

**Message Seven**  
**The All-inclusive Christ**  
**Being the Allotted Portion of the Saints,**  
**according to God's Choice,**  
**as Their Divine Inheritance for Their Enjoyment**

*MC Hymns: 554, 907*

Scripture Reading: Num. 32:1-6, 12, 16-22, 33; Deut. 8:9; Col. 1:12; 2:6-7; Phil. 3:7-11, 14

- Num 32:1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great abundance of livestock. And when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that the place was indeed a place for livestock,
- Num 32:2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of the assembly, saying,
- Num 32:3 Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Sebam and Nebo and Beon,
- Num 32:4 The land which Jehovah struck before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.
- Num 32:5 And they said, If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession; do not make us cross over the Jordan.
- Num 32:6 And Moses said to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, Shall your brothers go to war, while you stay here?
- Num 32:12 Except Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua the son of Nun, because they have fully followed Jehovah.
- Num 32:16 And they came near to him and said, We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock and cities for our little ones;
- Num 32:17 But we ourselves will be armed and ready to go before the children of Israel until we have brought them to their place, while our little ones dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land.
- Num 32:18 We will not return to our houses until each one of the children of Israel has inherited his inheritance.
- Num 32:19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and further on, because our inheritance has come to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.
- Num 32:20 And Moses said to them, If you will do this thing, if you will arm yourselves before Jehovah for battle,
- Num 32:21 And all of your armed men will cross over the Jordan before Jehovah until He has driven out His enemies from before Him,
- Num 32:22 And the land is subdued before Jehovah, then afterward you shall return and be free of obligation toward Jehovah and toward Israel; and this land shall be yours for a possession before Jehovah.
- Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.
- Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
- Col 2:7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
- Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.
- Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
- Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,
- Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- Phil 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.
- Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.

## I. The all-inclusive Christ is typified by the good land, a land in which we will not lack anything—Deut. 8:9:

Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.

A. Christ as the allotted portion of the saints (Col. 1:12) refers to the lot of the inheritance, as illustrated by the allotment of the good land of Canaan given to the children of Israel for their inheritance (Josh. 14:1):

Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Josh 14:1 And these are what the children of Israel received as inheritances in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel gave to them as inheritances,

1. The New Testament believers' inheritance is not a physical land; it is the all-inclusive Christ; He is the pledge of our inheritance—Eph. 1:14.

Eph 1:14 Who is the pledge of our inheritance unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.

2. He is the allotted portion of the saints as our divine inheritance for our enjoyment—Acts 26:18b.

Acts 26:18b ...that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

B. God's intention is to bring all His people into the good land, which typifies Christ as the goal; in the Old Testament God's people journeyed and then arrived at the goal, but in the New Testament we, the believers, having been baptized into Christ, are already in the goal—Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27; 1 Cor. 1:30; Col. 2:6 and footnotes.

Rom 6:3 Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Gal 3:27 For as many as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

1 Cor 1:30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom to us from God: both righteousness and sanctification and redemption,

Col 2:6 As therefore you have <sup>1</sup>received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, <sup>2</sup>walk in Him,  
note 1 Christ is the allotted portion of the saints (1:12) for their enjoyment. To believe into Him is to receive Him. As the all-inclusive Spirit (2 Cor. 3:17), He enters into us and dwells in our spirit (2 Tim. 4:22) to be everything to us.

note 2 As we have received Christ, we should walk in Him. Here to walk is to live, to act, to behave, and to have our being. We should walk, live, and act in Christ that we may enjoy His riches, just as the children of Israel lived in the good land, enjoying all its rich produce. The good land today is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit (Gal. 3:14), who dwells in our spirit (2 Tim. 4:22; Rom. 8:16) to be our enjoyment. To walk according to this Spirit (Rom. 8:4; Gal. 5:16) is the central and crucial point in the New Testament.

C. The good land today is Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit (v. 6; Gal. 3:14), who dwells in our spirit (2 Tim. 4:22; Rom. 8:16) to be our enjoyment; to walk according to this Spirit (v. 4; Gal. 5:16) is the central and crucial point in the New Testament:

Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.

Rom 8:16 The Spirit Himself witnesses with our spirit that we are children of God.

Rom 8:4 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit.

Gal 5:16 But I say, Walk by the Spirit and you shall by no means fulfill the lust of the flesh.

1. Colossians 2:6-7 reveals that Christ as the good land is the rich soil in which we have been rooted so that we may grow with the elements that we absorb from the soil—cf. 1 Cor. 3:6, 9; Col. 2:19.

Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

- Col 2:7        Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
- 1 Cor 3:6      I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.
- 1 Cor 3:9      For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.
- Col 2:19        And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.
2. If we have been rooted in Christ, we shall spontaneously walk in Christ—living, acting, moving, and having our being in Christ.
  3. The only way to become deeply rooted in Christ is to contact the Lord and spend time with Him in the Word with much prayer; we first grow downward and then bear fruit upward—Eph. 5:26; 6:17-18; Isa. 37:31.
 

Eph 5:26      That He might sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing of the water in the word,

Eph 6:17      And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

Eph 6:18      By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

Isa 37:31     And the remnant of those who have escaped of the house of Judah will again take root downward and bear fruit upward.
  4. While we walk in Christ, we will be built up in Christ to live out Christ; this living out of Christ will produce the corporate expression of Christ, the church life—Col. 2:6-7.
 

Col 2:6        As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,

Col 2:7        Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.
  5. Every morning we need to take adequate time to absorb the Lord; although even ten minutes is good, it is best to spend thirty minutes to enjoy Him at the start of each new day; as we spend time contacting the Lord in the morning and throughout the day in our spirit, we will spontaneously absorb into us the riches of Christ as the soil.
  6. We must take time to enjoy the Lord as the all-inclusive land so that all the elements of Christ as the rich soil may be absorbed into us for us to be made full in Him in our experience—v. 10a; 4:2:
 

Col 2:10a     And you have been made full in Him, ...

Col 4:2        Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

    - a. If we would absorb the riches of Christ as the soil, we need to have tender, new roots; we should not let ourselves get old but be fresh and renewed every day—2 Cor. 4:16; cf. Deut. 34:7; Luke 11:34-36; Acts 3:19-20; Psa. 16:11.
 

2 Cor 4:16     Therefore we do not lose heart; but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Deut 34:7      And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died; his eye was not dim, nor had his freshness left him.

Luke 11:34     The lamp of the body is your eye. When your eye is single, your whole body also is full of light; but when it is evil, your body also is dark.

Luke 11:35     Watch out therefore that the light which is in you is not darkness.

Luke 11:36     If therefore your whole body is full of light and does not have any dark part, the whole will be full of light as when the lamp with its rays illuminates you.

Acts 3:19      Repent therefore and turn, that your sins may be wiped away,

Acts 3:20      So that seasons of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord and that He may send the Christ, who has been previously appointed for you, Jesus,

Psa 16:11     You will make known to me the path of life; / In Your presence is fullness of joy; / At Your right hand there are pleasures forever.
    - b. We need to forget our situation, our condition, our failures, and our weaknesses and simply take time to absorb the Lord so that we may be built up in Him for the building up of His Body, His corporate expression—Luke 8:13; Matt. 14:22-23; 6:6.
 

Luke 8:13      And those on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word

- with joy; yet these have no root, who believe only for a while, and in time of trial they draw back.
- Matt 14:22 And immediately He compelled the disciples to step into the boat and to go before Him to the other side, while He sent the crowds away.
- Matt 14:23 And after He sent the crowds away, He went up to the mountain privately to pray. And when night fell, He was there alone.
- Matt 6:6 But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.

## **II. The book of Numbers reveals the prearrangement of the distribution of the good land, typifying the sharing of the enjoyment of the rich Christ according to God's choice—32:1-42; 33:50—36:13:**

- Num 32:1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great abundance of livestock. And when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that the place was indeed a place for livestock,
- Num 32:2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of the assembly, saying,
- Num 32:3 Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Sebam and Nebo and Beon,
- Num 32:4 The land which Jehovah struck before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.
- Num 32:5 And they said, If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession; do not make us cross over the Jordan.
- Num 32:6 And Moses said to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben, Shall your brothers go to war, while you stay here?
- Num 32:7 Now why would you discourage the heart of the children of Israel from crossing over into the land which Jehovah has given them?
- Num 32:8 Your fathers did this when I sent them from Kadesh-barnea to see the land.
- Num 32:9 When they went up to the valley of Eshcol and saw the land, they discouraged the heart of the children of Israel from going into the land which Jehovah had given them.
- Num 32:10 And Jehovah's anger was kindled in that day, and He swore, saying,
- Num 32:11 Surely none of the men who came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, because they have not fully followed Me;
- Num 32:12 Except Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua the son of Nun, because they have fully followed Jehovah.
- Num 32:13 And Jehovah's anger was kindled against Israel, and He made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until the whole generation which had done evil in the sight of Jehovah was consumed.
- Num 32:14 And now you have risen up in your fathers' place, a brood of sinful men, to further increase the burning anger of Jehovah toward Israel.
- Num 32:15 For if you turn away from following Him, He will yet again leave them in the wilderness; and you will destroy this entire people.
- Num 32:16 And they came near to him and said, We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock and cities for our little ones;
- Num 32:17 But we ourselves will be armed and ready to go before the children of Israel until we have brought them to their place, while our little ones dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land.
- Num 32:18 We will not return to our houses until each one of the children of Israel has inherited his inheritance.
- Num 32:19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and further on, because our inheritance has come to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.
- Num 32:20 And Moses said to them, If you will do this thing, if you will arm yourselves before Jehovah for battle,
- Num 32:21 And all of your armed men will cross over the Jordan before Jehovah until He has driven out His enemies from before Him,
- Num 32:22 And the land is subdued before Jehovah, then afterward you shall return and be free of obligation toward Jehovah and toward Israel; and this land shall be yours for a possession before Jehovah.

