

# OUT OF BONDAGE INTO ABUNDANCE

## *Part 6: Conquering Seven Nations*

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### INTRODUCTION

- A. After wandering for forty years in the wilderness (and after the death of Moses), the Israelites came to the River Jordan, where God affirmed through their new leader, Joshua, that it was time to enter into the Promised Land and begin to take possession:

**Josh. 1:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>*After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide:* <sup>2</sup>*“Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. <sup>3</sup>I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. <sup>4</sup>Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. <sup>5</sup>No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. <sup>6</sup>Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.”*

- B. Like the Red Sea forty years earlier, the Jordan River's waters were miraculously parted, enabling the people to cross over on dry ground with renewed faith that God would drive out the seven enemy nations of Canaan:

**Josh. 3:5-17:** <sup>3</sup>*Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.” <sup>6</sup>Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the Ark of the Covenant and pass on ahead of the people.” So they took it up and went ahead of them... <sup>8</sup>Tell the priests who carry the Ark of the Covenant: ‘When you reach the edge of the Jordan's waters, go and stand in the river.’” <sup>9</sup>Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God. <sup>10</sup>This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that He will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites. <sup>11</sup>See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all*

*the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you...<sup>13</sup> And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”<sup>14</sup> So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant went ahead of them.<sup>15</sup> Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge,<sup>16</sup> the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.<sup>17</sup> The priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the **whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.***

- C. After crossing the Jordan, the new generation of Israelites born in the desert had to be circumcised:

**Josh. 5:2-9:** <sup>2</sup>*At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again.”* <sup>3</sup>*So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth.* <sup>4</sup>*Now this is why he did so: All those who came out of Egypt—all the men of military age—died in the wilderness on the way after leaving Egypt.* <sup>5</sup>***All the people that came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness during the journey from Egypt had not.*** <sup>6</sup>*The Israelites had moved about in the wilderness forty years until all the men who were of military age when they left Egypt had died, since they had not obeyed the LORD. For the LORD had sworn to them that they would not see the land He had solemnly promised their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey.* <sup>7</sup>***So He raised up their sons in their place, and these were the ones Joshua circumcised. They were still uncircumcised because they had not been circumcised on the way.*** <sup>8</sup>*And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed.* <sup>9</sup>*Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have **rolled away the reproach of Egypt** from you.” So the place has been called Gilgal to this day.*

- D. Immediately after their circumcision, the Israelites celebrated the Passover for the first time in Canaan:

**Josh. 5:10:** *On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover.*

- E. After 40 years, the manna finally stopped, and the Israelites began to eat the fruit of Canaan:

**Josh. 5:11-12:** <sup>11</sup>*The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan.*

- F. Next, Joshua met the Commander of the Lord's army, and received a **very important revelation** that he and the Israelite community needed to understand before their conquest of Canaan and its seven nations began: this was NOT *their* battle but the *Lord's*:

**Josh. 5:13-15:** <sup>13</sup>*Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a Man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in His hand. Joshua went up to Him and asked, "Are You for us or for our enemies?" <sup>14</sup>"Neither," He replied, "but as **Commander of the army of the LORD** I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked Him, "What message does my Lord have for His servant?" <sup>15</sup>The Commander of the LORD's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.*

- G. From the very time God had appeared to Moses at the burning bush, He had been telling them about certain enemy nations that resided in the Promised Land:

1. **Ex. 3:8:** *So I have come down to deliver them [Israel] out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the **place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.***
2. **Ex. 23:20-30 (NKJV):** <sup>20</sup>*Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place*

which I have prepared. <sup>21</sup>Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him. <sup>22</sup>But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. <sup>23</sup>For My Angel will go before you and bring you in to the **Amorites** and the **Hittites** and the **Perizzites** and the **Canaanites** and the **Hivites** and the **Jebusites**; and **I will cut them off**. <sup>24</sup>You shall not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do according to their works; but you shall utterly overthrow them and completely break down their sacred pillars... <sup>27</sup>I will send My fear before you, I will cause confusion among all the people to whom you come, and will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. <sup>28</sup>And **I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivite, the Canaanite, and the Hittite from before you**. <sup>29</sup>I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you. <sup>30</sup>Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased, and you inherit the land.

- H. Finally, “in the fortieth year, on the first day of the eleventh month” (Deut. 1:3), Moses enumerated **seven nations** that the Lord would drive out of Canaan:

**Deut. 7:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations—the **Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, seven nations larger and stronger than you**—<sup>2</sup>and when the LORD your God has delivered them over to you and you have defeated them, then you must destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy. <sup>3</sup>Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, <sup>4</sup>for they will turn your children away from following Me to serve other gods, and the LORD's anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you. <sup>5</sup>This is what you are to do to them: Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their idols in the fire. <sup>6</sup>For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession.

I. Why “seven” nations?

1. “Seven” is the number of fullness or perfection
2. The moral wickedness of the inhabitants of Canaan had reached “full measure”:
3. **Gen. 15:12-16:** *<sup>12</sup>As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there. <sup>14</sup>But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. <sup>15</sup>You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. <sup>16</sup>In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its **full measure.**”*
4. “Full measure” [Heb. *shalem* = “complete, full, perfect”]

J. God made it clear to the Israelites that He was not driving these nations out because of Israel’s righteousness, but because of the wickedness and evil of these seven nations:

1. **Deut. 9:1-5:** *<sup>1</sup>Hear, Israel: You are now about to cross the Jordan to go in and dispossess nations greater and stronger than you, with large cities that have walls up to the sky. <sup>2</sup>The people are strong and tall—Anakites! You know about them and have heard it said: “Who can stand up against the Anakites?” <sup>3</sup>But be assured today that the LORD your God is the one who goes across ahead of you like a devouring fire. He will destroy them; He will subdue them before you. And you will drive them out and annihilate them quickly, as the LORD has promised you. <sup>4</sup>After the LORD your God has driven them out before you, do not say to yourself, “The LORD has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness.” No, it is on account of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is going to drive them out before you. <sup>5</sup>It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land; but on account of the **wickedness** of these nations, the LORD your God will drive them out before you, to accomplish what he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.*

2. “Wickedness” [Heb. *rishah* = “wrong (especially moral); fault, wickedness, iniquity”]
3. Their religious & moral practices were very evil and perverse:

**Ps. 106:34-40:** <sup>34</sup>*They did not destroy the peoples as the LORD had commanded them,* <sup>35</sup>*but they mingled with the nations and adopted their customs.* <sup>36</sup>***They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them.*** <sup>37</sup>***They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to false gods.*** <sup>38</sup>*They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood.* <sup>39</sup>*They defiled themselves by what they did; by their deeds they prostituted themselves.* <sup>40</sup>*Therefore the LORD was angry with His people and abhorred His inheritance.*

**Lev. 18:22-28:** <sup>22</sup>*Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.* <sup>23</sup>*Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.* <sup>24</sup>***Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled.*** <sup>25</sup>***Even the land was defiled; so I punished it for its sin, and the land vomited out its inhabitants.*** <sup>26</sup>*But you must keep My decrees and My laws... you must not do any of these detestable things,* <sup>27</sup>*for all these things were done by the people who lived in the land before you, and the land became defiled.* <sup>28</sup>*And if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you.*

- K. God would give the Israelites complete victory—they would not overcome with their own sword or bow:

**Josh. 24:11-13:** <sup>11</sup>*Then you crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands.* <sup>12</sup>*I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings.* ***You did not do it with your own sword and bow.*** <sup>13</sup>*So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.*

- L. Origin of the seven nations: Six of the seven were descendants of Noah's cursed grandson, Canaan, the son of Ham:

**Gen. 9:18-27:** <sup>18</sup>The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (**Ham was the father of Canaan.**) <sup>19</sup>These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the whole earth. <sup>20</sup>Noah, a man of the soil, proceeded to plant a vineyard. <sup>21</sup>When he drank some of its wine, he became drunk and lay uncovered inside his tent. <sup>22</sup>**Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father naked and told his two brothers** outside. <sup>23</sup>But Shem and Japheth took a garment and laid it across their shoulders; then they walked in backward and covered their father's naked body. Their faces were turned the other way so that they would not see their father naked. <sup>24</sup>**When Noah awoke from his wine and found out what his youngest son had done to him,** <sup>25</sup>he said, "Cursed be Canaan! The lowest of slaves will he be to his brothers." <sup>26</sup>He also said, "Praise be to the LORD, the God of Shem! May Canaan be the slave of Shem. <sup>27</sup>May God extend Japheth's territory; may Japheth live in the tents of Shem, and may Canaan be the slave of Japheth."

