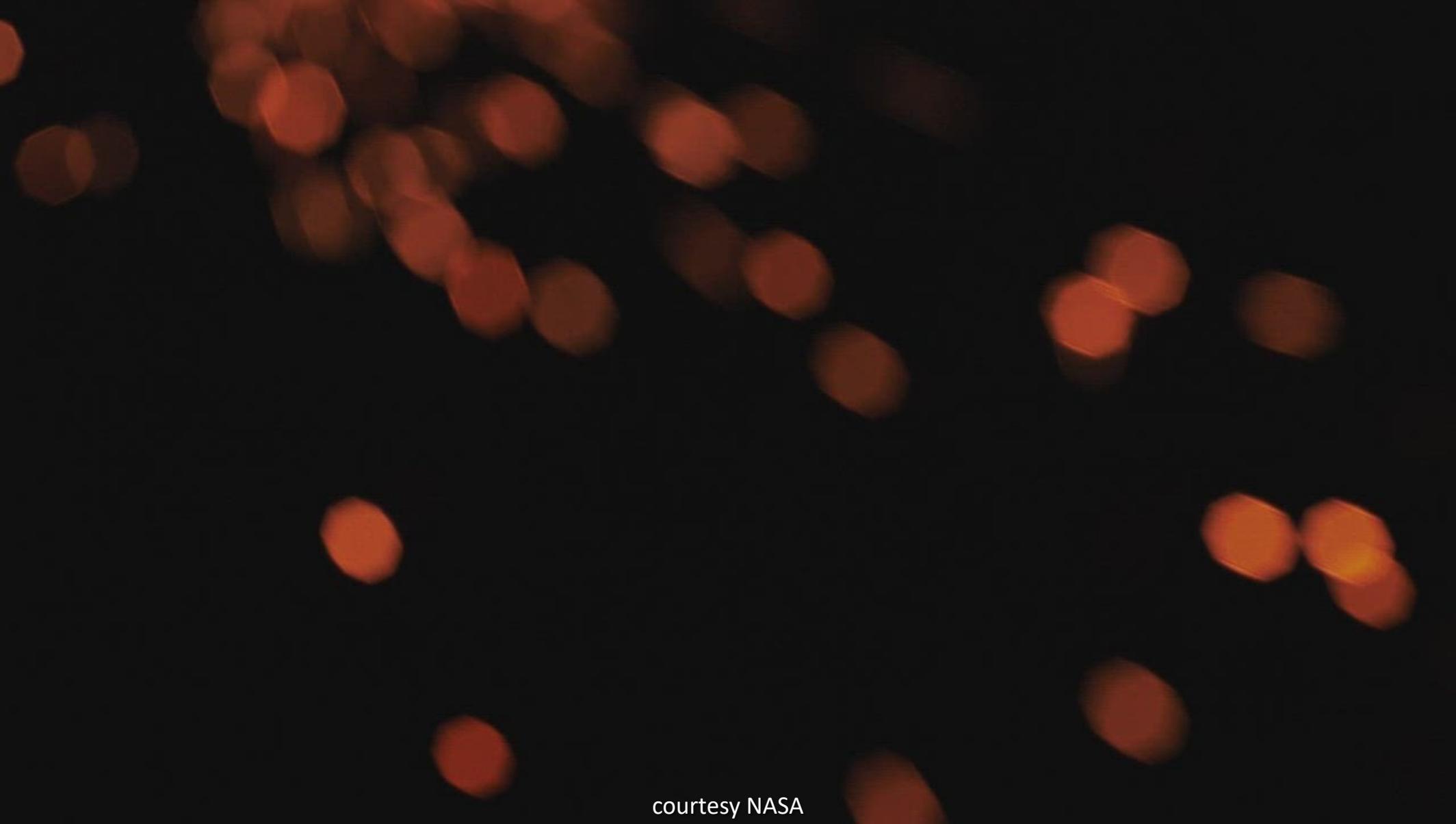
Joshua's Conquest of Canaan



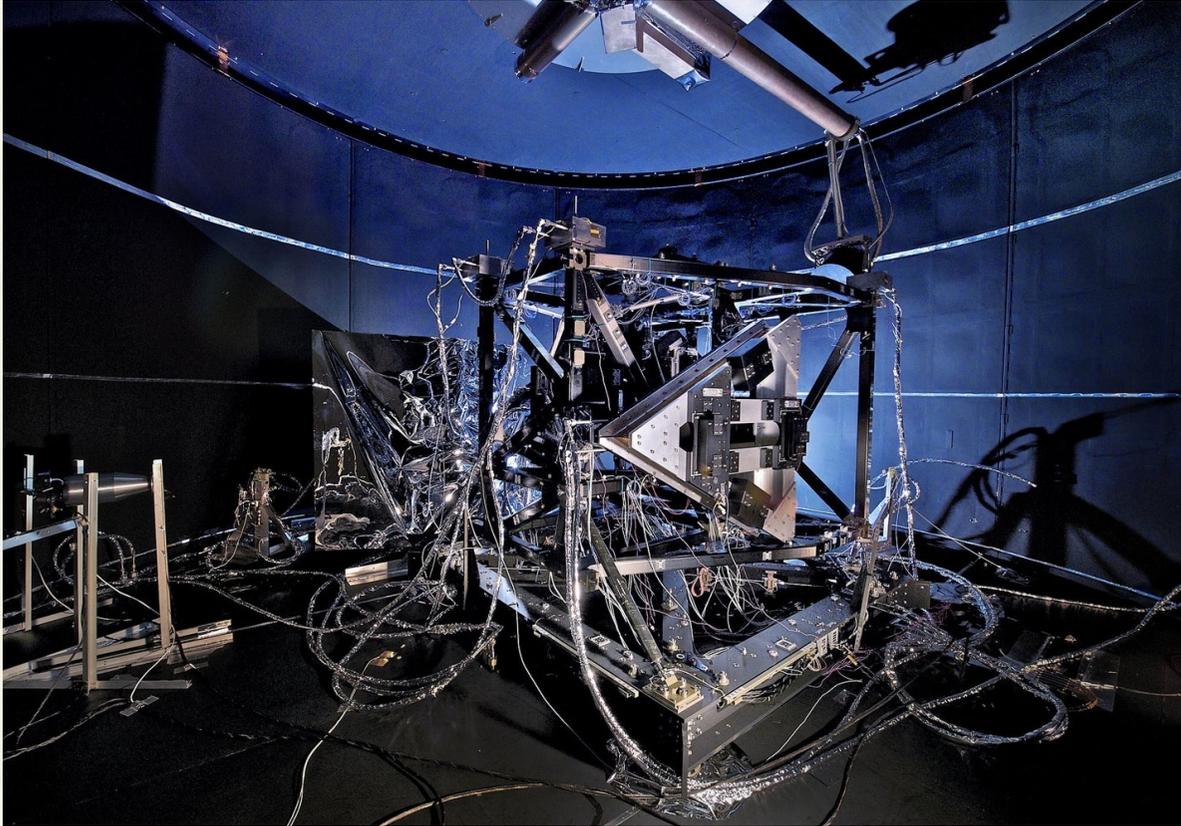
Joshua the leader learned...

- **Humility** – taking no rewards from success
- **Responsibility** – shifting no blame





courtesy NASA



NASA's James Webb Space Telescope:

- **\$1 billion budget had run to \$10 bn.**
- **Thousands of workers lacked direction.**



**Greg
Robinson**

courtesy NASA

Even on a team of 10,000 people working on a \$10 billion project, one person can make a difference. And it's not always the person you expect. You probably don't know his name, and you wouldn't know it by listening to him, but nobody on this planet had a bigger hand in Webb finally launching on Christmas last year than Mr. Robinson. He worked such wonders that [Dr. Zurbuchen] called him "the most effective leader of a mission I have ever seen in the history of NASA." – Ben Cohen, "The NASA Engineer Who Made the James Webb Space Telescope Work"

Joshua the legal writer learned...

To record
and execute
God's will.



