

A PATTERN FOR INHERITANCE

We are justified by faith in Jesus Christ; this is the gift of God; Romans 5:15-18. But obtaining the promises of our INHERITANCE depends upon:

1. GOD'S WORD; Deut. 4:1-2; 2 Timothy 3:16; Revelation 19:13
2. OBEDIENCE; Deut. 4:3-14; Isaiah 1:19; 2 Corinthians 2:9
3. HOLINESS; Deut. 4:15-28; 2 Corinthians 7:1; Hebrews 12:14
4. REPENTANCE; Deut. 4:29-31; Luke 3:8; Acts 26:18
5. FAITHFULNESS; Deut. 4:32-49; Luke 12:42-44; Hebrews 11:6; Revelation 2:10

FACTS CONCERNING INHERITANCE:

1. There is an inheritance by BIRTH (sonship). If you are born again, then you become an heir as a son; Galatians 4:1-7.
2. There is also a CONDITIONAL inheritance, an earned reward. Paul the apostle said that he could be disqualified from receiving this; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27.
3. Esau sold his "birthright" for a "mess of pottage". He found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears; Hebrews 12:16-17.
4. The "prodigal son" never lost his "sonship", but he lost his inheritance; Luke 15:11-32.
5. We become partakers of this inheritance "IF we "hold fast" the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end...Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God"; see Hebrews 3:6-19.
6. Many want the BLESSINGS of inheritance, but few want the RESPONSIBILITY that comes with it.

THE PATTERN FOR INHERITANCE IS SEEN IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

A. YOU MUST LEAVE EGYPT:

1. "Egypt" is symbolic of worldly bondage and slavery. The "taskmasters" of Egypt inflicted misery, distress and tribulation upon the Israelites, which produced a "victim-slave mentality" within the people; Exodus 1:8-14.
2. Moses was the vessel whom the Lord raised up to lead the Israelites out of Egypt; Exodus 3:9-10. This was the first observance of "Passover"; Exodus 12:27, 43
3. Passover speaks of the New Birth, in which the blood of a Passover Lamb is applied to the doorpost. It's a new beginning with forgiveness of sins; redeemed by the blood and saved from the destroyer; Exodus 12:1-30; 1 Corinthians 5:7
4. You must cross the Red Sea (a type of Water Baptism); Exodus 14:1-31.

B. YOU MUST LEAVE THE WILDERNESS::

1. The Greek word "wilderness" means "uninhabited place; desert; desolation"
2. It speaks of trials, testing, proving, humiliation, discipline, purification.
3. The number 40 is associated with the wilderness:
 - a. Israel wandered in the Wilderness for 40 years; Deut. 8:1-3; Acts 7:38; Heb. 3:8-17
 - b. Jesus was in the Wilderness for 40 days before He entered His public ministry; Matthew 4:1-11.
4. God's people have circled around the mountain of Seir (in the land of Esau) long enough; Deuteronomy 2:3.

5. It's time to turn away from the Wilderness of man's traditions and ways, unbelief and the dead works of the flesh; see Psalm 78
6. Time spent in the wilderness is designed to deliver us from self-will, impulsiveness, and the "props" that we have depended upon. Self-reliance is shattered and replaced with total reliance in God alone.

C. YOU MUST WALK THROUGH (SEARCH OUT) THE LAND OF CANAAN:

1. Canaan is the Promised Land

- a. It represents the spirit-filled life and walk in the Kingdom of God now, in the present. The Kingdom of God is both present and future; Psalm 103:19; Luke 17:20-21.
 - b. Spurgeon describes Canaan as "Christian Perfection, the Higher Life, the "Rest" of Faith, the Abundant Life and Perfect Love"; Romans 14:17
2. The Lord told Moses to select one leader from each of the 12 Tribes of Israel. They were sent to investigate (spy out) the land of Canaan; Numbers 13:1-3, 17-25.
 3. Only 2 men (Joshua and Caleb), brought back a good report after walking through the land; Numbers 13:30; 14:5-10. Their faith and perspective were different from the others:
 - a. Joshua and Caleb had a "heavenly" perspective; they knew the Lord was with them
 - b. They saw the abundance of fruit, milk and honey, and the giants of Canaan as "bread for us" (they shall be our "prey", we will grow and increase); Num. 13:23-27; 14:9
 - c. Only Joshua and Caleb qualified to receive their promised inheritance because they believed the Word of the Lord and obeyed Him; Numbers 14:24, 30-31, 38.
 4. The other 10 men brought back an "evil report"; Numbers 13:31-33.
 - a. Their fearful, "earthly" perspective caused them to see themselves as "grasshoppers" before the giants. They did not believe the word of the Lord, but measured their circumstances against their own ability; this disqualified them from inheritance.
 - b. Their evil report was contagious; Proverbs 18:21. The congregation murmured against Moses and Aaron; they wanted to appoint another leader who would take them back to Egypt, and they wanted to stone Joshua and Caleb; Numbers 14:3-4, 10.
 - c. Their actions provoked the Lord to anger; He swore that those who were 20 years and older would die in the Wilderness. The 10 spies died by a plague; Numbers 14:37.

