

Wednesday, April 17

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Joshua 15:1 - 63

15 **1** The allotment for the clans of the tribe of Judah reached southward to the border of Edom, as far south as the wilderness of Zin. **2** The southern boundary began at the south bay of the Dead Sea, **3** ran south of Scorpion Pass into the wilderness of Zin, and then went south of Kadesh-barnea to Hezron. Then it went up to Addar, where it turned toward Karka. **4** From there it passed to Azmon until it finally reached the Brook of Egypt, which it followed to the Mediterranean Sea. This was their southern boundary. **5** The eastern boundary extended along the Dead Sea to the mouth of the Jordan River. The northern boundary began at the bay where the Jordan River empties into the Dead Sea, **6** went up from there to Beth-hoglah, then proceeded north of Beth-arabah to the Stone of Bohan. (Bohan was Reuben's son.) **7** From that point it went through the valley of Achor to Debir, turning north toward Gilgal, which is across from the slopes of Adummim on the south side of the valley. From there the boundary extended to the springs at En-shemesh and on to En-rogel. **8** The boundary then passed through the valley of Ben-Hinnom, along the southern slopes of the Jebusites, where the city of Jerusalem is located. Then it went west to the top of the mountain above the valley of Hinnom, and on up to the northern end of the valley of Rephaim. **9** From there the boundary extended from the top of the mountain to the spring at the waters of Nephtoah, and from there to the towns on Mount Ephron. Then it turned toward Baalah (that is, Kiriath-jearim). **10** The boundary circled west of Baalah to Mount Seir, passed along to the town of Kesalon on the northern slope of Mount Jearim, and went down to Beth-shemesh and on to Timnah. **11** The boundary then proceeded to the slope of the hill north of Ekron, where it turned toward Shikkeron and Mount Baalah. It passed Jabneel and ended at the Mediterranean Sea. **12** The western boundary was the shoreline of the Mediterranean Sea. These are the boundaries for the clans of the tribe of Judah. **13** The LORD commanded Joshua to assign some of Judah's territory to Caleb son of Jephunneh. So Caleb was given the town of Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), which had been named after Anak's ancestor. **14** Caleb drove out the three groups of Anakites—the descendants of Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, the sons of Anak. **15** From there he went to fight against the people living in the town of Debir (formerly called Kiriath-sepher). **16** Caleb said, "I will give my daughter Acsah in marriage to the one who attacks and captures Kiriath-sepher." **17** Othniel, the son of Caleb's brother Kenaz, was the one who conquered it, so Acsah became Othniel's wife. **18** When Acsah married Othniel, she urged him to ask her father for a field. As she got

down off her donkey, Caleb asked her, "What's the matter?" **19** She said, "Give me another gift. You have already given me land in the Negev; now please give me springs of water, too." So Caleb gave her the upper and lower springs. **20** This was the homeland allocated to the clans of the tribe of Judah. **21** The towns of Judah situated along the borders of Edom in the extreme south were Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur, **22** Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, **23** Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, **24** Ziph, Telem, Bealoth, **25** Hazor-hadattah, Keriath-hezron (that is, Hazor), **26** Amam, Shema, Moladah, **27** Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet, **28** Hazar-shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah, **29** Baalah, Iim, Ezem, **30** Eltolad, Kesil, Hormah, **31** Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah, **32** Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon—twenty-nine towns with their surrounding villages. **33** The following towns situated in the western foothills were also given to Judah: Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah, **34** Zanoah, En-gannim, Tappuah, Enam, **35** Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah, **36** Shaaraim, Adithaim, Gederah, and Gederothaim—fourteen towns with their surrounding villages. **37** Also included were Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad, **38** Dilean, Mizpeh, Joktheel, **39** Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon, **40** Cabbon, Lahmam, Kitlish, **41** Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and Makkedah—sixteen towns with their surrounding villages. **42** Besides these, there were Libnah, Ether, Ashan, **43** Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib, **44** Keilah, Aczib, and Mareshah—nine towns with their surrounding villages. **45** The territory of the tribe of Judah also included Ekron and its surrounding settlements and villages. **46** From Ekron the boundary extended west and included the towns near Ashdod with their surrounding villages. **47** It also included Ashdod with its surrounding settlements and villages and Gaza with its settlements and villages, as far as the Brook of Egypt and along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. **48** Judah also received the following towns in the hill country: Shamir, Jattir, Socoh, **49** Dannah, Kiriath-sannah (that is, Debir), **50** Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim, **51** Goshen, Holon, and Giloh—eleven towns with their surrounding villages. **52** Also included were the towns of Arab, Dumah, Eshan, **53** Janim, Beth-tappuah, Aphekah, **54** Humtah, Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), and Zior—nine towns with their surrounding villages. **55** Besides these, there were Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah, **56** Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah, **57** Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah—ten towns with their surrounding villages. **58** In addition, there were Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor, **59** Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon—six towns with their surrounding villages. **60** There were also Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim) and Rabbah—two towns with their surrounding villages. **61** In the wilderness there were the towns of Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah, **62** Nibshan, the City of Salt, and En-gedi—six towns with their surrounding villages. **63** But the tribe of Judah could not drive out the Jebusites, who lived in the city of Jerusalem, so the Jebusites live there among the people of Judah to this day.

