

DON'T QUIT NOW! Lands Unconquered

**Joshua 13 – 19** Part 1. (YAH 5/31/20)

...and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed. Joshua 13:2b

Here are eight facts about viruses.

1. Unlike bacteria, viruses are not likely to have been created by God.

2. Unlike bacteria, scientists continually debate whether viruses are dead or alive.

**3.** Viruses are parasitical. They cannot reproduce on their own.

4. Viruses appear deceptively similar to natural functions.

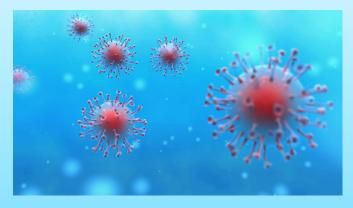
5. Viruses force the body to do their own bidding.

6. Viruses use human cells to manufacture new copies until the victim is overwhelmed.

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8. Viruses are vulnerable to light.

## Have you done any meditating on our Covid Sidecar?

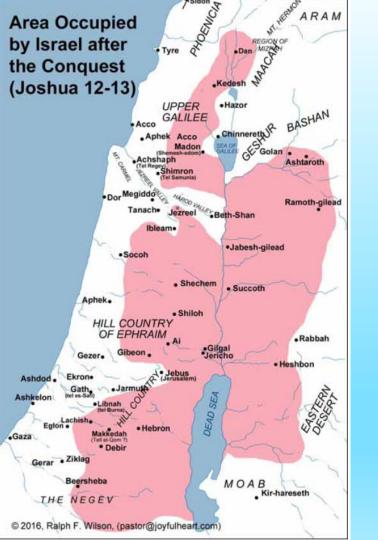


Can you draw eight analogies between

viruses and sin?

*Israel's* unfinished task is connected directly to *her* inheritance.

Note: These generalized maps often vary a bit.



*Our* unfinished task is connected directly to *our* inheritance!

As "in-Christ" believers we <u>inherit</u> both the promises and tasks inherited by God's Son.

Our task is one and the same as Messiah's unfinished task as He claims His <u>inheritance</u> among the nations.

It begins with being Messiah's light to the nations, Acts 13:46-47, and it extends to actively opposing Satan's world system.



Verses 1 and 2

- Old man Joshua. There's no other way to say it! He is in his 80's.
- But that's OK! We each have our day and then make way for the next generation. God blesses each phase of life uniquely.
- The good news is that when we read of the people of God being stricken in years, it usually precedes a blessing.



Application: God is with us in every stage of life!



Verses 1 and 2

It has been pointed out that we can observe the "Joshua Cycle"!

- A battle
- A recognition of God's faithfulness
- The overcoming of temptation
- Occupation or realization
- Possession, or Claiming our Inheritance (another battle!)

Which phase is most dangerous?



Application: Can I find myself in the Joshua Cycle?



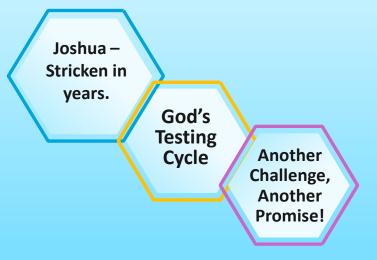
Verses 3-6

Remember! This could get confusing. Israel has already *occupied* the land nationally. In that respect, she obeyed God completely.

The tribes have not *possessed* their inheritances locally.

God graciously designs His inheritance for each of us and our assemblies and accompanies it with a promise!

We are *commanded* to appropriate <u>our</u> inheritance. When we do not, we always fall back into the same cycle of disobedience.



Application: Am I <u>content</u> (with attending a doctrinally sound church) or am I <u>intent</u> on claiming my Designer inheritance?



**Verses 8** – "Of all sad words of tongue or pen..." - Whittier 1856

Unwilling to wait for God's provision in God's time, these folks requested an advance lump sum settlement from the "lottery."

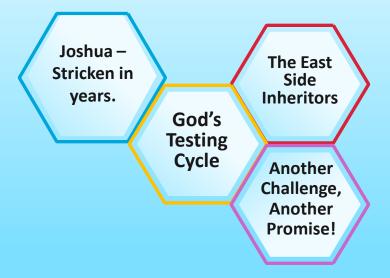
In this teacher's understanding: God allowed this so that we may all learn the long-term consequences of "settling" (pardon the pun) for less than God's best.



