

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE - Joshua 12:1-24

12 These are the kings of the land whom the Israelites had defeated and whose territory they took over east of the Jordan, from the Arnon Gorge to Mount Hermon, including all the eastern side of the Arabah:

²Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon. He ruled from Aroer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge—from the middle of the gorge—to the Jabbok River, which is the border of the Ammonites. This included half of Gilead. ³He also ruled over the eastern Arabah from the Sea of Kinnereth^a to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea^b), to Beth Jeshimoth, and then southward below the slopes of Pisgah.

⁴And the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the last of the Rephaites, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei. ⁵He ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, all of Bashan to the border of the people of Geshur and Maacah, and half of Gilead to the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

⁶Moses, the servant of the LORD, and the Israelites conquered them. And Moses the servant of the LORD gave their land to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh to be their possession.

⁷These are the kings of the land that Joshua and the Israelites conquered on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir (their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to

the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions— ⁸the hill country, the western foothills, the Arabah, the mountain slopes, the desert and the Negev—the lands of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites):

⁹ the king of Jericho	one
the king of Ai (near Bethel)	one
¹⁰ the king of Jerusalem	one
the king of Hebron	one
¹¹ the king of Jarmuth	one
the king of Lachish	one
¹² the king of Eglon	one
the king of Gezer	one
¹³ the king of Debir	one
the king of Geder	one
¹⁴ the king of Hormah	one
the king of Arad	one
¹⁵ the king of Libnah	one
the king of Adullam	one
¹⁶ the king of Makkedah	one
the king of Bethel	one
¹⁷ the king of Tappuah	one
the king of Hopher	one
¹⁸ the king of Aphek	one
the king of Lasharon	one
¹⁹ the king of Madon	one
the king of Hazor	one
²⁰ the king of Shimron Meron	one
the king of Acshaph	one
²¹ the king of Taanach	one
the king of Megiddo	one
²² the king of Kedesh	one
the king of Jokneam in Carmel	one
²³ the king of Dor (in Naphoth Dor ^a)	one
the king of Goyim in Gilgal	one
²⁴ the king of Tirzah	one
thirty-one kings in all.	

INTRODUCTION:

To God be the glory,--great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the Lifegate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, thro' Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory,--great things He hath done.

We come now in our study to the final chapter in the second major division of the Book of Joshua:

THE SUBJECTION OF THE LAND

- I. THE INVASION OF THE LAND - chaps. 1-5
- II. THE SUBJECTION OF THE LAND - chaps. 6-12
 1. In chap. 1 we saw the commissioning of Joshua.
 2. In chap. 2 - the spying episode in Jericho.
 3. In chap. 3 - the crossing of the Jordan.
 4. Chap. 4 - the memorials
 5. Chap. 5 - the consecration of the people
 6. Chap. 6 - Jericho
 7. Chap. 7 - the sin of Achan
 8. Chap. 8 - Ai
 9. Chap. 9 - Gibeon

10. Chap. 10 - The southern campaign

11. And chap. 11 - The northern campaign

It's altogether fitting that at the conclusion of this section and the conclusion of the war there ought to be a listing of all of the victories. I have titled this chapter:

THE ROSTER

Chapter 12

Baskin - Robbins chapter
31 Kings in the West

It is a tremendous tribute to God's faithfulness and blessing upon the obedience of Joshua and the children of Israel. The battles have been fought and the victories have been won. And now we have this summary reminder that we might give God the glory--Great things He hath done.

"Like taking
A Drink
At A Fire
Hydrant"

This past November and early December Pearl and I were in the Hawaiian Islands, and we had the privilege of being on the island of Oahu and touring the Arizona Memorial. This happened to be the 45th anniversary year of Pearl Harbor, and so, many of the survivors of Pearl Harbor were in the city at this time.

8 studies
ON CH...

wearing white hats!

What a day of infamy it was for the United States of America being so totally unprepared at 8:00 on Sunday morning, December the 7th, 1941. There were two unheeded warnings before the 183 Japanese planes and 31 ships began their attack. When it was all over, the Japanese had less than 100 casualties, while the U.S. lost 2,409 and had 1,178 wounded.

Of all the ships that were bombed that Sunday morning, only the Utah, Arizona, and the Oklahoma were unable to return to conflict.

The hardest hit of all the ships was the U.S.S. Arizona. The average age of the young men on the ship was 19. They had participated in band competition on Saturday and had taken second place and earned the right to sleep in on Sunday morning. As a result, many were still in their bunks when the attack took place.

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Of the 1,550 crew members, only 373 survived the attack. There were 1,177 crewmen killed and only 75 bodies were recovered.

The other 1,102 shipmates were entombed in the sunken battleship.

Since that time, there has been built a beautiful memorial over that spot.

On one of the marble walls you can read the following statement:

"To the memory of the gallant men here entombed and their shipmates who gave their lives in action on December 7, 1941, on the U.S.S. Arizona."

There is then a listing of all of the names of the 1,102 shipmates who are buried there at sea.

Here we have the results of the conflict: the names of all of the cities involved in this gigantic operation of the possession of the land that God had given to the children of Israel through the Abrahamic Covenant.

The land has been taken from Mount Halak in the south to Mount Hermon in the north.

F. W. Grant in his Numerical Bible says, "Not a city except Gibeon that yielded itself to God, all were taken in battle. This was the effect of God's retributive justice, making the hearts firm in resistance to Israel's power that had shut themselves up against the God of Israel. Thus they met the judgment rightly decreed upon them. The enumeration follows of the kings dispossessed and slain on both sides of the river by Moses and Joshua."

1. Kings of Transjordan (12:1-6)

Two kings: Sihon king of the Amorites (12:2) and Og king of Bashan (12:4). These were the kings smitten by Moses, before Israel crossed the Jordan, whose lands were allotted to the tribes of Reuben and Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh. The geographical extent of this Transjordan acquisition reached from the Arnon River in the south, which was the southern boundary of Sihon's kingdom, to the slopes of Hermon in the north, the land of Bashan, which was Og's kingdom.

East
1-6

2. Kings West of the Jordan (12:7-24)

Thirty-one kings. Their cities were scattered throughout Canaan (the geography is described in verses 7-8), which explains why Israel was engaged in battle for such a long time. The kings are listed in the order in which they were engaged in battle with Joshua.

pp. 90-91

Joshua: Rest-Land Won by Irving L. Jensen

West
7-24

We are informed in this chapter of just the degree to which Joshua and his armies conquered part of the land of Canaan. There follows a list of thirty-one powerful kings who had occupied certain territory in the land, but all of whom are now subdued and submissive to the people of God.

Sometimes in the course of human experience it is good to sit down and reflect on what has been conquered by the grace of God. Not boastfully, but with a humble and grateful heart, to survey the years that have gone and to go over the pages of memory carefully to recall where the grace of God has triumphed, so that we will be able to look into His face and say, "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (Romans 5:20).

