1 - **Lessons Learned From The Conquest Of The Promised Land**

Joshua 13 - Judges 8

2 – Old Testament Timeline

3 – The Period of the Judges

4 - **We Must Not Put Off Faithful Obedience  
Joshua Chapter 18**

* Joshua18:2-3, “*There remained among the sons of Israel seven tribes who had not divided their inheritance. 3 So Joshua said to the sons of Israel, ‘****How long will you put off entering to take possession of the land which the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you***?’”
* Why were they waiting? (Note Judges 18:9)
  + Things were good enough. (Note: Judges 5:16-17)
  + Laziness? Easier to just sit tight. Dividing and conquering the land would require much effort.

5 - **We Must Fully Drive Out Sinful Influences**

* God told them to **utterly destroy them and drive them out** completely   
  **so they would not be a snare to them**.   
  (Deuteronomy 7:1-5, 16; Numbers 33:50-56; Joshua 23:11-13)
* **We need faithful persistence**. God said **it would happen quickly**. (Exodus 23:29; Deuteronomy 7:22)
* However, we repeatedly read that ***“they did not (or could not) drive them out completely”*** (Josh. 15:63; 16:10; 17:13; Judg. 1:19, 21, 28-33)
  + It’s a **lifelong commitment** to drive out the sin in our lives.   
    (Colossians 3:5-11; Hebrews 12:1-2)

6 – **The Offensive Altar**   
**(Joshua Chapter 22)**

* **Love our brethren enough to go to them when we see them turning away from the Lord**. (vs. 10-14; Matt. 18:15ff; Gal. 6:1ff)
* **Take a stand and fight for what is right**. (vs. 16-18; )
* **Be willing to sacrifice for our brethren** and the cause of Jesus Christ. (vs. 19; Philippians 2:3-5)
* **The focus is on God** (vs. 22-23)
* Be concerned about **future generations**. (vs. 24-27; Ps. 78:4; Judges 2:10)

7 - **God Fulfills His Promises**  
**Joshua Chapter 23**

* Back in Genesis 12:1, 8; God promised Abram’s descendants ***“this land”*** which was later defined in Genesis 15:18.
* In Joshua 21:43-45, God’s word declares, *“So the Lord gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers…* ***Not one of the good promises which the Lord had made to the house of Israel failed; all came to pass****.*” (Joshua 23:14)
* Though there were more enemies to drive out, God had granted the land of Promise to His people. Why do we later read that there were still enemies that lived in the land?
* Do we trust God’s “***precious and magnificent promises***”? Are we doing our part? (2 Peter 1:4; 2 Timothy 1:12; Philippians 4:13)

8 - **We All Must Make A Choice  
Joshua Chapter 24**

* Joshua 24:14, “…***Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve***…”
* 3 times they avow that they’ll serve the Lord. (24:16, 18, 21)
* Joshua responds, ***“You will not be able to serve the Lord, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God…”*** (24:19)
* Why not? Note vs. 23, *“Now, therefore, put away* ***the foreign gods which are in your midst****, and* ***incline your hearts to the Lord****, the God of Israel.”*
* We can’t serve the Lord either if anything has taken priority in our hearts or if we’re not inclined to listen to Him.
  + Is there anything in your life that would provoke God to jealousy?
  + Who are we listening to and who has our attention?

9 - **A Mind To Work Or A Mind Of Pleasure**  
**Judges chapter 5**

* A call to action to be doers and not hearers only.   
  (James 1:20-25)
* A reminder that service to the Lord is the voluntary exercise of our will (vs. 9) above personal comfort and ease. (vs. 16-17)   
  ***“Here I am. Send me!”*** (Isaiah 6:8)
* A call to **go beyond *“resolve”*** (vs. 15) to an urgent need for action. Change our “I will” to “I did”.

10 - **Gideon - Useful To The Master  
Judges chapter 6**

* Most of God’s faithful servants don’t feel prepared for what God asks of them but they learn to trutst. (Judges 6:12-16; Exodus 3:11; 4:13; Jeremiah 1:7)
* We need the right heart… not of *“****timidity,*** *but of* ***power*** *and* ***love*** *and* ***discipline****”*. (2 Timothy 1:7; cf., Acts 13:22)

11 - **Lessons We’re To Learn From The Conquest Of The Promised Land**

* Don’t put off any act of obedient faith!
* Fully drive out the sinful attitudes and mindsets from your heart.
* Take a stand for what’s right and love your brethren.
* Trust in God’s promises and walk by faith and not by sight.
* Make a lifelong decision to serve the Lord and put Him first.
* Have a mind to work and fight for truth vs. a mind of pleasure and ease.
* Be useful to the Master with all humility.