- Num 32:23 But if you will not do so, then you have sinned against Jehovah; and know that your sin will find you out.
- Num 32:24 Build for yourselves cities for your little ones and folds for your sheep, and do what has proceeded out of your mouth.
- Num 32:25 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben spoke to Moses, saying, Your servants will do as my lord commands.
- Num 32:26 Our little ones, our wives, our livestock, and all our cattle will be there in the cities of Gilead;
- Num 32:27 But your servants will cross over, everyone who is armed for war before Jehovah for battle, as my lord says.
- Num 32:28 So Moses gave command concerning them to Eleazar the priest and to Joshua the son of Nun and to the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the children of Israel.
- Num 32:29 And Moses said to them, If the children of Gad and the children of Reuben cross over the Jordan with you, everyone who is armed for battle before Jehovah, and the land is subdued before you, then you shall give them the land of Gilead as a possession.
- Num 32:30 But if they do not cross over armed with you, they shall have possessions among you in the land of Canaan.
- Num 32:31 And the children of Gad and the children of Reuben answered, saying, As Jehovah has said to your servants, so will we do.
- Num 32:32 We will cross over armed before Jehovah into the land of Canaan, and the possession of our inheritance will remain with us beyond the Jordan.
- Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.
- Num 32:34 And the children of Gad built Dibon and Ataroth and Aroer
- Num 32:35 And Atroth-shophan and Jazer and Jogbehah
- Num 32:36 And Beth-nimrah and Beth-haran as fortified cities, and folds for sheep.
- Num 32:37 And the children of Reuben built Heshbon and Elealeh and Kiriathaim
- Num 32:38 And Nebo and Baal-meon-their names being changed-and Sibmah, and they gave other names to the cities which they built.
- Num 32:39 And the children of Machir the son of Manasseh went to Gilead and took it and dispossessed the Amorites who were in it.
- Num 32:40 And Moses gave Gilead to Machir the son of Manasseh, and he dwelt in it.
- Num 32:41 And Jair the son of Manasseh went and took its villages and called them Havvoth-jair.
- Num 32:42 And Nobah went and took Kenath and its towns, and called it Nobah after his own name.
- Num 33:50 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,
- Num 33:51 Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you pass over the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
- Num 33:52 You shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and you shall destroy all their figured stones and destroy all their molten images and demolish all their high places;
- Num 33:53 And you shall take possession of the land and dwell in it, for to you I have given the land to possess it.
- Num 33:54 And you shall inherit the land by lot according to your families; to the larger you shall give a larger inheritance, and to the smaller you shall give a smaller inheritance. Wherever the lot falls to anyone, that shall be his. You shall inherit according to the tribes of your fathers.
- Num 33:55 But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those whom you let remain of them will become as splinters in your eyes and as thorns in your sides, and they will trouble you in the land in which you are dwelling.
- Num 33:56 And just as I thought to do to them, so will I do to you.
- Num 34:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,
- Num 34:2 Command the children of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land of Canaan, this is the land that shall fall to you for an inheritance, the land of Canaan according to its borders.
- Num 34:3 And your southern section shall be from the wilderness of Zin along the side of Edom, and your southern border shall begin from the end of the Salt Sea on the east.
- Num 34:4 And your border shall turn about south to the ascent of Akrabbim and pass on to Zin, and it shall go out to the south of Kadesh-barnea, even going out to Hazar-addar; then it shall pass on to Azmon.
- Num 34:5 Then the border shall turn from Azmon to the brook of Egypt, and it shall go out to the sea.

Num 34:6 And for the western border you shall have the Great Sea and its coast; this shall be your western border.

Num 34:7 And this shall be your northern border: From the Great Sea you shall mark out a line for yourselves to Mount Hor.

Num 34:8 From Mount Hor you shall mark out a line to the entrance of Hamath; and the border shall go out to Zedad;

Num 34:9 And the border shall go out to Ziphron, and it shall go out to Hazar-enan. This shall be your northern border.

