"Joshua Commissioned" Josh. 1:1-11

Intro:..A.-Redemption:
1-Has 2 parts
2-Exodus = "the way out"
Joshua gives the way in---Ex. 6:6-8; 1 Thess. 1:9-10
B.-Joshua The Man:
(see biography written on P. 258 of Scofield Bible)

I.-JOSHUA COMMANDED 1:2-4

A.-Addressed:
1-Took Moses' place & called "Moses' minister"
2-Given authority before Moses' death & orders after his death
3-Told to "Arise"----don't dwell here forever

B.-Directed:
1-Command is clear---GO OVER---told where to go
2-Cease wandering & begin the BATTLE
3-"This Jordon"----Joshua's Rubicon---committed him to the job ahead
4-Not go be a partial force---"All this people"

C.-Title Given:
1-Land was & is Israel's by an unconditional gift from God
2-National heritage and hope of Israel
3-Ownership was unconditional; Possession was conditional

D.-Possession's Condition:
1-"Possession" is the KEY to Joshua
2-Appropriation necessary to make it theirs
3-God shows the extent---1:4
4-ILLUS----Wm. Penn in Pennsylvania walked from 4 a.m. to 6 p.m. one day & what was "walked around" was his possession from an Indian Chief--- APPROPRIATION---Already had the title to this and much more land from the King of England.

II.-JOSHUA ENCOURAGED 1:5

A.-Introduction:
1-Hard to take over after Moses
2-Loved by the People; old & experienced man to be replaced
3-Big shoes for Joshua to fill
4-Complaints ahead-----"These young men don't do things the way Brother Moses used to do it!!!!"
5-Encouragement needed---not from the arm of flesh
---but the promises of God

B.-God's Power: 1:5a
1-No man able to stand against him
2-Victory in battle & in leadership promised
3-Leader of Israel as long as he lives

C.-God's Presence: 1:5b
1-High standard
2-As with Moses; so with thee
3-Continuity of God's presence & power undiminished
4-Not to be a diminished glory or leadership

D.-God's Promise: 1:5c
1-God's Word is sure & settled
2-No failure in store---ultimate victory, though minor stumbles
3-No forsaking----brought them out of Egypt
--brought them thru the wilderness
--will bring them into possession of Canaan
4-Promises are PERSONAL to strengthen Joshua

5-ILLUS---As though God gave a book of signed checks on an unlimited account. All needed---APPROPRIATION

III.-JOSHUA EXHORTED 1:6-9

A.-Be Strong Because It Is HIS WORK: 1:6
1-Promised that Joshua would divide the land
2-Promised that the land would be Israel's
3-Exhorted to be strong in the Lord & in HIS might
4-Exhorted to be courageous because God WILL accomplish His work of bringing Israel into Canaan

B.-Be Strong Because It Is HIS WORD: 1:7-8
1-To know & do the law
2-Not to deviate toward lightness or severity
3-Prosperity promised in "straight & narrow" path
4-Way not to depart from God's law is not to let it depart from your mouth, your meditation, or your observance
5-Success is promised---BASIS is in the unchanging Word

C.-Be Strong Because It Is HIS WAR: 1:9
1-His promise of victory
2-His leadership will direct
3-His Power will win
4-His presence is their guarantee-------cloud & pillar
5-A, B, & C., remind us of Eph. 6:10-20 & our spiritual warfare

IV.-JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL 1:10-11

A.-Obedience: 1:10
1-Couldn't sit still after commanded of God
2-Had full armor & so now ready for battle
3-Shows his heart was ready "TO FULLY FOLLOW THE LORD"

B.-Preparation: 1:11
1-Gave orders to his men
2-Commanded IMMEDIATE preparation
3-Delay was dangerous
4-Preparation time is NOW & is SHORT
5-Passes on God's commission "TO GO IN"

Concl:

A.-Point For Us:
1-Name not Joshua
2-Yet engaged in a SPIRITUAL WARFARE
3-Title has been given to us---Eph. 1:3
4-Possession is our responsibility---Eph. 3:14-19; 4:1-3

B.-Application:
1-We too are commanded to "GO"
2-We too are encouraged
3-We too are exhorted
4-We too are to "lead out"

"RAHAB---Woman Of God" ---Joshua 2:1-21

Intro: A.-Secret Mission:
1-Two young men chosen to "view the land"
2-Two-fold mission:
--spies (Heb.11:31) to do reconnaissance at Jericho
--messengers(Jas. 2:25) of mercy & peace to any who would believer
3-God of all grace:
--to fulfill his promises to Israel
--to be interested in saving a harlot out of Jer.