**Gen. 10:6-17:** <sup>6</sup>The sons of Ham: Cush, Egypt, Put and Canaan... <sup>8</sup>Cush was the father of Nimrod... <sup>10</sup>The first centers of his kingdom were Babylon [Babel]... <sup>11</sup>From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh... <sup>13</sup>Egypt... (from whom the **Philistines** came)... <sup>15</sup>**Canaan was the father of Sidon his firstborn, and of the Hittites,** <sup>16</sup>**Jebusites, Amorites, Girgashites, Hivites...**

- M. The following is a summary of the seven nations to be studied and what each represents spiritually:

1. Canaanites – worldliness & love of money
2. Amorites – pride
3. Hittites – fear & unbelief
4. Hivites – deception, lying & hypocrisy
5. Girgashites – backsliding & slothfulness
6. Perizzites – independence, separation & division
7. Jebusites – discouragement & depression

## I. CANAANITES

- A. **Num. 13:29:** *The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.*
- B. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *kenaaniy* = “a Kenaanite or inhabitant of Kenaan; a peddler, conducted mercantile caravans; Canaanite, **merchant**, trafficker”
- C. **Spiritual meaning:** worldliness, love of money and the world
- D. **Ezek. 16:2-3:** *<sup>2</sup>Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices <sup>3</sup>and say, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: **Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites**; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.”*
- E. Love of the world forbidden in the New Testament:
1. **1 John 2:15-17:** *<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup>For everything in the world—the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.*
  2. **James 4:4:** *You **adulterous** people, don't you know that **friendship with the world means enmity against God**? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.*
  3. **James 1:27:** *Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself **unspotted** [“uncontaminated” – AMP; “unstained” – NAS; “not polluted” – NIV] from the world.*
  4. **2 Tim. 4:10 (NKJV):** *For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica—Crescens for Galatia, Titus for Dalmatia.*
- F. The present world order or system is under satanic control—the devil is the “god of this world”:
1. **1 John 5:19:** *We know that we are children of God, and that the **whole world is under the control of the evil one.***

2. **Mat. 4:8-10:** <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the **kingdoms of the world and their splendor**. <sup>9</sup>“All this **I will give You**,” he said, “if You will bow down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’”
  3. **2 Cor. 4:3-4 (NAS):** <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup>in whose case the **god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
  4. **John 14:30-31:** <sup>30</sup>I will not say much more to you, for the **prince of this world** is coming. He has no hold over Me, <sup>31</sup>but he comes so that the world may learn that I love the Father and do exactly what my Father has commanded Me.
  5. **Eph. 2:1-3:** <sup>1</sup>As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup>in which you used to live when you followed the **ways of this world** and of the **ruler of the kingdom of the air**, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.
  6. **1 Cor. 2:12:** What we have received is not the **spirit of the world**, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.
- G. Because of Satan’s influence, the whole world system is wicked, perverse and ungodly:
1. **Gal. 1:4 (AMP):** Who gave (yielded) Himself up [to atone] for our sins [and to save and sanctify us], in order to rescue and deliver us from this **present wicked age and world order**, in accordance with the will and purpose and plan of our God and Father...
  2. **Phil. 2:14-16:** <sup>14</sup>Do all things without complaining and disputing, <sup>15</sup>that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a **crooked and perverse generation**, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast the word of life, so that I may

*rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.*

3. **Mat. 16:4:** *“A **wicked and adulterous generation** looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah.” Jesus then left them and went away.*
4. **Eph. 6:11-12:** *<sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the **powers of this dark world** and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*

H. In the world, but not of the world:

1. **John 17:6-18:** *<sup>6</sup>I have revealed You to those whom you gave me **out of the world**. They were Yours; You gave them to Me and they have obeyed Your word... <sup>9</sup>I pray for them. **I am not praying for the world**, but for those You have given Me, for they are Yours... <sup>11</sup>I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name, the name You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one. <sup>12</sup>While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name You gave Me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup>I am coming to You now, but I say these things while I am still **in the world**, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. <sup>14</sup>I have given them Your word and the **world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world**. <sup>15</sup>My prayer is not that you take them **out of the world** but that You **protect them from the evil one**. <sup>16</sup>**They are not of the world, even as I am not of it**. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As You sent Me into the world, I have sent them **into the world**.*
2. **John 18:36:** *Jesus said, “My kingdom is **not of this world**. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now My kingdom is from another place.”*
3. **Gal. 6:14:** *May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the **world has been crucified to me, and I to the world**.*

- I. The Canaanites represent a “merchant spirit”— buying & selling, love of money, focused on temporal, material riches:
1. **1 Tim. 6:3-11:** <sup>3</sup>*If anyone teaches otherwise and does not agree to the sound instruction of our Lord Jesus Christ and to godly teaching,* <sup>4</sup>*they are conceited and understand nothing. They have an unhealthy interest in controversies and quarrels about words that result in envy, strife, malicious talk, evil suspicions* <sup>5</sup>*and constant friction between* **people of corrupt mind**, *who have been robbed of the truth and* **who think that godliness is a means to financial gain.** <sup>6</sup>*But godliness with contentment is great gain.* <sup>7</sup>*For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.* <sup>8</sup>*But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.* <sup>9</sup>**Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap** and into many foolish and harmful desires that **plunge people into ruin and destruction.** <sup>10</sup>*For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.* <sup>11</sup>*But you, man of God, **flee from all this**, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.*
  2. **Luke 17:26-32:** <sup>26</sup>*Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man.* <sup>27</sup>*People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.* <sup>28</sup>*It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, **buying and selling, planting and building.*** <sup>29</sup>*But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.* <sup>30</sup>*It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed.* <sup>31</sup>*On that day **no one who is on the housetop, with possessions inside, should go down to get them.*** *Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything.* <sup>32</sup>**Remember Lot's wife!**
  3. **Luke 12:13-21, 33-34:** <sup>13</sup>*Someone in the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”* <sup>14</sup>*Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?”* <sup>15</sup>*Then He said to them, “Watch out! **Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.**”*

<sup>16</sup>And He told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. <sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’ <sup>18</sup>“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. <sup>19</sup>And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’” <sup>20</sup>“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ <sup>21</sup>“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God...” <sup>33</sup>**Sell your possessions and give to the poor.** Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**

4. **Luke 16:13-15:** “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**” <sup>14</sup>The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of others, but God knows your hearts. **What people value highly is detestable in God’s sight.**”
5. **Mark 10:17-25:** <sup>17</sup>As Jesus started on His way, a man ran up to Him and fell on his knees before Him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?...” <sup>19</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’” <sup>20</sup>“Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” He said. “**Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow Me.**” <sup>22</sup>At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. <sup>23</sup>Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, “**How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!**” <sup>24</sup>The disciples were amazed at His words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is to

enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>It is **easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle** than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

## J. How to overcome worldliness:

### 1. Faith:

**1 John 5:4-5:** <sup>4</sup>For everyone born of God overcomes the world. **This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.** <sup>5</sup> Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

### 2. Grace:

**Tit. 2:11-14:** <sup>11</sup>For the **grace of God** has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup>It **teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions**, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.

### 3. Don't conform or compromise:

- a) The Israelites were warned not to intermarry or make treaties with the seven nations—in other words, **NO COMPROMISE!**

**Deut. 7:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>When the LORD your God brings you into the land you are entering to possess and drives out before you many nations—the Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites, seven nations larger and stronger than you—<sup>2</sup>and when the LORD your God has delivered them over to you and you have defeated them, then you must **destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy.** <sup>3</sup>**Do not intermarry with them.** Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, <sup>4</sup>for they will turn your children away from following Me to serve other gods, and the LORD's anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you. <sup>5</sup>This is what you are to do to them: **Break down their altars, smash their sacred stones, cut down their Asherah poles and burn their**

*idols in the fire.* <sup>6</sup>**For you are a people holy to the LORD your God.** *The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession.*

**Ps. 106:34-40:** <sup>34</sup>*They did not destroy the peoples as the LORD had commanded them,* <sup>35</sup>*but **they mingled with the nations and adopted their customs.*** <sup>36</sup>*They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them.* <sup>37</sup>*They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to false gods.* <sup>38</sup>*They shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was desecrated by their blood.* <sup>39</sup>*They **defiled themselves** by what they did; by their deeds they **prostituted themselves.*** <sup>40</sup>*Therefore the LORD was angry with His people and abhorred his inheritance.*

**Josh. 24:14-15:** <sup>14</sup>*Now fear the LORD and serve Him with all faithfulness. **Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped** beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.* <sup>15</sup>*But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the **gods of the Amorites**, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.*

- b) **2 Cor. 6:14-18:** <sup>14</sup>***Do not be yoked together with unbelievers.** For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or **what fellowship can light have with darkness?*** <sup>15</sup>*What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or **what does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?*** <sup>16</sup>***What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols?** For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”* <sup>17</sup>*Therefore, “**Come out from them and BE SEPARATE,** says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.”* <sup>18</sup>*And, “I will be a Father to you, and you will be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”*

c) **Rom. 12:1-2:** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>**Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.**

4. **Listen to the Spirit of God, not the spirit of the world:**

**1 Cor. 2:9-14:** <sup>9</sup>However, as it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”—the things God has prepared for those who love Him—<sup>10</sup>these are the things God has revealed to us by His Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>**What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us.** <sup>13</sup>This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. <sup>14</sup>The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

5. **Set your hope and affection on heavenly things:**

a) **Col. 3:1-4:** <sup>1</sup>Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, **set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.** <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things above, **not on earthly things.** <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.

b) **2 Cor. 4:17-18:** <sup>17</sup>For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we **fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**

6. **Give to defeat the spirit of greed & covetousness:**

- a) **Luke 12:15, 33-34:** <sup>15</sup>Then He said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of **greed**; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions...”  
<sup>33</sup>**Sell your possessions and give to the poor.** Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For **where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.**
- b) **Prov. 11:24-25:** <sup>24</sup>One person **gives freely**, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. <sup>25</sup>A **generous person** will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.
- c) **Prov. 28:22-27:** <sup>22</sup>The **stingy** are eager to get rich and are unaware that poverty awaits them... <sup>25</sup>The **greedy** stir up conflict, but those who trust in the LORD will prosper... <sup>27</sup>**Those who give to the poor will lack nothing**, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