Application: Will I settle early for second best, or wait patiently for God's best?



Now, let's grab our maps and take a peek at the east side gang...



## The Tribes

The red numbers indicate the order in which the lots were designated. For example, Benjamin was # 1 and Issachar was # 13.

However, we will be scanning their distribution as recorded in Joshua:

7 Manasseh East
8 Gad
9 Reuben
2 Judah
5 Ephraim
6 Manasseh West
1 Benjamin
3 Simeon
12 Zebulun
13 Issachar
11 Asher
10 Naphtali
4 Dan



# Joshua 13:7-8

7 Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance unto the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh, 8 With whom the **Reubenites** and the **Gadites** have received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond Jordan eastward, even as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them;



# Joshua 13:9-33

We won't read these verses in class, but notice they contain a very detailed breakout with important notes along the way.

- Little Gad was the "pastrami in the Reuben!" This prime real estate was blessed with much water and grain. It was lush and rich; the crème de la crème! But remember, being rich has its own tests!
- Each tribe has a different inheritance, a different challenge.

Application: God does not treat us all uniformly because He tests us in different conditions and circumstances. (God is not always "fair," but He is always just!)



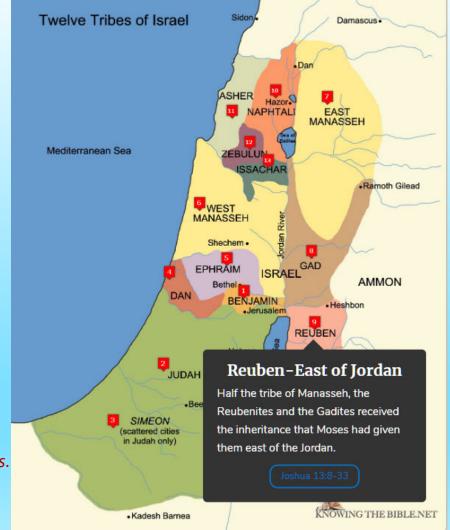
# Joshua 13:9-33

Some important notes made by Joshua:

- **Vs. 13**. Israel had not expelled the Geshurites and Maachathites, and those chickens will return to roost later.
- Vss. 14,33. The Levites will have a unique and exclusive inheritance and a unique relationship with God!
- Vs. 22. Balaam finally get's his uppins'

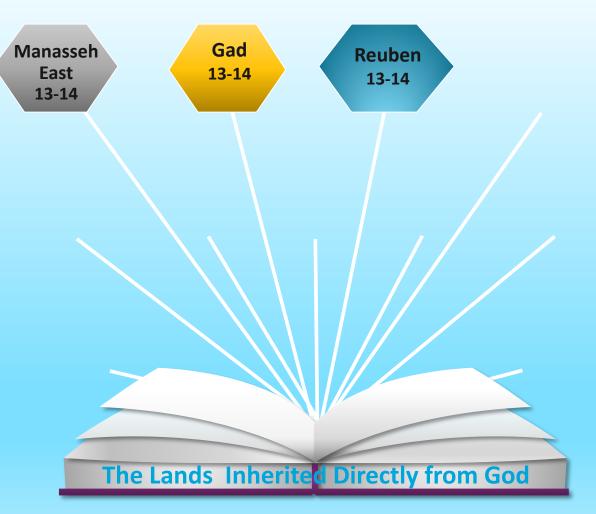
#### Application:

God doesn't settle all His accounts in October.
He wants us to learn from the mistakes of our fathers.
He never forgets apostasy and apostates.



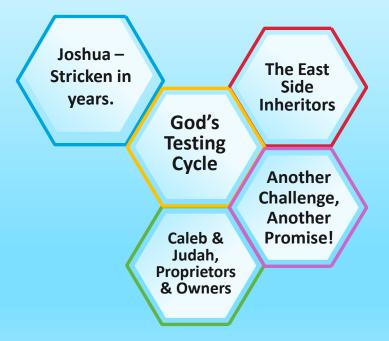
### So, Anyway,

- The east siders now have their inheritance.
- Note, Gad's possession does not contradict
  God's earlier
  command not to
  possess Ammon.
  This area had
  already been
  conquered by
  Sihon.