B.-Situation:
1-Spies entered city & news spread of their arrival
2-Couldn't safely go to a hotel--too easily recognized b
3-Led of God to meet a particular woman---the Harlot Raha
4-Went home with her--not for immoral reasons
--but for lodging & a ministry
5-King of Jericho demands their forfeiture & she lies
6-But, let us dwell upon RAHAB---WOMAN OF GOD.....for she was not always thus....

I.-RAHAB'S CHARACTER

A.-A Harlot (2:1):
1-So called almost every time mentioned in Scripture
2-Life of sin & ill-repute

B.-A Liar (2:4):
1-Knew the truth & lied to her people; shielded the spies
2-Not to be wondered at for she was the devil's child--Jn.8:44
3-Called a Harlot in the N.T., but never a liar
4-Not because her sin was overlooked; but because it was forgiven
5-What she DID was put away forever. What she WAS is mentioned only to magnify the grace that saved her.

C.-Thus-----Rahab was a sinner in need of the Savior

II.-RAHAB'S FAITH

A.-New Testament Revelation:
1-Sins are forgotten; Character is remembered
2-Her faith is commended as an example

B.-Content Of Faith:
1-Knew God's promise of the land to Israel 2:9
2-Knew God's power in deliverance of Israel from Egypt 2:10a
3-Knew God's power in defeating enemies 2:10b
4-Knew the feebleness of her people before God 2:9-11
5-Knew God's power & Godhead---2:11b & Rom. 1:20

C.-Expression Of Faith:
1-Unselfish--(2:12-13)--in asking kindness for Father's house
2-Contrast the self-centered cry of Acts 16:30
3-Included herself only incidentally
4-Took God's Word as true---even against herself & her people
5-Received the spies' testimony---Jn. 1:12-13
---Savor of life--2 Cor. 2:16
6-Grace upon grace given---2:14--Not only kindly, but truly too
7-Established & assured in the mouth of 2 witnesses or messengers of peace

III.-RAHAB'S TOKEN

A.-Requests A
1-Wants a T
2-Needs to
3-Other Usa

B.-Meaning Of
1-Scarlet
2-Assuranc
3-Asked th
4-Asked "b
5-Recognit
Rahab & I

IV.-RAHAB'S WORKS

A.-Proof OF F
1-Faith &
2-Faith is
3-Works ar
physical

B.-Inward Wor
1-She rece
2-Word & t

C.-Outward Wo
1-Rahab wa
2-She sent
3-Kept the
4-"Works a
as the s
5-ILLUS--Train Ticket & Stub----Must be attached one to the other for either wone to be good.
6-Faith that is real differs from OPINION by evidencing its reality by its works.

V.-RAHAB'S REWARD

A.-Deliverance From Wrath:
1-Spiritually by faith in God's "SCARLET LINE"
2-Physically by her token from God's messengers
3-Only in ONE place in Jericho was there safety---Her House (2:18-19)
4-Any neglecting of that ONE PLACE would be the individual's own responsibility
5-Reminds us of only one place of salvation---IN CHRIST---- To neglect is to die as the fool dieth---2 Sam. 3:33

B.-Inheritance Incorruptable:
1-God makes the vilest clean---even a liar & a harlot
2-One of the 4 women named in Matthew's (1:5) genealogy of Christ.....3 of the 4 were women of poor repute.
3-GRACE that included ME.....and YOU.....and RAHAB

Concl: -----see attached sheet

Concl:

A.-Willing Heart Answered:
1-God sends a messenger of peace.
2-ILLUS---Phillip to Ethiopian Eunuch
---Peter to Cornelius

B.-Condition:
1-Sin in Rahab's nature
2-Expresses sins in actions
3-Rahab was in DESPERATE NEED

C.-Provision Is By God:
1-Message presented
2-Faith exercised
3-Token given
4-Works will follow-----Titus 3:8
5-Safety is sure

D.-HOW ABOUT YOU???????
1-Message presented---Yes
2-Faith exercised---?
3-Token received----? (eternal life)
4-Works following---?
5-Safety assured----?

"What Mean Ye By These Stones?" Joshua 4:1-24

Intro: A.-Historical Setting:
1-Israel redeemed by blood
2-Israel redeemed by power
3-Israel led & wandering
4-Israel now ready to go into Palestine

B.-The Crossing Of Jordon:
1-Ark entered first (presence of God led them)
2-People passed over safely
3-Rocks from stream placed on the bank & rocks from bank placed in stream
4-Ark of God brought out
5-Water flowed again.