## 7. Learn to be content:

- a) **Phil. 4:11-13:** <sup>11</sup>I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. <sup>12</sup>I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. **I have learned the secret of being content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup>I can do all this through him who gives me strength.
- b) **Heb. 13:5:** Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

## II. AMORITES

- A. **Num. 13:29:** *The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.*
- B. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *emoriy* = “an Amorite; publicity, prominence; mountaineer”
- C. The Amorites lived in the *hill country* (Deut. 1:7, 19-20):
1. Translated “mount” in KJV from Heb. *har* = “a mountain or range of hills (sometimes used figuratively); promotion” — they dwelled in high places!
  2. They tried to confine the Israelites to the high places also (**Judges 1:34**): *The Amorites confined the Danites to the hill country, not allowing them to come down into the plain.*
  3. Dwelling on high is often used figuratively in Scripture to represent pride, arrogance and high-mindedness (**Isa. 26:5**): *He humbles those who dwell on high, He lays the lofty city low; He levels it to the ground and casts it down to the dust.*
- D. The Amorites were the “prominent” or tall ones!
1. Israel had defeated two kings of the Amorites, Sihon and Og, before crossing the Jordan into the land of Canaan:
    - a) **Josh. 2:10:** [Rahab]: *We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to **Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed.***
    - b) **Deut. 3:11:** *(Og king of Bashan was the last of the Rephaites. His bed was decorated with iron and was more than **nine cubits long and four cubits wide** [13 feet long and 6 feet wide!]. It is still in Rabbah of the Ammonites.)*
  2. **Amos 2:9-10:** <sup>9</sup>*Yet I [the Lord] destroyed the Amorites before them, though they **were tall as the cedars and strong as the oaks.** I destroyed their fruit above and their roots below. <sup>10</sup>I brought you up out of Egypt and led you forty years in the wilderness to give you the land of the Amorites.*

- E. As mentioned earlier in *Section I.I.3* (p.85), God specifically referred to the “sin of the Amorites” when He spoke to Abram (**Gen. 15:16**): *In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the **sin of the Amorites** has not yet reached its full measure.”*
- F. One of the sins of the Amorites was idolatry, the worship of false gods (**Josh. 24:15**): *But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the **gods of the Amorites**, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.*
- G. **Spiritual meaning: pride**
- H. God rebuked the Israelites in the Old Testament, telling them that their father was an Amorite (**Ezek. 16:2-3**): *<sup>2</sup>Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices <sup>3</sup>and say, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; **your father was an Amorite** and your mother a Hittite.”*
- I. This coincides exactly with Christ’s rebuke of the Jews in the New Testament, where He tells them their father was the devil (**John 8:44**): ***You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.***
- J. It was pride and self-exaltation that led to Lucifer’s fall, whereby God’s “morning star” and “anointed cherub” became the devil, Satan:
1. **Isa. 14:11-14:** *<sup>11</sup>All your **pomp** has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you. <sup>12</sup>How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! <sup>13</sup>You said in your heart, “**I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. <sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.**”*

2. **Ezek. 28:12-17:** <sup>12</sup>*Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: ‘You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. <sup>13</sup>**You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: carnelian, chrysolite and emerald, topaz, onyx and jasper, lapis lazuli, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. <sup>14</sup>**You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. <sup>15</sup>You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. <sup>16</sup>Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. <sup>17</sup>**Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.’”*******

K. Pride is a strong form of deception whereby we “think more highly of ourselves than we ought”—we come to believe that we are greater than we actually are!

1. **Rom. 12:3-6:** <sup>3</sup>*For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: **Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us...***
2. **Obad. 1:3:** *The **pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, “Who can bring me down to the ground?”***
3. **Gal. 6:3 (NAS):** *For if anyone **thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.***

L. We have two choices: humble ourselves or wait for God to humble us—there are numerous examples in Scripture where God humbled people—it wasn't pretty!

1. **Mat. 21:42-44:** <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “*The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes?*” <sup>43</sup>“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. <sup>44</sup>**Anyone who falls on this stone** [humbles himself] *will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls* [humbled by God] *will be crushed.*”
2. **2 Chron. 26:16-19:** <sup>16</sup>But after **Uzziah** became powerful, his **pride led to his downfall**. He was unfaithful to the LORD his God, and entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. <sup>17</sup>Azariah the priest with eighty other courageous priests of the LORD followed him in. <sup>18</sup>They confronted King Uzziah and said, “It is not right for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, who have been consecrated to burn incense. Leave the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful; and you will not be honored by the LORD God.” <sup>19</sup>Uzziah, who had a censer in his hand ready to burn incense, became angry. While he was raging at the priests in their presence before the incense altar in the LORD's temple, **leprosy broke out on his forehead**.
3. **Isa. 2:8-22:** <sup>8</sup>Their land is full of idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made. <sup>9</sup>**So people will be brought low and everyone humbled**—do not forgive them. <sup>10</sup>Go into the rocks, hide in the ground from the fearful presence of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty! <sup>11</sup>**The eyes of the arrogant will be humbled and human pride brought low**; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day. <sup>12</sup>**The LORD Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted (and they will be humbled)**, <sup>13</sup>for all the cedars of Lebanon, tall and lofty, and all the oaks of Bashan, <sup>14</sup>for all the towering mountains and all the high hills, <sup>15</sup>for every lofty tower and every fortified wall, <sup>16</sup>for every trading ship and every stately vessel. <sup>17</sup>**The arrogance of man will be brought low and human pride humbled**; the LORD alone

will be exalted in that day, <sup>18</sup>and the idols will totally disappear. <sup>19</sup>People will flee to caves in the rocks and to holes in the ground from the fearful presence of the LORD and the splendor of His majesty, when He rises to shake the earth... <sup>22</sup>Stop trusting in mere humans, who have but a breath in their nostrils. Why hold them in esteem?

4. **Dan. 4:37:** *Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything He does is right and all His ways are just. And **those who walk in pride He is able to humble.** [NOTE: Nebuchadnezzar was speaking from personal experience! Despite being warned by God in a dream, Nebuchadnezzar continued to boast about his power and glorious kingdom, and God reduced him to an insane wild man for 7 years until he repented and acknowledged God as his Sovereign Ruler].*
5. **Luke 14:11:** *<sup>7</sup>When **He noticed how the guests picked the places of honor** at the table, He told them this parable: <sup>8</sup>“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. <sup>9</sup>If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, **take the lowest place**, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. <sup>11</sup>For **all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.**”*

## M. Seven steps to overcome pride

### 1. Humble yourself: Submit to God & others

- a) **James 4:6-10:** *<sup>6</sup>But He gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” <sup>7</sup>**Submit yourselves, then, to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup>Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup>Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.*

- b) **1 Pet. 5:5-9:** <sup>5</sup>*In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”* <sup>6</sup>**Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.** <sup>7</sup>*Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.* <sup>8</sup>*Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.* <sup>9</sup>*Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.*
- c) NOTE: A person who is truly in submission to others is teachable, correctable, and values the views and opinions of others

## 2. Humble yourself: Boast in the Lord, not about yourself!

- a) **1 John 2:15-16 (NAS):** <sup>15</sup>*Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.* <sup>16</sup>**For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.**
- (1) NOTE: Just as Canaan begat the Amorites [see Gen. 10:15], so worldliness inevitably gives rise to pride and boasting; recall that one of the meanings of the name *Amorite* is “publicity”—when we boast, we are publicizing ourselves!
- (2) We boast about what we have done or can do, we boast about what we have/possess, we boast about our title/position, we boast about who we know, etc.
- b) **Rom. 3:23-27:** <sup>23</sup>*For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,* <sup>24</sup>**and all are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.** <sup>25</sup>*God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of His blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—*<sup>26</sup>*He did it*

*to demonstrate His righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith.*

- c) **Gal. 6:14:** *May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*
- d) **Eph. 2:8-9:** *<sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast.*
- e) **1 Cor. 1:26-31:** *<sup>26</sup>Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup>God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one may boast before Him. <sup>30</sup>It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. <sup>31</sup>Therefore, as it is written: “**Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.**”*
- f) The Gospel is designed to silence and eliminate ALL human boasting!

### 3. **Humble yourself: Acknowledge who you really are: NOTHING!**

- a) **Obad. 1:3:** *The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, “Who can bring me down to the ground?”*
- b) **Gal. 6:3 (NAS):** *For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself.*
- c) **1 Cor. 4:6-7:** *<sup>6</sup>Now, brothers and sisters, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, “Do not go beyond what is written.” Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of*

us over against the other. <sup>7</sup>For **who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?**

- d) **Ps. 8:3-4:** <sup>3</sup>When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place, <sup>4</sup>**what is man** that You are mindful of him, the son of man that You care for him?
- e) **Isa. 40:12-25:** <sup>12</sup>Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance? <sup>13</sup>Who has understood the mind of the LORD, or instructed Him as His counselor? <sup>14</sup>Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten Him, and who taught Him the right way? Who was it that taught Him knowledge or showed Him the path of understanding? <sup>15</sup>**Surely the nations are like a drop in a bucket; they are regarded as dust on the scales; He weighs the islands as though they were fine dust.** <sup>16</sup>Lebanon is not sufficient for altar fires, nor its animals enough for burnt offerings. <sup>17</sup>**Before Him all the nations are as nothing; they are regarded by Him as worthless and less than nothing.** <sup>18</sup>To whom, then, will you compare God? What image will you compare Him to? <sup>19</sup>As for an idol, a craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and fashions silver chains for it. <sup>20</sup>A man too poor to present such an offering selects wood that will not rot. He looks for a skilled craftsman to set up an idol that will not topple. <sup>21</sup>Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? <sup>22</sup>He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. <sup>23</sup>**He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.** <sup>24</sup>No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than **He blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like**

chaff. <sup>25</sup>“To whom will you compare Me? Or who is My equal?” says the Holy One.