For some people, most of the battles of life are over; they have few left to fight. To many others, however, most of life's battles are yet to be fought. Whether they have been fought or are yet to come, may God grant to us all to be able to say when the journey ends, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith" (II Timothy 4:7).

pp. 172-73

Victorious Christian Living by Alan Redpath

These two chapters contain a good deal of hard reading. They are studded with unfamiliar and difficult words and names, so that reading them is like reading the writing upon gravestones in a foreign land. Still, there is much for our instruction here. For example, we are called to behold how good a thing it is to keep a detailed record of life. These chapters are in a certain sense diaries or journals. The men of the ancient time wrote down what they did--that is to say, they kept their story freshly before their memories: they lost nothing; they wrote their accounts up to date; and at any given moment they could peruse the record and derive from it the advantage of stimulus which such an exercise could not fail to supply.

pp. 220-21

Preaching Through the Bible by Joseph Parker

This chapter summarizes the great victories on both the east side of the Jordan and the west side. Verses 1-6 of this chapter describe the conquest of the territories of Sihon and Og under the leadership of Moses. The cities of the west side are listed in verses 7-24. The thirty-one kings defeated by Joshua were local kings having limited power. Verses 9-16 list the kings of southern Canaan, while verses 17-24 make note of the defeated kings in northern Canaan. The list is important because it points out the significant military sites during Joshua's day. Many of the same names appear in the Amarna letters, thus confirming the historicity of our text.

p. 75

Conquest and Crisis by John J. Davis

In the historical account of the wars of Joshua in the south and north of Canaan, the only kings mentioned by name as having been conquered and slain by the Israelites, were those who had formed a league to make war upon them; whereas it is stated at the close, that Joshua had smitten all the kings in the south and north, and taken possession of their towns (chap. x. 40, xi. 17). To complete the account of these conquests, therefore, a detailed list is given in the present chapter of all the kings that were slain, and not merely of those who were defeated by Joshua in the country on this side of the Jordan, but the two kings of the Amorites who had been conquered by Moses are also included, so as to give a complete picture of all the victories which Israel had gained under the omnipotent help of its God.

p. 127

Commentary on the Old Testament, Vol. 2 by C. F. Kiel and F. Delitzsch

9-16
Southern
17-24
Northern

The purpose of this chapter is obvious. Structurally it is closely related to 11:16-17, especially v. 17. By enumerating the kings conquered by Joshua and Israel, the writer gives eloquent testimony to the fact that Israel's enemies, who had banded together with hostile intent (11:19-20); cf. 9:1-2; 11:1-5), had been unable to stand against Israel and its God. Thus seen, this list is a song of praise to the Lord's honor. If Israel was to carry out its God-given task of being God's people in Canaan, it was necessary that those who could seduce it by their pagan practices should be eliminated from the land. Joshua was the man destined by God to carry out this program. He is not to be blamed for the severity with which he acted. Not only did he show exemplary faithfulness to the divine command, but he also remained true to his given word in the case of Rahab and the Gibeonites, and with partiality applied the curse to Achan, one of Israel's own.

p. 200

The New International Commentary on the Old Testament
The Book of Joshua by M. H. Woudstra

What an exciting chapter we have before us! This is better than looking down the NFL schedule at the end of the year and noting all the victories. Here God is involved in this situation and He is the one who has been responsible for these victories.

Nahum 1:2-8

The Lord is a jealous and avenging God;
the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath.
The Lord takes vengeance on his foes
and maintains his wrath against his enemies.
The Lord is slow to anger and great in power;
the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished.
His way is in the whirlwind and the storm,
and clouds are the dust of his feet.
He rebukes the sea and dries it up;
he makes all the rivers run dry.
Bashan and Carmel wither
and the blossoms of Lebanon fade.
The mountains quake before him
and the hills melt away.
The earth trembles at his presence,
the world and all who live in it.
Who can withstand his indignation?
Who can endure his fierce anger?

His wrath is poured out like fire;
the rocks are shattered before him.
The Lord is good,
a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him,
but with an overwhelming flood
he will make an end of Nineveh;
he will pursue his foes into darkness.

Matthew 10:42

"And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you he shall not lose his reward."

Galatians 6:7

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.

It is good for us to think of the words of the hymnwriter:

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done,
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heav'n be one.

v. 1 These are the kings of the land whom the Israelites had defeated and whose territory they took over east of the Jordan, from the Arnon Gorge to Mount Hermon, including all the eastern side of the Arabah:

The key phrase in that first verse is EAST OF THE JORDAN.
We will see again another key phrase in verse 7:
THE WEST SIDE OF THE JORDAN.

It was under the leadership of Moses that these victories were won, and it was prior to entering into the land.

This land we are describing here has already become the inheritance of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

There are two things in this first verse:

These are the kings of the land:

1. Whom the Israelites had defeated.
2. And whose territory they took over east of the Jordan.

Joshua 12:1-6 records the victories under Moses on the east side of Jordan (Num. 21; Deut. 2:24--3:17). The defeated cities on the west side of the river are listed in 12:7-24. In this section the kings of southern Canaan are first enumerated (vv. 9-16) and then the kings of northern Canaan (vv. 17-24).

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No Time for Neutrality by Donald K. Campbell

v. 2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon. He ruled from Aroer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge--from the middle of the gorge--to the Jabbok River, which is the border of the Ammonites. This included half of Gilead.

We are now introduced to the first king who was defeated by the children of Israel when they arrived at the borders of the land.

The name "SIHON" means "sweeping away", "a leader carrying everything before him."

We are immediately reminded of the description of Satan in 1 Peter 5:8

Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Satan's supreme desire for each of us is that we never experience the new birth and become a part of God's family by receiving Jesus Christ as Savior. Having failed in this endeavor, it is then His desire to keep us childish and carnal, to keep us from all of the blessings that God has intended for His children.

Here he stands in all his might and power at the entrance to the land, an obstacle to be overcome, a victory to be attained.

He is "Sihon king of the Amorites."

The word "Amorites" means "mountaineer," and these are probably the greatest and most powerful of peoples in the land populating both sides of the river.

Sihon "reigned in Heshbon," which means "reason" or "understanding." One is reminded of 2 Cor. 4:4

In whom the god of this world has blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

The geographical description of Sihon's territory is the whole east bank from the Sea of Galilee to the Dead Sea. It's 20-25 miles eastward from the Jordan River and 65 miles north and south.

20-25 E+W,
65 N+S,

v. 3 He also ruled over the eastern Arabah from the Sea of Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea), to Beth Jeshimoth, and then southward below the slopes of Pisgah.

See Maps

Beth Jeshimoth is located at the northern tip of the Dead Sea, at the mouth of the Jordan River.

Pisgah is a word for "plateau." It is another word for Mount Nebo.

Deut. 34:1

Then Moses climbed Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab to the top of Pisgah, across from Jericho. There the Lord showed him the whole land--from Gilead to Dan,

v. 4 And the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the last of the Rephaites, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei.

There were two kings on the east side, and the second one who is mentioned is Og. He is the king of Bashan.

Og's kingdom is north of the kingdom of Sihon. He is the king of Bashan. This is the territory of soft, sandy soil--oaks, rich pastures, and lots of cattle.

60 E.W.,
50 N+S.

Og's kingdom was about 50 miles north and south, and about 60 miles east and west.

The name "Og" means "in stature: long-necked or gigantic."

