

CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OUTLINES JOSHUA, JUDGES, RUTH, Week 1

Possessing the Land of Canaan by Defeating the Satanic Forces

Scripture Reading: Josh. 1:2, 6, 11; 5:13-15; 6:1

- Joshua 1:2 - Moses My servant is dead; now then **arise, and cross over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land which I am giving to them, to the children of Israel.**
- Joshua 1:6 - **Be strong and take courage**, for you will cause this people to inherit the land which I swore to their fathers to give to them.
- Joshua 1:11 - Go through the midst of the camp, and command the people, saying, **Prepare provisions for yourselves, for in three days you are to cross this Jordan to enter and possess the land which Jehovah your God is giving you to possess.**
- Joshua 5:13 - Now once, when Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked; and behold, **there was a man standing opposite him, and His sword was drawn in His hand.** And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, Are You for us or for our adversaries?
- Joshua 5:14 - And He said, Neither, but as the **Captain of Jehovah's army have I now come.** Then Joshua fell to the ground upon his face and worshipped. And he said to Him, **What does my Lord speak to His servant?**
- Joshua 5:15 - **And the Captain of Jehovah's army said to Joshua, Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy.** And Joshua did so.
- Joshua 6:1 - Now **Jericho was shut up** so tight because of the children of Israel **that no one went out and no one went in.**

Day 1

- Ephesians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenlies in Christ,
- Ephesians 2:6** And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,

- I. In the Old Testament there is a typology, a set of types, and in the New Testament there is a **complete fulfillment** of that typology concerning God's economy—1 Cor. 10:3-4, 1, 11.
- II. The book of Joshua is a book with **profound types**—1:13; 2:18; 3:3, 10-11; 5:12; 6:6.
- III. The intrinsic significance of the book of Joshua is the **taking of the land**—1:2, 6; 5:12.
- IV. In order to understand the significance of the Israelites entering Canaan and the warfare in Canaan, we need to know that **Canaan has a twofold significance in typology**—Col. 1:12; Eph. 1:3; 2:2; 6:12:
 - A. On the **positive side**, Canaan, a land of riches, **typifies the all-inclusive Christ** with His unsearchable riches—Deut. 8:7-10; Col. 1:12; Eph. 3:8:

Day 2

- Deuteronomy 8:7-9** For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains; A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey; 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.

1. The **good land** is the ultimate type of Christ found in the Scriptures—Deut. 8:7.
2. The good land, the land of Canaan, is a type of the **Christ who is all and in all and who is everything to us**—Eph. 3:8.
3. In the Bible the land is a **figure, a symbol, of Christ**—Gen. 1:9; 2 Pet. 3:5:

- a. The land that came out of the death water on the third day in Genesis 1:9-10 and 13 is a type of the **resurrected Christ** who came out of death on the third day.
 - b. Many different kinds of life in Genesis 1:11-12 and 24-25 came out of the land; this signifies that **Christ is the source of all kinds of life**.
 - c. God's intention revealed in the Scriptures is that **Christ should be our land**—Deut. 8:7-10.
4. Christ as the good land, the land that came out of the death water, is depicted by the land of Canaan—Gen. 1:9; Josh. 1:13.

On the **positive side**, Canaan, a **land of riches**, typifies the **all-inclusive Christ with His unsearchable riches**. This may be familiar to many of us, but if we are in the spirit and in the newness of life, we will walk in newness of life and serve in newness of spirit. Thus, the following points can be new and fresh to us. The land of Canaan typifies the all-inclusive Christ with His unsearchable riches. They are **inexhaustible**, and for eternity we will be exploring them without any repeats. These riches are unsearchable—beyond our capacity and unending.

Christ as the good land, the land that came out of the death water, is depicted by the land of Canaan. One characteristic of the typology of the land of Canaan is that it symbolizes the **resurrection life of Christ**. Genesis 1 speaks of the land that came up out of the death water on the third day. Perhaps many of us can honestly testify that the Christ who lives in us has to some degree repeatedly brought us through the waters of death. This is not a mere doctrine to us. This has happened both personally and corporately. The good land, therefore, is a land of resurrection. To **simply be here in the good land is to be in the realm of resurrection**. Just to dwell here is to dwell in a realm where there is no death and **where the resurrection life conquers**.

