

LIVINGHOPE

BIBLE CHURCH

16 | JOSHUA 15-19

MAXIMUM LIVING

How can we enjoy maximized Kingdom living?

Outline

1. **A WORLDLY HEART (15-19)**
 - Beware of Temporary Peace
 - Beware of Earthly Security
 - Beware of Pride and Praise of Man
 - Beware of Earthly Ease
2. **THE GODLY HEART (19:49-51)**
 - Put on Humility
 - Put on Simplicity
 - Put on Service
 - Put on Devotion

Call to Worship

Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. ² For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth. ⁵ God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. ⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. ⁷ For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. –Psalm 47:1-2, 5-7

Songs

All Creatures of Our God and King
Be Unto Your Name
Behold Our God
Blessed Be Your Name
All I Have is Christ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME: We are glad you are here! Be sure to grab a Welcome Packet from the Welcome Center if you are visiting with us. So good to have Jim and Lydia Johnson with us from Brazil.

GIVING: You can still give over Zelle through your bank with no fees.

Use secretary@livinghopechurch.net.

We also have a collection box on the Welcome Center

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Children's Church is available for ages 2-6 at the start of the sermon

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Currently Jerry Soen is teaching a class on Abraham for men only and Pastor Mike is continuing his class on Creation, Man, and Sin

Mid-week Service: Wednesday we will have Prayer meeting and Youth at 7pm.

Introduction

We continue in a series in the book of Joshua called "Footsteps of Faith." Our title this morning is: "Maximum Living".

This morning we are going to cover quite a lot of ground in Joshua, chapters 15 through 19. These are the chapters that record the distribution of the land of Israel. Let me mention that these are some of the most skipped chapters in the Bible. They are often forgotten. But we believe that the entire Bible, every word, is profitable for our growth. And there is an amazing lesson here. As we see all this land and all these details, we should remember something.

God cares about details.

Here we see a very important lesson: the kind of detailed concern that God has for his people, so detailed, where you're going to put the boundary line, and what family is going to inhabit this portion of land, down to the individuals named. God is concerned about everything. The Bible says:

God will perfect that which concerns me. –Psalm 138:8

All of those little details of your life that you think, "Oh, they're not important, it's just a little private, personal matter," God wants to stick his nose in. He wants to be the Lord of that. "Oh, I shouldn't pray about this. This is so insignificant. God is so big. He's running the universe making that thing spin on its axis. I couldn't bring this before him."

Bring it before him. It's these kinds of chapters that bring out that kind of a lesson, the detailed concern that God has. David framed it beautifully when in Psalm 8, no doubt he was thinking of his shepherd days, as he looked up in the heavens and he said,

When I consider the heavens, the work of your hands, the moon and the stars, which you have ordained, what is man that you are mindful of him or the son of man that you visit him? –Psalm 8:3

That's a good perspective. It really goes along with the details in Joshua. God cares about every river, every mountain, but most of all God cares about every soul in Israel.

David wrote about this in Psalm 8. The God of this great big universe cares about you. The one who flung the stars into space cares about every detail in your life. He's never anything but near you. He is not far away from any one of us. You may be distracted from

God, but God is never distracted from you. Think of the magnitude of God's love for you. For me, it always helps sometimes to just walk outside and look up and think how small I am and how big God's creation is.

The Earth

- Traveling at 45,000 MPH in orbit
- Spinning at 1,000 MPH on its axis

The Sun

- 93 million miles away
- 860,000 miles in diameter

I am one of 7.6 billion other little people that inhabit this earth that's traveling in orbit at 45,000 miles per hour. Not only that, the earth is spinning on its axis at a thousand miles per hour.

And then this earth itself is pretty small when you think of the universe that it's in. If you were to consider the sun, the sun is 93 million miles away from the earth and yet the energy that it exerts that we can feel 93 million miles away is pretty significant.

The sun is 860,000 miles in diameter. And if you were to put it in perspective, you could put 1,200,000 spheres the size of this earth inside of it. That's just the nearest star. There are other stars and there are other galaxies beyond that. And so the real question of David---and I'm bringing all this up to set this up---is, "In lieu of the fact we have such a grand universe, why would you think so intimately about us, so detailed about me?" And God does. Did you know that? God is concerned. Even down to how he thinks about you.