He was "one of the last of the Rephaites." The Rephaites were a race of giants.

Just like GOLIATH stood to do battle against the Lord's armies, so Og preceding Goliath's time is making the same mistake in resisting the armies of the Lord.

Frozen before the Giants in fear we do nothing!

Our verse tells us that he "reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei." Ashtaroth is 22 miles east of the Sea of Galilee and Edrei is 15 miles southeast of Ashtaroth.

v. 5 He ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, all of Bashan to the border of the people of Geshur and Maacah, and half of Gilead to the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

Here now we have a statement of the boundaries of Og's territory over which he ruled.

His southern border was the border of Sihon king of Heshbon, whom we have met in the earlier verses. We can now understand that the victory over these two kings gave Israel the whole eastern side of the Jordan River.

v. 6 Moses, the servant of the Lord, and the Israelites conquered them. And Moses the servant of the Lord gave their land to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh to be their possession.

Numbers 32:33

Then Moses gave to the Gadites, the Reubenites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og, king of Bashan, the whole land with its cities and the territory around them.

Joshua 1:14-16

Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers. You are to help your brothers until the Lord gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land that the Lord your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the Lord gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise." Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.

v. 7 These are the kings of the land that Joshua and the Israelites conquered on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir (their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions--

We come now in this 7th verse to the second key phrase:

WEST SIDE OF THE JORDAN,

whereas in verse 1 it was the EAST side of the Jordan.

"These are the kings of the land that Joshua and the Israelites conquered on the west side of the Jordan."

The boundaries of their work are from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir.

That is, all the land bounded on the east by Jordan and on the west by the Mediterranean; and from the Valley of Lebanon south to Mount Halak is 175 miles.

"(their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions--"

7-24 The thirty-one kings on the Western bank.-- It seems strange in the light of subsequent history to find that one of these was the king of Jerusalem (10); and yet it was not till four hundred years had passed that the Jebusites were driven out by David (2 Sam. 5:6), so slack were the people of Israel to avail themselves of God's provision, and enter upon the results of Joshua's victories. In like manner, it is one thing to rejoice in the victory which our Joshua--the Lord Jesus--has won for us (Col. 2:15); it is another to follow it up, and claim its results.

p. 26

Choice Notes on Joshua - 2 Kings by F. B. Meyer

The subjugation of Canaan had seen the total defeat of some thirty-one so-called kings, along with their little kingdoms. Year by year, bit by bit, one monarchy after another had fallen under Joshua's relentless attack. Only here and there some resolute enclave of the enemy would hold out and refuse to capitulate completely to the Israeli forces.

It had not been an easy campaign. It took its toll of Joshua's formidable strength. Though he was a man of remarkable stamina, the steady strain of combat and war began to leave its mark upon the commander. Most leaders would have succumbed far sooner, but Joshua was determined he would see God's purposes for His people accomplished in Canaan.

Joshua realized that despite his valiant conquests, despite the blood-tingling victories, despite the large area now under his control, there remained much land still to be possessed. But for the present it appeared imperative that he should proceed to partition the territory among the tribes of Israel.

p. 142

Joshua: Man of Fearless Faith by W. Phillip Keller

v. 8 the hill country, the western foothills, the Arabah, the mountain slopes, the desert and the Negev--the lands of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites):

Joshua 11:16,17

So Joshua took this entire land: the hill country, all the Negev, the whole region of Goshen, the western foothills, the Arabah and the mountains of Israel with their foothills, from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, to Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He captured all their kings and struck them down, putting them to death.

The rest of the chapter is a listing of the 31 kings on the west side who were destroyed in the three campaigns against the enemy:

1. The Central Campaign
2. Then a listing of the Southern Campaign
3. And finally, a listing of the Northern Campaign

The apostle Paul in 1 Cor. 10:6 tells us:

"Now these things happened as examples for us"

The various experiences of the children of Israel in the Old Testament are examples for our exhortation and edification. We have seen thus far that the leaving of Egypt is the leaving the bondage of sin and experiencing salvation in crossing the Red Sea. It is the Father's plan that we enter into the land of His rest and lordship in our lives and allow Him to lead. However, we, like the children of Israel, because of our willful disobedience, find ourselves wandering around in the wilderness of carnality, finding no direction for our lives and no sense of usefulness to the glory of God. We then come to the time of crossing the river into the land that He had originally intended for us. Satan is there with all of his principalities and powers on the east bank to thwart any possibility of entering in to these blessings which are ours.

Natural
Carnal
Spiritual

Once having dealt with the kingdom of darkness, we are now ready to proceed into the land.

Once having entered the land, the battles and struggles are continuous. We must put on the whole armor of God. We must fight the good fight of faith. We must hear Paul's admonishment to young Timothy: "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier."

I have found hidden in the names of these 31 locations that are described experiences that each of us as believers face when we begin to get serious in our walk with God. I trust that as we look at each one of these 31 geographical locations we will find some encouragement and blessing residing in the meaning of these words.

In verses 9-24 we have this listing of 31 kings from these various cities on the west side who are defeated in the process of invasion.

But victory is possible along the way. We need only follow the example of Israel's leader, Joshua, who believed in God--

Key to Victory!

taking Him at His Word,
trusting His promises,
relying on His presence.

As a result, he vanquished his enemies.

"This is the victory that has overcome the world, our faith" (1 John 5:4b).

p. 95

No Time for Neutrality by Donald K. Campbell

v. 9 the king of Jericho one
the king of Ai (near Bethel) one

Our purpose now in the remainder of the study is to recognize in the names of these locations in the land experiences of our own spiritual growth and maturity.

1. THE KING OF JERICHO

Jericho is the first conflict of the children of Israel in the land. It is a part of the Central Campaign.

The name "Jericho" means "city of the moon," "a fragrant place."

A number of the commentators refer to Jericho as a type of the world to the believer.

It is the picture of the good life:

"I left my heart in San Francisco"

"Moon over Miami"

It's romance and parties.

John warns us in 1 John 2:15

Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Paul compels us in Romans 12:2

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. THE KING OF AI (NEAR BETHEL) ONE

Ai was the second city in the Central Campaign. It was attacked by Joshua and his armies.

"Ai" means "a heap of ruins."

Each of us as Christians will have a heap of ruins, things we have cut out of our lives that we might make haste toward maturity.

Hebrews 12:1

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

Philippians 3:7-14

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him, and the power of His

resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect, but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Whereas in verse 8 we had the listing of the prior residents by tribes: the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites; we now get the individual CITIES that are involved in these campaigns to possess the land.

v.10	<u>the king of Jerusalem</u>	<u>one</u>
	<u>the king of Hebron</u>	<u>one</u>

Whereas Jericho and Ai were the two cities involved in the Central Campaign, we now turn to the Southern Campaign and find these listings.

3. THE KING OF JERUSALEM ONE

Jerusalem was part of the Southern Campaign.

"Jerusalem" means "the dwelling of peace."

Philippians 4:6,7

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The more we learn to walk with God, the more His peace prevails in every situation that we face.

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."

Isaiah 26:3

You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast because he trusts in you.

Isaiah 32:17

The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

Col. 3:15

Hebrews 4:1

Therefore, let us fear lest, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you should seem to have come short of it.