C.-Meaning Of The Rocks:
1-"Memorial"--"a calling to mind in order to dwell upon"
2-Designed as a testimony --to the grace of God
--bring children to know power of
--teach fear of God to children
3-Important things in PAST remembered
--Family affairs (births, deaths, mortgages burned, church founding)
--small beginning numerically
--large beginning spiritually
4-Apply To ~~S.B.C.C.~~ Local Church
--What means this Anniversary? — Dedication
--What mean these buildings?
--What means the doctrine of this church?
--What mean the practices of this church?
--Need to be used as a MEMORIAL to cause us to REMEMBER
--Beginnings & foundations of the church

I.-WHAT MEAN THESE BUILDINGS?:

A.-Property:
1-Chosen with care & foresight
2-Graciously given by several men of God
3-Wisely enlarged thru the years — to come
4-Strategically located for God's cause--then
--even more so now

B.-Church Building:
1-Sacrificially built in depression days
2-Labor of love by many
3-Scene of spiritual victories — to come
4-Over 4,000 mesages from God's Word delivered in this sanctuary

C.-Sunday School Buildings:
1-Concern for our own children to get the gospel
2-Concern for children of neighborhood to be saved
3-Faithful teachers thru the years
4-Tireless efforts on the part of many
5-Steady growth
6-Lives molded for God

D.-Therefore:
1-Facilities stand BECAUSE OF God's faithfulness

2-Facilities stand FOR God's faithfulness
3-Facilities stand IN God's faithfulness
4-These "stones" are a memorial to Him

II.-WHAT MEANS THIS DOCTRINE?:

A.-The Blood:

1-Only 1 Savior
2-Only 1 way ofsalvation
3-Jn. 14:6
4-Heb. 9:22
5-Acts 4:12
6-Divine Savior sufficient for the need of the whole world

B.-The Book:

1-The final authority
2-The revelation of God to man
3-The completed canon
4-Inspired & Profitable--2 Tim. 3:16-17
5-Not of private origin, but of God--2 Pet. 1:2-21

C.-The Blessed Hope:

1-Not in this corrupt world
2-Not in schemes of men
3-But in deliverance of God--2 Pet. 3:3-8
--Tit. 2:13-14
--1 Th. 4:13-16

D.-Other Doctrines:

1-Flow out of these
2-Essentials taught — Doctrinal Statement
3-Christian liberty on non-essentials
4-See Church bulletin for more complete standard
5-These STONES of Doctrine are as a MEMORIAL TO HIM TOO in a day of apostasy & Modernism, etc.
6-Stand for fundamental, historic,christianity

III.-WHAT MEAN THESE PRACTICES?:

A.-Missions:

1-Knowledge that men without Christ as Savior are lost
2-Obedience to the command of Christ to evangelize
3-Concern for the souls of men elsewhere as well as here

B.-Finances:

1-Trust God, ALONE
2-Not relying on worldly means--Bazzars, Cake sales, Chili suppers
3-Do God's business God's way
--Unbelievers have no part
--Believers to give generously
--Believers to give joyously

C.Separation:

1-Day of "no-stand"
2-Day of ecumenicalism
3-Day of apostasy — Neo-Orthodoxy
4-Day of compromise — New Evangelicalism
5-God wants SEPARATISTS--from world
--Unto Him
--2 Cor. 6:14--7:1; 1 Th. 1:9-10

D.-Membership:

1-Purity among members

2-"Know-so" christians

3-Public invitation given for SALVATION ONLY or Xmas for Dedication

4-Receive those whom God leads ~~to us~~ here

--Sure they're in God's place for them

--Sure they're saved eternally

--Sure they're agreed with us & with God in doctrine

--Sure they've been obedient in baptism since salvation

NB

5-Others--not wanted ON ROLL — Regenerate Membership

E.-Memorial Stones:

1-True to God

2-True to the Scriptures

3-Memorial to Him

4-Memorial before the world

IV.-WHAT OF THE FUTURE?:

A.-Present Stand:

1-Continued--Buildings expanded

--Salvation explained

--Doctrines declared

--Practices lived

2-God has blessed

3-Expect God to continue to do so

1940 — 10,000
1950 — 20,000
1960 — 108,000

B.-Satisfied?:

1-No---By no means

2-Area growing--Houston 1958--1,300,000 people — Torrance

--Houston 1975--2,750,000 people

3-Need to have growing facilities

--Christian education
--Sanctuary
--Youth program
--Sunday School
--Christian club s
--Prayer groups
--Evangelism
--visitation....etc.

C.-Key Verses:

1-Josh. 13:1 "... there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

2-Phs. 3:12-13 "Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after if that I may apprehend that for which I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind & reaching forth unto those things which are before,..."

Concl: A.-Past---Glorious — Wandering

B.-Future--Can be MORE glorious

1-Will YOU pray ~~with us~~?

2-Will YOU work ~~with us~~?

3-Hard race, but we must run for we are bought with a price and we are not our own, but Christ's

4-Then God will give the increase.