Joshua 13

² This is the land that remains:

All the districts of the Philistines and the Geshurites:

³ from the Shihor east of Egypt to the border of Ekron on the north (considered to be Canaanite territory)—the five Philistine rulers of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, and Ekron, as well as the Avvites ⁴ in the south; all the land of the Canaanites, from Arah of the Sidonians to Aphek and as far as the border of the Amorites;

Joshua 13

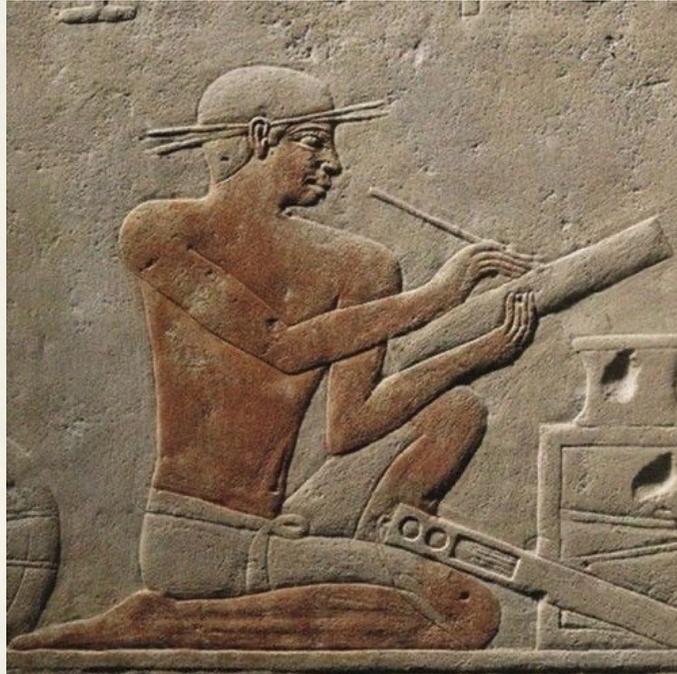
⁵ the land of the Gebalites; and all Lebanon east from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon to the entrance of Hamath—⁶ all the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, all the Sidonians. I will drive them out before the Israelites, only distribute the land as an inheritance for Israel, as I have commanded you. ⁷ Therefore, divide this land as an inheritance to the nine tribes and half the tribe of Manasseh.” CSB

Joshua 12

7 Joshua gave their land as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their allotments



Joshua executed God's will.



courtesy Le Louvre



Joshua 13

7 Therefore, divide this land as an inheritance to the nine tribes and half the tribe of Manasseh.”

Hebrew: נַחֲלָה nahala = heritage, heirloom, legacy, gift passed down



Joshua 13

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- The nahala inheritance is permanent and legally binding.
- An inheritance has to be possessed for one's full ownership to begin. Thus, unless you start caring for and using the inherited camels, they become camels without owners. No one else can claim them, but you haven't made them yours.

Joshua 13

**⁶ I will
drive them out
before the Israelites, only
distribute the land as an
inheritance for Israel, as I
have commanded
you. ^{CSB}**