I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of good not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. – Jeremiah 29:11

And then Psalm 139, as David thinks about the majesty of God, And he says,

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸ If I would count them, they are more than the sand. –Psalm 139:17-18

God wants your whole heart. That's what these chapters about the division of the land are all about. How God cares about us, everything about us. He cared about every detail of the land, because his is where Israel would serve God and worship him. Now this is the giving of the land to each of the tribes of Israel. It should be a record of **celebration and worship**. Sadly, it is a record mostly of **compromise and worldliness** of heart.

These chapters are the exact measurements of God's promise to Abraham in Genesis 12 and 15. These chapters record one of the greatest truths in the Bible: **God keeps his promises**. God wants to establish worship in the hearts of his people and in the land he gave them. But Israel fails, and sets themselves up for terrible failure. We see the warning signs. They all have to do with not coming to a place of full worship with God. What is it that keeps us from maximum worship?

Key thought: The only way to enjoy life to its fullest is to be satisfied in God completely, forsaking all idols and defeating all enemies for his glory and your happiness.

Be careful not to have a worldly heart. Most of the tribes settled into the land thinking the land itself was the goal: the promised land, flowing with milk and honey. They were dead wrong. **Since their goal was the land, they were worldly.** No one can be satisfied by seeking what is on earth. If you seek the world, your heart will be small. If you seek the Lord, your heart will be big. Remember the warning from the apostle John:

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. — 1 John 2:15-17

A Dangerous Pattern

We see a dangerous pattern. Israel loved the land too much. They had an incomplete obedience that eventually caught up with them. At first, they left some **Canaanites**. Then we see, **they marry Canaanite women** in Judges 1. Their paganism infected their hearts and grew like a cancer until there was **a civil war, a divided kingdom, and eventually, they lost the land entirely.**

How sad it is to have a worldly heart. They could have enjoyed the land so much more had they had a heart for God.

Israel's Goal and our Goal

The goal for Israel should have been worship. If you have any lesser goal in your life than the pure worship of the Almighty triune God, you will compromise with the world, and you will be miserable. This short history of the allotment of land to Israel, as well as the story of the book of Judges, proves that this is true.

God is seeking worshippers to worship him in Spirit and in truth. Without worship, you are preparing yourself for misery. The children of Israel will teach us this in our passage. They had a worldly heart. Do you?

I want you to see the comparison of a worldly heart and a godly heart.

 **WORLDLY HEART** temporary peace
treasures
pleasures
man pleasing

 **GODLY HEART** heavenly peace
heavenly treasure
pleasure in God
God pleasing

1. A WORLDLY HEART (15-19)

I want to show you four marks of worldliness that will keep you from the rich worship you so desire with the Lord.

Temporary Peace. Some believers, they just want temporary peace instead of lasting obedience. They want earthly security. They give up everything, because they settle for compromising with the enemy. They are weary and just want peace. **We can't settle for temporary peace.**

Our peace does not come from this world, but from God who never changes. Our joy and peace for maximum living comes from him alone. Don't have a worldly heart and seek your peace from things that can be shaken.

BEWARE OF TEMPORARY PEACE

Chapter 15 is the story of Judah. What an amazing tribe. Jesus comes from this tribe. This is a tribe that should be the location for **worship**. Part of Jerusalem is in Judah. But instead there is a compromise for **temporary peace**. Go along to get along.

Temporary peace brings far more conflict in the long run.

The worldly heart loves temporary peace. It's too much work to really have real peace in the home. It's too much work to really do the hard work for peace, so instead I will isolate, I will cut people off. And so you do. Some of you cut off your spouse a long time ago. You are still married, but you don't have the peace of the Holy Spirit in your home. You won't do the hard work to get those Philistines out of your marriage, or out of your church, or out of your work relationships.

Temporary Peace brings Far More Conflict

We read about the **Philistines** in **Joshua 15:33-60**. And what we find is that making temporary peace brings far more conflict in the end to Israel.