- f) **James 4:13-16:** <sup>13</sup>Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” <sup>14</sup>Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. **What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.** <sup>15</sup>Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup>As it is, **you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.**

#### 4. Humble yourself: Seek the praise of God, not men

- a) **John 5:44:** *How can you believe since you accept glory from one another but do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?*
- b) **Luke 14:7-11:** <sup>7</sup>When **HE NOTICED** how the guests **picked the places of honor** at the table, He told them this parable: <sup>8</sup>“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. <sup>9</sup>If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, **take the lowest place**, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. <sup>11</sup>**For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.**”
- c) Jesus warned about the Pharisees who had an Amorite spirit (“publicity”)—they announced their “righteousness” with trumpets to be seen & honored by others:
- (1) **Mat. 6:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others **to be seen** by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup>So when you give to the needy, **do not announce it with trumpets**, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, **to be honored by others.** Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. <sup>3</sup>But when you give

*to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that **your giving may be in secret**. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. <sup>5</sup>And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. <sup>6</sup>But when you pray, **go into your room**, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then **your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.***

- (2) **Mat. 23:5-12:** *<sup>5</sup>Everything they [Pharisees] do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; <sup>6</sup>they love the place of honor at banquets and the **most important seats** in the synagogues; <sup>7</sup>they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called “Rabbi” by others. <sup>8</sup>But you are not to be called “Rabbi,” for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. <sup>9</sup>And do not call anyone on earth “father,” for you have one Father, and He is in heaven. <sup>10</sup>Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. <sup>11</sup>The greatest among you will be your servant. <sup>12</sup>For **those who exalt themselves will be humbled**, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.*

5. **Humble yourself: Serve others & in lowliness of mind esteem them better than yourself**

- a) **Phil. 2:3-8 (NKJV):** *<sup>3</sup>Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but **in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself**. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, <sup>7</sup>but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*

- b) **Mat. 11:29:** *Take My yoke upon you and **learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart**, and you will find rest for your souls.*
- c) **Isa. 57:15:** *For this is what the high and exalted One says—He who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and **lowly in spirit**, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.*
- d) **Rom. 12:6-16:** *<sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>**if it is serving, then serve**; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. <sup>9</sup>Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Be devoted to one another in love. **Honor one another above yourselves...** <sup>13</sup>Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality... <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. **Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.***

## 6. **Humble yourself: Through fasting**

- a) **Ps. 35:13:** *Yet when they were ill, I put on sackcloth and **humbled myself with fasting.***
- b) **1 Kings 21:25-29:** *<sup>25</sup>(There was **never anyone like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD**, urged on by Jezebel his wife. <sup>26</sup>**He behaved in the vilest manner by going after idols, like the Amorites the LORD drove out before Israel.**) <sup>27</sup>When Ahab heard these words, **he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and fasted.** He lay in sackcloth and went around meekly. <sup>28</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite: <sup>29</sup>“Have you noticed how Ahab has humbled himself before me? **Because he has humbled himself, I will not bring this disaster in his day, but I will bring it on his house in the days of his son.**”*

## 7. Humble yourself: Seek humility not greatness

- a) **Jer. 45:5:** *Should you [Baruch] then seek great things for yourself? Do not seek them. For I will bring disaster on all people, declares the LORD, but wherever you go I will let you escape with your life.*
- b) NOTE: Recall that one of the meanings of the name *Amorite* is “promotion”—pride gives rise to ambition, and we begin to promote ourselves and our supposed greatness!
- c) **Mat. 18:1-4:** <sup>1</sup>*At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”* <sup>2</sup>*He called a little child to Him, and placed the child among them.* <sup>3</sup>*And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.* <sup>4</sup>*Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.*
- d) **Luke 9:46-56 (NKJV):** <sup>46</sup>*Then a dispute arose among them as to which of them would be greatest.* <sup>47</sup>*And Jesus, perceiving the thought of their heart, took a little child and set him by Him,* <sup>48</sup>*and said to them, “Whoever receives this little child in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me receives Him who sent Me. For he who is least among you all will be great.”* <sup>49</sup>*Now John answered and said, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow with us.”* <sup>50</sup>*But Jesus said to him, “Do not forbid him, for he who is not against us is on our side.”* <sup>51</sup>*Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem,* <sup>52</sup>*and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him.* <sup>53</sup>*But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem.* <sup>54</sup>*And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?”* <sup>55</sup>*But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of.”* <sup>56</sup>*For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s*

*lives but to save them.” And they went to another village.*

- e) **Zeph. 2:3:** *Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what He commands. Seek righteousness, **seek humility**; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the LORD's anger.*
  - f) **1 Tim. 6:11:** *But you, man of God, flee from all this, and **pursue** righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and **gentleness** [Gk. *praotes* = “humility, meekness”].*
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### III. HITTITES

- A. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *chittiy* (derived from *cheth*) = “a Hittite; fear, terror; scare or make afraid”
- B. **Spiritual meaning:** fear and unbelief
- C. God rebuked the Israelites in the Old Testament, telling them that their mother was a Hittite (**Ezek. 16:2-3**): <sup>2</sup>*Son of man, confront Jerusalem with her detestable practices* <sup>3</sup>*and say, “This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.”*
- D. Fear was the very first consequence of Adam’s fall in the Garden (**Gen. 3:8-10**): <sup>8</sup>*Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as He was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.* <sup>9</sup>*But the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”* <sup>10</sup>*He answered, “I heard You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”*
- E. How often in Scripture we find God saying, “Do not fear... Do not be afraid!”
- F. Fear is a real tool of the devil:
1. **Heb. 2:14-15:** <sup>14</sup>*Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—* <sup>15</sup>*and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*
  2. **1 John 4:18:** *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.*
  3. **Luke 1:74-75:** <sup>74</sup>*To rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve Him without fear* <sup>75</sup>*in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.*
- G. Fear and unbelief are not just bad feelings or emotions—Scripture refers to them as “evil” and “sinful”
1. **Heb. 3:12 (NKJV):** *Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil* [“sinful” – NIV] *heart of unbelief in departing from the living God;*

2. **Rom. 14:23:** *But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and **everything that does not come from faith is sin.***
3. **Mat. 8:26:** *He replied, “**You of little faith, why are you so afraid?**” Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.*

H. In Deut. 7:1, the Hittites were the *first* of the seven nations enumerated which Israel had to overcome; similarly, the “fearful and unbelieving” are the first to be listed among those who will be cast into the fiery lake of burning sulfur:

1. **Rev. 21:7-8:** *<sup>7</sup>He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son. <sup>8</sup>But the **cowardly, the unbelieving**, [“fearful, and unbelieving” – KJV] *the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.**
2. “Cowardly” here comes from the Greek *deilos* = “fearful, dread, timid, faithless”

## I. How to overcome fear:

### 1. Trust God & His Presence – He is our Helper

- a) **Isa. 41:10-14:** <sup>10</sup>“***So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.*** <sup>11</sup>*All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish.* <sup>12</sup>*Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all.* <sup>13</sup>*For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, **Do not fear; I will help you.*** <sup>14</sup>***Do not be afraid, you worm Jacob, little Israel, do not fear, for I Myself will help you,***” declares the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.
- b) **Heb. 13:5-6:** <sup>5</sup>*Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “**Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.**”* <sup>6</sup>*So we say with confidence, “**The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.** What can mere mortals do to me?”*

- c) **Ps. 56:3-4:** <sup>3</sup>*When I am afraid, I put my trust in You.* <sup>4</sup>*In God, whose word I praise—in God I trust and am not afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?*
- d) **Ps. 27:1-3:** <sup>1</sup>*The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?* <sup>2</sup>*When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.* <sup>3</sup>*Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then I will be confident.*
- e) **Ps. 46:1-11:** <sup>1</sup>*God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.* <sup>2</sup>*Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging...* <sup>10</sup>*He says, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”* <sup>11</sup>*The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*
- f) In regard to the seven nations of Canaan, God repeatedly assured the Israelites that they had nothing to fear:
- (1) **Deut. 1:21:** *See, the LORD your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.*
- (2) **Deut. 7:17-21:** <sup>17</sup>*You may say to yourselves, “These nations are stronger than we are. How can we drive them out?”* <sup>18</sup>*But do not be afraid of them; remember well what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt.* <sup>19</sup>*You saw with your own eyes the great trials, the signs and wonders, the mighty hand and outstretched arm, with which the LORD your God brought you out. The LORD your God will do the same to all the peoples you now fear.* <sup>20</sup>*Moreover, the LORD your God will send the hornet among them until even the survivors who hide from you have perished.* <sup>21</sup>*Do not be terrified by them, for the LORD your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God.*