4. THE KING OF HEBRON ONE

This city fell in the Southern Campaign.

"Hebron" means "conjunction" or "joining."

What a liberating experience it is for believers to come to that point where they recognize their union with Christ, and it is out of that union with Christ that fruit comes to the glory of God.

John 15:4,5

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me, and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

v.11 the king of Jarmuth one
the king of Lachish one

5. THE KING OF JARMUTH ONE

This city is a part of the Southern Campaign.

The word "Jarmuth" means "high."

3 John 9

I wrote something to the church; but Diotrephes, who loves to be first among them, does not accept what we say.

Philippians 2:3,4

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

1 John 5:21

Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

2 Cor. 10:5

We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,

Here we are talking about the crisis of brokenness, the lessons of humility.

1 Peter 5:5,6

You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time,

The hymnwriter says it well:

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
I want Thee forever to live in my soul;
Break down every idol, cast out every foe;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

6. THE KING OF LACHISH

ONE

Lachish is one of the cities that fell in the Southern Campaign.

The word "Lachish" means "obstinate, hard to be captured."

One is reminded of JACOB and his many experiences along this very line:

Genesis 32:24ff

So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

The man asked him, "What is your name?"

"Jacob," he answered.

Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."

Stubborn Strain

Genesis 42:36-38

Their father Jacob said to them, "You have deprived me of my children. Joseph is no more and Simeon is no more, and now you want to take Benjamin. Everything is against me!" Then Reuben said to his father, "You may put both of my sons to death if I do not bring him back to you. Entrust him to my care, and I will bring him back." But Jacob said, "My son will not go down there with you; his brother is dead and he is the only one left. If harm comes to him on the journey you are taking, you will bring my gray head down to the grave in sorrow."

Genesis 43:11-14

Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be, then do this: Put some of the best products of the land in your bags and take them down to the man as a gift--a little balm and a little honey, some spices and myrrh, some pistachio nuts and almonds. Take double the amount of silver with you, for you must return the silver that was put back into the mouths of your sacks. Perhaps it was a mistake. Take your brother also and go back to the man at once. And may God Almighty grant you mercy before the man so that he will let your other brother and Benjamin come back with you. As for me, if I am bereaved, I am bereaved."

↓ The Lord has to break before He can make...

v.12 the king of Eglon one
the king of Gezer one

7. THE KING OF EGLON ONE

Eglon was one of the cities in the Southern Campaign.

The word "Eglon" means "circle."

Here we are reminded of the fact that so many times living in the flesh we are found running in circles.

The children of Israel in the wilderness ran in a big circle for forty years and then came back to the assignment of possessing the land.

We are reminded of the Prodigal Son who leaves the home of his father to go into the far country and then comes back.

Ruth Harms Calkin in her little poem "HOME TO STAY" says it well:

I love the story of the prodigal son,
But so often, Lord, I wish there were
Another story
To ease my haunting conscience.
The prodigal son came home to stay
But I seem to be forever
Going and coming
Going and coming.
The truth is
I scarcely give you
Time in between
To fatten the calf.

Another thing, Lord,
How many calves are there?
How many gold rings?

My one glad, glorious consolation is this:
Never once have you failed
To rush toward me with extended arms
When I finally came trudging home.
But I'm tired of it, Lord,
Just so tired of running.
When temptation nags at me again,
When it comes in wild, rhythmic waves,
Please remind me of the agony I suffer,
The unendurable guilt, the torture,
Everytime I run from my Father.

Eccles. 1:3-9

What does man gain from all his labor at which he
toils under the sun?
Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,
nor the ear its fill of hearing.
What has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.

Life is like a rudderless ship, spent running in circles
when we are out of the will of God.

Isaiah 50:7

Because the Sovereign Lord helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.

John 9:4

We must work the works of Him who sent Me, as long
as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work.

1 Cor. 2:2

For I determined to know nothing among you except
Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

1 Cor. 9:26

Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim;
I box in such a way, as not beating the air;

2 Tim. 4:6-8

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering,
and the time of my departure has come. I have
fought the good fight, I have finished the course,
I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid
up for me the crown of righteousness, which the
Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that
day; and not only to me, but also to all who have
loved His appearing.

To Here →

8. THE KING OF GEZER

ONE

Gezer is one of the cities that fell in the Southern Campaign.

"Gezer" means "a piece or a part," "a place cut off,"
"a precipice."

Here we are thinking in terms of the place of cutting in our lives.

John 15:1,2

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vine-dresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it, that it may bear more fruit.

*God is Just Pruning Your Branches
I Feel like A Stump!*

Genesis 12:1-3

The Lord had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you.

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you;
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.
I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 13:8,9

So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarreling between you and me, or between your herdsmen and mine, for we are brothers. Is not the whole land before you? Let's part company. If you go to the left, I'll go to the right; if you go to the right, I'll go to the left."

Ruth Harms Calkin has another poetic piece called "SPIRITUAL SURGERY":

O God
Help me to face myself honestly
In the revealing mirror of your word.

The longer I am a wife,
The more utterly convinced I am
That there is only one solution
To personal discontent:
The complete surrender of myself
To your method, your schedule, your purpose,
your will.

If I am honestly willing to obey you,
If I submit to your word
As my high standard,
You will undertake the necessary surgery
To make me spiritually whole.
Surgery hurts, dear Lord,
No doubt about that.
But after the cutting comes healing,
And you always send flowers.

v.13 the king of Debir one
the king of Geder one

9. THE KING OF DEBIR ONE

Debir is one of the cities that fell in the Southern Campaign.

The word "Debir" means "inmost recess of a temple, the Holy of Holies."

The word "Debir" can also mean "setting in a row," "ranging in order," "to bring into order, to subdue," "to lay snares," "to plot against," "to speak, and to say."

It is the heart of man that must be set in order, that must be right. It is the heart of man that is the Holy of Holies.

Proverbs 4:23

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

Proverbs 3:7

Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the Lord and shun evil.

Luke 6:45

The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

Mark 7:21

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts and fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,

Luke 12:34

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

10. THE KING OF GEDER ONE

Geder is another one of the cities that was destroyed in the Southern Campaign.

"Geder" means "a place fortified with a wall," "a wall, a fence."

Geder is the city with a wall and a well.

A wall of protection and a well of refreshment.

You don't walk with the Lord very long but what you begin to learn that He is a wall of protection for us and that He is a well of water to refresh us.

Psalm 34:8

Taste and see that the Lord is good;
How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength,
An ever present help in trouble.

Psalm 61:2-4

From the ends of the earth I call to you,
I call as my heart grows faint;
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
For you have been my refuge,
a strong tower against the foe.
I long to dwell in your tent forever
and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.

Augustus Toplady in "Rock of Ages" says it well:

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
See Thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

John 4:10ff

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." She said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with and the well is deep; where then do You get that living water? You are not greater than our father Jacob, are You, who gave us the well, and drank of it himself, and his sons, and his cattle?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water shall thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

John 7:37,38

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If any man is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.'"