18 **18** Once a religious leader asked Jesus this question: “Good Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” **19** “Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked him. “Only God is truly good. **20** But to answer your question, you know the commandments: ‘You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother.’ ” **21** The man replied, “I’ve obeyed all these commandments since I was young.” **22** When Jesus heard his answer, he said, “There is still one thing you haven’t done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” **23** But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich. **24** When Jesus saw this, he said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God! **25** In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!” **26** Those who heard this said, “Then who in the world can be saved?” **27** He replied, “What is impossible for people is possible with God.” **28** Peter said, “We’ve left our homes to follow you.” **29** “Yes,” Jesus replied, “and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, **30** will be repaid many times over in this life, and will have eternal life in the world to come.” **31** Taking the twelve disciples aside, Jesus said, “Listen, we’re going up to Jerusalem, where all the predictions of the prophets concerning the Son of Man will come true. **32** He will be handed over to the Romans, and he will be mocked, treated shamefully, and spit upon. **33** They will flog him with a whip and kill him, but on the third day he will rise again.” **34** But they didn’t understand any of this. The significance of his words was hidden from them, and they failed to grasp what he was talking about. **35** As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind beggar was sitting beside the road. **36** When he heard the noise of a crowd going past, he asked what was happening. **37** They told him that Jesus the Nazarene was going by. **38** So he began shouting, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” **39** “Be quiet!” the people in front yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” **40** When Jesus heard him, he stopped and ordered that the man be brought to him. As the man came near, Jesus asked him, **41** “What do you want me to do for you?” “Lord,” he said, “I want to see!” **42** And Jesus said, “All right, receive your sight! Your faith has healed you.” **43** Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus, praising God. And all who saw it praised God, too.

Psalms 86:1 - 17

86 **1** Bend down, O LORD, and hear my prayer; answer me, for I need your help. **2** Protect me, for I am devoted to you. Save me, for I serve you and trust you. You are my God. **3** Be merciful

to me, O Lord, for I am calling on you constantly. **4** Give me happiness, O Lord, for I give myself to you. **5** O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive, so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help. **6** Listen closely to my prayer, O LORD ; hear my urgent cry. **7** I will call to you whenever I'm in trouble, and you will answer me. **8** No pagan god is like you, O Lord. None can do what you do! **9** All the nations you made will come and bow before you, Lord; they will praise your holy name. **10** For you are great and perform wonderful deeds. You alone are God. **11** Teach me your ways, O LORD, that I may live according to your truth! Grant me purity of heart, so that I may honor you. **12** With all my heart I will praise you, O Lord my God. I will give glory to your name forever, **13** for your love for me is very great. You have rescued me from the depths of death. **14** O God, insolent people rise up against me; a violent gang is trying to kill me. You mean nothing to them. **15** But you, O Lord, are a God of compassion and mercy, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. **16** Look down and have mercy on me. Give your strength to your servant; save me, the son of your servant. **17** Send me a sign of your favor. Then those who hate me will be put to shame, for you, O LORD, help and comfort me.

Proverbs 13:9 - 10

13 9 The life of the godly is full of light and joy, but the light of the wicked will be snuffed out. **10** Pride leads to conflict; those who take advice are wise.