The **Philistines** live in the lowlands of Israel by the Mediterranean Sea. This is where they take root build a nation that is perpetually a thorn in the side of Israel. But because they want **temporary peace**, they leave some of these the Philistines (Ashdod, Gath, Gaza) in the land. And instead of worship, the tribe of Judah is unwilling to fight against the Philistines. Sadly, they leave some of the **Jebusites** in Jerusalem.

Joshua 15:63 | But the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the people of Judah could not drive out, so the Jebusites dwell with the people of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.

No big deal right? Wrong! It's a big deal, because they Philistines and Jebusites come back and oppose Israel all during the time of the Judges. It's not until the time of King David that we see any sort of victory. Temporary peace today means misery for many days!

Temporary peace gives the illusion that everything is ok when it is not. If you don't deal with problems in gentleness today, your bitterness will come to get you tomorrow.

As believers, we need to be willing to face conflict, not run from it. If you let bitterness dwell in your heart and you are ok with this temporary peace without really dealing with your love for yourself, your love for temporary peace more than real, heavenly peace and unity, you are walking in the flesh.

Facing conflict with anger or irritation doesn't work. We face conflict with love and tenderness and kindness. But we can never, never find lasting peace if we refuse to deal with sin in our lives. Some of you have personal conflict in your life, and you are not really dealing with it. You are moving on without really getting things right. You are letting the **Philistines** live in your life and in your home!

If you leave the Philistine of fear or the Jebusite of anger in your home, and you just move on without really getting rid of these Canaanites, you set yourself up for future enslavement.

If you put a band aid on cancer, it will come back bigger and more destructive in the future. On the other hand, we see someone in Joshua 15:16-19 that wasn't willing to compromise for temporary peace.

Caleb Not Willing to Compromise!

Caleb is from Judah which will eventually be the national location of worship for Israel. Farther south, we find the place that Caleb conquered. **Hebron**, Caleb's home is here, the mountain of fellowship. Caleb is from the tribe of Judah. Judah's allotment should go from the Dead Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. Caleb was to conquer the heartland of Israel between the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. And he does. He will not make temporary peace. He's willing to truly give all and sacrifice all. He's willing to give his daughter in marriage to the one who helps him conquer Hebron and the hill country.

Joshua 15:16-19 | And Caleb said, "Whoever strikes Kiriath-sepher and captures it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter as wife." ¹⁷ And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, captured it. And he gave him **Achsah** his daughter as wife. ¹⁸ When she came to him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she got off her donkey, and Caleb said to her, "What do you want?" ¹⁹ She said to him, "Give me a blessing. Since you have given me the land of the Negeb, give me also springs of water." And he gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

So Othniel wins Caleb's daughter Achsah (AK-sah) and becomes Israel's first judge after Joshua (Judges 1-3). He rules in Israel for 40 years, teaches Israel's next generation to war and worship, and brings peace for 40 years. There are some really powerful victories.

But not everyone is willing to sacrifice, and they leave off fighting the **Jebusites** and the **Philistines** in order to gain temporary peace. They give up Ashdod and Gath and Gaza to the Philistines. They want instant gratification. They tax the Philistines. No big

deal, right? But yes, disobedience is a big deal. These are two groups, as I said, that later give **David** big problems. He has to deal with them later.

Now are you Christian willing to stop worshipping at the altar of temporary peace? You know things are not right. They are not dealt with. But you go on as if they are.

God wants your heart to be a place of worship, but you have allowed the Philistines and Jebusites to live there. These are two of the most important places in Israel, but instead of worship there is weariness, bitterness, and fear. You haven't made things right. There's just this temporary peace. Perhaps it's a family member, or a spouse, or a child, and you are subjecting them to the Philistines of bitterness. Don't let these enemies dwell in your heart. They will torment you. They will keep you from worship.

BEWARE OF EARTHLY SECURITY

In these chapters (Joshua 16-17) you have the allotments for the sons of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh. We find these two tribes have money trouble. The desire for money makes them compromise their faith. They keep Canaanites alive and enslave them instead of driving them out of the land. They'd rather profit from them than drive them out.