In the hymn "Springs of Living Water" John W. Peterson says:

I thirsted in the barren land of sin and shame,
And nothing satisfying there I found;
But to the blessed cross of Christ one day I came,
Where springs of living water did abound.
Drinking at the springs of living water,
Happy now am I, My soul they satisfy;
Drinking at the springs of living water,
O wonderful and bountiful supply.

v.14 the king of Hormah one
the king of Arad one

11. THE KING OF HORMAH ONE

Hormah is one of the cities that fell in the Southern Campaign.

The name "Hormah" means "a devoting," "a place laid waste."

Oh, how many times have we been to Hormah in our Christian experience. Trials come and we experience a place laid waste, the death of a vision.

Unexplainable heartache and circumstances that seemed to be so inconsistent with the Father's love.

Death Job
Divorce
Drugs

Job 1:8-12

Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

James 1:2-4, 12

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials; knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

1 Peter 1:5-7

who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 4:12,13

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation.

Corrie and I talk about heaven. It is a favorite topic for both of us. A new body. A new mind. A new heart. A new language. A new home. Even new ways to serve. Corrie underscores each of my words with a hearty Dutch "ja."

It seems appropriate to sing a song for her, one that has become particularly special to me because it captures all my thoughts and feelings about God and heaven and my disability. And as I begin, I realize how very fitting the words are for this dear friend of mine.

Though I spend my mortal lifetime in this chair,
I refuse to waste it living in despair.
And though others may receive
Gifts of healing, I believe
That He has given me a gift beyond compare.
For heaven is nearer to me,
And at times it is all I can see.
Sweet music I hear
Coming down to my ear,
And I know that it's playing for me.
For I am Christ the Savior's own bride,
And redeemed I shall stand by His side.
He will say, "Shall we dance?"
And our endless romance
Will be worth all the tears I have cried.

I raise my paralyzed hand and clumsily place it on the arm of Tante Corrie's wheelchair. She balances her good hand on top of mine and taps in rhythm while I sing the last verse.

I rejoice with him whose pain my Savior heals,
And I weep with him who still his anguish feels.
But earthly joys and earthly tears
Are confined to earthly years
And a greater good the Word of God reveals.
In this life we have a cross that we must bear,
A tiny part of Jesus' death that we can share.
And one day we'll lay it down
And He has promised us a crown
To which our suffering can never be compared.

For heaven is nearer to me,
And at times it is all I can see.
Sweet music I hear
Coming down to my ear,
And I know that it's playing for me.
For I am Christ the Savior's own bride,
And redeemed I shall stand by His side.
He will say, "Shall we dance?"
And our endless romance
Will be worth all the tears I have cried.

pp. 173-174

Choices Changes by Joni Eareckson Tada

Joe Bayly tells of an experience he had of joy in a time of trial, shortly after his five-year-old son died of leukemia. It was a windy, below-zero Saturday morning in January, and there was more than a foot of snow on the ground. Looking out the window of his home, Bayly saw the postal truck pull up to his mailbox. Without pausing to put on a coat, he ran out of the house, took the mail out of the box, and was about to rush back into the house when something among the letters caught his attention: a colorfully printed seed catalog.

On the front of the catalog were brilliant zinnias; on the back, luscious red tomatoes. Standing in his shirtsleeves, Bayly seemed not to even notice the cold as he leafed through the pages of roses, daffodils, dahlias, marigolds, corn, peas, and cucumbers. The fragrances of springtime seemed to rise from the pages, and for a brief moment the winter was past and he felt warmed and cheered.

Then the cold wind whipped up around him, and he rushed back inside and closed the door behind himself. Bayly later reflected on how our experiences as Christians are like that moment at the mailbox. "We feel the cold," he wrote, "just as those who do not share our hope, the biting wind that penetrates us as it penetrates them. But in our cold times, we have a seed catalog called The Bible. We open it, and we smell the promised spring, the eternal spring, and the first fruit that settles our hope is Jesus Christ, who was raised from death and cold earth to glory eternal."

pp. 180-81

The Healing Choice by Ron Lee Davis

12. THE KING OF ARAD

ONE

Arad is one of the cities that fell in the Southern Campaign.

The word "Arad" means "wild ass," "to be untamed," "to flee."

Here we have the picture of running away and out of control and out of the will of God.

Jonah 1:1-17

The word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai: "Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me."

But Jonah ran away from the Lord and headed for Tarshish. He went down to Joppa, where he found a ship bound for that port. After paying the fare, he went aboard and sailed for Tarshish to flee from the Lord.

Then the Lord sent a great wind on the sea, and such a violent storm arose that the ship threatened to break up. All the sailors were afraid and each cried out to his own god. And they threw the cargo into the sea to lighten the ship.

But Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your god! Maybe he will take notice of us, and we will not perish."

Then the sailors said to each other, "Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity." They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.

So they asked him, "Tell us, who is responsible for making all this trouble for us? What do you do? Where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

He answered, "I am a Hebrew and I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land."

This terrified them and they asked, "What have you done?" (They knew he was running away from the Lord, because he had already told them so.)

The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So they asked him, "What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us?"

"Pick me up and throw me into the sea," he replied, "and it will become calm. I know that is my fault that this great storm has come upon you."

Instead, the men did their best to row back to land. But they could not, for the sea grew even wilder than before. Then they cried to the Lord, "O Lord, please do not let us die for taking this man's life. Do not hold us accountable for killing an innocent man, for you, O Lord, have done as you pleased." Then they took Jonah and threw him overboard, and the raging sea grew calm. At this the men greatly feared the Lord, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows to him.

But the Lord provided a great fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was inside the fish three days and three nights.

v.15 the king of Libnah one
the king of Adullam one

13. THE KING OF LIBNAH ONE

This city fell in the Southern Campaign of Joshua and the forces of Israel.

The name "Libnah" means "whiteness" or "transparency."

1 John 1:5-7

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light, in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

John 3:19,20

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.

2 Cor. 4:1-6

Therefore since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

Acts 24:16

In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience both before God and before men.

Romans 13:11-14

And this do, knowing the time, that it is already the hour for you to awaken from sleep; for now salvation is nearer to us than when we believed. The night is almost gone, and the day is at hand. Let us therefore lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.

Ephesians 5:9

For the fruit of the light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth.

14. THE KING OF ADULLAM ONE

Adullam is another one of the cities that fell in Joshua's southern campaign.

"Adullam" means "the justice of the people," "a hiding place."

The cave of Adullam is where David fled when he left the land of the Philistines, fleeing after he had feigned insanity. He came to the cave. It was at the cave of Adullam that his life is really turned around and he begins to sense God's leadership in his life.

Adullam is the woodshed in God's program. It is a hiding place in one sense, but it is also a place for the justice of the people to be meted out by a loving God who cares too much to let us get away with our disobediences.

Psalm 32:3-5

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"--and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Hebrews 12:5-13

And you have forgotten the exhortation which is addressed to you as sons,
"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
Nor faint when you are reproved by Him;
For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines,
And He scourges every son whom He receives."

It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline? But if you are without discipline, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness. Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

Isaiah 1:2ff

⌈ Hear O heavens! Listen, O earth!
For the Lord has spoken:
"I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.
The ox knows his master,
the donkey his owner's manger,
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand."

