

## Joshua 13-14:5—God's Glorious Inheritance

- **Intro**
  - Think Inheritance—financial resources; legacy; heirlooms; something given as a sign of love
    - Hilton empire, Tiger Woods, Bill Gates, etc.
  - Definition—the act of getting by legal right from a person at his or her death or through heredity
  - Our text a reminder that what God has for us is incomparably better than whatever we would want/desire for ourselves—we are futile, limited, sinful and near sighted! We are fine with manna in the wilderness or slavery in Egypt when blessing in the land is being offered!
  - Goal—to light our hearts on fire with what God has promised and provided for us as his children as our inheritance in such a way that we would gladly forsake every other pleasure and pursuit in exchange for what will truly fill and satisfy for now and forever!
- **God's Inheritance is Inexhaustible (13:1-7)**
  - Joshua 1—introduction to Joshua and the bold encouraging word for him to not fear but take the land
  - Joshua 13—introduction to a much older, battle worn Joshua with the encouragement not to quit, that land was still yet to be taken!
  - v.2-7—Identify and name areas of growth/sanctification/blessing and then pursue them
    - Israel had been wandering (b/c of sin) for decades in a DESERT wilderness. What was being offered to them was the lush, green, life-giving land!
      - The inheritance for us in Christ is BROAD yet we often limit ourselves! We often settle for less joy, peace, pleasure and hope than is offered to us by God in Christ!
      - Whole30—rewired tastebuds (can't handle old stuff) and love new stuff
    - Let us press on for more—more formation into Christ, more submission to the leading of the Spirit, more readiness to be used by him for his purposes! Infected w/ holy discontent
    - Don't wing it—dig into Scripture, surround yourself with godly wise people and consider areas of your life where you can intentionally press into all that God has for you.
- **God's Inheritance is Eternal (13:8-31)**
  - God's eternal inheritance sustains us in seasons of darkness, drought, trial and suffering
    - 1 Peter 1:3-9—Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.
  - Road trips; grad school; parenting—feeling like you've gone a long way but there's still so much farther to go!
  - Spiritually—we can feel like we've been Christians for some period of time and yet there's still so much we don't know, still so much we struggle with and it can feel like we are still so far from where we want to be.
  - Col. 1:11-12—being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.
  - Hebrews 11—an inexhaustible and inheritance sustained them! Eternity was/is coming!
  - God's eternal inheritance means we aren't only saved FROM something (sin) but TO something (righteousness and the Kingdom)

- This is the sense in which we press into knowing, experiencing and enjoying God's inheritance in a partial degree NOW! It's like he's making small tastes and experiences of his full inheritance available to us NOW!
- When we catch a glimpse of the joy, transformation, blessing we don't yet have but is within grasp and that we know will be indisputably and eternally ours, there is great motivation to press on and make it our own!
  - Phil. 3:12, 14—not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own...I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
- God's eternal inheritance means that the motivator of Christian obedience and faithfulness is REWARD and that reward is the inexpressible JOY that God alone offers!
  - Col. 3:23-24—Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward.
    - Why do we work heartily for the Lord? It's not because he needs it—it is because of the REWARD that he promises—unfathomable joy in himself!
      - Lead small group, wash dishes, make sales calls, play with kids, do discipline, make lunch, change diapers, preach sermons, Do IV's for the reward that God offers!
- God's Inheritance is Granted by Grace (13:32-4:3)
  - This is not an inheritance earned by good behavior, earthly success, fame/fortune, etc. NO, this is an inheritance GRANTED completely by GRACE!
    - 14:1—these are the inheritances that the people of Israel RECEIVED
    - Gal 3:18—For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise.
  - Israel's inheritance was received as a gift but was contingent upon THEIR OWN obedience
  - Our inheritance is received by faith and is contingent upon CHRIST'S obedience for us!
    - Heb. 9:15—Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance
    - Eph 1:7-11—In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.
  - 13:33—Ultimately, God's glorious, gracious inheritance for his people is HIMSELF
    - Life-altering, freedom producing truth—the glorious, eternal, inexhaustible, joy-filled inheritance that God promises and grants to his people is HIMSELF!
    - 2 Peter—"you are a kingdom of priests"—spiritually speaking we are the tribe of Levi to whom God gave no specific land but gave HIMSELF!
      - The tribe of Levi was physically provided for by the sacrifices that Israel would perpetually bring to atone for their sin.
      - The people of God are spiritually provided for by the sacrifice that God brought once for all to atone for sin.
      - Romans 8:16-17a—The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ
    - What is the chief end of man? The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy him forever!
- Close
  - Don't know where you are this morning, what you're running toward, what you're hoping in but I pray what you'll see is that God, in Christ, has provided to his people an inexhaustible, eternal, soul-saving, life-giving inheritance ALL BY GRACE!