

The Lion's Share of the Land

Joshua 15

Judah gets a large area to live. 1-12

- ◆ Look at all the attention given to Judah's borders (21x in 12 vss.)
- ◆ Why is Judah the first to receive land, the tribe who gets the most land, and the tribe whose land is focused on most?
- ◆ See birth order below with allotments and then check out Gen. 49 for Jacob's blessing-oracles. What might this suggest for us?

Caleb takes out a large opponent. 13-19

- ◆ Again conflict w/this huge Judean nemesis, cf., 11:21,22, 14:12-15, Jdgs. 1:10-15. Lion-like Caleb (cf. David in I Chron. 11:6) gets the job done or motivates others. Othniel becomes a judge, Jdgs.3:9-11.
- ◆ Like father like daughter--see how Achsah seeks more inheritance. Debir (Hebron too) was taken earlier but apparently lost, 10:36-39.

Judah's gets a large number of cities. 20-63

- ◆ Over 100 cities listed--again more than listed for any other tribe.
- ◆ Jebus / Jerusalem actually borders w/Benjamin, 18:16,28. Jdgs. 1:8 records a successful Judean attack, but it doesn't stick, Jdgs. 1:21.

Inheritance was based on sonship plus behavior. So too Christians inherit in a similar way--Mtt. 5:12,19, 19:29, Mk. 4:20,25, II Tim. 2:12, Rom. 8:16,17.

THE 12 TRIBES			
BIRTHORDER	BLESSING ALLOTMENT		
Reuben	1	Reuben <i>No Preeminence</i>	1
Simeon	2	Simeon <i>Scattered</i>	2
Levi	3	Levi <i>Scattered</i>	
Judah	4	Judah <i>Preeminent</i>	3
Dan	5	Dan	4
Naphtali	6	Naphtali	5
Gad	7	Gad	6
Asher	8	Asher	7
Issachar	9	Issachar	8
Zebulun	10	Zebulun	9
Joseph	11	Joseph <i>Manasseh Ephraim</i>	10,11
Benjamin	12	Benjamin	12