14:6-15:63 Caleb & Judah.



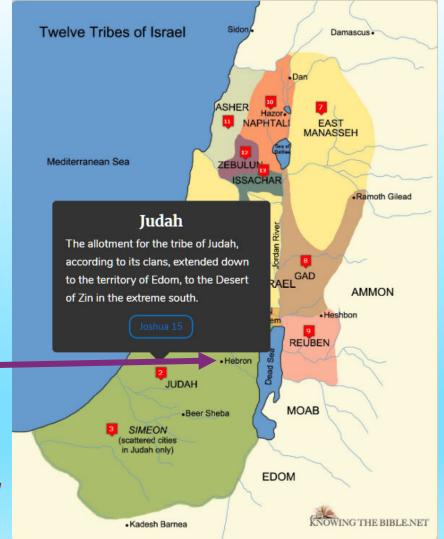
First, there is the matter of Caleb's family business.

- 14:6-9: Caleb cashes in and appropriates the promise.
- 14:12: Caleb re-invests with confidence in God's economy!
- 14:13 and 15:13,14: With great steps of faith (this was Anakim country)...
  ....come great rewards!

....and rest in the end!

...and a posterity that multiplies! 15:16-20

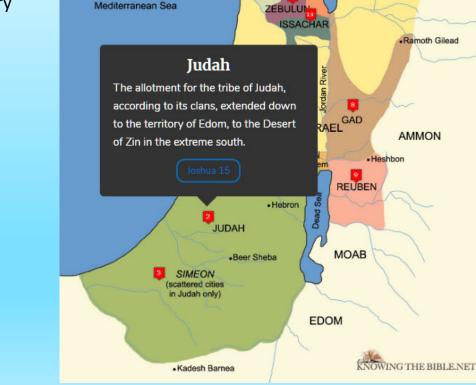
Application: It's never too late to be great in God's eyes!



Secondly, there is the matter of Judah and sons.

**1. First,** we see the allotment by territory in verses 1-12. While the exact points are not easy to discern, the territory is distributed in a counterclockwise pattern:

Verses 2-4 – the South Verse 5 – the East Verses 5-11 – the North Verse 12 – the West



Twelve Tribes of Israel

Sidor

ASHER

Damascus

EAST MANASSEH

Dar

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**2.** Next, we finish the story of Caleb and kin in verses 13-20.

Question: What one thing is true of Caleb, his son-inlaw, Othniel, and Achsah?

Answer: They each had the kind of zeal which compelled them to take the initiative.

Secondly, there is the matter of Judah and sons.

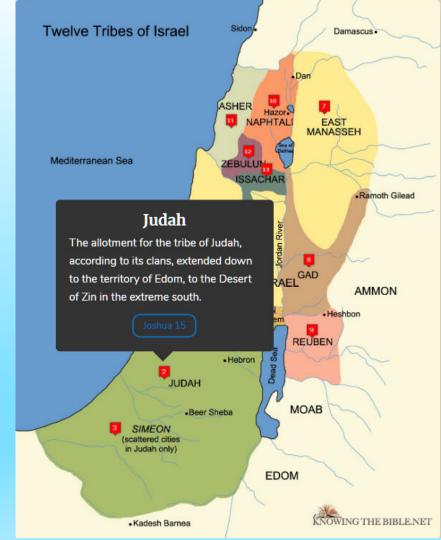
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2. Next, we finish the story of Caleb and kin in verses 13-20.

**3. Next,** this is followed by the detailed listing of the cities which were included in verses 21-62.

**4.** And finally, a sad note which serves as a reminder for us all. Verse 63.



# Be sure to download these "Apps" today!

Application: God is with us in every stage of life! (Stricken, but faithful.)

Application: Can I find myself in the Joshua Cycle (battle, praise, temptation, occupation, possession)?

Application: Am I content (with attending a doctrinally sound church) or am I

intent on claiming my Designer inheritance?