D. YOU MUST POSSESS THE EAST SIDE OF THE JORDAN FIRST, before crossing over into the Land of Canaan. The "East Side" of the Jordan is:

1. The transition from the Wilderness in preparation for the entrance into the Promised Land (Inheritance in the Kingdom of God)
2. It is occupied by the Amorites, which must be driven out. This kingdom or "influence" blocks the way for you to enter the Promised Land; Numbers 21:21-31.
 - a. The Amorites were the strongest of Israel's enemies; Amos 2:9
 - b. Their influence speaks of the practice of giving glory to men: elevating them, giving them prominence, glorifying man's flesh, titles, positions in the man-made organizations.

E. YOU MUST CROSS FOUR RIVERS (STREAMS) BEFORE YOU CAN POSSESS YOUR FULL INHERITANCE:

1. "Zered"; Deuteronomy 2:13-14

- a. Hebrew word means "to be exuberant in growth": spiritual fruit; Galatians 5:22-25

b. Spiritual fruit is produced only as we abide in Jesus. This fruit must be brought forth to perfection (maturity). Continual pruning is necessary to bear more fruit; John 15:1-6.

c. Jesus said you will know them by their “fruits”; Matthew 7:16-20

1. true repentance is called “fruit”; Luke 3:8-9

2. words are the “fruit” of the mouth / lips; Prov. 12:14; 13:2; Matt.12:37; Heb. 13:15

3. souls are called the precious “fruit” of the earth (harvest); James 5:7

4. righteousness is called “fruit”; Philippians 1:11

5. behavior or deeds is called “fruit”; Micah 7:13

2. “Arnon”; Deuteronomy 2:24; Numbers 21:24

a. Hebrew word means “strong, rushing torrent”: the rushing waters of the Holy Spirit, River of living water; Ezek. 47:1-5; the “washing of the water of the Word”; Eph. 5:26.

b. The pattern is: Rise Up (arise), Take Your Journey (set out), Pass Over (pass through)

c. The mighty stream of spiritual power and blessing will cause you to triumph over the “flood” of ungodly men, or torrent of the enemy unleashed against you; Psalm 18:4

3. “Jabbok”; Deuteronomy 3:16; Numbers 21:24

a. Heb. word means “pouring out; wrestling”: the soul and spirit wrestle; Gen. 25:22-23.

b. Jacob experienced a great crisis at the river Jabbok, prior to receiving his promised inheritance. He was transformed from being a person named “Jacob” (supplanter; a manipulator), to a nation named “Israel” (a prince who prevails); Genesis 32:22-32.

c. This location points to “a change of name”, as the result of a changed character. Jacob endured a “breaking” during this period of wrestling. His “walk” was different after the heavenly encounter; Gen. 32:22-31. He who overcomes is given a new name; Rev. 3:12.

4. “Jordan”; Joshua chapters 3-4.

a. The “Rending of the Jordan” points to the “rending of the veil”: full identification with His death (baptism of fire), which brings a new dimension of spiritual warfare and the overcoming life. Prepare yourself; the Lord will do “wonders” among you; Joshua 3:5,7

b. The secret of the entrance into Canaan is the ARK (glory, presence, throne, govt. of Jesus Christ). The ARK passes before you into the Jordan river; Joshua 3:11.

c. The Jordan was overflowing its banks at the time of BARLEY Harvest. The priests carry the ARK, and their feet REST there, causing the “waters” to be agitated, cut off and parted. Jesus Christ (The Ark) cuts off every hindrance; Joshua 3:13-17.

d. **2 separate memorials were set up with 12 stones.** What does it mean? Josh. 4:20:

1. 12 stones were carried on the shoulders of the priests (God’s govt.), and were placed INTO the Jordan, remembering Jesus’ DEATH and burial; Josh. 4:9

2. 12 stones were taken OUT OF the Jordan, remembering Jesus’ RESURRECTION. He brings us out to stand upon resurrection ground; Josh. 4:10. “Living Stones” are “taken up, carried over, laid down and then set up” in Gilgal; Josh. 4:20-22.

e. The ARK was the FIRST to enter Jordan and the LAST to leave it; Rev. 1:8. Joshua (JESUS) brought a nation (a FIRSTFRUITS company) through the Jordan (death). ISRAEL (the overcomer of Rev. 2-3) came OVER this Jordan on dry land.