Ah, sinful nation,
a people loaded with guilt,
a brood of evildoers,
children given to corruption!
They have forsaken the Lord;
they have spurned the Holy One of Israel
and turned their backs on him.

Why should you be beaten anymore?
Why do you persist in rebellion?
Your whole head is injured,
your whole heart afflicted.
From the sole of your foot to the top
of your head
there is no soundness--
only wounds and welts
and open sores,
not cleansed or bandaged
or soothed with oil.]

Your country is desolate,
your cities burned with fire;
your fields are being stripped by foreigners
right before you,
laid waste as when overthrown by strangers.

v.16 the king of Makkedah one
the king of Bethel one

15. THE KING OF MAKKEDAH ONE

Makkedah was one of the cities that fell in Joshua's Southern Campaign.

"Makkedah" means "a place of shepherds."

Psalm 23:1-3

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters,
He restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

John 10:7-11

Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

How often do we find ourselves at the place of shepherds. There we are reminded that the Lord is our Shepherd, and that He will take good care of us. We are also often brought to the place of shepherds so that we might learn leadership in God's divine program. For Moses, after failing in Egypt the first time, he spent 40 years on the back side of the desert learning how to lead sheep before he was allowed the privilege of leading the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt.

John 21:15-17

So when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs."

He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep."

He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep."

1 Peter 5:1-4

Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow-elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, shepherd the flock of God among you, not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

16. THE KING OF BETHEL

ONE

Evidently, Bethel must have fallen in the Southern Campaign because it is listed here with the other cities in that campaign and is the last one mentioned. The city of Bethel was mentioned in the conflict with Ai, and there were armed men from Bethel participating in that battle.

"Bethel" means "house of God."

Hebrews 10:25

Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

Genesis 28:11-19

When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the Lord, and he said: "I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it." He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven."

Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

"Tappuah" means "a place fruitful in apples."

Proverbs 25:11

A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.

One of the manifestations of fruit in our lives is seen in the words that we speak.

John 15:8, 16

By this is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples.

You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever you ask of the Father in My name, He may give to you.

Galatians 5:22,23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

What a glorious thing it is to our heavenly Father and an encouragement to us as well when we see fruit coming from a growing relationship with the Lord.

18. THE KING OF HEPHER ONE

Hepher is another of the northern cities that fell under Joshua's invasion.

The name "Hepher" means "a pit or well."

1. World
2. Heap of Ruins
3. At Peace
4. Union w/x
5. Proud
6. Stubborn, Bull headed
7. Running in circles
8. Is God pruning?
9. Is Your heart right?
10. Is He Your wall of Protection And well of refreshment?
11. Are You Facing unexplainable Suffering?
12. " " Running Away From the will of God?
13. " " walking in the light?
14. " " in the woodshed under God's discipline
15. Is He Your Shepherd?
16. Have You come to the house of God For Confession - Cleansing - Commitment
17. Are You bearing Fruit?
18. Do You Find Yourself in the Pit?
Part of the father's will!

Psalm 40:1-3

I waited patiently for the Lord;
 he turned to me and heard my cry.
He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
 out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
 and gave me a firm place to stand.
He put a new song in my mouth,
 a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
 and put their trust in the Lord.

Genesis 37:23,24

So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe--the richly ornamented robe he was wearing--and they took him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

Here we can think of the pit as a place of unjust treatment at the hands of loved ones, the pit of bitterness, hatred, misunderstanding.

Psalm 142:4-7

Look to my right and see;
 no one is concerned for me.
I have no refuge;
 no one cares for my life.

I cry to you, O Lord;
 I say, "You are my refuge,
 my portion in the land of the living."
Listen to my cry,
 for I am in desperate need;
rescue me from those who pursue me,
 for they are too strong for me.
Set me free from my prison,
 that I may praise your name.

Then the righteous will gather about me
 because of your goodness to me.

To here →

v.18 the king of Aphek one
the king of Lasharon one

19. THE KING OF APHEK ONE

Aphek is another of the northern cities that fell under Joshua's invasion.

"Aphek" means "strength," "fortress," "fortified city."

2 Samuel 22:2, 33

And he said,
"The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my
deliverer;

It is God who arms me with strength and makes
my way perfect.

Psalm 18:2

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my
deliverer,
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.
He is my shield and the horn of my salvation,
my stronghold.

Psalm 31:3

Since you are my rock and my fortress,
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

Psalm 71:3

Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

Psalm 91:2

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and
my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

Isaiah 40:31

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Ephesians 6:10

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.

Colossians 1:11

Strengthened with all power according to His glorious might, for the attaining of all steadfastness and patience, joyously

20. THE KING OF LASHARON ONE

Lasharon is one of the northern cities that was destroyed during Joshua's invasion.

The name "Lasharon" means "plain, or plain country."

This is probably some of the richest land in the land of Israel. It is referred to as the Plains of Sharon now. And the word "Lasharon" means "rich, fertile land," "a place of abundance."

In our spiritual development and walk with God, we find ourselves many times in the position of learning how to handle blessing and prosperity.

Philippians 4:11,12

Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need.

Genesis 13:10,11

Lot looked up and saw that the whole plain of the Jordan was well watered, like the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, toward Zoar. (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) So Lot chose for himself the whole plain of the Jordan and set out toward the east. The two men parted company:

Luke 12:19,20

'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry."' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?'

The struggle with prosperity is very real.

Restoring Sp. Passion - Mac Donald

Akin to ambition is pride, the inability to handle success. Our Christian world includes men and women in both the pastoral and lay sectors who started into leadership not through the energy of ambition but by sincere commitment to God's purposes. But something happened along the way. Their success became intoxicating.

Uzziah, king of Israel, is a warning signal to us all. "As long as he sought the Lord," we are told, "God made him prosper" (2 Chron. 26:5 RSV). The man hit the top. He was successful in everything he did: the urban renewal of Jerusalem, the reorganization and reequipping of the army, and the invigoration of a sick economy. Nothing could go wrong except that which was deep within the darkness of the king's heart.

"When he was strong he grew proud, to his destruction," (2 Chron. 26:16 RSV) the reader is informed. And from there it was downhill. Uzziah died a leper in disgrace under the judgment of God.

p. 113

Restoring Your Spiritual Passions by Gordon MacDonald

v.19	<u>the king of Madon</u>	<u>one</u>
	<u>the king of Hazor</u>	<u>one</u>

21. THE KING OF MADON ONE

Madon is one of the cities that fell in the Northern Conflict.

The word "Madon" means "contention, strife," "that which is contended for."

Proverbs 15:18

A hot-tempered man stirs up dissension,
but a patient man calms a quarrel.

Proverbs 16:28

A perverse man stirs up dissension,
and a gossip separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:14

Starting a quarrel is like breaching a dam;
so drop the matter before a dispute breaks out.

Titus 3:8-11

This is a trustworthy statement, and concerning these things I want you to speak confidently, so that those who have believed God may be careful to engage in good deeds. These things are good and profitable for men. But shun foolish controversies and genealogies and strife and disputes about the Law; for they are unprofitable and worthless. Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned.

James 3:14-17

But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

2 Tim. 4:14

Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. The Lord will repay him according to his deeds.

