

James Rafferty 2025 Q4 L9 Eden and Canaan

Lesson 9

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**November 22-28*

Heirs of Promises, Prisoners of Hope

Next week: The True Joshua

SABBATH AFTERNOON

Read for This Week's Study: *Gen. 3:17-24; Deut. 6:3; Josh.*

13:1-7; Heb. 12:28; Lev. 25:1-5, 8-13; Ezek. 37:14, 25.

Memory Text: "Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double"

(Zechariah 9:12, ESV).

Joshua 13-21 contains long lists of geographical

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boundary markers that delineate portions of land allocated to the tribes of Israel. For the modern reader, these lists might seem irrelevant, but they are based on a theological understanding of the Promised Land that is significant for us today. Through these concrete lists, God wanted to teach the Israelites that the land was not a dream. It was promised to them in a very tangible, measurable way. But they had to make that promise a reality by acting on it.

That is, yes, God was going to give land to them as an inheritance; it was going to be a gift, made in fulfillment of what He promised their fathers. "See, I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them" (Deut. 1:8, NKJV). But yes, they too had their part to play.

This week we will look at some theological concepts related to the Promised Land and their spiritual implications for those who claim all the promises found in Jesus.

**Study this week's lesson to prepare for Sabbath, November 29.*

SUNDAY

November 23

Eden and Canaan

Read Genesis 2:15 and Genesis 3:17–24. What were the consequences of the Fall, as far as the living space of the first human couple was concerned?

At Creation, God placed Adam and Eve in a perfect environment that embodied abundance and beauty. The first human couple met their Creator in the setting of a lovely living space that could provide for all their physical needs. In addition to the spoken word of God, the Garden of Eden served as a learning center where Adam and Eve gained significant insight into God's character and the life He intended for them. Therefore, when they broke the trusting relationship with their Creator, their relationship with the Garden of Eden changed as well, and, as a sign of the broken relationship, they had to leave the garden. They lost the territory that God had given to them. Thus, the Garden of Eden became the symbol of abundant life, and we will rediscover its motifs in the theme of the Promised Land.

How did the patriarchs perceive the promise of the land?

(See Gen. 13:14, 15; Gen. 26:3, 24; Gen. 28:13.) **What do you**

think it means to us, as Adventists, to live as heirs of the promises (*Heb. 6:11-15*)?

EMPHASIS ON THE 400 PLUS YEARS OF WAITING —

HOW LONG HAVE WE BEEN WAITING?

WHY THE WAIT? 2PETER 3:12—

WE KNOW PART OF IT WAS UNBELIEF. HAVE WE DONE THE SAME IN OUR DAY?

MOST IMPORTANT SIGN OF THE LAST DAYS:

MATTHEW 24:14 — GOSPEL TO ALL THE WORLD... THEN SHALL THE END COME
THE END COMES WHEN THIS VERSE IS FINALLY FULFILLED. GOD'S PEOPLE
MAY BE SO BUSY FOCUSING ON PREACHING THE GOSPEL THAT WE FAIL TO
LIVE THE GOSPEL.

READ VERSE AGAIN — GOSPEL PREACHED TO ALL THE WORLD AS A WITNESS
UNTO ALL NATIONS THEN SHALL THE END COME. GREEK MARTYE

REVELATION 12:11 - LOVE NOT OUR LIVES TO THE DEATH - NOT JUST
PHYSICAL DEATH BUT DEATH TO SELF. SELF EXALTATION IS GONE. SELF
SUFFICIENCY IS ABSENT. SELF-JUSTIFICATION HAS DISAPPEARED. SELF
IS DETHRONED AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ENTHRONED.

"HOWBEIT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, IS COME, HE WILL GUIDE
YOU INTO ALL TRUTH: FOR HE SHALL NOT SPEAK OF HIMSELF; BUT
WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR, THAT SHALL HE SPEAK: AND HE WILL SHEW
YOU THINGS TO COME. HE SHALL GLORIFY ME: FOR HE SHALL RECEIVE OF
MINE, AND SHALL SHEW IT UNTO YOU."

JOHN 16:13-14 KJV

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SENT TO TALK ABOUT JESUS NOT HIMSELF.

WHEN WE ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT WE ALSO WILL TALK ABOUT JESUS AND NOT ABOUT OURSELVES. WE WILL NO LONGER MAKE SELF THE CENTER. THIS WAS THE EXPERIENCE OF THE DISCIPLES AFTER PENTECOST. ALL THEY COULD TALK ABOUT WAS JESUS. THEY WERE IN THE CONSTANT COMPETITION OF HUMILITY.

