

The Boundaries of the Promised Land

The original boundaries of the Promised Land as defined in [Numbers 34](#) are somewhat different from the boundaries of the land that the Israelites eventually occupied. The original boundaries included the mountainous area north of Sidon and Damascus, but the Israelites never occupied this area during the settlement period. Conversely, the original boundaries did not include land east of the Jordan River, but the Israelites occupied this land after capturing it from Og and Sihon.

[SermonAudio.com does not permit pictures so I am unable to include the Map]

In the Wilderness: The Book of Numbers

[#44] (Numbers 26–36) *A Heart Turned Towards the Inheritance: Part 14, A Better, Trustworthy Inheritance* – Numbers 34

Sermon Outline – May 15, 2016

Children's Sermon: The Devil's Assault & God's Promise

Genesis 3:5–6, 15

⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that **the tree was to be desired to make one wise**, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; **he shall bruise your head**, and you shall bruise his heel.”

The Promised Land Distributed

Notes:

The Borders (See Map Page 4)

The Leaders (9 ½ Tribes)

Key Questions

Why didn't God fully fulfill his promise to Israel?

Has one of God's promises failed?

If not, when?... and why wait so long?

Can We Trust God?

Has God's Promise to Abraham Failed?

Children of Promise/Faith

Romans 9:4–8

⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and **the promises**. ⁵ To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen. ⁶ **But it is not as though the word of God has failed.** *For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel,* ⁷ and *not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring*, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸ This means that it is not the children of the

flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring.

All the Promises Are Given to and Fulfilled through Jesus

2 Corinthians 1:20a

For *all the promises of God find their Yes in him* [Jesus]. ...

Galatians 3:16, 18–19a (HCSB)

Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say “and to seeds,” as though referring to many, but referring to one, **and to your seed, who is Christ**. ...¹⁸ For if the inheritance is from the law, it is no longer from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise.¹⁹ Why then was the law given? It was added because of transgressions **until the Seed to whom the promise was made would come**. ...

2 Possible Conclusions:

- 1) It is possible that these specific boundaries are conditionally promised to the Nation of Israel and failed because of their unbelief and rebellion.
- 2) It is possible that this specific land promise is given to Abraham/Jesus and still remains to be fulfilled/expanded.

Why do you think God has waited so long to fulfill the land promise to Israel? What are we meant to learn?

To Look to the “Better” Promises...

- 1) God is doing something bigger!
- 2) We are being taught to be God-reliant...

Romans 4:13–17

¹³ For *the promise to Abraham and his offspring* that *he would be heir of the world* did not come through the law but **through the righteousness of faith**.¹⁴ For *if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void*. ...¹⁶ **That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring**—not only to the adherent of the law but also to *the one who shares the faith of Abraham*, who is the father of us all,¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—**in the presence of the God** in whom he believed, *who*

gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

3) God has promised a place, a people...and a communion!

Hebrews 8:6–12

...Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on **better promises**.⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.⁸ For he finds fault with them when he says:

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when **I will establish a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,⁹ *not like the covenant that I made with their fathers* on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. For they did not continue in my covenant, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord.¹⁰ For ***this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel*** after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people**.¹¹ And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for **they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest**.¹² ***For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more***.” (Cf. Romans 4:1-12)

Hebrews 10:19–23

...since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus,²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh,²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God,²² ***let us draw near*** with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for ***he who promised is faithful***.

Today's Main Idea

All of God's promises have been/are/will be fulfilled (and expanded) through Jesus. God can be trusted to fully restore us as His image bearers.