5-Many will be won thru these STONES which are raised as a MEMORIAL to HIM

"God Of The Second Chance" Josh. 10:1-14, 40

(Failure Need Not Be Final)

Intro: A.-Second Chance For Salvation:
1-Taught by heretics---Jehovah's witnesses
2-After death another opportunity for salvation
3-Not taught in Scripture--Heb. 9:27 & 2 Cor. 6:2; Mt. 9:6
4 Clearly denied in Scr. Lk. 16:22-26
B.-Second Chance For Service:
1-Commissioned by God
2-Failure--thru unbelief
--thru sins of flesh
--thru fear of man
--thru rebellion
3-Not "cast off" or "put on the shelf" (1 Cor. 9:27) unless persistent in sin
4-God gives another chance
5-Failure need not be Final

I.-JOSHUA'S CASE ---Joshua 9

A.-Failure:
1-Gibeonites come with
--deception 9:3-5 --flattery 9:8-11
--lies 9:6-7 --baseless proofs 9:1213
2-Gibeonites request a LEAGUE--9:11; Ex. 34:12
3-Covenant--made on "man's word"
--made without prayer
--made without counsel--Num. 27:21
--League of life given
4-Truth comes out in 3 days--doesn't take long
-Joshua bound by his word
-Gibeonites become servants, but alive left

B.-Threat: 10:1-6
1-5 Kings of South arise together
2-Going to smite Gibeon for treason
3-Gibeonites call to Joshua for help

C.-Reassurance: 10:7-9
1-Joshua still in authority, but only with human power
2-Has cut himself off from commission thru disobedience
3-Can go to place of battle, but NOT into it--10:7
4-God "RE-CALLS" Joshua---10:8
5-Joshua "THEREFORE" could go on to war

D.-Victory: 10:10-43
1-It was God's victory--10:10 & 2 Cor. 10:3-5
2-It was by God's weapons--10:11
3-It had God's LONG DAY--10:12-14
4-It had God's Servant---10:40

II.-PARALLEL CASES:

A.-Jacob:
1-Gen. 27---Stole Isaac's blessing intended for Esau
2-Gen. 28:11-18--Met God & thought it DREADFUL
3-Wasted years in Haran
4-Gen. 32:1, 24-30--Met God again & found his own weakness
--Prevailed because he couldn't win & could only "hang on" & God changed his life

B.-David:
1-Moment by moment relationship---2 Sam. 2:1
2-Sin enters with Bathsheba--2 Sam. 11:2 ff.
3-Nathan discloses sin---2 Sam. 12:1-12
4-David repents---2 Sam. 12:13
5-David is restored & used subsequently

C.-Jonah:
1-The Prodigal Prophet
2-Brought low after refusal
3-Renews vows---2:9
4-Freed from great fish
5-Waited for Word from God
6-"Second time" commissioning

D.-Peter:
1-Boasts of love & devotion
2-Denies Christ
3-"and Peter"--Mk. 16:7
4-Interrogated about his love for Christ--Jn.21:15-17
5-Restored & recommissioned
6-Slipped again--Gal. 2:11-14
7-Must have been restored again

Lk. 22:31-34

E.-John Mark:
1-Nephew of Barnabas
2-Taken by Paul & Barnabas on 1st Missionary Journey--Acts 12:25 & 13:5
3-Deserted because of perils--Acts 13:13
4-Caused split between Paul & Barnabas---Acts 15:36-41
5-YET---Restored & profitable
---2 Tim. 4:11
---Author of "Mark's Gospel"

III.-YOUR CASE:

A.-Failure:
1-From any cause
2-Brings to defeat
3-Brings to impotence
4-Threats multilply then from all around

B.-Reassurance:
1-Preceeded by confession---of sin--1 John 1:9
---of renewal--Jonah 2:9
2-Followed by word from God to one's own heart
3-Brings to place of REAL VICTORY

Concl: A.-Apply:
1-Called
2-Failed
3-Reassured
4-Why not NOW???????----God of all grace is the God of the second chance for service.------ Jonah 3:1

"GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN" Joshua 14:6-15; Ps. 84:10-11

INTRO: A. Evaluation Time: Anytime

1-Periodically is a good time for the saints of God to survey their prospects and take inventory of their progress in their "PROMISED LAND"

--How much is theirs in God's provision (1)

--How much they're occupying

--How much is yet untaken

--Remember Eph. 1:3

2-ILLUS: After 7 years in the promised land of Canaan, the children of Israel had not yet "possessed their possessions"

--Slack to possess all the land God had given to His people

--Much remained in the enemy's hands

--Josh. 13:1-6 (read 13:1-2a)

READ

3-PARALLEL with christians

--Some are saved, but still "wandering in the wilderness, casting a wishful eye to Canaan where their possessions lie, but unwilling to engage in conflict.

