

Inheritance

I. Announce:

- A. *Welcome to those viewing **online**.
- B. **Slide1 Facilities Job Opportunity**: We have an awesome opportunity to join our CM Team. **Our facilities department** is looking for *a full-time, Facilities Maintenance Technician*. If you are interested in this position, please visit our website to fill out an application. Just click on the link, [Job Opportunities](#) at the bottom of home page.
- C. **Slide2 Foster a Hope Community**: Just a reminder that Fostering a Hope Community will **NOT** have a meeting in **December**, resume in **Jan**.
- D. **Slide3 @ Risk Mtg**: We will **NOT** be having a meeting in **December**, resume in **Jan**.
- E. **Slide4 Christmas Services**: **Family services at all 4 services, 9 & 11am; 5 & 7pm**. At our evening services, we will have a few special surprises. **Candle lighting** at all 4, **and** the **same** Christmas message at all 4. Come celebrate w/us as I share on, *God w/Us*.
- F. **Slide5 Prayer**: Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His Word;
Just to rest upon His promise, And to know, “Thus saith the Lord!”
Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I’ve proved Him o’er and o’er;
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! Oh, for grace to trust Him more!

II. Slide6 Intro: *Inheritance*

- A. You don’t have to answer out loud ... *have you received a family inheritance?*
 - 1. I’ve seen this process change families (for better or worse).
- B. This chapter begins **the 2nd half** of Joshua.
 - 1. **1st half** focused on the **conquest** of Canaan (ch.1-12).
 - 2. **2nd half** (13-24) features *lists and catalogues rather than battles*.
 - a) **Tonight**, the focus is on *the allotment of the land to the Israelite tribes* (13-19).
- C. **For us** we might think, *oh joy* we get to read about **lists of boundary lines!** For us to read it through is like ... *a map with no pictures*.

1. **But for Israel** this was super important. This was the fulfillment of **God's promises to Abraham** that his descendants would inherit the promised land. Which came to pass down to the detail!

D. I will **not** be reading 7 chapters. **But** I will briefly share it on a **map** (of course) :)

1. Then I will focus on the main theme, **Inheritance. Shiloh. Verses from the Christmas story.**

III. Slide7 **ISRAEL'S INHERITANCE** (ch.'s 13-19)

A. **Read** 13:1,6b-8.

B. **Map of the 12 tribes allotment.**

C. **A scan of the 7 chapters.**

1. 13:8-33 **East of Jordan**/river, 2 1/2 tribes. 14:1-5 **West of Jordan**. 14:6-15 **Caleb** inheritance is **Hebron** (cuz Moses promised Joshua & Caleb there own land). Joshua now 85 years old (14:10). Ch's 16,17 **Outlines the inheritance for the tribes of Joseph: Ephraim and Manasseh.**
2. Ch.18 recounts the Israelites' mtg at **Shiloh** to divide the rest of the land.
3. Ch.19 **Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan** receive their territorial allotments (Dan was unique among the tribes of Israel in that it forsook the inheritance Yahweh gave them, *unable to conquer*).
4. Ch.19:last 3 vs. (the last served) was **a special inheritance** for the eldest and greatest man of Israel, **Joshua**.

D. **Slide8 Key points:**

E. **Tribe of Judah's inheritance** (geographically *largest tribe* in Canaan proper) all Ch.15. Judah emerged as the *most important tribe*, having received a **special blessing** from his father, **Jacob**, many years prior while the nation of Israel was still in Egypt (Gen 49:8-12). **This blessing associated Judah with rulership** (see scepter/staff).

1. Gen.49:10 *The scepter will not depart from **Judah**, nor the ruler's staff from his descendants ...*

F. **Slide9a Shiloh** *READ* Ch.18:1 - (30 m. N of Jer.) A city in the hill country of Ephraim, centrally located. Home of **the ark of the covenant** and **the tabernacle** during the time of Joshua to Samuel. (396 years!)

a) **Slide9b** Gen.49:10 *The scepter will not depart from **Judah**, nor the ruler's staff from his descendants, until the coming of the one to whom it belongs (or until **Shiloh** comes), the one whom all nations will honor.*

G. **Slide10** No portion for **Levi**, 14:3. **Why?** Because God told the priestly tribe, ***I AM your portion***. Numb.18:20, *I am **your portion** and **your inheritance** among the people of Israel.* [can you be satisfied with *just* God?]