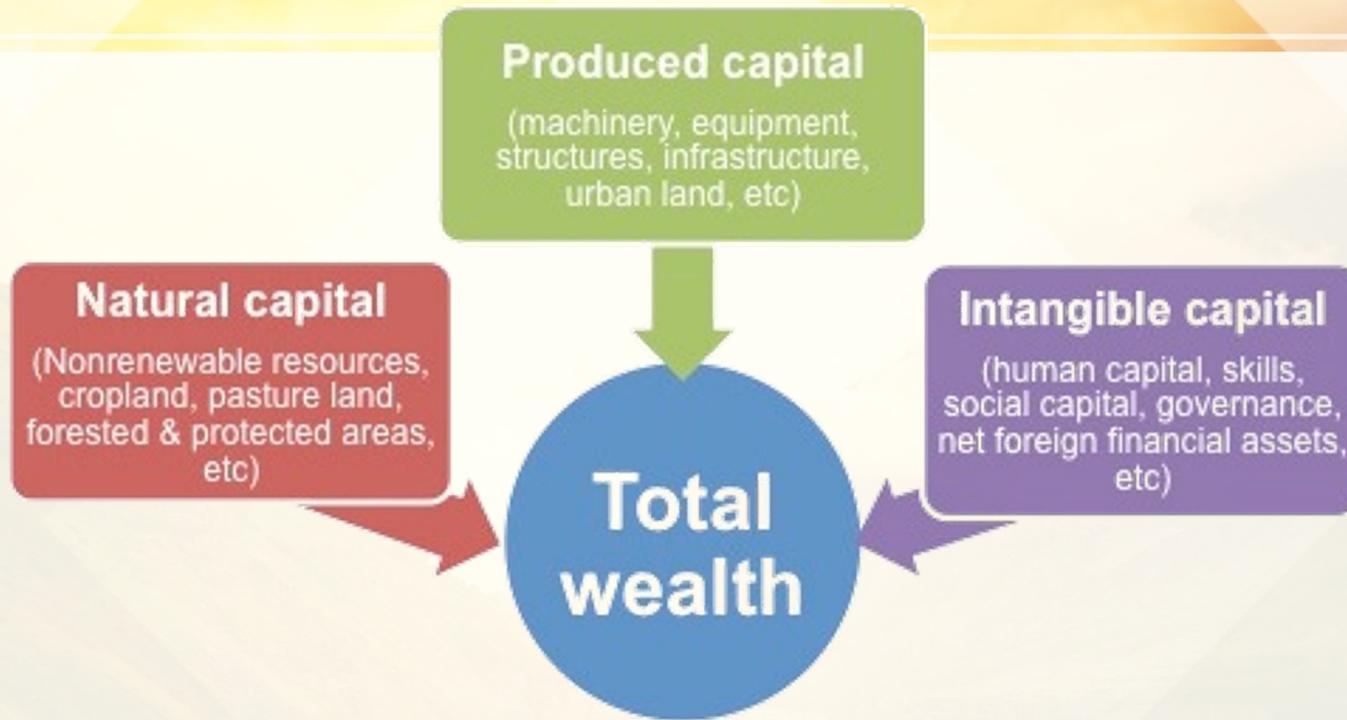
In the name of God Amen

John Skellye of Charlney in the County of Middlesex... day of July 1607 beinge Wednes day of the month of July... be given unto allmighty god do make this my last will and testament in manner and forme followinge: first I bequeath my soule unto god my maker and unto hise churche my sauour and the holys of the church... my sanctifour three sonne and one god... the dispose of my Executor in churche binnall them I bequeath unto within the towne my sonne a meade called Sawtans meade... containinge fower acres of grounde and one lode, And one cottage lyinge in Oxmerton lane with thre acres of pasture belonginge to the same and fower acres of pasture and a halfe lyinge south and south adrioy... minge to the marke to him and to his heires of his body lawfully begotten and for wante of such heires unto John Skellye and his heires. and for wante of heires to the right heires alike againe... I thin I bequeath unto my wife this Skellye my house dwellinge house situate in Oxmerton with oghard and barbeside and all other out houses stables and edifices there unto belonginge what so ever... I thin I give more unto my wife fower acres be it more or lesse beinge a fild called parsons hild I thin I haue more lyinge in thre... fowerall filds one called the hillye fild with two other adrioyngs to

Will of John Skellye, an early trust from England

Joshua 13

**⁶ I will
drive them out
before the Israelites, only
distribute the land as an
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have commanded
you. ^{CSB}**



The data shows that a Mexican migrant to the U.S. is five times more productive than one who stays home. Why is that? – Ronald Bailey

The difference is in intangible wealth. The average American has access to over \$418,000 in intangible wealth, while the stay-at-home Mexican's intangible wealth is just \$34,000. [Intangible capital comprises] factors such as trust among people in a society, an efficient judicial system, clear property rights, effective government and respect for education. – Ronald Bailey

courtesy Reason; Mr. Bailey is ironically unreasonable about Christianity, which engenders more intangible capital than anything else in history.

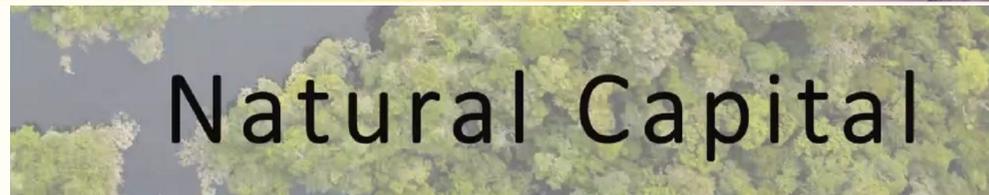




courtesy The Vatican

“Where is the Wealth of Nations?”

- US natural capital is \$15,000 per person, which means there is \$15K worth of natural resource wealth.



- Produced capital is \$80,000 pp, meaning \$80K worth of roads, books, buildings, manufactured items, & food.



- Intangible capital is \$418,000 pp, indicating rule of law, skilled work, lack of corruption.



“Where is the Wealth of Nations?”