--Some are those who've been in the conflict to gain their possessions, but have grown weary in well-doing. They're willing to settle for part of their Divinely given heritage

--Some are living on samples brought back from Canaan--Bible conferences & special meetings--but not entering into a day by day personal possession

--Some are fearful of giants. They are as grasshoppers in their own sight. Is it any wonder if we so think of ourselves, that others will agree?

4-In all the thrilling story of Canaan's conquest, ONE MAN stands out from the rest!

--A Mt. Everest overlooking a nation of mole-hills

**Caleb, the man of confidence

--Caleb had "another spirit"

--He said: "IT CAN BE DONE!" AMEN!

5-Let's look at Caleb .....and learn!

B. Caleb's Life Capsulated:

1-His PAST Testimony

--One of the 12 spies into the Land

** Num. 13 & 14

** 6 weeks inspection trip (Num. 13:25)

--No compromise in his report

** MAJORITY report was fainthearted WE CAN'T

** Nu. 13:27-29

** MINORITY report believed God! WE CAN!

** Nu. 13:30

** Majority were fearful

** Nu. 13:31

** BOTH were right--but reckoning from different resources

READ

THEME-SONG!

-Warned the people
** Joshua & Caleb stood together (God give us such a spirit among true men of God
** Nu. 14:6-9
** Not to rebel & thus fail God & themselves
-Attitude--"Wholly followed the LORD" 2
** 6 times repeated Deut. 1:36
** Nu. 14:24; 32:12; Josh. 14:8, 9, 14
** Thank God for the SOLITARY MEN who "stand"!!
**"In this day of confusion, those who hold the truth dear should STAND UP before God, STAND TOGETHER before men, and STAND OFF from every doctrinal aberation and compromise."

NO mid-life crisis for Caleb!

-Quite different from those who...
* Longed for Egypt's garlic instead of Canaan's glory
* Looked for melons instead of miracles
* Desired cucumbers instead of conquest

2-His Past Promises
-Entrance into the land promised
-Nu. 14:24 — Caleb lived the next 45 years w/ this confidence !
-Only 2 "old-timers" to make it in — Joshua + Caleb
-Nu. 14:29-30
-Lessons in this FOR US
-I Cor. 10:5-6--"But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted."
--Let's not become complacent in the middle of our lives as some of these did
*-God promised Caleb ** Not only to enter the land !
** But also to possess the land
** De. 1:34-36 (Read)
** Hebron is to be Caleb's possession

WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OF GOD?

3-Hambone, the Negro philosopher, said: "One reason why folks never git nowhar is, they want gwine nowhar when they started"
4-CALEB was going somewhere!
5-"Fade-out".....Fade-in", after 45 years!

C.-"Give Me This Mountain":
1-Recalling God's PROMISES----------Josh. 14:6-9
2-Reviewing God's FAITHFULNESS-------Josh. 14:10-11
3-Requesting God's BLESSING----------Josh. 14:12-15

I.-RECALLING GOD'S PROMISES-----(Josh 14:6-9):

A.-Laying Claim--(14:6-7):
1-The Man Caleb
-Son of Jephunneh, the Kenezite
*-Father of Caleb was not an Israelite by birth, but an Edomite who became a proselyte to Judaism & married a daughter of Judah in Egypt
*-Simple, uncomplicated man whom you can "read like a book"
*-Real man among men----RESPECTED !
*-An "Israelite indeed"

2-"Thou knowest" — Joshua knew it — Present when promised (3)
- Nation had heard it
- Common knowledge
- Not a hidden matter
- Recorded in Deut. 1:36 in the SURE WORD of God

3-"The LORD said unto Moses"
- Promise of God, not of man
- Utterly true, because God said it
- "Concerning me and thee in Kadesh-barnea"
- Both Joshua & Caleb are involved
- Persistent to remember God's PROMISES

4-Gives others their due — "Moses the man of God"
- "And thee (Toshua)"
- Not the kind of man who advanced himself by pushing others down

5-Claim not due to HUMAN accomplishments
- 14:7
- Rather, the ATTITUDE OF HEART
- Caleb spoke with his heart as well as his lips

B. Reason For The Claim (14:8):

1-14:8

2-Others — Faltered & failed God
- They influenced the people of God to do evil!
- CRITICISM of UNBELIEF is always in order!