Num 34:10 And you shall mark out your eastern border from Hazar-enan to Shepham;

Num 34:11 And the border shall go down from Shepham to Riblah on the east side of Ain; and the border shall go down and reach the slope on the east of the Sea of Chinnereth;

Num 34:12 And the border shall go down to the Jordan, and it shall go out to the Salt Sea. This shall be your land according to its borders all around.

Num 34:13 And Moses commanded the children of Israel, saying, This is the land which you shall inherit by lot, which Jehovah has commanded to give to the nine tribes and to the half-tribe.

Num 34:14 For the tribe of the children of Reuben according to their fathers' households and the tribe of the children of Gad according to their fathers' households and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance.

Num 34:15 The two tribes and the half-tribe have received their inheritance beyond the Jordan at Jericho eastward, toward the sunrise.

Num 34:16 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 34:17 These are the names of the men who shall divide the land to you for inheritance: Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun.

Num 34:18 And you shall take one leader from each tribe to divide the land for inheritance.

Num 34:19 And these are the names of the men: For the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

Num 34:20 And for the tribe of the children of Simeon, Shemuel the son of Ammihud.

Num 34:21 For the tribe of Benjamin, Elidad the son of Chislon.

Num 34:22 And for the tribe of the children of Dan, a leader, Bukki the son of Jogli.

Num 34:23 For the children of Joseph: For the tribe of the children of Manasseh, a leader, Hanniel the son of Ephod.

Num 34:24 And for the tribe of the children of Ephraim, a leader, Kemuel the son of Shiptan.

Num 34:25 And for the tribe of the children of Zebulun, a leader, Elizaphan the son of Parnach.

Num 34:26 And for the tribe of the children of Issachar, a leader, Paltiel the son of Azzan.

Num 34:27 And for the tribe of the children of Asher, a leader, Ahihud the son of Shelomi.

Num 34:28 And for the tribe of the children of Naphtali, a leader, Pedahel the son of Ammihud.

Num 34:29 These are those whom Jehovah commanded to divide the inheritance to the children of Israel in the land of Canaan.

Num 35:1 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,

Num 35:2 Command the children of Israel to give to the Levites some of the inheritance of their possession, cities to dwell in; and you shall give to the Levites pasture lands around their cities.

Num 35:3 And the cities shall be for them to dwell in, and their pasture lands shall be for their cattle and for their livestock and for all their animals.

Num 35:4 And the pasture lands of the cities which you shall give to the Levites shall be from the city wall and outward, a thousand cubits all around.

Num 35:5 And you shall measure from the outside of the city on the east side two thousand cubits and on the south side two thousand cubits and on the west side two thousand cubits and on the north side two thousand cubits, with the city in the center. This shall be their pasture lands for the cities.

Num 35:6 And the cities which you shall give to the Levites shall be the six cities of refuge, which you shall give for the manslayer to flee to; and besides them you shall give forty-two cities.

Num 35:7 All the cities which you shall give to the Levites shall be forty-eight cities, they and their pasture lands.

Num 35:8 And concerning the cities which you shall give from the possession of the children of Israel, from the larger tribe you shall take a larger number, and from the smaller tribe you shall take a smaller number; each one, according to its inheritance which they will inherit, shall give some of its cities to the Levites.

Num 35:9 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying,

Num 35:10 Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you cross the Jordan into the land of Canaan,