Mexico

- Natural capital = \$8,500 per person.
- Produced capital = \$19,000 pp.
- Intangible capital = \$34,500 pp.

USA

- Natural capital = \$15,000 per person.
- Produced capital = \$80,000 pp.
- Intangible capital = \$418,000 pp.

Israel's inherited intangible wealth

- Every 50 years all debts are forgiven.
- They can't charge each other interest.
- The only ancient society to forbid internal slavery.
- The most efficient judicial system.
- The clearest property rights.
- Began the first ever compulsory public system of education.



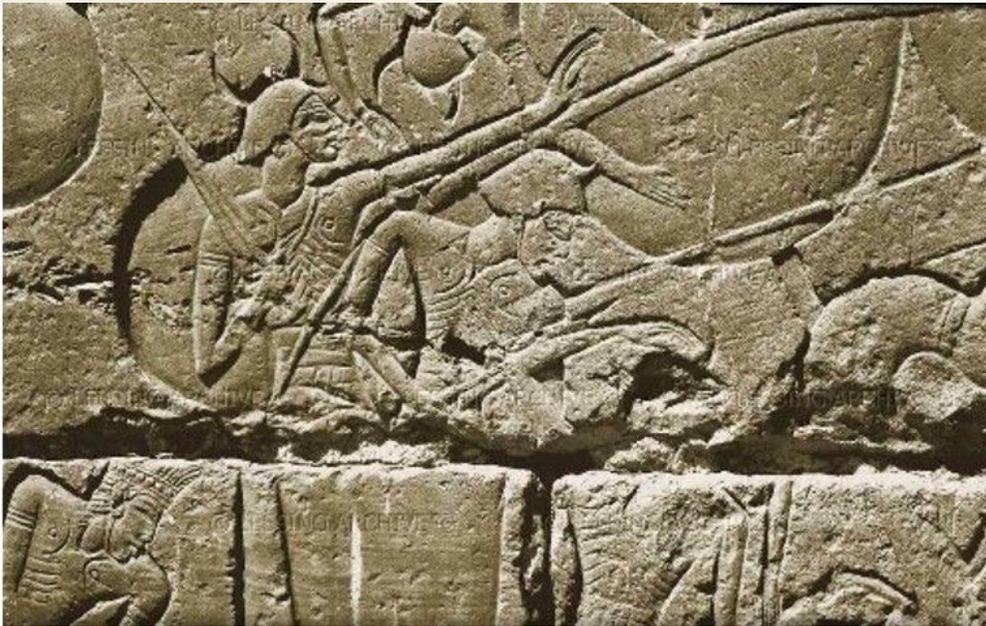
Joshua 13

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**These roving pirates were called the “Sea Peoples.”
Odysseus pretend to be a pirate on his journey home,
allowing him to gain shelter from the Sea Peoples in**



**the land where they
were squatting. That’s
who the Philistines are:
seafaring, piratical
squatters.**

Joshua 13

³ from the Shihor east of Egypt to the border of Ekron on the north (considered to be Canaanite territory)—the five Philistine rulers of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, and Ekron

Hebrew: שָׂרֵן saren = dictator; originally, the center hub of a wheel; used only to describe Philistine warlords, it shows a complete concentration of power



It changed everything



Apple ipod with original model



Tony Fadell



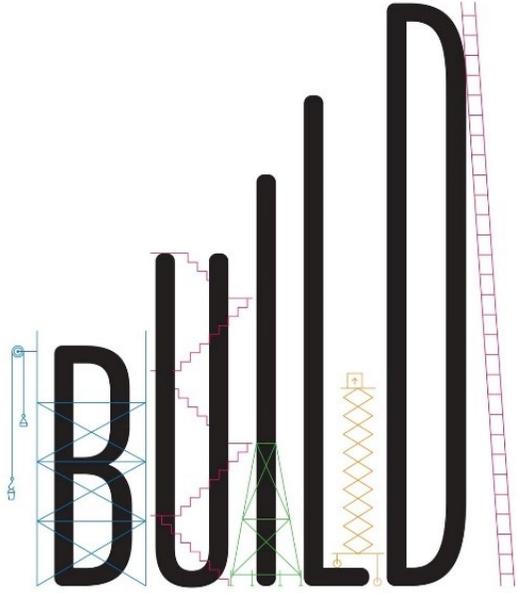
courtesy Google



An Unorthodox Guide
to Making Things Worth Making

TONY FADELL

**When I was four or five years old,
my grandfather showed me how
to build things, paint, saw.
Through years of fixing bikes,
repairing lawn mowers, I learned
how things work.**



An Unorthodox Guide
to Making Things Worth Making

TONY FADELL

To do great things, to really learn, you can't shout suggestions from the rooftop then move on while someone else does the work. You have to get your hands dirty. You have to care about every step, lovingly craft every detail.