3-"But I"
- Not self reliance
- Not bragging
- Just the truth

COURAGE TO ESPOUSE A MINORITY CAUSE

4-"wholly followed the LORD my God"
- SOLD OUT to his God
- Secret of his life — "Wholly followed"
- 2 times in Numbers, 1 time in Deut, & 3 times in Josh.
- Contrast with Solomon
- 1 Kings 11:6 — "And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD..."
- Adverbs of description of Caleb — "Fully" "Wholly" "Faithfully"

NEVER FALTERS

NB 5-Caleb was never a "TOP MAN", but he was always faithful to the Lord

6-That faithfulness is the reason for his claim to Hebron

THE GLORY OF THE GRIND! Day in + Day out

C. Content Of The Claim (14:9):

1-14:9

2-Promise of God, not of Moses
- The inheritance belonged to Caleb by Divine promise, but it was not actually given to him until he came forward and petitioned to receive it.
- Asked for Hebron, where he'd trodden 45 years before
- Wants to POSSESS it
- Bases his claim on God's promise

3-Claims the part he'd spied out

4-Had his "eye of faith" on that property thru 45 years of wilderness & warfare

5-Pushes his claim

6-Remember — The richest rewards go to those who serve faithfully

II. REVIEWING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS ---- (14:10-11):

A. In The Wilderness -- PAST -- (14:10):

1. Kept alive -- As promised !!
   - -- Necessary if he was to claim God's promise
   - -- Thru 38 years of wandering
   - -- Thru 7 years of warfare
2. * NO COMPLAINTS from Caleb
   - -- No use trying to involve Caleb in rebellion against Moses
   - -- Never was he found among the grumblers or among those skeptical & unbelieving
   - -- Never was he found among the people who hankered for the leeks & garlics of Egypt
   - -- Never was he found among those disobeying God
   - -- Never did he join those who turned aside to idolatry
3. * Caleb had a vision -- Reward of obedience !!
   - -- That was sufficient to keep him true
   - -- Heart set on the Lord
   - -- Hope set on the Land
   - -- Eye on the promise
   - -- Never wavered at the hardships
   - -- Not weary in the process
   - Gal. 6:9 -- "And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."
4. ILLUS -- Abraham in Rom. 4:18-21

The responsibilities of leadership have TAKEN THEIR TOLL!

B. In The Warfare -- PRESENT -- (14:11):

1. Preserved in strength -- 14:11
   - -- Contrast with Joshua who is "done in"
   - -- Josh. 13:1
   - -- Moses & Aaron are now dead & buried
2. Caleb is still "rearing to go" -- To see
   - -- To possess Hebron
3. ILLUS -- One day John Wesley was walking with a troubled man who expressed his doubt as to the goodness of God. He said, "I do not know what I shall do with all this worry and trouble."

   At the same moment Wesley saw a cow looking over a stone wall. "Do you know," asked Wesley, "why that cow is looking over the wall?"

   "No, I don't know", replied the man who was worried.

   Wesley replied: "The cow is looking over the wall because she cannot see through it. That is what you must do with your "wall of trouble" ---- Look OVER it, and AVOID it".

   Faith enables us to get ABOVE our circumstances, and look to Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever.
4. HOW can I "get ABOVE" my circumstances?
   - Isa. 40:29-31
   - -- Learn to wait upon, and to walk with the Lord
   - -- AND, review God's faithfulness, as Caleb did
5. -Thus, we see Caleb as a man of courage unfaltering

And he is.....

III. REQUESTING GOD'S BLESSING---(14:12-15):

A.-Specific Request (14:12):

No generalized petition

1-14:12

2-"Now therefore give me this mountain,"

--Mountainous region of Hebron
--Highest city in Southern Palestine
--600 feet higher than Jerusalem
--2600 feet above sea level
--Willing to tackle GIANTS to gain it
--Not willing to settle for a plane or a meadow or a knoll
--Faith demanded "THIS MOUNTAIN" !!

3-Why Hebron? --Abraham's choice (Gen.13:18)
--Burial place of ancestors (Ge.50:13)
--Fertile land
--Good climate & view
--HEBRON signifies "COMMUNION-FELLOWSHIP" in the Scr.
--Caleb craved that "walk with God"

4-Caleb knew what God could do (14:12b)
--"If so be the LORD will be with me..."
- HUMILITY
--"...then I shall be able to drive them out..."
- COURAGE
--"...as the LORD said."
- CONFIDENCE
--Didn't count on himself, but on God.

B.-Specific Answer (14:13-15):

1-Joshua--Blessed Caleb
- --Gave Caleb his desire of Hebron
- --Characteristidally, Caleb received even more than he asked for !

2-Hebron became Caleb's & his descendants

3-BUT --Caleb still had to DO BATTLE for it
--Couldn't just sit back
- --He had to engage HOSTILE forces to win
- --Only area of Judah's inheritance from which the enemy was fully "cleaned out"!