- Num 35:11 Then you shall designate for yourselves cities to be your cities of refuge, so that the manslayer who kills any person unintentionally may flee there.
- Num 35:12 And the cities shall be for you as a refuge from the avenger, so that the manslayer may not die unless he stands before the assembly for judgment.
- Num 35:13 And the cities which you shall give shall be your six cities of refuge.
- Num 35:14 You shall give three cities across the Jordan, and you shall give three cities in the land of Canaan; they shall be cities of refuge.
- Num 35:15 For the children of Israel and for the stranger and for the sojourner among them, these six cities shall be for refuge, so that anyone who kills a person unintentionally may flee there.
- Num 35:16 But if he struck him with an instrument of iron, and he died, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death.
- Num 35:17 And if he struck him with a stone in hand, by which one could die, and he did die, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death.
- Num 35:18 Or if he struck him with a wooden object in hand, by which one could die, and he did die, he is a murderer; the murderer shall surely be put to death.
- Num 35:19 The avenger of blood himself shall put the murderer to death; when he encounters him, he shall put him to death.
- Num 35:20 And if he pushed him out of hatred or threw something upon him while lying in wait, and he died,
- Num 35:21 Or in enmity struck him with his hand, and he died, the one who struck him shall surely be put to death; he is a murderer. The avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when he encounters him.
- Num 35:22 But if he pushed him suddenly without enmity, or threw upon him anything without lying in wait,
- Num 35:23 Or came upon him with any stone, by which someone could die, without seeing him and dropped it upon him, and he died, when he was not his enemy and did not seek his harm,
- Num 35:24 Then the assembly shall judge between the slayer and the avenger of blood according to these ordinances.
- Num 35:25 And the assembly shall deliver the manslayer out of the hand of the avenger of blood, and the assembly shall return him to his city of refuge to which he had fled; and he shall dwell in it until the death of the high priest, who was anointed with the holy oil.
- Num 35:26 But if the manslayer shall at any time go beyond the boundary of his city of refuge to which he has fled,
- Num 35:27 And the avenger of blood finds him outside the boundary of his city of refuge and the avenger of blood slays the manslayer, he shall not have guilt for blood,
- Num 35:28 Because he should have remained in his city of refuge until the death of the high priest; but after the death of the high priest the manslayer shall return to the land of his possession.
- Num 35:29 And these things shall be for a statute of judgment to you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.
- Num 35:30 Whoever kills a person, the murderer shall be slain upon the testimony of witnesses; but one witness shall not testify against any person so that he die.
- Num 35:31 Moreover you shall not take a ransom for the life of a murderer who is guilty of death, but he shall surely be put to death.
- Num 35:32 And you shall not take a ransom for one who has fled to his city of refuge, so that he may return to live in the land before the death of the high priest.
- Num 35:33 Thus you shall not pollute the land in which you are, for blood pollutes the land. And no expiation can be made for the land for the blood that is shed in it, except by the blood of the one who shed it.
- Num 35:34 And you shall not defile the land in which you are dwelling, in the midst of which I tabernacle; for I Jehovah tabernacle in the midst of the children of Israel.
- Num 36:1 And the heads of the fathers' households of the family of the sons of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of the sons of Joseph, came near and spoke before Moses and before the leaders, the heads of the fathers' households of the children of Israel;
- Num 36:2 And they said, Jehovah commanded my lord to give the land for inheritance by lot to the children of Israel, and my lord was commanded by Jehovah to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother to his daughters.
- Num 36:3 But if they are married to one of the sons of the other tribes of the children of Israel, then their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of our fathers and will be added to the inheritance of the tribe to which they belong; so it will be taken away from the lot of our inheritance.

- Num 36:4 And when the jubilee of the children of Israel takes place, then their inheritance will be added to the inheritance of the tribe to which they belong; so their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.
- Num 36:5 Then Moses commanded the children of Israel according to the word of Jehovah, saying, The tribe of the sons of Joseph speaks correctly.
- Num 36:6 This is what Jehovah commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them be married to whom they think best; only into the family of the tribe of their father they shall marry.
- Num 36:7 So an inheritance of the children of Israel shall not go around from tribe to tribe, for each one of the children of Israel shall cling to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.
- Num 36:8 And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel shall marry into one of the family of the tribe of her father, so that each one of the children of Israel may possess the inheritance of his fathers.
- Num 36:9 So an inheritance shall not go around from one tribe to another tribe, for each one of the tribes of the children of Israel shall cling to his own inheritance.
- Num 36:10 Just as Jehovah had commanded Moses, so the daughters of Zelophehad did;
- Num 36:11 That is, Mahlah, Tirzah, and Hoglah, and Milcah and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married to their uncles' sons.
- Num 36:12 They married into the families of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of the family of their father.
- Num 36:13 These are the commandments and the ordinances which Jehovah commanded through Moses to the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho.
- A. The good land is surrounded by two seas (the Mediterranean Sea and the Dead Sea) and one river (the Jordan River); these two seas and this river all signify the death of Christ—34:2-3, 6, 12.
- Num 34:2 Command the children of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land of Canaan, this is the land that shall fall to you for an inheritance, the land of Canaan according to its borders.
- Num 34:3 And your southern section shall be from the wilderness of Zin along the side of Edom, and your southern border shall begin from the end of the Salt Sea on the east.
- Num 34:6 And for the western border you shall have the Great Sea and its coast; this shall be your western border.
- Num 34:12 And the border shall go down to the Jordan, and it shall go out to the Salt Sea. This shall be your land according to its borders all around.
- B. This indicates that the enjoyment of Christ is closely related to His death; the enjoyment of Christ must be in the sphere, the territory, of His death—Phil. 3:7-11.
- Phil 3:7 But what things were gains to me, these I have counted as loss on account of Christ.
- Phil 3:8 But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, on account of whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as refuse that I may gain Christ
- Phil 3:9 And be found in Him, not having my own righteousness which is out of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is out of God and based on faith,
- Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
- Phil 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.
- C. That the good land rose up from the waters that bordered it on either side indicates that it is an elevated, uplifted land; this signifies the resurrected and ascended Christ, the heavenly Christ, who has entered into us in His resurrection (John 20:22) and whose riches we enjoy in His ascension (Eph. 2:6; Col. 3:1-4).
- John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed into them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.
- Eph 2:6 And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.  
 D. The request by Reuben and Gad to receive the land that God had promised (Num. 32:1-5, 33) was not wrong; however, they were not right in wanting to receive this according to their choice as to what was best:

Num 32:1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great abundance of livestock. And when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that the place was indeed a place for livestock,  
 Num 32:2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of the assembly, saying,  
 Num 32:3 Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Sebam and Nebo and Beon,  
 Num 32:4 The land which Jehovah struck before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.  
 Num 32:5 And they said, If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession; do not make us cross over the Jordan.  
 Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.

1. Eventually, their land was the first part of the land of Israel to be taken over by the Gentile invaders from the east (1 Chron. 5:25-26); those who remain halfway and are satisfied with only a little blessing from God will be easily captured by the enemy.

1 Chron 5:25 But they trespassed against the God of their fathers, and went as harlots after the gods of the peoples of the land, whom God had destroyed before them.

1 Chron 5:26 And the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul the king of Assyria and the spirit of Tilgath-pilneser the king of Assyria; and He carried them away, the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and brought them to Halah and Habor and Hara and to the river Gozan, where they are to this day.

2. In spiritual matters it is much better to not act according to our choice but to leave matters in the hand of the Lord and let Him do according to His choice—*Hymns*, #907; cf. Gen. 13:5-18.

*Hymns*, #907

1.	Not where we elect to go, There the living waters flow,	But where Jesus leads the way, There our darkness turns to day.
2.	Not our self-appointed task But the work we did not ask,	Will the Lord's approval win, Finished humbly, just for Him.
3.	Not the prayer we long to plead But the touching deeper need	When we bend before the Throne, Of the Spirit's wordless groan.
4.	Not the gift we proudly lay If our hearts have said Him, "Nay,"	On His altar will He heed, When He whispered, "I have need."
5.	Thus we die, and dying live Thus we serve, and pray, and give,	In the heavenlies with the Lord; Christ Himself our great Reward.

Gen 13:5 And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents.

Gen 13:6 And the land could not support them that they might dwell together, for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together.

Gen 13:7 And there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. And at that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites dwelt in the land.

Gen 13:8 And Abram said to Lot, Let there please be no strife between me and you and between my herdsmen and your herdsmen, for we are brothers.

Gen 13:9 Is not the whole land before you? Please separate yourself from me. If you go to the left, then I will go to the right. Or if you go to the right, then I will go to the left.

Gen 13:10 And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw the entire plain of the Jordan, that it was well watered everywhere—this was before Jehovah had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—like the garden of Jehovah, like the land of Egypt, as you go to Zoar.

Gen 13:11 So Lot chose for himself the entire plain of the Jordan, and Lot journeyed east; and they separated themselves from each other.