It takes hard work to excel at the craft of building...And it is incredibly problematic to attempt work with entitled people [like] the Google employees who complained when...they had to walk more than 200 feet for snacks. – Tony Fadell, *Build*



Joshua 13

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The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor a man perfected without trials. – T'ang Dynasty proverb

**Preacher, how
does this
affect my life?**



Premise (why we are studying this):

The Christian today needs to cling to the Lord our God, learning that the life of possessing our inheritance is a life of faith. We are quick to abandon that singular trust in God which has brought us life, hope, joy, justification, and every spiritual blessing. We become so enamored with ourselves, the stuff of life, or even the good spiritual blessing we're granted that we lose sight of the Giver Himself.

Joshua 23



**...You are to cling to the LORD your God
...for the LORD your God is He who
fights for you,
just as He promised you.
(Joshua 23:8-10 NASB)**

Francis Schaeffer

If you and I have cast ourselves upon Christ, if we have believed in him in the biblical way, if we have been justified, the central battle has been won, just as when the Israelites' southern and northern campaigns broke the heart of the resistance. But there are also promises made to Christians. We are called upon to *possess our possessions*...What was the Israelites' trouble? Why did they not possess their possessions? Very simple: They wanted their peace and materialism. These things always stand in the way of the people of God.

...Back in Joshua's day when the master conquest was over God was the same, his promise was the same, his power was the same. But the people did not possess their possessions because of their desire for peace and for tribute. We Christians stand in this same danger. It is all too easy to fail to possess the possessions God has promised because we either draw back out of fear of the troubles that being a Christian will bring us or we become caught up in the affluent society where people sail their little boats upon this plastic culture. – Francis Schaeffer, *Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History*



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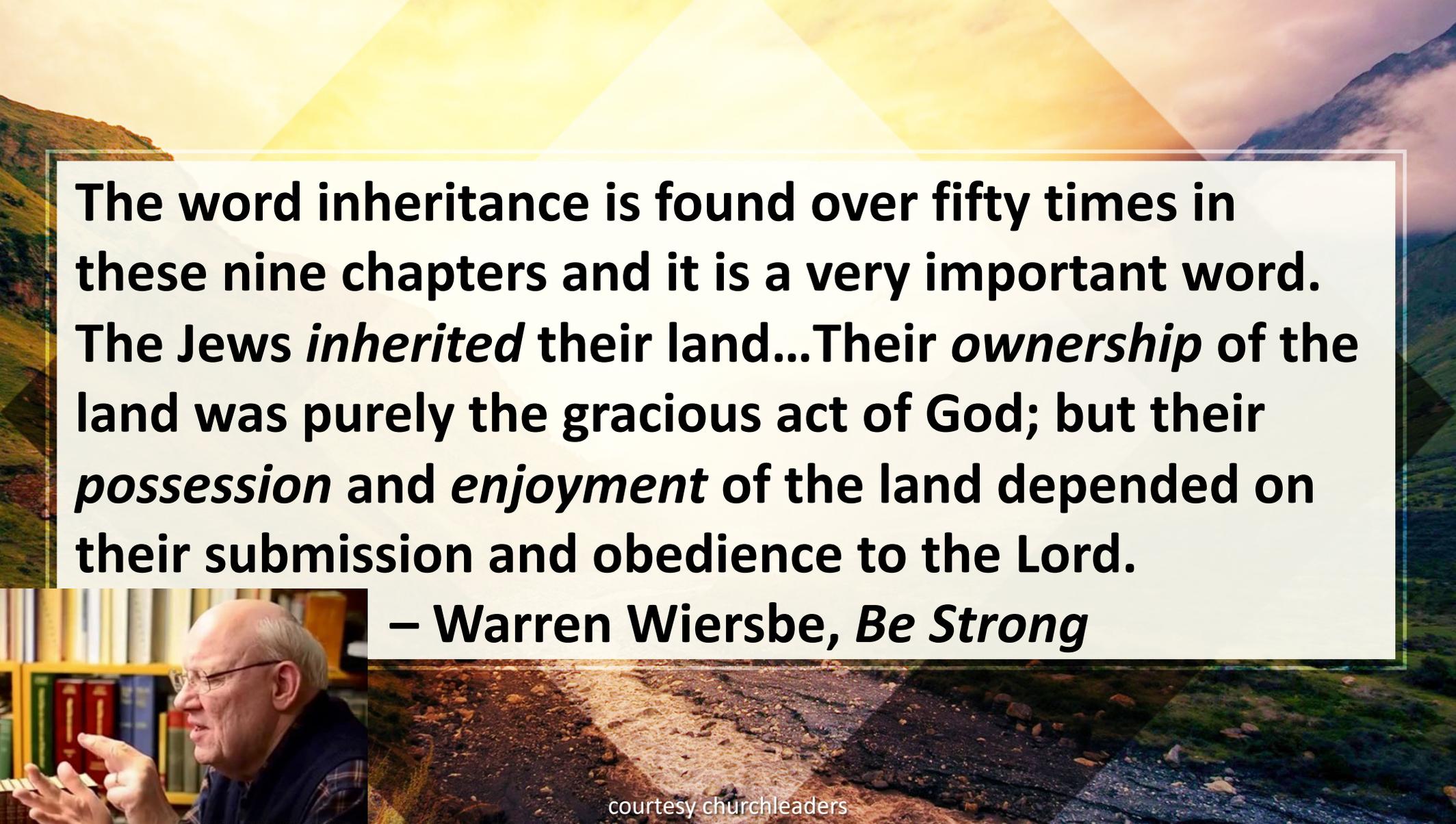
Objective (what we hope to see God accomplish in us through the study): That we choose to serve the Lord with our inheritance.