F. YOU MUST DRIVE OUT THE WICKED NATIONS THAT DWELL IN THE LAND. The Israelites had to contend with these “strong men” (carnal attributes, evil spirits) as they entered the Promised Land. They have already been defeated by the Word of the Lord and the Blood of Jesus Christ. We smite them, drive out their influence, and make no covenant (agreement) with them, see Numbers 33:51-55; Deut. 7:1-5; 20:17-18.

1. Hittites - name means “broken in pieces, dismay, sons of terror, dread”. This describes **VIOLENCE**; it attacks the emotions through deceit. This spiritual influence utilizes anger, threats, murder, torment, producing depression and despair in people; John 8:44
2. Girgashites - name means “clay-dwellers, dense, marshy ground”. This influence focuses on that which is earthly (first Adam). It describes **IGNORANCE**: no solid foundation, lack of knowledge, lack of faith, unbelief; Hosea 4:6; 2 Cor. 2:11; 4:4.
3. Amorites - dwellers of the summits; highlanders; renown, position. This influence seeks fame, recognition, desire for publicity. This describes **PRIDE**, like the Pharisees who loved uppermost seats; Isaiah 14:13-14; Gen. 15:16. This spirit wants to dominate and rule over others. It says “I will hear the voice of God for you; you need my covering”; see also Matthew 17:19-20; John 18:19-23
4. Canaanites - were merchants, pirates, traffickers, love of money; Matthew 6:24. They were motivated by greed; this spirit produces perversion and addictions. It attempts to buy and sell the gifts of God: “doves, sheep and oxen” for profit; John 2:14-16. This influence is **MATERIALISM**; it pleases the people and “commercializes” the Gospel.
5. Perizzites – rustic dwellers of earth lived in unwalled towns. This influence produces spiritual cripples, laziness, stagnation, low self-esteem; John 5:1-9. This is a **LACK OF VISION**; it creates a dependence upon others and hinders men from advancing forward.
6. Hivites - name means “animation, life born of effort”; enjoyment of human accomplishment, love of pleasure, hedonism. This points to **HUMAN EFFORT** (mark of the beast); it produces a self-centered, self sufficient “live it up” mentality; Rev. 3:17.
7. Jebusites – name means “trodden down”, trampled under foot, conquered, threshers”. This describes **FEAR**, intimidation; it suppresses spiritual authority, “beats up” the people, places restrictions upon them, causing men to bow to “man-made” structures. They are the “police” enforcers of the “Amorite” kings’ laws; Acts 4:18-23; 2 Tim. 1:7.

G. YOU MUST ALLOW THE PRINCIPLE OF “GILGAL” TO WORK IN YOUR LIFE

1. The word “Gilgal” means “circle; whirlwind; rolling away; chaff; stubble”
2. This speaks of the necessary “circumcision”, the cutting away of the flesh on the 8th day (new beginnings); Joshua 5:2-5:
 - a. the present day “circumcision” is the outward token / sign of Water Baptism
 - b. it also speaks of the DEEPER application of the CROSS
3. **The truth of circumcision includes:**
 - a. the LEGAL aspect – the finished work of Jesus Christ put away sin; Gal. 3:13-14
 - b. the INWARD aspect – the work of Holy Spirit removes a stony heart; Rom. 2:28-29
 - c. the PRACTICAL aspect – the seal of Water Baptism in the name of the Lord, followed by the daily putting to death the work of the flesh; Romans 6:1-14
4. You cannot enter Canaan apart from circumcision. The flesh must be cut away from the New Order before we conquer Canaan.
5. It takes some time to heal after circumcision (both children and adults were cut). Oil is applied to help the healing process; Joshua 5:8.
6. The REPROACH of Egypt is rolled away from off His people; Ex. 32:12; Josh.5:9
7. The diet of the Israelites changed from “manna” to “parched corn”; Joshua 5:11-12
8. After the events at Gilgal, Joshua has a visitation from the “Captain of the host of the Lord” (a Christophanie?); Joshua 5:13-15. This visitation informed Joshua of Who the real Leader is, and that he must totally depend upon the Lord for supernatural victory.