Galatians 5:16-21

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envyings, drunkenness, carousings, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Cor. 3:3

For you are still fleshly, for since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?

Philippians 2:3

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself.

Romans 16:17

Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.

James 3:5,6

So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. Behold, how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell.

James 1:19

This you know, my beloved brethren, but let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.

22. THE KING OF HAZOR

ONE

Hazor is the main city in the north. It fell and was destroyed by fire as Joshua and the forces of Israel destroyed the city.

The word "Hazor" means "village, hamlet, fence, or castle."

Someone has said, "A man's home is his castle."

Deut. 6:6-9

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Ephesians 6:1-6

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise), that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger; but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

"There are times when I feel like an unprotected goalie in a hockey game," a friend told me. "More pucks coming at me than I can handle: decisions to make, criticisms to respond to, problems to solve, conflicts to resolve. My stomach knots up, and I find myself breathing hard. Frankly, I just get scared. I'm not supposed to admit that I get scared, but I do nevertheless."

p. 147

Restoring Your Spiritual Passion by Gordon MacDonald

Poets have said the reason to have children is to give yourself immortality; and I must admit I did ask God to give me a son because I wanted someone to carry on the family name. Well, God did just that and I now confess that there have been times when I've told my son not to reveal who he is.

"You make up a name," I've said. "Just don't tell anybody who you are."

Immortality? Now that I have had five children, my only hope is that they all are out of the house before I die.

p.15

Fatherhood by Bill Cosby

The problem is one that every parent knows well: no matter what you tell your child to do, he will always do the opposite. This is Cosby's First Law of Intergenerational Perversity. Maybe the way to get a child to do his schoolwork is to say, "I want you to forget about school and spend the next two weeks at the mall."

No, Cosby's Law would be suspended for that. He would go to the mall and he would take your Visa card, too.

And here's the whole challenge of being a parent. Even though your kids will consistently do the exact opposite of what you tell them to do, you have to keep loving them just as much. To any question about your response to a child's strange behavior, there is really just one answer: give them love. I make a lot of money and I've given a lot of it to charities, but I've given all of myself to my wife and the kids, and that's the best donation I'll ever make.

p.85

Fatherhood by Bill Cosby

If any words can describe the teenage years, these are the ones. A famous actor with two daughters once told me, "When a girl hits thirteen, you can just watch her lose her mind. Luckily, she gets it back; but during all the time that it's misplaced, you can lose your own."

In these trying years, as I have said, and can't say too often, a father just has to keep hanging around and loving and knowing that his baby needs guidance because her own rudder hasn't started working yet. To extend the nautical image, a father during these years has to do everything in his power to keep a tight ship, even though he knows the crew would like to send him away in a dinghy.

p. 129

Fatherhood by Bill Cosby

Home again. Standing up in the kitchen, we eat the lovely chocolate eclairs. I notice that the roaches are letting me down again by coming when the lights are on. I make a note to call Mr. Thunderbugger.

The small soccer champ is on the verge of hysterical fatigue, so before his older brothers nail him, I dispatch him to the bathtub for a little hydrotherapy. "Read me that book about Bevo, the U.T. Longhorn," he says as I tuck him in for the night.

"We don't have a book about Bevo, do we?" I answer, scanning his bookshelves in search of cowboys, cattle drives or University of Texas football rituals.

"This one," he says, knocking a stack to the floor.

"But this one is about how babies are born."

"It's still got a picture of Bevo on the second page," he insists.

He's right the drawing of the uterus and ovaries on page 2 does look remarkably like a longhorn. I promise that we'll read this one in the morning.

"Then do the prayer about moon and sun and hills," he says. For a child whose religious education has been thoroughly muddled by his older brothers ("Repent ye and be a convertible"), this son is always comforted by the language of the King James Bible. Or perhaps he's just an adept con man who knows that he can persuade his Southern-Baptist-reared mom to linger at bedtime with a showoff performance of "The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night."
(Retreads by Prudence Mackintosh)

v.20	<u>the king of Shimron Meron</u>	<u>one</u>
	<u>the king of Acshaph</u>	<u>one</u>

23. THE KING OF SHIMRON MERON ONE

Shimron Meron is one of the northern cities that fell during the children of Israel's Northern Campaign.

The words mean "watch."

Psalm 102:7

I lie awake; I have become
like a bird alone on a housetop.

Psalm 141:3

Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord;
keep watch over the door of my lips.

Matthew 24:42

Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know
which day your Lord is coming.

Matthew 26:40,41

And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying, that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Acts 20:31

Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

1 Cor. 16:13

Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

1 Thess. 5:6

so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober.

2 Tim. 4:5

But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

1 Peter 4:7

The end of all things is at hand; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer.

24. THE KING OF ACSHAPH ONE

Acshaph is one of the northern cities that fell during the attack of Israel.

"Acshaph" means "enchantment."

"Enchantment" means "to subdue by charm."

Genesis 3:1-6

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

"You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

2 Samuel 11:2-4

One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "Isn't this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (She had purified herself from her uncleanness.) Then she went back home.

In our day we are seduced into the land of enchantment by music, sex, drugs, alcohol, captivating women.

James 1:13-16

Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt any one. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

1 Tim. 6:10,11

For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have wandered away from the faith, and pierced themselves with many a pang. But flee from these things, you man of God; and pursue after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

Galatians 6:1

Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted.

v.21	<u>the king of Taanach</u>	<u>one</u>
	<u>the king of Megiddo</u>	<u>one</u>

25. THE KING OF TAANACH ONE

Taanach is another one of the cities that fell during the Northern Campaign.

"Taanach" means "sandy soil."

Have you ever been through the "SANDY SOIL SYNDROME"? This is when everything is DEEP, DIFFICULT, DESERT, DRY, DUSTY. Everything you try to do bogs down and it seems like you're getting nowhere.

Psalm 32:4

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Isaiah 35:1, 6

The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus,

Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the dumb shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

Hebrews 12:1,2

Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

26. THE KING OF MEGIDDO

ONE

Megiddo, again, is another northern city that was defeated and destroyed during the time the children of Israel were involved in the Northern Campaign.

"Megiddo" means "place of crowds."

What a temptation in life it is to follow the crowds, and yet, how often the crowds are in error.

Daniel 1:8

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine; and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

12 Spies

When the twelve spies come back from the land, we find that ten out of the twelve believe that the children of Israel should not go in; and only Joshua and Caleb stood convinced that God could take them in and give them the land.

Matthew 7:13,14

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.

2 Timothy 4:16,17

At my first defense, no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them. But the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me, in order that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was delivered out of the lion's mouth.

v.22 the king of Kedesh one
the king of Jokneam in Carmel one

27. THE KING OF KEDESH ONE

Kedesh is another of the northern cities that fell during Joshua's campaign in the north.

"Kedesh" means "sanctuary."

Kedesh will later become one of the cities of refuge. A sanctuary is a place of protection.

Psalm 25:20

Guard my life and rescue me;
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

Psalm 27:1

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall
I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid.

Psalm 18:1,2

I love you, O Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.
He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my
stronghold.

Matthew 23:37

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and
stones those who are sent to her! How often I
wanted to gather your children together, the way
a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and
you were unwilling.