(3) **Deut. 3:21-22:** <sup>21</sup>*At that time I commanded Joshua: “You have seen with your own eyes all that the LORD your God has done to these two kings [Sihon and Og]. The LORD will do the same to all the kingdoms over there where you are going. <sup>22</sup>**Do not be afraid of them; the LORD your God himself will fight for you.**”*

## 2. Fear God

- a) **Isa. 8:11-13:** <sup>11</sup>*This is what the LORD says to me with His strong hand upon me, warning me not to follow the way of this people: <sup>12</sup>“Do not call conspiracy everything this people calls a conspiracy; **do not fear what they fear, and do not dread it.** <sup>13</sup>The LORD Almighty is the one you are to regard as holy, **He is the one you are to fear, He is the one you are to dread.**”*
- b) **Ps. 34:4-7:** <sup>4</sup>*I sought the LORD, and He answered me; **He delivered me from all my fears.** <sup>5</sup>Those who look to Him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. <sup>6</sup>This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; He saved him out of all his troubles. <sup>7</sup>The **angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and He delivers them.***
- c) **Prov. 9:10:** *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.*
- d) **Prov. 10:27:** *The fear of the LORD adds length to life, but the years of the wicked are cut short.*
- e) **Prov. 14:27:** *The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.*
- f) **Ex. 20:20:** *Moses said to the people [when they were trembling with fear at Mt. Sinai], “**Do not be afraid.** God has come to test you, **so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.**”*
- g) **Luke 12:4-7:** <sup>4</sup>*I tell you, my friends, **do not be afraid of those who kill the body and after that can do no more.** <sup>5</sup>But I will show you Whom you should fear: **Fear Him who, after your body has been killed, has authority to throw you into hell.** Yes, I tell you, fear Him. <sup>6</sup>Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, the very*

*hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

### 3. Walk in love

- a) **1 John 4:16-21:** <sup>16</sup>*And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.* <sup>17</sup>*This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.* <sup>18</sup>***There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.*** <sup>19</sup>*We love because He first loved us.* <sup>20</sup>*Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen.* <sup>21</sup>*And He has given us this command: Anyone who loves God **must also love their brother and sister.***
- b) **Rom. 8:35-39:** <sup>35</sup>***Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?*** <sup>36</sup>*As it is written: "For Your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."* <sup>37</sup>***No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*** <sup>38</sup>*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,* <sup>39</sup>*neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
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## IV. HIVITES

A. The Hivites living in Gibeon deceived Joshua and the Israelites, tricking them into making a peace treaty with them:

1. **Josh. 11:18-19:** <sup>18</sup>*Joshua waged war against all these kings for a long time. <sup>19</sup>Except for the **Hivites living in Gibeon**, not one city made a treaty of peace with the Israelites, who took them all in battle.*
2. **Josh. 9:1-24:** <sup>1</sup>*Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things—the kings in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Mediterranean Sea as far as Lebanon (the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites)—<sup>2</sup>they came together to wage war against Joshua and Israel. <sup>3</sup>However, when the **people of Gibeon** heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, <sup>4</sup>they **resorted to a ruse**: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended. <sup>5</sup>They put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy. <sup>6</sup>Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the Israelites, “We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us.” <sup>7</sup>The **Israelites said to the Hivites**, “But perhaps you live near us, so how can we make a treaty with you?” <sup>8</sup>“We are your servants,” they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, “Who are you and where do you come from?” <sup>9</sup>They answered: “Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the LORD your God. For we have heard reports of Him: all that He did in Egypt, <sup>10</sup>and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan—Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth. <sup>11</sup>And our elders and all those living in our country said to us, ‘Take provisions for your journey; go and meet them and say to them, “We are your servants; make a treaty with us.’” <sup>12</sup>This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is. <sup>13</sup>And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey.” <sup>14</sup>The Israelites*

sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the LORD.

<sup>15</sup>Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

<sup>16</sup>Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them. <sup>17</sup>So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath

Jearim. <sup>18</sup>But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the assembly had sworn an oath to them by the LORD, the God of Israel... <sup>21</sup>They continued, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers in the service of the whole assembly.” So the leaders' promise to them was kept. <sup>22</sup>Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, “**Why did you deceive us** by saying, ‘We live a long way from you,’ while actually you live near us? <sup>23</sup>**You are now under a curse:** You will never be released from service as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God.”

a) The Hivites “resorted to a ruse” [Heb. *assah ormah* = “use trickery, guile, subtlety;” translated “worked cunningly and went pretending” – AMP]

b) They employed a very elaborate plan, play-acting and utilizing many props (old sacks, moldy bread, worn sandals, etc.) to deceive Joshua and the Israelites

B. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *chivviy* = “villager”

C. **Spiritual meaning:** deception, lying & hypocrisy

D. Jesus often railed against the Pharisees and religious leaders of His day for their hypocrisy [Mat. 6:2,5,16; 7:5; 15:7; 16:3; 22:18; 23:13-15,23,25,27,29; Gk. *hupokrites* = “an actor under an assumed character (stage player); hypocrite” and *hupokrisis* = “acting under a feigned part; deceit, hypocrisy”]

E. **How to overcome deception, lying & hypocrisy:**

1. **Know the source of all deception: Satan**

a) **John 8:44:** *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

b) **2 Cor. 11:3:** *But I am afraid that just as **Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning**, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.*

## 2. **Know God's judgment for all liars**

a) **Rev. 21:7-8:** *<sup>7</sup>Those who are victorious will inherit all this, and I will be their God and they will be My children. <sup>8</sup>But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and **ALL LIARS**—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.*

b) **1 Tim. 4:1-3:** *<sup>1</sup>The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow **deceiving spirits** and things taught by demons. <sup>2</sup>Such teachings come through **hypocritical liars**, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. <sup>3</sup>They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.*

## 3. **Believe & love truth – walk in the light**

a) **John 3:19-21:** *<sup>19</sup>This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But **whoever lives by the truth comes into the light**, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.*

b) **1 John 1:5-10:** *<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: **God is light**; in Him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, **we lie and do not live out the truth**. <sup>7</sup>But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we claim to be without sin, **we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us**. <sup>9</sup>If we **confess our sins**, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins*

and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>**If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His word is not in us.**

- c) **2 Thess. 2:9-12:** <sup>9</sup>The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, <sup>10</sup>and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because **they refused to love the truth** and so be saved. <sup>11</sup>For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that **they will believe the lie** <sup>12</sup>and so that all will be condemned who have **not believed the truth** but have delighted in wickedness.
- d) **Ps. 51:6-7 (NKJV):** <sup>6</sup>Behold, **You desire truth in the inward parts**, And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. <sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

#### 4. Trust in the Holy Spirit

- a) **John 16:13:** *But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.*
- b) **John 15:26 (AMP):** *But when the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Advocate, Intercessor, Strengtheners, Standby) comes, Whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth Who comes (proceeds) from the Father, He [Himself] will testify regarding Me.*
- c) **1 John 4:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits to see whether they are from God**, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. <sup>4</sup>You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world and

*therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. **This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.***

5. **Be real—don't pretend; be honest, sincere—no disguises or masks!**
  - a) **2 Cor. 11:13-15:** <sup>13</sup>*For such people are false apostles, **deceitful workers, masquerading** [“disguising themselves” – NAS] as apostles of Christ. <sup>14</sup>And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. <sup>15</sup>It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.*
  - b) **2 Cor. 4:2:** *Rather, we have **renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, nor do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.***
6. **Put off all hypocrisy & deceit**
  - a) **1 Pet. 2:1-2:** <sup>1</sup>*Therefore, **rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind.** <sup>2</sup>Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.*
  - b) **Eph. 4:22-25:** <sup>22</sup>*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup>to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created to be like God in **true righteousness and holiness.** <sup>25</sup>Therefore each of you must **put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.***
  - c) **1 Cor. 5:7-8:** <sup>7</sup>*Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the **unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.***

7. **Don't exploit or manipulate others through flattery, exaggeration**

- a) **2 Pet. 2:3:** *In their greed these teachers will **exploit you with fabricated stories**. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.*
- b) **Rom. 16:17-18:** *<sup>17</sup>I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. <sup>18</sup>For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. **By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.***
- c) **1 Thess. 2:3-6:** *<sup>3</sup>For the appeal we make **does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you.** <sup>4</sup>On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. <sup>5</sup>You know **we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness.** <sup>6</sup>We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority.*
- d) **Jude 16:** *These people are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and **flatter others for their own advantage.***



