

POSSESSING OUR LAND
MAY 3, 2017

DEUTORONOMY 1:8 (NLT)

God has always provided a place of rest for His people. For Adam and Eve it was the Garden of Eden. A perfect paradise God called “very good”. There was no sin, sickness, death, violence, crime, pests, mosquito’s, humidity or cold weather. The climate was perfect, no rain was necessary because a mist came up and watered the ground. The food was delicious. It was a flawless paradise.

For the Israelites, it was Canaan’s Land. A place where God would protect, provide and care for His people. A land that flowed with milk and honey and where it took two men to carry a cluster of grapes on a pole. It was a fully furnished land where they lived in houses they didn’t build, drank from wells they didn’t dig, and ate from trees they didn’t plant. A place where God would be an enemy to their enemies and an adversary to their adversaries.

For the believer today, it’s the finished works of Christ where we’ve been blessed with every spiritual blessing and given all things that pertain to life and godliness. **HEBREWS 4:1-3 (NLT)** A warning is given to us. The Israelites were kept from their place of rest because of unbelief. We are warned not to do the same!

WHAT IS THE POSSESSION WE NEED? JOSHUA 1:3-9

Finances, job, marriage, children, health, emotions, habits.

1. What we don’t possess will possess us.
 - A. God gave Adam dominion over everything in the garden including the serpent. By not using his dominion, he lost his dominion.
 - B. Solomon didn’t possess control of his lusts and allowed his wives to turn his heart away from God. **1 KINGS 11:4-6**
 - C. Sin has no dominion over us if we use our dominion to defeat it. **ROMANS 6:11-13 (NLT)**
2. The land is already ours.
 - A. Before Joshua took possession of the land, God told him he gave him the land, as He promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. **JOSHUA 18:3**
 - B. **2 CORINTHIANS 1:20 (NIV)** – It’s up to us to add our amen to the promises of God if we want to take possession of them.
 - C. God is faithful to fulfill His promises. **JOSHUA 21:45,23:14, 1 KINGS 8:56, HEB. 10:23**
3. Don’t fear the size of the enemy.
 - A. Goliath’s size didn’t scare David. David knew Goliath didn’t have a covenant with God as he did.
 - B. Joshua was told that God would be with him and wouldn’t fail or forsake him. **JOSHUA 1:5**
 - C. When God is on our side, the size of the enemy doesn’t matter. **ROMANS 8:31-32** Don’t allow circumstances to determine our decisions.
4. Don’t listen to the enemies lies.
 - A. People are not the enemy, but the enemy can use them to keep us out of our land. **NUMBERS 13:31**
 - B. **ACTS 5:1-5** – Ananias and Sapphira listened to Satan’s lies as Adam and Eve did. The land possessed them and they died.
5. Give no ground to the enemy.
 - A. Samson failed to possess his emotions and gave ground to the enemy. They plucked out his eyes and he was found grinding at the mill of his enemies.
 - B. **EPHESIANS 4:26-27** – Failing to control our emotions can give place to the enemy. Place means ground, territory or entry points.