The hymnwriter says it well in "Under His Wings":

Under His wings I am safely abiding,
Tho the night deepens and tempests are wild;
Still I can trust Him, I know He will keep me,
He has redeemed me and I am His child.

Under His wings, under His wings,
Who from His love can sever?
Under His wings my soul shall abide,
Safely abide forever.

Romans 8:38,39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present,
nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor
depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able
to separate us from the love of God, which is in
Christ Jesus our Lord.

28. THE KING OF JOKNEAM IN CARMEL ONE

Jokneam in Carmel is another of the northern cities that was overrun by Joshua and the sons of Israel during the Northern Campaign.

"Jokneam" means "possessed by the people."

"Carmel" means "a garden, a place cultivated as a garden," planted with fruit trees, herbs, and corn, garden fruits.

So many times in our lives we are shackled by what people think. We are playing our game before the people.

We learn by bitter experience the truth of 2 Tim. 2:15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

It was Jesus, as He walked through His life on numerous occasions, heard the voice from heaven saying,

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

It ought to be our supreme desire as believers to look forward to the day when we too will hear the words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the joys I have prepared for you."

v.23 the king of Dor
(in Naphoth Dor) one
the king of Goyim in Gilgal one

29. THE KING OF DOR (IN NAPHOTH DOR) ONE

Dor is located in the north on the Mediterranean seacoast. It is another one of the cities taken by Joshua and the armies of Israel in the Northern Campaign.

"Dor" has some of the following meanings:

"an age"

"a generation"

"one generation comes and another goes"

It can have reference to the grave.

or "the house of their fathers"

"Naphoth" refers to "the heights" and so you could translate it "The Heights of Dor."

The emphasis is upon the meaninglessness of existence. Is all of this struggle worth it in view of the grave?

This sounds so similar to the Book of Ecclesiastes and the struggle of mid-life with all of its competitions and responsibilities.

Eccles. 1:2-4

"Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.

"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."

What does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.

Solomon tried all the easy ways--great works, education, money, fame, and so forth. He drank himself silly, threw great parties, and impressed the queen of Sheba. He married far too many times, attempted to be religious, and ended up very depressed. I'm not sure if Solomon tried the hard way, though he surely wrote and lectured about it.

Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true (Eccl. 12:9-10).

Even though Solomon became involved with other gods at the end of his life, his words remain true to our ears. At various "down" times of one's life, and especially at the time of mid-life evaluation, Ecclesiastes becomes powerful reading. Identifying with "the Teacher" can even be comforting, as one feels less alone in the dark. The comfort of these words, however, is well mixed with pain. It was meant to be.

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man (Eccl. 12:13).

So much for the mid-life crisis. See you at old age.
(Growing Through Mid-Life Crises by John Sterner)

Bob Hoover was going to fly by in a P-51 Mustang to honor Chuck, but he got socked in in fog back in L.A. Chuck was really upset. He said, "I spent my life flying and there wasn't even a pigeon in the air when I said good-by."
(Yeager, An Autobiography by Chuck Yeager)

30. THE KING OF GOYIM IN GILGAL ONE

Goyim is another of the cities that must have fallen after the Northern Campaign because it is in the area of Gilgal, the home base for all of Joshua and the children of Israel's military campaigns. When they first crossed the Jordan River, this is where they set up their memorial and made camp.

"Goyim" means "nations." We could translate this "the king of the Gentiles at Gilgal."

Their work of possession was not done until they had taken care of the local and home base area.

Philippians 2:9-11

Therefore also God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Rev. 19:11-16

And I saw heaven opened; and behold, a white horse, and He who sat upon it is called Faithful and True; and in righteousness He judges and wages war. And His eyes are a flame of fire, and upon His head are many diadems; and He has a name written upon Him which no one knows except Himself. And He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood; and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. And from His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may smite the nations; and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS."

The hymnwriter expresses it well:

King of my life, I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow,
Lead me to Calvary.

v.24 the king of Tirzah one
thirty-one kings in all.

31. THE KING OF TIRZAH

ONE

Tirzah is another of the northern cities that fell during the Northern Campaign of Joshua and the sons of Israel.

"Tirzah" means "pleasantness."

It is situated in a pleasant region.

Many of us in our growing Christian experience find that the CREATURE COMFORT CONCERNS become uppermost in our hearts, and we need to hear again Jesus speaking in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:19-34

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The lamp of the body is the eye; if therefore your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and Mammon. For this reason I say to you, do not be anxious for your life, as to what you shall eat, or what you shall drink; nor for your body, as to what you shall put on. Is not life more than food, and the body than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single cubit to his life's span? And why are you anxious about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory did not clothe himself like one of these. But if God so arrays the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more do so for you, O men of little faith? Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?'

or, 'What shall we drink?' or, 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

This concludes the description of the Conquest as described by the author of Joshua. It has been his concern to present some highlights of this conquest, interspersed and concluded with summary statements intended as a condensed version of historical occurrences, leading to the point where Israel is able to enter into its promised "inheritance," and into the "rest" that is the concomitant of the enjoyment of this inheritance. The Conquest is to be seen as the result of God's "giving" of the land to his covenant people. The land and its people will henceforth be the source from which God's plan of salvation will unfold.

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The New International Commentary on the Old Testament
The Book of Joshua by M. H. Woudstra

CONCLUSION:

What are some of the lessons that we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord grants victory to the obedient heart.

LESSON #2: It is Satan's supreme desire to keep us childish and carnal after we become Christians.

LESSON #3: Each of us face similar problems in our pursuit of Christian growth.

Now in chapter 12 we are given the names of the kings which Israel conquered. Frankly, a chapter like this is not very exciting to me. But the thing that impresses me is the detail that the God of this universe has given in items like this. We would think that He would constantly be dealing with great issues in grandiose terms, but God gets right down to the nitty-gritty where you and I live.

There is a lesson for us here. You and I sometimes hesitate to take to God in prayer the little details of our lives. We think, I ought not to talk to Him about things like that. Well, friends, talk to Him about those things. He wants to hear them.

A professor who was very liberal in his theology, said to me one time, "You take the Bible literally." "Yes," I said. "You certainly don't believe that God has books up there that He is going to open and look at." I think I shocked him when I said, "I sure do." He keeps the record, friends. Here is a chapter about these kings. I know nothing about them, but God does. He has the record.

He has two books: The Book of Works and the Lamb's Book of Life. Your name is written in one of them, my friend. It is written in the Book of Life when you trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour. Your name will never be written there by your own effort. If your name is in this book, you have eternal life in Christ.

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Joshua-Judges by J. Vernon McGee

Realizing that the Lord has made such a specific record of what has occurred in the battles to possess the inheritance that God had granted to the sons of Israel makes us also recognize the fact that God is keeping records on our lives as well.

Rev. 20:12, 15

And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds.

And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Rev. 2:23

'And I will kill her children with pestilence; and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

2 Cor. 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

Hebrews 9:27

And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once, and after this comes judgment;

Romans 14:12

So then each one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Matthew 16:27

For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and will then recompense every man according to his deeds.

Jeremiah 17:10

"I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."