## V. GIRGASHITES

- A. The Girgashites are an obscure nation, mentioned only seven times in Scripture; nothing is stated about their activities or place of dwelling; in the more than ten lists found in the Old Testament of the seven enemy nations of Canaan [see Ex. 3:8; 13:5; 23:23; 33:2; 34:11; Deut. 7:1; 20:17; Josh. 3:10; 11:3; 12:8; 24:11; Judges 3:5], the Girgashites are only found in three [Deut. 7:1; Josh. 3:10; 24:11], while all of the other six nations appear in every list except for one [Perizzites are also missing in Ex. 13:5]
- B. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *girgashiy* = “dwellers in clay soil”
- C. Some interesting facts about clay soil:
1. Clay obviously speaks about the earth, i.e. an earthly life
  2. It is very heavy and sticky (we speak figuratively of being “stuck in the mud” when we are trapped in an unpleasant situation)
  3. When wet, it turns to into mud that is very slippery
  4. When baked in the sun or an oven, clay becomes very hard, as in the case of bricks or pottery
- D. **Ps. 40:2:** *He lifted me out of the slimy pit, **out of the mud and mire**; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.*
- E. Peter graphically describes a “backslider” as one who once knew Christ but “slid back” into the mire and sin of this world (**2 Pet. 2:20-22**): <sup>20</sup>*If they have escaped the **corruption of the world** by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are **again entangled in it** and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.* <sup>21</sup>*It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.* <sup>22</sup>*Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A **sw that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.**”*
- F. **Spiritual meaning:** backsliding & slothfulness
- G. “Dwelling in clay” suggests an earthly focus and mindset, with little regard for heavenly things; this is a dangerous spiritual

condition, as noted earlier in 2 Pet. 2:20-22, for we can get “stuck in the mud” (entangled in the corruption of the world) and slide back into our old life of sin

H. The Israelites made bricks out of clay in Egypt (Ex. Ch.1 & 5)—it speaks of bondage, slavery, the old life

I. Laziness is graphically illustrated in a number of Scriptures found in the Book of Proverbs (*King James Version*) by two very slow-moving animals—the sloth and the slug:

1. **Prov. 6:6-11:** *<sup>6</sup>Go to the ant, thou **sluggard**; consider her ways, and be wise: <sup>7</sup>Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, <sup>8</sup>Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. <sup>9</sup>How long wilt thou sleep, O **sluggard**? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? <sup>10</sup>Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: <sup>11</sup>So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.*
2. **Prov. 10:26:** *As vinegar to the teeth, and as smoke to the eyes, so is the **sluggard** to them that send him.*
3. **Prov. 12:24, 27:** *<sup>24</sup>The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute... <sup>27</sup>The **slothful** man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious.*
4. **Prov. 13:4:** *The soul of the **sluggard** desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.*
5. **Prov. 15:19:** *The way of the **slothful** man is as an hedge of thorns: but the way of the righteous is made plain.*
6. **Prov. 18:9:** *He also that is **slothful** in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.*
7. **Prov. 19:24:** *A **slothful** man hideth his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.*
8. **Prov. 20:4:** *The **sluggard** will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.*
9. **Prov. 21:25:** *The desire of the **slothful** killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.*
10. **Prov. 22:13:** *The **slothful** man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.*

11. **Prov. 24:30:** *I went by the field of the **slothful**, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;*
12. **Prov. 26:13-16:** <sup>13</sup>*The **slothful** man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets. <sup>14</sup>As the door turneth upon his hinges, so doth the **slothful** upon his bed. <sup>15</sup>The **slothful** hideth his hand in his bosom; it grieveth him to bring it again to his mouth. <sup>16</sup>The **sluggard** is wiser in his own conceit than seven men that can render a reason.*

## J. **How to overcome backsliding & slothfulness:**

1. **Seek God for a heavenly hope & vision:**
  - a) **Col. 3:1-4:** <sup>1</sup>*Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on **things above, not on earthly things** [clay]. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*
  - b) **2 Cor. 4:17-5:2:** <sup>17</sup>*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we **fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.** <sup>1</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup>Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling.*
2. **Go to the ant—follow the examples of diligent people who persevered in life:**
  - a) **Prov. 6:6-11:** <sup>6</sup>*Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise! <sup>7</sup>It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, <sup>8</sup>yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest. <sup>9</sup>How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep? <sup>10</sup>A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest— <sup>11</sup>and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.*

- b) **Prov. 22:29 (KJV):** *Seest thou a man **diligent** [Heb. mahir = “quick, in a hurry, ready”] in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.*
- c) **Prov. 10:4-5:** *<sup>4</sup>Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth. <sup>5</sup>He who gathers crops in summer is a prudent son, but he who sleeps during harvest is a disgraceful son.*
- d) **Heb. 6:10-13:** *<sup>10</sup>God is not unjust; He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. <sup>11</sup>We want each of you to show this same **diligence** to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. <sup>12</sup>We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised... <sup>13</sup>...Abraham...*
3. **Realize how short time is—Jesus is coming soon!**
- a) **Rom. 13:11-12:** *<sup>11</sup>And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.*
- b) **Heb. 10:35-39:** *<sup>35</sup>So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. <sup>36</sup>You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised. <sup>37</sup>For, “**In just a little while, He who is coming will come and will not delay.**” <sup>38</sup>And, “**But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back.**” <sup>39</sup>**But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved.***
- c) **2 Pet. 3:13-14:** *<sup>13</sup>But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. <sup>14</sup>So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, **make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him.***

4. **Keep pressing on, making every effort—there is a reward at the end!**
- a) **Hos. 6:1-3 (NAS):** <sup>1</sup>*Come, let us return to the LORD. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us. <sup>2</sup>He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, That we may live before Him. <sup>3</sup>So let us know, **let us press on to know the LORD.** His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth.*
- b) **Phil. 3:10-14:** <sup>10</sup>*I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, <sup>11</sup>and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but **I press on** to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and **straining toward what is ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal** to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*
- c) **Heb. 12:1-3, 14-15:** <sup>1</sup>*Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us **run with perseverance** the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup>fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider Him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart... <sup>14</sup>**Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.** <sup>15</sup>**See to it that no one falls short** of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.*
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## VI. PERIZZITES

- A. The Perizzites are first mentioned in the early part of Abraham's life, when he came to Bethel in the land of Canaan (**Gen. 13:7**): *And quarreling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and **Perizzites** were also living in the land at that time.*
- B. No genealogy is given in Scripture—nothing is known about their origin! They were the only nation not descended from Canaan—they were not related to anyone—they were totally separated and independent!
- C. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *p'rizziy* = “of the open country; rustic villagers; dwellers in unwalled towns; from *paraz* = “to separate”
1. Same word is translated “unwalled villages in **Deut. 3:5**: *All these cities were fortified with high walls and with gates and bars, and there were also a great many **unwalled villages**.*
  2. We learn from Joshua that the Perizzites lived in the uncleared forest, somewhat like modern-day backwoodsmen or “hillbillies” (**Josh. 17:15**): *“If you are so numerous,” Joshua answered, “and if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the **forest** and clear land for yourselves there in the **land of the Perizzites and Rephaites.**”*
  3. The Perizzites lived separate, by themselves—they were not a part of any organized city—if they had any government, it was their own!
- D. **Spiritual meaning**: independence, separation & division
- E. Satan first tempted Adam and Eve to be independent of God (Gen. 3:1-5)
1. Self-will is the very root of sin: “I’m the boss, I’ll do it my way and I don’t care what *anybody* says!”
  2. **Isa. 53:6**: *We all, like sheep, have gone astray, **each of us has turned to our own way**; and the LORD has laid on Him the **iniquity** of us all.*
- F. People under the control of a “Perizzite” spirit reject all forms of government and authority (God’s and man’s)—it is a spirit

of lawlessness, rebellion and self-will; the Kingdom of God is the *GOVERNMENT* of God, and even civil government is established by God:

1. **Mat. 7:21-23:** <sup>21</sup>*Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the **kingdom** of heaven, but only the **one who does the will of My Father** who is in heaven.* <sup>22</sup>*Many will say to Me on that day, “Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name and in Your name drive out demons and in Your name perform many miracles?”* <sup>23</sup>*Then I will tell them plainly, “I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!”*
2. Jesus told a frightening parable about the Kingdom of God and those who rejected His rule over them (**Luke 19:12-27 – NKJV**): <sup>12</sup>*Therefore He said: “A certain nobleman went into a far country to **receive for himself a kingdom** and to return.* <sup>13</sup>*So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, ‘Do business till I come.’* <sup>14</sup>*But **his citizens hated him**, and sent a delegation after him, saying, ‘**We will not have this man to reign over us.**’* <sup>15</sup>*“And so it was that when he returned, having received the kingdom, he then commanded these servants, to whom he had given the money, to be called to him, that he might know how much every man had gained by trading.* <sup>16</sup>*Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’* <sup>17</sup>*And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have authority over ten cities.’* <sup>18</sup>*And the second came, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned five minas.’* <sup>19</sup>*Likewise he said to him, ‘You also be over five cities.’* <sup>20</sup>*“Then another came, saying, ‘Master, here is your mina, which I have kept put away in a handkerchief.* <sup>21</sup>*For I feared you, because you are an austere man. You collect what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.’* <sup>22</sup>*And he said to him, ‘Out of your own mouth I will judge you, you wicked servant. You knew that I was an austere man, collecting what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow.* <sup>23</sup>*Why then did you not put my money in the bank, that at my coming I might have collected it with interest?’* <sup>24</sup>*“And he said to those who stood by, ‘Take the mina from him, and give it to him who has ten minas.’* <sup>25</sup>*(But they said to him, ‘Master, he has ten minas.’)* <sup>26</sup>*‘For I say to you, that to everyone*

who has will be given; and from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>27</sup>But **bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay them before me.**”