Joshua 17:13 | And it happened, when the children of Israel grew strong, that they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but did not utterly drive them out.

These Canaanites come back to destroy them later. All because of money and earthly security.

Possessions and *treasures* can be an idol keep us from our ultimate treasure. Christ Himself is our ultimate treasure. All else pales in comparison to him (Philippians 3:7-11).

Money is another incredible idol that is set up among Ephraim and Manasseh long before they compromise and go into captivity.

Some people really hold on to possessions for their idol. This will come to bite Ephraim and Manasseh later on.

These were the mighty sons of Joseph, the great Prime Minister of Egypt. Don't rely on your previous accomplishments. Keep gaining new ground. Instead Ephraim and Manasseh made a deal with the Canaanites who had chariots of iron. They wanted extra money. **Their heart got choked by riches.**

The love of money can choke out your worship. Jesus says that riches and the cares of this world can choke out the seed of the Gospel.

Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. –Mark 4:7

Trusting in Earthly Security

Trusting in earthly security will hurt your worship.

Now **Shiloh** (16:6) is mentioned here in the **hill country of Ephraim**. This is where the Tabernacle will dwell for 369 years until the Philistines burn it down.

Joshua 16:6 | Then on the east the boundary turns around toward Taanath-shiloh...

Just a few verses down, we read about their compromise. Even though this is the place of worship for 369 years, they are going to learn to live with earthly security instead of real peace. Look down at Joshua 16:10.

Joshua 16:10 | However, they did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, so the Canaanites have lived in the midst of Ephraim to this day but have been made to do forced labor.

This choice not to drive them out will hurt Israel's worship. Ephraim and Manasseh let the **Canaanites** live and make a little extra money by enslaving them. They've got the Canaanites under control, right? That's what we always think. I've got a little extra money in my pocket. You think you've captured sin, but instead of you capturing sin, sin captures and enslaves you.

Are you compromising like Ephraim and Manasseh in your **finances?** They kept them alive to get some extra money. Is earthly security keeping you from serving God? Are you always thinking about money so that you can't do what you want to for God?

Do you get angry about money? Do you get stressed about finances? That is idolatry. The love of money will enslave you and keep you from serving the Lord. Be careful of this idol!

BEWARE OF PRIDE AND PRAISE OF MAN

There's a twist in our story. The tribes of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim) believe because they are such a powerful people with such a history of greatness, that they should have preferred treatment. They fall into the trap of pleasing man and pride.

Don't fall into the trap of pleasing man and pride.

Manasseh and Ephraim **get comfortable with the giants and the Canaanites with chariots of iron.**

Joshua 17:14-16 | Then the people of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, "Why have you given me but one lot and one portion as an inheritance, although I am a numerous people, since all along the Lord has blessed me?" ¹⁵ And Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up by yourselves to the forest, and there clear ground for yourselves in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you." ¹⁶ The people of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us. Yet all the **Canaanites who dwell in the plain have chariots of iron**, both those in Beth-shean and its villages and those in the Valley of Jezreel."

Joshua is holding these two tribes of Joseph accountable. Though they are complaining they have very little, they actually have two large sections both east and west of the Jordan River. So Joshua says: "But you have so much." And Ephraim and Manasseh say: "Well, it's just not enough. You see, we're a great people." I don't think they mean **merely in terms of numbers, but also,** "We're **awesome**. We're **amazing**. Remember our

heritage? Joseph, our father, was the prime minister of Egypt. That speaks volumes, Joshua. We are somebody. We are important.” They fall into the sin of pride and entitlement. “We really don’t want to go up against those Canaanites with chariots of iron.” They are resting on the **accolades of the flesh** instead of humbling themselves before God.

One of the most dangerous things for a Christian is to be supremely gifted, but to have no character.

These sons of Joseph rested on the accolades of men. We have a heritage. We are the big wigs. We are the important people. We are gifted, and we deserve the easy land. They have no character. They want some easy street. Dear saints, you may be gifted, but you can’t coast in the Christian life with gifting. You will fall if you don’t have character.