- Gen 13:12 Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, and Lot dwelt in the cities of the plain and moved his tent as far as Sodom.
- Gen 13:13 Now the men of Sodom were very wicked and sinful toward Jehovah.
- Gen 13:14 And Jehovah said to Abram after Lot had separated from him, Now lift up your eyes, and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward;
- Gen 13:15 For all the land that you see I will give to you and to your seed forever.
- Gen 13:16 And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth, so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then your seed can also be numbered.
- Gen 13:17 Rise up; walk through the land according to its length and its breadth, for I will give it to you.
- Gen 13:18 And Abram moved his tent and came and dwelt by the oaks of Mamre, which are in Hebron, and there he built an altar to Jehovah.
3. The land requested by Reuben and Gad could be reached without crossing the river Jordan, which signifies the old man not being dealt with and buried (see footnotes on Joshua 3:16—4:12); only after our old man has been dealt with and buried (Rom. 6:3-6) are we in a position to possess the all-inclusive Christ as the good land for our enjoyment.
- Josh 3:16 The waters that flowed down from upstream stood and rose up in a heap a great distance away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those that flowed down toward the sea of the <sup>1</sup>Arabah, the <sup>2</sup>Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people <sup>3</sup>crossed over from opposite Jericho.
- note 1 I.e., the plain that runs from the north of the Dead Sea south to the Gulf of Aqaba.
- note 2 I.e., the Dead Sea. So also throughout the book.
- note 3 Israel's crossing the river Jordan typifies not the believers' physical death but the believers' experience of the death of Christ, in which their old man is terminated and buried (Rom. 6:3-6; Gal. 2:20). Israel's entering into the good land after crossing the Jordan typifies not the believers' going to heaven after they die but the believers' experience of taking over the heavenlies, where Satan and his power of darkness are (see notes <sup>1</sup> in Num. 21 and <sup>12</sup> in Eph. 6). Israel's crossing the Jordan and entering the good land are related to Israel's possessing and enjoying the good land, which typifies the believers' practical experience of the riches of the blessings in Christ as revealed in the book of Ephesians. See note <sup>6</sup> in Matt. 3.
- Josh 3:17 And the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah stood firmly on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan while all Israel was crossing over on dry ground, until all the nation had completely crossed over the Jordan.
- Josh 4:1 And when all the nation had completely crossed over the Jordan, Jehovah spoke to Joshua, saying,
- Josh 4:2 Take for yourselves twelve men from among the people, one man from each tribe;
- Josh 4:3 And command them, saying, Take up for yourselves from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood firm, <sup>1</sup>twelve stones; and bring them over with you, and lay them down in the place where you lodge tonight.
- note 1 The twelve stones taken from the Jordan signify the twelve tribes of the new Israel. The stones' being raised up from the waters of the Jordan signifies resurrection from death. These twelve stones were a sign, showing that the "resurrected" new Israel would be a testimony of the crossing of the death water (vv. 6-7, 21-24). This typifies the believers' experiencing with Christ the resurrection from death (Rom. 6:3-4).
- Josh 4:4 So Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from among the children of Israel, one man from each tribe.
- Josh 4:5 And Joshua said to them, Pass on before the Ark of Jehovah your God into the middle of the Jordan, and every one of you lift up one stone upon his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel,

- Josh 4:6 That this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, saying, What do these stones mean to you?
- Josh 4:7 You shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the Ark of the Covenant of Jehovah; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. Thus these stones will be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.
- Josh 4:8 And the children of Israel did as Joshua commanded and took up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, as Jehovah told Joshua to do, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel. And they brought them over with them to the place where they were to lodge, and they laid them down there.
- Josh 4:9 Then Joshua erected <sup>1</sup>twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant had stood; and they are there to this day.
- note 1 These were another twelve stones (cf. v. 3), signifying the twelve tribes of Israel in their old life and in their old nature. Joshua erected these twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan where the Ark was, signifying that the Lord wanted Israel in their old nature to remain under the death water of the Jordan. This typifies that the old man of the believers should remain in the death of Christ (Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:10).
- The two sets of twelve stones signify that our old man has been buried and our resurrected new man is living and working with the Triune God as one. This corresponds with the revelation in Eph. 2:1, 4-6, 15, 10.
- Josh 4:10 And the priests who carried the Ark stood in the middle of the Jordan until everything was completed that Jehovah had commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. And the people hurried and crossed over.
- Josh 4:11 And when all the people had completely crossed over, the Ark of Jehovah with the priests crossed over before the people.
- Josh 4:12 And the sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over in battle array before the children of Israel, as Moses had told them to do;
- Rom 6:3 Or are you ignorant that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?
- Rom 6:4 We have been buried therefore with Him through baptism into His death, in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so also we might walk in newness of life.
- Rom 6:5 For if we have grown together with Him in the likeness of His death, indeed we will also be in the likeness of His resurrection,
- Rom 6:6 Knowing this, that our old man has been crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be annulled, that we should no longer serve sin as slaves;
4. The land given to Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh (Num. 32:33), the land that was according to their choice, could be reached without crossing the Jordan and thus was not actually a part of the good land of Canaan (cf. 34:14-15; 35:14); this indicates that, in type, it was outside the death of Christ.
- Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.
- Num 34:14 For the tribe of the children of Reuben according to their fathers' households and the tribe of the children of Gad according to their fathers' households and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance.
- Num 34:15 The two tribes and the half-tribe have received their inheritance beyond the Jordan at Jericho eastward, toward the sunrise.
- Num 35:14 You shall give three cities across the Jordan, and you shall give three cities in the land of Canaan; they shall be cities of refuge.
5. The obligation of Reuben and Gad toward Jehovah and toward Israel (32:22) was due to the fact that they had their own choice regarding their portion of the land (vv. 1-5); in serving the Lord, we need to learn to give up our own choice in order to avoid obligating

ourselves to God and to His people.

Num 32:22 And the land is subdued before Jehovah, then afterward you shall return and be free of obligation toward Jehovah and toward Israel; and this land shall be yours for a possession before Jehovah.