Joshua 24

¹⁵ But if it doesn't please you to worship the LORD, choose for yourselves today: Which will you worship—the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living? As for me and my family, we will worship the LORD.” ^{CSB}

Theme of the study (what the study is about):

For Israel, this study details the granting of the land of inheritance and the instructions for fully possessing it. Further, it re-emphasizes the themes of reliance upon the Lord God, His Word, and the keeping of the covenant. For the Christian, this last section of Joshua reminds us of our great inheritance in Christ (our Joshua) and of the need to live by trust in the Lord and His Word. Otherwise, our inheritance will become fouled, our sanctification sullied.



The word inheritance is found over fifty times in these nine chapters and it is a very important word. The Jews *inherited* their land...Their *ownership* of the land was purely the gracious act of God; but their *possession* and *enjoyment* of the land depended on their submission and obedience to the Lord.

– Warren Wiersbe, *Be Strong*





courtesy Frederick Willis



*The Prodigal Son
Collects His
Inheritance to Waste*
Bartolomé Esteban
Murillo
1660s

*The Return of the
Prodigal Son*
Bartolomé Esteban
Murillo
1670



courtesy The National Gallery, Washington

**God is lucky to get even
my half-hearted
attention.**

**I already know the
Bible.**

**I deserve more
from God.**



Entitled Christians become stunted illustrations of unfulfilled potential.



My boss told me to attend a certain course. I thought I knew all that stuff and should be teaching that course. My boss' boss then called me in and said I needed to go. I was humbled and attended. There, I learned how lazy I was being and how much more growth was needed in my life. Had I not accepted that opportunity, I would have remained plateaued.

– Greg Robinson





We have talents, abilities, & resources. Christians also have special spiritual empowerments. Joshua tells us to “Use those gifts! Stop being spoiled and wasteful!”

***The Prodigal Son Among
the Swine***

**Bartolomé Esteban Murillo
1665**

2 Timothy 1

**⁷ For God has not given us
a spirit of timidity,
but of power
and love
and discipline.**

NASB



A scenic mountain valley with a river, overlaid with a large diamond shape. The diamond is divided into four quadrants: top-left is yellow, top-right is orange, bottom-left is dark green, and bottom-right is dark blue. The background shows a wide riverbed with a small stream of water, surrounded by green and brown hills under a bright sky.

LEGACY

a study of Joshua 13-24