3. **Rom. 13:1-7:** <sup>1</sup>Let everyone **be subject to the governing authorities**, for there is **no authority except that which God has established**. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup>Consequently, **whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted**, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup>For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup>For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore, **it is necessary to submit to the authorities**, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup>This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup>Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.
  4. People who aren't under the control of the Holy Spirit have no self-control—they cannot govern their own lives and are compared to “unwalled cities!” (**Prov. 25:28** – NAS): *Like a city that is broken into and without walls is a man who has no control over his spirit.*
- G. Peter and Jude warned us about false teachers and brethren who could be easily recognized by their independent spirit:
1. **2 Pet. 2:10 (NKJV):** *And especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries...*
  2. **Jude 13 (NKJV):** *Raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.*

H. Paul also gave many warnings about rebellious, divisive people in the church who bring trouble and discord:

1. **Rom. 16:17-18:** *<sup>17</sup>I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. <sup>18</sup>For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.*
2. **2 Thess. 3:11-14:** *<sup>11</sup>We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. <sup>12</sup>Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. <sup>13</sup>And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good. <sup>14</sup>Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed.*

I. **How to overcome independence, separation & division:**

1. **Surrender to God’s Kingdom rule & the Lordship of Christ:**
  - a) **Rom. 10:9-10:** *<sup>9</sup>If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.*
  - b) **Rom. 12:1-2:** *<sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.*
2. **Get joined to the Body of Christ—don’t be a “lone ranger”:**
  - a) **1 Cor. 12:12-18, 25-28:** *<sup>12</sup>Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but ALL its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For we were ALL baptized by*

*one Spirit so as to form one body*—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and **we were ALL given the one Spirit to drink.** <sup>14</sup>Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. <sup>15</sup>Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not **belong to the body,**” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not **belong to the body,**” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But in fact **God has placed the parts in the body, EVERY one of them, just as He wanted them to be...** <sup>25</sup>so that there should be **NO DIVISION in the body,** but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup>If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. <sup>27</sup>Now **you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.** <sup>28</sup>And **God has placed in the church** first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

- b) **Eph. 4:11-16:** <sup>11</sup>So Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip His people for works of service, **so that the body of Christ may be built up** <sup>13</sup>until we **ALL reach unity** in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup>Then we will no longer be infants, **tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching** and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup>Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of Him who is the head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup>From Him the **whole body, joined and held together** by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

3. **Submit to those whom God has placed in authority over you:**

- a) **Heb. 13:7, 17 (NKJV):** <sup>7</sup>*Remember those who rule over you* [“your leaders” – NIV], *who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct...* <sup>17</sup>***Obey those who rule over you*** [“your leaders” – NIV], *and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.*
- b) **1 Thess. 5:12-13 (NKJV):** <sup>12</sup>*And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are* [“have charge” – NAS] ***over you in the Lord*** *and admonish you* [“give you instruction” – NAS], <sup>13</sup>*and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.*
- c) **1 Pet. 5:1-6:** <sup>1</sup>***To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed:*** <sup>2</sup>***Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them***—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; <sup>3</sup>***not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.*** <sup>4</sup>*And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.* <sup>5</sup>*In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”* <sup>6</sup>***Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.***
- d) **Rom. 13:1-7:** <sup>1</sup>***Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.*** <sup>2</sup>***Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.*** <sup>3</sup>***For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do***

wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup>For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore, **it is necessary to submit to the authorities**, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup>This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup>Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.

#### 4. Watch out for gossip, slander & criticism:

- a) **Prov. 16:28:** *A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip* ["slanderer" – NAS] **separates close friends.**
- b) **Prov. 17:9:** *Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.*
- c) **Prov. 26:20:** *Without wood a fire goes out; **without a gossip a quarrel dies down.***
- d) **James 4:10-11:** <sup>10</sup>*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.* <sup>11</sup>*Brothers and sisters, **do not slander one another.** Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.*
- e) Deal with quarrels and conflicts in a mature, Biblical manner (**Mat. 18:15-17**): <sup>15</sup>*If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, **just between the two of you.** If they listen to you, you have won them over.* <sup>16</sup>*But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that "every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses."* <sup>17</sup>*If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.*

5. **Stay away from “wandering stars” and independent people who have a critical, divisive spirit:**
- a) **Rom. 16:17-18:** <sup>17</sup>*I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.* <sup>18</sup>**For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.**
  - b) **2 Thess. 3:11-14:** <sup>11</sup>*We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies.* <sup>12</sup>*Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat.* <sup>13</sup>*And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.* <sup>14</sup>**Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed.**
  - c) **Mat. 7:15-17:** <sup>15</sup>**Watch out for false prophets.** *They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves.* <sup>16</sup>*By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?* <sup>17</sup>*Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.*
  - d) **Mat. 24:4-5:** <sup>4</sup>*Jesus answered: “***Watch out that no one deceives you.** <sup>5</sup>*For many will come in My name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many.”*
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## VII. JEBUSITES

- A. **Literal meaning** of the name: Heb. *yebusiy* = “trampled or trodden down; polluted”
- B. In most of the lists of the nations of Canaan [see *Section V.A.* on p.121], the Jebusites are named last; they were the final stronghold to be conquered only during the reign of King David:

**1 Chron. 11:4-7:** <sup>4</sup>*David and all the Israelites marched to Jerusalem (that is, Jebus). The Jebusites who lived there* <sup>5</sup>*said to David, “You will not get in here.” Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion—which is the City of David.* <sup>6</sup>*David had said, “Whoever leads the attack on the Jebusites will become commander-in-chief.” Joab son of Zeruiah went up first, and so he received the command.* <sup>7</sup>*David then took up residence in the fortress, and so it was called the City of David.*

- C. The Jebusites lived in the fortified city of Jebus—the city of Jerusalem:

**Judges 19:10-11:** <sup>10</sup>*But, unwilling to stay another night, the man left and went toward Jebus (that is, Jerusalem), with his two saddled donkeys and his concubine.* <sup>11</sup>*When they were near Jebus and the day was almost gone, the servant said to his master, “Come, let's stop at this city of the Jebusites and spend the night.”*

- D. **Spiritual meaning:** discouragement & depression

- E. **2 Sam. 5:6-9:** <sup>6</sup>*The king and his men marched to Jerusalem to attack the Jebusites, who lived there. The Jebusites said to David, “You will not get in here; even the blind and the lame can ward you off.” They thought, “David cannot get in here.”* <sup>7</sup>*Nevertheless, David captured the fortress of Zion—which is the City of David.* <sup>8</sup>*On that day David had said, “Anyone who conquers the Jebusites will have to use the water shaft to reach those 'lame and blind' who are David's enemies.” That is why they say, “The 'blind and lame' will not enter the palace.”* <sup>9</sup>*David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the terraces inward.*

1. The discouraging voice of the Jebusites: “You will not... you cannot...”

2. The ‘blind and lame’ Jebusites speak figuratively of those who lost their vision or became crippled in their walk through discouragement:
- a) Seeing is believing—faith is what gives us vision—so spiritual blindness indicates a loss of faith (**Heb. 11:1**): *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*
  - b) **2 Pet. 1:8-10:** <sup>8</sup>*For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>But whoever does not have them is **nearsighted and blind, forgetting that they have been cleansed from their past sins.** <sup>10</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will **never stumble.***
  - c) **Rev. 3:14-18:** <sup>14</sup>*To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. <sup>15</sup>I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup>So, because you are **lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of My mouth.** <sup>17</sup>You say, “I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.” But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, **blind and naked.** <sup>18</sup>I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and **salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.***
  - d) **Heb. 12:11-13:** <sup>11</sup>*No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it. <sup>12</sup>Therefore, strengthen your **feeble arms and weak knees.** <sup>13</sup>“Make level paths for your feet,” so that the **lame** may not be disabled, but rather healed.*
  - e) **Heb. 12:12 (AMP):** *So then, brace up and reinvigorate and set right your slackened and weakened and **drooping hands** and strengthen your **feeble and palsied and tottering knees** [Isa. 35:3].*

- F. God knew that discouragement would be an enemy we all have to face at some point in our life, so He gave the admonition repeatedly in Scripture, “Do not be discouraged”:
1. **Deut. 1:21:** *See, the LORD your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, told you. Do not be afraid; **do not be discouraged.***
  2. **Deut. 31:8:** *The LORD Himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; **do not be discouraged.***
  3. **Josh. 1:6-9:** *<sup>6</sup>Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. <sup>7</sup>Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. <sup>8</sup>Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. <sup>9</sup>Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; **do not be discouraged**, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.*
  4. **Josh. 8:1:** *Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid; **do not be discouraged.** Take the whole army with you, and go up and attack Ai. For I have delivered into your hands the king of Ai, his people, his city and his land.*
  5. **2 Chron. 20:17:** *You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; stand firm and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid; **do not be discouraged.** Go out to face them tomorrow, and the LORD will be with you.*
  6. **2 Chron. 32:7:** *Be strong and courageous. **Do not be afraid or discouraged** because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him.*
  7. NOTE: In all of these references, “discouraged” is the Hebrew *chathath* = “to prostrate or **break down; beat down**, discourage, dismay,” meanings very similar to those for “Jebusite”—“to trample or tread down”—demonic

spirits that keep beating down our faith and hope and even give us nervous “breakdowns!”