--Reminds of Eph. 6:10--"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"

4-Promises of God do not provide
--An uneventful pathway
--An uncontested possession

5-Why granted to Caleb? !!
--Because he "wholly followed the LORD"
--God sees & rewards faithfulness
--Crises do not create the traits of character; they test and reveal them.
--To patient faith, the prize is sure !
--God answered the request thru Joshua

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

CONCLUSION:

A.-Clear Progression:

1-Yielded to God--Num. 14:24--"But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land"
--"Another spirit" different than the crowd
--"Hath followed me fully"

2-Used of God--In the wilderness
--In warfare
--In witness to contemporaries
--In example to us
All the stages of his life

3-Rewarded of God--"Give me this mountain"
--God didn't deny him
--Ps. 84:11--"For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will He withold from them that walk uprightly."
--But-----this reward to Caleb came by way of God's "DELAYED BLESSINGS OFFICE"
--45 years after the request was first given
--Let us learn that delays are not denials

NB
4-Life of victory
--Entails Faith
--AND.....Battles
--Let us be steadfast in both----faith & combat

5-The MAJORITY trembled and failed; they had GREAT giants and a LITTLE God

6-The MINORITY trusted and triumphed; they had a GREAT God and LITTLE giants

7-Spies saw a difficulty in every opportunity
Caleb saw an opportunity in every difficulty

8-What do you see?

9-Are you with the Majority, or with God's minority?

B.-Clear Parallel:

1-ILLUS.--A heavily bearded 70 year old American adventurer, William Willis, recently drifted from Peru across the Pacific to the Island of Samoa on a steel raft 32 by 20 feet. He had been on board his little raft 130 days--a raft which he named "AGE UNLIMITED" as a challenge to the traditional limitations of age and as a protest against arbitrary age limits for retirement. HATS OFF to such a bold adventurer. Some men outlive their 3 score and ten, and continue hale and hearty. Caleb was such a man. At 85 he said "GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN". The Lord had consigned to the grave all who were over 20 years of age about 45 years before, except Caleb & Joshua. Can't you just hear him: "Lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. As yet I am as strong this day as I was the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was them even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out and to come in."

It is still a good thing to "bring forth fruit in old age." God forbid that any of you--YOUNG or OLD--should

merely drift from east to west to challenge the limitations of old age.

7

2-What God wants today is . . .
- -Yielded believers
- -Usable believers
- -Rewardable believers
- -Young and older believers who'll lift up their voices and pray: "OH GOD, GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN"

Rev. 2:10b. "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life"

3-What are we relying upon for this [redacted]
- -Our efficiency.... or.... ?
- -HIS SUFFICIENCY ??

4-We read: "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."
- -Let's ASK big
- -Let's FIGHT the good fight of faith
- -Let's CLAIM His promises
- -Let's POSSESS our possessions
- -Let's SHARE with others

5-THREE SEASONS OF CALEB's LIFE @ 85 yrs.
- -The crisis of COURAGE at Kadesh Barnea
- -The crisis of CONSEQUENCES of the choices of others
- -The crisis of PERSONAL CHOICE regardless of what others do

WHAT CAN ONE PERSON DO?

** VERY MUCH!!! **

6-Let's join with Caleb in asking for MOUNTAINS, not for MOLEHILLS....

....and possessing them

7- What was THE SECRET of Caleb's Courage?
- -Testimony of Caleb - Josh. 14:7-8
- -Testimony of Moses - Num. 32:10-12
- -Testimony of God Himself - Num. 14:24

8- Is there something we can learn from Caleb?

YES! → Go for the Mountain - The HIGHEST GOAL

Westbrae--12/31/67--
Vallejo - 7/28/68
N. Calif. IFCA Regional 10/27/72
Lynnwood Baptist Ch. WW - 7/11/82
ABC Chapel 10/15/04
Hilltop Bapt. Ch - 10/17/04

Great Is Thy faithfulness — 403
Wherever He Leads I'll Go — 40
Higher Ground — 345

10/14/05 - Fall Foliage Festival - A B C
2/20/08 - Elkview Baptist Ch.
10/14/10 - Fall Foliage

II TESTIMONY OF CALEB

(1) Josh. 14:7-8 - Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart. Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God." - CALEB'S TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF MOSES

(2) Num. 32:10-12 - And the LORD's anger was kindled the same time, and He sware, saying Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; because they have not wholly followed me: save Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the LORD" MOSES' TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF GOD

(3) Num. 14:24 - "But My servant Caleb because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereunto he went; and his seed shall possess it." GOD'S TESTIMONY

"Choose You This Day" Josh. 24:1-28; Read 24:12-28

Intro: A.-Joshua's Valedictory:
1-About to die
2-Addresses last words to whole nation

