

POSSESSING THE LAND

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When God told Joshua and Caleb to possess the land, the Anakim (giants) were still there. The land was given as an inheritance and was to be a blessing, but guess what, the enemy was still there. Why? God tested Israel's reactions under stress and their faith as well. Also, they learned a lesson well, the people of the land were not like them. They worshiped other gods, they were immoral, and Israel began to understand why they were to stay separate. It was so they could remain Godly. Why did God give them the victory in the end? Joshua 14:14 clearly says "because" Caleb wholly followed the Lord God of Israel.

Joshua 14:14

14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

He was obedient to the law. Now let's look at Galatians 3: 29.

Galatians 3:29

29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

What promise is the scripture talking about? Let us examine Genesis 22: 17.

Genesis 22:17

17 "blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.

That's us. We are Abraham's descendants and we can defeat our giants!

How exciting! This is a promise we can count on, that is, "if" we too wholly follow the Lord God of Israel as did Caleb.

Granted, the enemy, the giants we face, are still in the land we are to possess today also. But again, just like Caleb and Joshua, we can be conquerors if we obey the voice of God. His desires for His people were made known to the early apostles, taught to the church at Jerusalem, and recorded for us in the Word as a road map

for us to follow. Now the church of New Jerusalem is being built and the new earth is our promised land. To possess the land however, we must really know the Word, walk in it and just as importantly, be ready to share it with others so we can multiply. We are so much more fortunate than old Israel as the laws, or commandments God requires of His family, are written on our hearts and in our minds, ever in front of us to show us how to walk. What we personally choose to do to make a living or enjoy as recreation for instance, is not near as important to the Lord as how we go about it. Are we good ambassadors for His Kingdom? In fact, to tear up some more of the false doctrine taught by the old church, most of the time our desires are God's desires for us. The old church taught, we must give up all that we ever desired to do to serve God. This is not so. God places that desire and the gifting to be successful within us. For instance, if we have a natural desire to enter into the field of technology, or the sports field, or the business world etc. it is the Lord's desire for us. Talents He expects us to use. Go possess that field, go after the whole world. You have your Father God behind you. Remember, there are giants that will try to stop you, but they are evil, and your goodness, your application of spiritual law will overcome and defeat them. Go forth, conquer, and build your Father's empire. But first, we must answer this question honestly. Is our life run by the world's standards or God's principles and laws? If we operate according to the world's thinking, we likely will not succeed

for long. I say for long, because the enemy will allow us to think we are much better off without God's laws governing our lives, at least for a little while. Satan's very nature is to kill, steal and destroy however, so in the long run he will turn on even those that belong to him, and the disobedient and headstrong will begin to experience the fruit of his nature. Things will begin to go really wrong. Now they themselves, and because of the evil influence of the world, will react according to his nature and end up in his image. Even worse, they become the cursed of God without realizing it and without the help of the Holy Spirit, cannot overcome and possess anything for the Kingdom of God.

Remember that we are not talking about obeying the law of Moses, but the law of God that is written on our hearts and minds. However, the laws are essentially the same, and so are God's opinions concerning them. With this thought in mind, let us read Deuteronomy 28:15.

Deuteronomy 28:15

15 "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:

The flip side: If we are obedient, blessings will overtake us. Again, God changes not. John 14:15 records the sentiments of our King for us today.

John 14:15

15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments.

He still wants us to keep His commandments and to not do so brings tragic results. An example: He gives us spiritual armor. Part of it is a shield of faith with which we quench all the fiery darts of the enemy. When we are lawless, it causes a crack in our armor and the fiery darts come upon us.

The moral laws of God were not abolished by the new gospel of Jesus. They were simply transferred from tablets of stone (not personally available to all) to the fleshly tablets of our individual hearts. In fact, we must establish the law of God on this earth so the systems and standards of this present world can be abolished according to Romans 3: 31.

Romans 3:31

31 Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.

This is how the new earth, ruled by the Kingdom of God begins to manifest. All this was planned before the foundation of the earth, but it will only come into being as we, God's family, begin to enforce our Father's laws and live by His guidelines and principles. Finally we actually become the law over sin and wickedness. This is possessing the earth. As we go forth, treating fairly those that cheat us, telling truth to those that lie to us, and executing Godly principles on behalf of people that hate us, guess what? God's system is in operation and His Kingdom is working and we are helping to possess the kingdoms of this world for the Kingdom of God. We are more than conquerors through Christ, the Word says, and as Christ is the law over all things, so will we be as we grow more like Him. To obey Him is to obey the law on our hearts. He dwells there, and through Him we will defeat the lawless. In fact, it's so easy. The lawless defeat themselves. By being rebels they come against Christ Himself, the King who is the Word, that is the law. They will have to bow their knee to the King of the Kingdom eventually, and the wheels of justice will run over them.

Example:

The law on our heart commands us to only be involved with people that are trying to please God. The Word tells us also a little leaven spoils the whole lump, and

that we are not to be unevenly yoked with the lawless sinner. Maybe we don't choose to see people we are attached to as really bad. It appears to us that there is more good than evil, more that is right than what is wrong in them. Don't be fooled! Look at 1 John 2: 3-4.

1 John 2:3-4

3 Now by this we know that we know Him, **if we keep His commandments.**

4 He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, **is a liar, and the truth is not in him.**

Go back and read this again. Now, ask yourself this: Do our friends know better? Are they ignorant of what is right or wrong, or are they just plain lawless? Look at what James 4:17 says.

James 4:17

17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Go back and read this again also! In other words, God counts it as sin to that person. They were informed. They chose to be lawless. The scary part of this thinking is, no law, no Christ. He is law, He is the Word that explains right from

wrong. To not keep His Word, that is law, is to be in darkness, lawlessness, and sin. To follow Him wholly is light, becoming the law and goodness.

I John 2:6

6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

Do you walk like Him? Do your friends walk like Him? Does your family walk like Him? Remember, the law is the light so we can only shine when we are living within the law. We defeat darkness through our light, and lawlessness through keeping and finally becoming His laws or commandments. It's the Kingdom way, and it is narrow. Not many will walk there. It is however the path to the promised land, and only those that are obedient can walk there and be overcomers.

Matthew 7:13-14

13 “Enter by the narrow gate for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it.

14 “Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.

It is difficult because the giants will do their best to keep us out. Giants of lust,

addiction, anger, idolatry, etc. Whatever it takes to stop you! Whatever it takes to stop me! Whatever it takes to make us break the Kingdom laws.

Revelation 12:17

17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman (church), and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring (born again sacred seed), who **keep the commandments of God** and have the testimony of Jesus Christ (the prophetic word).

But the church triumphant, Sion, God's Bride, is turning out children with a different spirit and an attitude much like Joshua and Caleb, and these will not ever intentionally break God's laws. In fact, they will mature to become the law and gladly die to who they once were, to live as the body of Christ. As these go forth, they will defeat the lawless and the Kingdom of God will appear in their wake.

Revelation 14:12-13

12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

13 Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord (born again who died as Adam) from now on.'" "Yes," says the

Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them.”

They are the blessed that gain the promises and enter the City of God, leaving behind the lawless body of Satan.

Revelation 22:14-15

14 **Blessed are those who do His commandments**, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and **murderers and idolaters**, and whoever **loves and practices a lie**.

Those that love God and obey His commandments are the fulfillment of the Lord’s prayer: “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done”. They will wholly follow the Lord God of Israel and will hear Him say,

Matthew 25:34

34 “Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the **foundation of the world**:

These possess the land!