There are some who are gifted who will ask: “How come I don’t have a bigger ministry? How come I’m not seen and I’m not in the limelight? I want more exposure.” They have no character. But they have plenty of pride. They want the accolades of men, and they don’t want to work hard.

Humble Yourself with Hard Work

“Can we have the land without conquering the Canaanites?” Look at Joshua’s answer, verse 17. No you can’t just skip the hard work. You have to do the hard work of conquest. You will conquer. You can’t rely on the pride and accomplishments of your father. You have to make way to destroy the giants and Canaanite GI Joes yourself. You have to learn to lean on God’s power yourself.

Joshua 17:17-18 | Then Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, “You are a numerous people and have great power. You shall not have one allotment only,¹⁸ but the hill country shall be yours, for though it is a forest, you shall clear it and possess it to its farthest borders. For **you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have chariots of iron, and though they are strong.**”

If they have some humility, the Lord will lift them up over the Canaanites.

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.—James 4:10

He said in verse 15, since you are so great, you go and clear the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, i.e. the giants. Since you are so great and numerous, go after the giants and the Canaanites with chariots of iron.

They had the land, but they hadn’t taken title of it. They hadn’t moved in on it yet. Why? Because this is spiritual inertia: “We just want to go so far. It’s easier to settle here. It’s a little harder to go up to the mountains.” They didn’t like giants and the GI Joes. They didn’t like the chariots of iron.

BEWARE OF EARTHLY EASE

Are you living for earthly ease? Are you living for the **pleasure** of the moment?

God wants us to get rid of the Canaanites in the land so that we can enjoy him and have a life of maximum living. One of these Canaanites is earthly ease.

Joshua 18:2-4 | There remained among the people of Israel seven tribes whose inheritance had not yet been apportioned. ³ So Joshua said to the people of Israel, "How long will you put off going in to take possession of the land, which the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you? ⁴ Provide three men from each tribe, and I will send them out that they may set out and go up and down the land.

Seven tribes were waiting to go and take possession of the land. They shouldn't have been waiting. There is a time to wait, and there is a time to obey.

Sometimes we settle for less and sometimes we settle for that average, dull, kind of living, when God wants rivers of living water" to come from us. Jesus said, "Out of his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." There's a spiritual inheritance to be had for the church.

The Danites and Leshem

Here is another illustration of the idol of ease and pleasure. The men of Dan couldn't conquer the land they were assigned, so they end up compromising for more lush land. The land of Dan was in the south. They were to conquer the land that is in Philistine territory as well. But it was too much for them.

Joshua 19:47 | When the territory of the people of Dan was lost to them, the people of Dan went up and fought against Leshem, and after capturing it and striking it with the sword they took possession of it and settled in it, calling Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their ancestor.

Here we read about Dan who doesn't want to fight with the Philistines in Ekron. Dan has a portion of land a little bit on the sea, but it's down south between the tribe of Benjamin and the Mediterranean Sea. This is Philistine country in the Old Testament. As soon as this tribe settled in and Dan was putting down its roots and building its towns, the **Philistines and the Amorites came and attacked them so repeatedly.**

Judges and Samson the Danite. Well, look at the book of Judges sometime with Samson, **Samson** was a **Danite** from the tribe of Dan, and all the conflict that Samson and the children of Israel had with the Philistines. Goliath was the big Philistine, he was a giant. The pressure became so great that eventually the tribe of Dan migrated north to the very tip of Israel to a city called **Leshem**.

The tribe of Dan chose to migrate to a beautiful city state called Leshem, and it's still there today. They got comfortable. And if you've been to Israel, there is a place called Tel Dan where the tribe of Dan migrated and there are altars up there.

The ruins of the ancient city of **Leshem**, which was the town that Abraham came to when he came to the land, is still there. In fact, there is the gate made of mud bricks, that dates from before the time of Abraham.

Now Laish was renamed “The city of Dan”. Why is this important? **They didn’t want the land they were assigned, so they went up north among the trees and rivers.** This is really some of the best land in Israel. So much water and trees! But later, this became the very site for golden calf worship.

What’s the point? If you choose to not deal with your sin and live for worldly ease, you are living for idols. Now the idols weren’t there right away, but very soon, this became a place of terrible idol worship.