H. **Slide11a** Tribe of **Zebulun** and **Naphtali**.

1. Is.9:6 *For to us **a child** is born, to us **a son** is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

a) But the chapter starts with ...

2. **Slide11b** Is.9:1 *But there will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of **Zebulun** and the land of **Naphtali**, but in the latter time he has **made glorious** the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, **Galilee of the nations**.*

a) God humbled ... **Zebulun** and **Naphtali** for a while (Prob representing the Northern Kingdom). **Jesus' upbringing and early ministry was mostly in that very area near the Sea of Galilee. His presence certainly "honored" that area.** [In 732 b.c. this northern portion became *an Assyrian province*, thus humbling the people there and putting them in gloom. **Under Gentile domination, that area was called Galilee of the Gentiles**]. BKC

IV. Slide12a INHERITANCE OT

- A. First of all, the people of **Israel** are **God's inheritance**. Deut 4:20 *But the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be a people of his own inheritance.*
1. Thus God: *protected, blessed, punished, and redeemed* Israel according to His will.
- B. Slide12b In the **OT** inheritance is often spoken of in terms of Israel's relationship to the **land** promised by God.
1. Beginning with God's promise to Abraham, **the land** given to **Abraham** became *Israel's collective inheritance*. However, **God** - not *Israel* - was the owner of the land. ***The land shall not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is MINE.*** Lev. 25:23a
 2. God gave the land to Israel to **occupy**, according to **His law** and **for His purposes**. God required Israel to maintain **obedience** and **hold fast to Him** in order to stay in possession of the land.
- C. Israel was to divide the land among its tribes according to their size, with each family receiving a portion.
1. Because all property belonged to God, **individuals were not supposed to sell their land** (Lev 25:23). **The alienation of property affected families' ability to survive and went against God's will and purposes for the land.** Many laws and customs aimed to keep the land in the hands of its rightful heirs, and to assist in its recovery if lost. [*i.e.* **Redemption of land**, by a kinsman. The Year of **Jubilee**. **Levirate marriage**]

V. Slide13a INHERITANCE NT

- A. Now in the **NT**, God's eternal kingdom became the **promised inheritance** of all the redeemed. Heb 9:15 *Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred (Jesus') that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.*

1. Slide13b As heirs with Christ, we gain and share in *brief but astonishing terms* ... **imperishable, undefiled, and unfading inheritance kept in heaven by God**. 1 Pet 1:4
 - a) **Imperishable** (beyond the reach of decay and ruin), **undefiled** (beyond the reach of sin), **unfading** (beyond the reach of loss).
- B. Slide13c The concept of the believer's inheritance highlights the **dignity of the family relationship** of the believer in Christ.
 1. No higher position or greater wealth can an individual acquire than to become **an heir of God** through **faith in Christ**.
- C. Slide14a What is our inheritance?
 1. Generally, the promise refers to the possession of **salvation**.
 2. More specifically as *eternal and joyful existence with God*.
 3. *again* Believers are promised **an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade - kept in heaven for you**. 1 Peter 1:4
 4. Inheriting **the world to come** is a guarantee for all those who belong to God's family.
- D. Slide14b You have become an heir with Christ. Your eternal future is secure.
 1. Think about what you **have now** or stand to inherit from your parents or grandparents. *Think about what it will mean to you 100 yrs from now?*
 2. Now try to imagine the **eternal life**, *the eternal happiness, the eternal gratitude, the eternal peace, the eternal profit*. Ps. 37:18 *The Lord knows the days of the upright, And their inheritance shall be forever*. NKJV
- E. Slide14c Believers are heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.
 1. Rom.8:16b,17 *we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him*.
 2. We actually possess **in and with Christ everything** that God has for us.

3. Being co-heirs with Christ requires 2 things: that believers also share in His sufferings. [then after the suffering, we will share in His glory]

F. **Inheritance:** In many families, children inherit their parents' estates. Each child is an heir and *the children together* are co-heirs.

1. Usually an heir is one who has *not yet received his inheritance*.

a) **But the Biblical idea** is much more than this. It implies actual possession in part here and now, with the promise of *complete possession and enjoyment in the future*. [my dad: early inheritance / mom died. Rest later when he died]

2. So the Spirit not only bears witness with us that we are children, but that we are heirs, & *marvel of marvels, fellow heirs with Christ*.

G. Keywords: inheritance, Israel, Shiloh.