As Abraham entered the land God had shown him, by faith that land became the Land of Promise to him and his descendants. It remained the Land of Promise for 400 years. The patriarchs did not really own the land; it was not theirs in such a way that they were able to give it to their children as an inheritance. Rather, it belonged to God, as the Garden of Eden had belonged to Him. As Adam and Eve did not do anything that entitled them to the Garden of Eden, Israel had not contributed anything to deserve the land, either. The Promised Land was a gift of God based on His initiative. Israel had no inherent right or claim to own the land (*Deut. 9:4-6*); it was only by God's grace that they could possess it.

The patriarchs were heirs of the promises until they were fulfilled. We, as Christ's followers, have inherited even better promises (*Heb. 8:6*) that will be fulfilled if we become

"imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises" (*Heb. 6:12, RSV*).

WHAT ARE WE INHERITORS OF?

IS OUR INHERITANCE ABOUT LAND ONLY?

WAS THERE'S ABOUT LAND OR WAS IT MORE? FOCUS ON BEING GOD'S

PEOPLE AND HE BEING OUR GOD IN HEBREWS 8 NEW COVENANT

James Rafferty 2025 Q4 L10 Joshua and Us

"They dismiss the type therefore the anti-type never shows up"

At 7:40 approx.

JOHN L - UNDERSTAND THE TYPE AND YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THE ANTI-TYPE

JOHN D - 3 phases or APPLICATIONS OF TYPE/ANTI-TYPE

SHELLEY - JOSHUA AS THE TYPE WITH MOSES

JILL - JESUS AS THE CHRISTOLOGICAL ANTI-TYPE

THURSDAY

December 4

Joshua and Us

Joshua, as a type, points beyond the ministry of Jesus Christ to a fulfillment in the life of the church, Christ's body. In what sense do the wars fought by Israel under Joshua foreshadow the spiritual struggles of the church? How are they different?

THE ECCLESIASTICAL APPLICATION of TYPE ANTI-TYPE [Christological and Eschatological]

SEE

1 Tim. 1:18; I CHARGE YOU TO "WAR A GOOD WARFARE" - SIMILAR BUT SPIRITUAL BATTLE FOR THE MOST PART TODAY

2 Tim. 4:7 "FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED MY COURSE
[RACE], I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH" -

Eph. 6:10-12; WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD AND THEN STAND -

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2 Cor. 10:3-5; CASTING DOWN STRONG HOLDS

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Acts 20:32 - GOD IS ABLE TO GIVE YOU AN INHERITANCE

And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

The writers of the New Testament recognize the ecclesiological (church) fulfillment of the Joshua typology. The members of Christ's body, the church, are involved in a spiritual warfare against evil forces; nevertheless, they enjoy the rest of God's grace (Heb. 4:9-11) and the blessings of their spiritual inheritance.

What do these texts say about the ultimate fulfillment of the Joshua typology?

1 Pet. 1:4, INHERITANCE IS INCORRUPTIBLE AND UNDEFILED

Col. 3:24, IT SHALL BE RECEIVED FROM CHRIST

Rev. 20:9, THE NEW JERUSALEM IS THE CAMP OF THE SAINTS

*Rev. 21:3. ULTIMATE NEW COVENANT GOD WILL BE WITH US AS OUR GOD
AND WE WILL BE HIS PEOPLE*

The final and complete fulfillment of the Joshua typology will be accomplished at the second coming of Jesus Christ (apocalyptic/eschatological aspect).

Joshua's life reflected so much of God's character that certain aspects of his life took on a prophetic character foreshadowing the activity and person of the Messiah.

For us, today, the Messiah has already come. His ministry does not need to be prefigured, but we still have the privilege of reflecting His character—the glory that Christ longed to share with His disciples (John 17:22) and that can become ours by contemplating the character of Christ (2 Cor. 3:18). The more we contemplate Jesus, the more we reflect the beauty of His character. This is so foundational to what our daily walk with

Christ should lead to. This is why time in the Word, every day,
is so important. This is why, too, we should also spend time
dwelling on the life and character and teachings of Jesus. By
beholding, yes, we do become changed.

Joshua, the type, asked the Israelites: "How long will you
neglect to go and possess the land which the LORD God of your
fathers has given you?" (Josh. 18:3, NKJV). How would Jesus, the
antitype of Joshua, phrase that question today?

HOW LONG WILL YOU DELAY MY RETURN BY BEING CONTENT WITH A
LUKEWARM - HOT SOMETIMES THEN COLD OTHER TIMES RELIGIOUS
EXPERIENCE?