If you want to have a life of maximum living for the Lord, you have to put off earthly ease and embrace suffering. You have to learn to get your joy from the Lord, not from earthly ease.

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. –Matthew 16:24-25

Your maximum life is always in Jesus. It’s not in earthly ease.

2. THE GODLY HEART (19:49-51)

When they had made an end of the dividing of the land as an inheritance according to their borders, the children of Israel gave an inheritance among them to Joshua the son of Nun.

Joshua 19:49-51 | When they had finished dividing the land into its allotted portions, the Israelites gave Joshua son of Nun an inheritance among them, ⁵⁰ as the Lord had commanded. They gave him the town he asked for—**Timnath Serah** in the hill country of Ephraim. And he built up the town and settled there. ⁵¹ These are the territories that Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the tribal clans of Israel assigned by lot at Shiloh in the presence of the Lord at the entrance to the tent of meeting. And so they finished dividing the land.

This is the place that Joshua got, a place called Timnath Serah. Joshua didn’t ask for it first. He waited until everybody else got their inheritance.

PUT ON HUMILITY

Instead of saying, “Look here, I’m the general. I took over for Moses. I’m the big guy on the block. I get my inheritance first. Caleb got his; I get mine.” No. He let everybody else go and at the very end he asked for his allotment. Joshua knew something in his heart that the New Testament apostles write about: humility.

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. –James 4:6

Without humility you cannot experience the fullness of God. God resists you. Joshua didn't need first dibs. He was last. What a beautiful display of trust in God.

PUT ON SIMPLICITY

There was something else about Joshua. He wasn't seeking his happiness from the land. This world was not his home. He chose the place that is most simple and rugged. Joshua knew his citizenship wasn't on earth. This land wasn't all there was.

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. –Philippians 3:20

The place that he asked for, Timnath Serah, is a dive. It's rugged. It's mountainous. It's infertile. It's barren. Hardly anything grows there. And you look at it and you wonder, "Why would anyone want this?" It reminds me of Abraham and Lot. And Abram said, "Hey, Lot, you take whatever you want, take the best of the land, and I'll take what's left over. I trust the Lord." And so Joshua let them have the best and he didn't get, you know, a nice beach villa down by the Mediterranean.

If we are going to serve God, we have to give up the idea of having the best of everything in this life. We need to trust that God is sovereignly guiding our lives to change our hearts, not make us comfortable in this life. Let's be like Jesus. Remember what he said?

Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head. –Luke 9:58

Jesus left the security of heaven and dwelt on this earth in simplicity. Joshua had the same mentality.

PUT ON SERVICE

Joshua didn't serve himself. He served others. The life of maximum living is one of serving others.

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. –Matthew 20:28

Joshua knew this. He didn't serve himself. He didn't get the beautiful highlands of the northern Galilee. He got this barren, desert, rocky, rugged place and he was a builder. One of the last glimpses we get of Joshua is this guy who takes the backseat. It reveals a lot about his character. It also reveals a lot about their character, the children of Israel, that they would say, "Yeah, great, you take the trashy parts, we just want the good parts."

Jesus was like this. When his disciples were fighting about having the best place in the kingdom, Jesus got his towel out, put on a slave's garment, and he started washing their feet.

This is the way of maturity. Are you willing to serve others?

PUT ON DEVOTION

Joshua did it all at Shiloh. That tells you about his heart. He has a heart of rich worship. It's not about the land. It's about the Lord. In everything Joshua worshipped and glorified the Lord.

Whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. –1 Corinthians 10:31

Everything you do is an act of worship for the Lord.
Nothing on this earth can make you happy.

Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee. –Augustine of Hippo, Pastor in North Africa

Conclusion

Maximum living is not only possible. You already have all that you need to live this life. You have the inheritance. You are seated in the heavenlies with all the power of Christ.

You have the glory cloud, the Holy Spirit living in you. God will fight for you. You can have the peace that is only from heaven, the pleasure that is only from heaven. You can have the fullness of joy. But you have to forsake all and rely only on Christ.

Have you found your rest only in Christ?