## G. How to overcome discouragement & depression:

### 1. Abound in hope:

- a) **Ps. 42:5-11:** ***5**Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? **Put your hope in God**, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God. **6**My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon— from Mount Mizar... **8**By day the LORD directs His love, at night His song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life. **9**I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?” **10**My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?” **11**Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? **Put your hope in God**, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.*
- b) **Rom. 15:13:** *Now may the **God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may **abound in hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.*
- c) **1 Thess. 5:8:** *But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a **helmet the hope of salvation**.*
- d) **1 Thess. 4:13-18:** ***13**Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the **rest of men, who have no hope**. **14**We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in Him. **15**According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16**For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17**After that, **we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in***

*the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.*

*<sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage each other with these words.*

- e) **Tit. 2:11-13:** *<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup>It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.*
  - f) **1 Pet. 1:3-6, 13:** *<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth **into a living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and **into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,** <sup>5</sup>who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials... <sup>13</sup>Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, **set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at His coming.***
  - g) **1 John 3:2-3:** *<sup>2</sup>Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, **we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him** as He is. <sup>3</sup>All who **have this hope in Him** purify themselves, just as He is pure.*
  - h) **Job 19:25-27:** *<sup>25</sup>I know that **my Redeemer lives**, and that in the end He will stand on the earth. <sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; <sup>27</sup>**I myself will see Him** with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!*
2. **Set your face toward the heavenly Jerusalem—have an eternal vision!**
- a) The Jebusite spirit tries to blind and cripple the believer, discouraging him from entering the New Jerusalem

- b) **Heb. 11:8-10:** <sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; **he lived in tents**, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For **he was looking forward to the city with foundations**, whose architect and builder is God.
- c) **2 Cor. 5:1-7:** <sup>1</sup>For we know that if the **earthly tent** we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, **an eternal house in heaven**, not built by human hands. <sup>2</sup>Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with **our heavenly dwelling**, <sup>3</sup>because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, **guaranteeing what is to come**. <sup>6</sup>Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. <sup>7</sup>For we live by faith, not by sight.
- d) **2 Cor. 4:16-18:** <sup>16</sup>Therefore **we do not lose heart**. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an **eternal glory** that far outweighs them all. <sup>18</sup>So we **fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen**, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is **eternal**.
- e) **Heb. 12:22-24:** <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion, **to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem**. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, <sup>23</sup>to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

- f) **Rev. 21:1-8:** <sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>I saw the **Holy City, the new Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a **bride beautifully dressed for her husband**. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” <sup>5</sup>He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then He said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life. <sup>7</sup>**Those who are victorious will inherit all this**, and I will be their God and they will be My children. <sup>8</sup>But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”
- g) **Rev. 21:9-23:** <sup>9</sup>One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” <sup>10</sup>And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the **Holy City, Jerusalem**, coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>11</sup>**It shone with the glory of God**, and its **brilliance** was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. <sup>12</sup>It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>13</sup>There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. <sup>14</sup>The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup>The angel who talked with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city, its gates

and its walls. <sup>16</sup>The city was laid out like a square, as long as it was wide. He measured the city with the rod and found it to be 12,000 stadia in length, and as wide and high as it is long. <sup>17</sup>The angel measured the wall using human measurement, and it was 144 cubits thick. <sup>18</sup>**The wall was made of jasper, and the city of pure gold, as pure as glass.** <sup>19</sup>The foundations of the city walls were **decorated with every kind of precious stone.** The first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, <sup>20</sup>the fifth onyx, the sixth ruby, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth turquoise, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. <sup>21</sup>**The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.** <sup>22</sup>I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup>The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for **the glory of God gives it light**, and the Lamb is its lamp.

- h) **Ps. 87:1-3 (NKJV):** <sup>1</sup>His foundation is in the holy mountains. <sup>2</sup>The LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings .of Jacob. <sup>3</sup>**Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God!**
- i) **Ps. 48:1-2 (KJV):** <sup>1</sup>Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. <sup>2</sup>**Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is Mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.**

### 3. **Stay in first love for Jesus:**

- a) Only David could conquer the Jebusites: Heb. *David* = “love, loving”
- b) **Rev. 2:1-5 (NKJV):** <sup>1</sup>To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, “These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: <sup>2</sup>I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars; <sup>3</sup>and you have persevered and have patience, and

have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary. <sup>4</sup>Nevertheless **I have this against you, that you have left your first love.** <sup>5</sup>Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.”

#### 4. Encourage one another daily:

- a) **Heb. 3:13:** *But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called “Today,” so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.*
- b) **Heb. 10:24-25:** <sup>24</sup>*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,* <sup>25</sup>*not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*
- c) **1 Thess. 5:10-11:** <sup>10</sup>*He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with Him.* <sup>11</sup>*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*
- d) **1 Thess. 4:16-18:** <sup>16</sup>*For the Lord Himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.* <sup>17</sup>*After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.* <sup>18</sup>*Therefore encourage each other with these words.*

#### 5. Encourage yourself in the Lord (Scripture promises):

- a) **1 Sam. 30:6 (AMP):** *David was greatly distressed, for the men spoke of stoning him because the souls of them all were bitterly grieved, each man for his sons and daughters. But David encouraged and strengthened himself in the Lord his God.*
- b) Sometimes there is no one to encourage us—we must learn how to encourage ourselves by remembering God's promises and confessing what His word declares!
- c) **Phil. 4:13 (NKJV):** *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

- d) **2 Cor. 2:14 (NKJV):** *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.*
- e) **1 John 4:4 (NKJV):** *You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.*
- f) **Rom. 8:31-39 (NKJV):** <sup>31</sup>*What then shall we say to these things? **If God is for us, who can be against us?*** <sup>32</sup>*He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?* <sup>33</sup>*Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.* <sup>34</sup>*Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.* <sup>35</sup>*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?* <sup>36</sup>*As it is written: "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE KILLED ALL DAY LONG; WE ARE ACCOUNTED AS SHEEP FOR THE SLAUGHTER."* <sup>37</sup>*Yet in all these things **we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.*** <sup>38</sup>*For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup>nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

6. **Put on the garment of praise:**

- a) **Isa. 61:1-4 (NKJV):** <sup>1</sup>*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to **comfort all who mourn**, <sup>3</sup>to console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the **garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness**; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified. <sup>4</sup>And they shall **rebuild the old ruins**,*

*they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities, the desolations of many generations.*

- b) **Ps. 42:5-11:** <sup>5</sup>*Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.* <sup>6</sup>*My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember You from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon— from Mount Mizar...* <sup>8</sup>*By day the LORD directs His love, at night His song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.* <sup>9</sup>*I say to God my Rock, “Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?”* <sup>10</sup>*My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me, saying to me all day long, “Where is your God?”* <sup>11</sup>*Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God.*
- c) **Ps. 77:1-13:** <sup>1</sup>*I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.* <sup>2</sup>*When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands, and I would not be comforted.* <sup>3</sup>*I remembered you, God, and I groaned; I meditated, and my spirit grew faint.* <sup>4</sup>*You kept my eyes from closing; I was too troubled to speak.* <sup>5</sup>*I thought about the former days, the years of long ago;* <sup>6</sup>*I remembered my songs in the night.* My heart meditated and my spirit asked: <sup>7</sup>*“Will the Lord reject forever? Will He never show His favor again? <sup>8</sup>Has His unfailing love vanished forever? Has His promise failed for all time? <sup>9</sup>Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has He in anger withheld His compassion?”* <sup>10</sup>*Then I thought, “To this I will appeal: the years when the Most High stretched out His right hand.* <sup>11</sup>*I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember Your miracles of long ago.* <sup>12</sup>*I will consider all Your works and meditate on all Your mighty deeds.”* <sup>13</sup>*Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God?*

7. **Stay filled with the Holy Spirit—the anointing breaks the yoke:**

- a) **Isa. 10:27 (KJV):** *And it shall come to pass in that day, that his **burden** shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and **the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.***
- b) **Acts 10:38 (NKJV):** *How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and **healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.***

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## VIII. CONCLUSION

- A. Seven wicked nations occupying Canaan, the Promised Land, had to be defeated and driven out before the Israelites could possess their inheritance
- B. When Joshua was nearing the end of his life, he reminded the Israelites of God's faithfulness and all that He had done for them:
  1. **Josh. 23:1-14:** *<sup>1</sup>After a long time had passed and the LORD had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then old and well advanced in years, <sup>2</sup>summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: "I am old and well advanced in years. <sup>3</sup>**You yourselves have seen everything the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the LORD your God who fought for you.** <sup>4</sup>Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain—the nations I conquered—between the Jordan and the Great Sea in the west. <sup>5</sup>The LORD your God Himself will drive them out of your way. He will push them out before you, and **you will TAKE POSSESSION OF THEIR LAND, as the LORD your God promised you.** <sup>6</sup>Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. <sup>7</sup>Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. <sup>8</sup>But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now. <sup>9</sup>**The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand***

**you.** <sup>10</sup>One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as He promised. <sup>11</sup>So be very careful to love the LORD your God. <sup>12</sup>But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you and if you intermarry with them and associate with them, <sup>13</sup>then you may be sure that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations before you. Instead, they will become snares and traps for you, whips on your backs and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land, which the LORD your God has given you. <sup>14</sup>Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that **not one of all the good promises the LORD your God gave you has failed.** Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed.

2. **Josh. 24:11-13:** <sup>11</sup>Then you crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands. <sup>12</sup>I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow. <sup>13</sup>So **I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.**

- C. At long last, it was time for the Israelites to possess the land; in our next study, we will examine this final step in Israel's journey out of bondage into abundance!