

Victorious Christian Living

PART 17

HOW LONG WILL YOU WAIT?

Joshua 18:1-3

May 9, 2010

I. The assembly gathered for worship.

What were some of the elements of their worship?

- A. They had a designated **location** for worship-Shiloh.
 1. When referring to the Messiah, Shiloh can mean “**He Whose it is**” i.e. everything belongs to Him (cf. Ps. 24:1).
 2. When referring to the location where they worshipped – Shiloh can mean “**rest**”.
- B. They had a designated **structure** that God would **temporarily** inhabit.
 1. For them it was the **tabernacle**. The precursor of Solomon’s Temple.
 2. In the New Testament era, God’s **temple** is us. Through Christ, He indwells us once and for all via the **Holy Spirit** (I Cor. 6:19; cf. II Cor. 6:16).
- C. So notice that the **whole** assembly gathered together for worship....**regularly**.
 1. It was **expected** of them and us (Deut. 12:5; Heb. 10:25).
 2. This was the joyful **model/experience** of Christ and the disciples (Lk. 4:16, 24: 53).
 3. God has promised to **bless** His people who come together for worship (Ps. 84:4).

And when they came together, Joshua said they had a problem.

II. What was their problem?

- A. Remember, **seven** years of fighting for the PL have now transpired.
- B. They had mastered the art of the **big events** and “**mountain top**” experiences.
- C. The problem was this: they weren’t experiencing victorious living in the smaller **daily battles** of life.
- D. It is the **daily** victories that make possible what we might call the **big** victories.

And when they were gathered for worship, in view of their failure to possess their promised inheritances in the PL, Joshua asks them.....

III. How long will you wait before you begin to possess your promised inheritance? (Josh. 18:3).

- A. “Waiting” when similar to **patience** can be a good thing (See Psalm 27:14).
- B. But some of the Israelites had not waited on the Lord, they had **procrastinated** before the Lord. In fact some tribes had waited anywhere from **40** to **400** years to begin possessing their inheritance (cf. Jgs 18:1 and Josh. 15:63; II Sam. 5:6).
- C. What were the following tribes promised as part of their inheritance in the Promised Land?
 1. Benjamin: they were told they would have security, protection, rest (cf. Deut. 33:12).
 2. Issachar: Were they told they would have worship festivals? They were told they would have great treasures from the sea and sands (cf. Deut. 33:19).
 3. Naphtali: They were told they would abound in favor with the Lord and would be full of His blessing (cf. Deut. 33:23).
 4. Asher: They were told they would have abundance of olive oil and strength to face all their days (cf. Deut. 33:24-25).
- D. What do these four tribes have in common? They are all listed in Joshua 18 and 19 as tribes who had not yet **begun** to possess their inheritance!



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