Application: Will I settle early for second best, or wait patiently for God's best?

Application: God does not treat us all uniformly because He

tests us in different conditions and circumstances. (God is not always "fair," but He is always just!)

#### Application:

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**Application:** It's never too late to be great in God's eyes!

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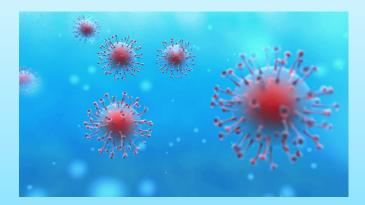
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6. Viruses use human cells to manufacture new copies until the victim is overwhelmed.

7. Viruses mutate, making them difficult targets.

8. Viruses are vulnerable to light.

# Can you draw 8 analogies...



# ...between viruses and sin?

**1.** Unlike bacteria, viruses are not likely to have been created by God.

"God did not create viruses, since they do not reproduce after their kinds or even clone themselves, like microbes. They are modified genetic material that can capture a cell's reproductive processes. Thus, it forces it to make copies of itself. Viruses never do good, like the good things God made." - Victor McAllister

God did not create sin. God is not the author of sin or of confusion of any kind, but He is the author of salvation and forgiveness! Read Hebrews 12:2.

2. Unlike bacteria, scientists continually debate whether viruses are dead or alive.

"Nobody's quite sure if we can label viruses as living. Many scientists struggle with this question." - Lifeliqe

While we can define sin and even speak of its properties we do not fully understand its exact nature and we certainly cannot see it. Biblical teachers may debate whether it is an entity or not, but we agree it is very much present! Just as the oceans contain at least 200,000 unique viral populations (BBC.com), so sin has infected all of mankind. Just as all men must contend with viruses, all men have been infected with sin

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Sin entered the world through God's creatures and it is what separates us from our God. In our efforts to quarantine ourselves from viruses we have separated ourselves from each other. As man tries to quarantine himself from sin through good works he only separates himself even more from God. We cannot cure ourselves. We can only make things worse.

*"Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness." - Romans 4:4-5* 

**3.** Viruses are parasitical. They cannot reproduce on their own.

James says that sin is the result of lust (from the outside) reproducing itself as sin inside the human heart. For a full explanation, read James 1:13-18. Sin cannot reproduce on its own. It requires a host. We sin because we are sinners. We are not innocent victims of sin.

*"Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."* - James 1:15

4. Viruses appear deceptively similar to natural functions.

"They can be defined as a collection of a few molecules of genetic material, nucleic acid covered by a layer of protein mass to shelter themselves." - Lifeliqe

When we wash our hands singing Happy Birthday, we are exposing the virus for what it is and destroying its mucous like shield. At that point the body can recognize and destroy it.

When we cleanse our spiritual hands, we can stave off the spawning of sin in our own lives.

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded." - James 4:8

This cleansing is readily available:

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." 1 John 1:9-10. 5. Viruses force the body to do their own bidding.

They cannot survive for a long by themselves, therefore they need a host on whom they can 'parasite'. However, this coexistence is only beneficial for the virus, as it takes over its host and forces him to do his bidding by overwriting its genetic material with its own." - Lifeliqe

Sin brings bondage and, ironically death.

*"For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness...For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." -* Romans 6:20...23

6. Viruses use human cells to manufacture new copies until the victim is overwhelmed.

"Cells become a 'manufactory' and create many copies of the original virus, which then inflict other ones and continue until the immune system or drugs slows them down or stops them." - Lifeliqe

"...Sin, when it is finished, brings forth death." James 1:15

7. Viruses mutate, making them difficult targets.

*"Every virus mutates. It is part of the life cycle of the virus."* - Healthline.com

*"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."* - 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

#### 8. Viruses are vulnerable to light.

"As the researchers explained, broad-spectrum UVC light kills viruses and bacteria, and it is currently used to decontaminate surgical equipment. But this type of light can cause skin cancer and cataracts, so it's not used in public spaces." - WebMd

"For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." - John 3:20,21

**Conclusion:** The struggle with viruses will likely continue and may even be hinted at in the book of Revelation. The solution for sin, on the other hand has been provided and is freely available to all.

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