B.-Re-Traces The Past:
1-Abraham's call---24:2-4
2-Release From Egypt---24:5-7
3-Victories East of Jordon---24:8-10
4-Entrance & victory in Canaan---24:11
5-Hits high points of national history

C.-Summary:
1-Not by human power---24:12
2-All of grace----24:13
3-THEREFORE----Joshua has led up to the point

I.-CHOICE SET----24:14-15:

A.-Meaning Of Fearing The Lord:
1-Not terror, but reverential trust
2-SERVE Him---not just know about Him
--not even to know as Savior only
--but total consecration of selves to SERVE
--not outward only
--but"in sincerity and in truth"--Jn. 4:23-24
3-Involves separation--"put away the gods"
--nothing more to do with idolatry
--has to be 1 way or the other. A change of life is obligatory

B.-Forsaking:
1-Gods of fathers---gods of Ur--Authoritarianism, but with no power
2-Gods of Amorites---Materialism, but with no peace
3-Joshua records his own attitude---household with him--Ge.18:19
--old man's statement, but out of his whole life's experience

C.-Cleaving:
1-Requires a definite choice
2-Indecision is in reality a choice for EVIL
3-Identify self openly with the TRUE GOD
4-ILLUS---Repercussions for generations---It was in response to these words, "Choose you this day whom you will serve," which turned the heart of James Taylor to God on his wedding day in 1776. Though he had lived a gay, worldly life, & was a leader in all that was opposed to the neighborhood Methodist revival, God dealt with him that momentous day. He yielded and was born again. He soon led his bride to Christ, & a Christian home was established. This was the great-granddfather of Hudson Taylor, founder of CIM. Holy influences from this right choice flowed down thru the generations to come & resulted in untold good.

II.-CHOICE MADE 24:16

A.-Spontaneous Response:
1-Background traced
2-Hearts full of gratitude to God
3-All areas of their being were appealed to

B.-Decision Was Clear-Cut:
1-No wavering
2-ILLUS--Pizarro, in his earlier attempts to conquer Peru, came to a time when all his followers were about to desert him. "Drawing his sword, he traced a line with it from East to West. Then, turning towards the south, 'Friends and Comrades," he said, 'on that side

are toil, hunger, nakedness, the drenching storm, desertion & death; on this side, ease and pleasure. There lies Peru with all its riches; here Panama and its poverty. Choose, each man, as becomes a Castillian. For my part I go to the south.' -----So saying, he stepped accross the line. One after another, his followers followed him. This was the crisis of Pizarro's fate.------There are moments for all of us which determine our future fate by our siezing or neglecting choices.

3-Nation was willing to pay the price

4-ILLUS IN CONTRAST--Mr Bunyan's character--"Mr. Facing-both-Ways." Another man of whom he tells was the BOATMAN who faced in 1 direction and rowed in the other.---Too many believers have their faces turned toward heaven and are rowing in the other direction. If we are honestly to choose God, we must be willing to believe that He is better than the world & be ready to part with the world

III.-CHOICE REINFORCED ---24:17-21

A.-Repetition Of The Vow:

1-three-fold---24:16, 21, 24

2-Each time in stronger terms

3-Showed them their own weakness in themselves

4-Paid off in constancy of fulfillment---24:31

5-ILLUS--Asked how he conquered the world, Alexander the Great answered, "By not wavering".

B.-Reasons For The Vow:

1-God was their God & had preserved them

2-Gratitude for His gifts

3-Only ONE TRUE God

4-Joshua's example led them in the right way

5-Character of God---24:19

IV.-CHOICE WITNESSED ---24:22-28:

A.-Ye Are Witnesses:

1-If failure---against self

2-If obedience--for self

3-Choice for SERVICE had been freely made

4-Agreed by all the people

5-THEREFORE, "incline your heart unto God."

B.-Covenant As A Witness:

1-Words recorded; Record preserved

2-Formal covenant established

3-Unperishing witness

C.-Stone Monument Witnesses:

1-Visible reminder

2-Explanations it will cause to strangers & children

3-ILLUS--Webster's words on Bunker Hill. "That motionless shaft will be the most powerful of speakers. Its speech will be of civil & religious liberty. It will speak of patriotism & courage. It will speak of the moral improvement & elevation of mankind. Decrepit age will lean against its base, & ingenuous youth gather around it, speak to each other of the glorious events with which it is connected, & exclaim, 'Thank God, I also am an American.'"

CONCL:--1-What God wants is a REAL CHOICE for SERVICE

2-What God expects is a REAL FOLLOW-THRU for service

3-Public Confession---a great power for confirming attitude & impression for long continuance.

4-Will YOU choose this day whom YOU will serve??????Will you choose to serve God?????