Num 32:1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great abundance of livestock. And when they saw the land of Jazer and the land of Gilead, that the place was indeed a place for livestock,

Num 32:2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spoke to Moses and to Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of the assembly, saying,

Num 32:3 Ataroth and Dibon and Jazer and Nimrah and Heshbon and Elealeh and Sebam and Nebo and Beon,

Num 32:4 The land which Jehovah struck before the assembly of Israel, is a land for livestock, and your servants have livestock.

Num 32:5 And they said, If we have found favor in your sight, let this land be given to your servants for a possession; do not make us cross over the Jordan.

6. Our self-choice is likewise outside the death of Christ and therefore has nothing to do with the real enjoyment of the rich Christ; if we do not pass through the death of Christ, we cannot enter into the realm of His resurrection and ascension to enjoy Him as the heavenly, elevated One—cf. Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:10-11; Col. 3:1-4.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Phil 3:10 To know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

Phil 3:11 If perhaps I may attain to the out-resurrection from the dead.

Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.

Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

- E. Obtaining “the land east of the Jordan” reaches God’s spiritual goal but not His glorious goal—receiving the rich inheritance in Christ, the glory of the riches of Christ, in the position of His ascension.
- F. The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh thought only about themselves, cared too much for their own enjoyment, and did not care for God’s will, plan, goal, kingdom, or testimony.
- G. This indicates that if we care only for our own salvation, peace, blessing, or material things and are unwilling to go forward, we will not be able to fulfill God’s will and plan or reach His goal, kingdom, and testimony; we should not substitute the second best for the best.
- H. Moses permitted the promise of Reuben and Gad (Num. 32:16-19, 33), telling them that if they went to battle with their brothers, subdued the land, and freed themselves from their obligation, they could have the land east of the Jordan (vv. 20-22):
- Num 32:16 And they came near to him and said, We will build sheepfolds here for our livestock and cities for our little ones;
- Num 32:17 But we ourselves will be armed and ready to go before the children of Israel until we have brought them to their place, while our little ones dwell in the fortified cities because of the inhabitants of the land.
- Num 32:18 We will not return to our houses until each one of the children of Israel has inherited his inheritance.
- Num 32:19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and further on, because our inheritance has come to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.
- Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.

- Num 32:20 And Moses said to them, If you will do this thing, if you will arm yourselves before Jehovah for battle,
- Num 32:21 And all of your armed men will cross over the Jordan before Jehovah until He has driven out His enemies from before Him,
- Num 32:22 And the land is subdued before Jehovah, then afterward you shall return and be free of obligation toward Jehovah and toward Israel; and this land shall be yours for a possession before Jehovah.
1. Here Moses represented God; many times God permits such promises as this; He does not force us.
  2. Today in the church many of the Lord's lovers and pursuers remain on the east of the Jordan; they only want to be under God's blessing and care.
- I. The choice of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh caused their descendants to lose the right to inherit the land of Canaan (vv. 18-19, 33):
- Num 32:18 We will not return to our houses until each one of the children of Israel has inherited his inheritance.
- Num 32:19 For we will not inherit with them on the other side of the Jordan and further on, because our inheritance has come to us on this side of the Jordan eastward.
- Num 32:33 And Moses gave to them, to the children of Gad and to the children of Reuben and to the half-tribe of Manasseh the son of Joseph, the kingdom of Sihon the king of the Amorites and the kingdom of Og the king of Bashan, the land according to its cities with their territories, the cities of the surrounding land.
1. This typifies that if we lust for ease and comfort today—caring only for ourselves, stopping halfway, and giving up our rights in the matter of pursuing the Lord—we will not be able to recover those rights, and there will not be any compensation for them; this is an eternal loss.
  2. In contrast, if we are willing to pay the price today to go forward continually into God's glorious goal so as to enjoy His fullness, we will have an extremely rich and special enjoyment in the future—Phil. 3:14.  
Phil 3:14 I pursue toward the goal for the prize to which God in Christ Jesus has called me upward.
- J. God has ordained Christ to be our portion for our enjoyment, but we must cooperate with God's ordination by driving out everything within us that is other than God and Christ; we must destroy all the idols within us and not leave any ground within us for the worship of idols (Num. 33:50-53; 1 John 5:21); only then can we have the genuine enjoyment of Christ for the church as His building and His kingdom.
- Num 33:50 Then Jehovah spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying,
- Num 33:51 Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them, When you pass over the Jordan into the land of Canaan,
- Num 33:52 You shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, and you shall destroy all their figured stones and destroy all their molten images and demolish all their high places;
- Num 33:53 And you shall take possession of the land and dwell in it, for to you I have given the land to possess it.
- 1 John 5:21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.