We are in this **together**, and we are **advancing together**. We are a **corporate entity** and are an army **moving as one**. We are **learning together** and **learning from one another**. We are **fighting together** and **fighting for one another**. We are **shepherding one another** and **bearing one another**, and we are going to take this land together. The Lord does not have to wait for another generation. **Now is the time**. He is speaking this to us because now is the time for this to take place. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)

Day 3

Ephesians 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel

Ephesians 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

- B. On the **negative side**, Canaan signifies the aerial part, the heavenly part, of the **dark kingdom of Satan**, the **heavenlies that are full of Satan's forces**—Eph. 2:2; 6:12:
1. Satan has his authority and his angels, who are his subordinates as principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness of this world; hence, he has his kingdom, the **authority of darkness**—Acts 26:18; Matt. 12:26; 25:41; Eph. 6:12; Col. 1:13.
 2. Satan, the enemy of God, has been doing his utmost to **hinder the people of God** from enjoying the all-inclusive Christ as the good land; to this day, evil forces are veiling the all-inclusiveness of Christ from God's people—2:8, 18; 2 Cor. 4:3-4.
 3. The book of Ephesians indicates that in the heavenlies there are **different layers**—1:3; 2:2; 6:12:
 - a. **Christ is in the highest layer**, the third heaven, to be our everything as our **good land**—Deut. 8:7-10.
 - b. There is a **lower layer of the heavenlies**—the air, where Satan as the ruler of the authority of the **air is frustrating the people on earth** from contacting God and receiving Christ; this is typified by the Canaanites, who were frustrating Israel from entering into the good land—Eph. 2:2.
 4. The **Canaanites** typify the **fallen angels**, the rebellious angels who follow Satan, who have become the powers, rulers, and authorities in Satan's kingdom, the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies—Rev. 12:4, 7; Eph. 6:12.
- C. The two aspects of the significance of Canaan in typology are spoken of in **Ephesians**; in this sense, the book of **Joshua** in the Old Testament is comparable to Ephesians because both books are a record of "Canaan":
1. As soon as the children of Israel entered Canaan, they **enjoyed the riches of Christ** and **engaged in warfare**—Josh. 5:12; 6:1-21.
 2. Ephesians 3:8 speaks of the riches of Christ, and 1:3; 2:6; and 6:12 speak of the heavenlies; this indicates that in the church we should enjoy the riches of Christ and engage in spiritual warfare.

On the **negative side**, Canaan signifies the **aerial part**, the **heavenly part**, of the dark kingdom of Satan, the **heavenlies that are full of Satan's forces**. There is a twofold typology; on the one hand, the land typifies the all-inclusive Christ, yet on the other hand, it reveals a certain level in the heavenlies from which the enemy is ruling. The enemy will rule there until the man-child is raptured, as revealed in Revelation 12. Certainly, we want to be with the firstfruits who are raptured to join the man-child, for immediately afterward, there will be war in heaven—the angels of God fighting against Satan and his angels. Then the devil and all his angels will be cast down to the earth. We do not want to be on the earth during the final three and a half years of this age. We are not at that stage yet, but **we have to recognize that there is an enemy in this heavenly sphere**.

Satan, the enemy of God, has been doing his utmost to **hinder the people of God from enjoying the all-inclusive Christ as the good land**; to this day, evil forces are veiling the all-inclusiveness of Christ from God's people. The subject of Brother Lee's conference in December 1962 was the all-inclusive Christ. With those messages, a brother helped me to realize that I had been robbing myself of so much of the enjoyment of Christ. We need to realize that the enemy has been **using our self to rob us of our portion, our inheritance, in the good land**. We need a turn to admit that the enemy is a problem and that we also are a problem. We need to focus on the Lord's victory. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)

Day 4

Ephesians 6:10-12

Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil, For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

3. Without the book of Joshua we cannot fully understand the spiritual warfare in Ephesians 6:10-20.

V. If we would possess the good land for the fulfillment of God's purpose, we must **engage in spiritual warfare** to defeat the **satanic forces**— **Josh. 6:21**:

- A. We need to realize the **necessity of spiritual warfare**—a warfare between the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God—Matt. 6:10; 7:21; 12:26, 28; Isa. 14:12-14.
- B. When Israel was ready to take possession of the land of Canaan, the land was filled with **demon-possessed people, idol worshippers**, and the **Nephilim**—Num. 13:33.
- C. Because the Nephilim, a mixture of fallen angels and fallen man, dwelt in the land of Canaan, God commanded the children of Israel to take over this land and to destroy every living being there so that the human race could be cleared up—Deut. 7:1-2:
 1. According to the divine thought, the nations in the land of Canaan had to be exterminated because they were **devilish and mingled with demons**—v. 2; Josh. 11:21-22; 14:6-14.
 2. The Canaanites signify not only the fallen angels but also **human beings who have joined themselves to the evil spirits**, to the satanic power of darkness in the air—Num. 14:45.
- D. Israel's fighting against the inhabitants of the land portrays the **invisible spiritual warfare** that is taking place behind the visible scene on earth—Dan. 10:10-21; Eph. 6:10-20:
 1. It is crucial for us to see that behind the scene a spiritual struggle is taking place, a struggle not seen with human eyes.
 2. In addition to the war on earth, there is a **war between God and the satanic forces in the air**—2:2; 6:12.
- E. The fighting of the children of Israel against the Canaanites that they might possess and enjoy the good land typifies the spiritual warfare of the **church as a whole, including all the members**, against "the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies" (v. 12) that the saints may enjoy Christ as the all-inclusive land.
- F. Christ is our good land, and God wants us to gain Christ, but there is a layer of devilish, demonic forces between us and the good land; if we would take possession of the good land for our enjoyment, **we must defeat these satanic forces**—Col. 1:12-13; 2:15; Eph. 3:18; 6:11-12:
 1. There is an **exceedingly real spiritual warfare** in which we must engage; we must fight the battle to gain the all-inclusive Christ for the building up of the church as the Body of Christ, the new man, and the kingdom of God—vv. 10-12; 1 Tim. 6:12a; 2 Tim. 2:3-4; Col. 1:13, 18; 2:19; 3:10-11.
 2. If we would take possession of Christ for our enjoyment, we must be a **corporate warrior**, the church as the Body of Christ, fighting against and defeating the satanic forces so that we can gain more of Christ for the building up of the Body of Christ, setting up and spreading the kingdom of God so that Christ can come back to inherit the earth—Eph. 3:8; 4:16; Matt. 24:14; Rev. 11:15.

Day 5

Joshua 5:13-14

Now once, when Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked; and behold, there was a man standing opposite him, and His sword was drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, Are You for us or for our adversaries? And He said, Neither, but as the Captain of Jehovah's army have I now come. Then Joshua fell to the ground upon his face and worshipped. And he said to Him, What does my Lord speak to His servant?

VI. In order to engage in spiritual warfare, we need to see the vision that unveils Christ as the Captain of Jehovah's army— Josh. 5:13-14:

- A. Whereas Joshua was the visible captain of Jehovah's army, **Christ was the invisible Captain** to fight against the seven tribes of Canaan for Israel—v. 14.
- B. Because of the vision of Christ as the Captain of Jehovah's army, Joshua needed to **stand on the position of sanctification (holiness) all the time**—v. 15:
 1. **Holiness** is the nature and quality of being holy—Rom. 1:2.
 2. **Sanctification** (to God) is the practical effect, the character in activity, and the consummate state produced by being sanctified—6:19, 22.

Day 6

Joshua 6:5

And when they give off the blast of the ram's horn and you hear the trumpet sound, all the people shall shout with a great shout. And the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, each straight ahead.

2 Chronicles 20:21-22

And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed them to sing to Jehovah and give thanks in holy array as they went out before the army and say, Give thanks to Jehovah, for His lovingkindness endures forever. And when they began to shout in song and to praise, Jehovah set ambushes for the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who were coming out against Judah; and they were struck.

VII. We need to know the vital factors that enabled the people of Israel to be victorious in their first warfare— Josh. 6:1-20:

- A. The **shutting up of Jericho**, with no traffic coming in or going out, signifies that the powers of darkness, the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies, were **bound**—Matt. 12:29; Eph. 6:12.
- B. God's people **did not need to do anything** to destroy Jericho.
- C. They only needed to **believe and trust in God**, to **listen** to the instruction from the Captain of the army of Israel, and to **exalt Christ** by bearing the Ark— Josh. 6:3-11.
- D. The bearing of the Ark here by the priests shows that in the spiritual warfare the **first thing** we should do is **exalt Christ**, giving Him the **first place**, the **preeminence**, in all things—vv. 4, 7-11; Col. 1:18:
 1. When the people of Israel attacked Jericho, they did this **under the commanding of Christ** typified by the Ark— Josh. 5:14; 6:3-11.
 2. The Ark, a type of Christ, who was their Commander in chief, **took the lead to attack the enemies**—v. 4.
- E. To **remain silent until the command was given to shout** means to carry out the matter in the Lord's way **without expressing any thought, opinion, or feeling**—v. 10.
- F. The victory over Jericho in Israel's first battle after crossing the Jordan was won not by Israel's fighting but by their **blowing the trumpets and shouting**, signifying the **testifying and proclaiming** of God with Christ (the Ark) through faith in God's word of instruction—vv. 2-5.

VIII. A unique principle is that spiritual victory does not depend on warfare—it depends on praise—2 Chron. 20:20-22:

- A. We need to learn to **overcome Satan by our praise**.
- B. A person who praises God **transcends everything** and **overcomes continually** by his **praise**; this is a principle, and this is a fact— Heb. 11:30, 33-34; 13:15.

Needing to Learn to Overcome Satan by Our Praise

[We need to learn to overcome Satan by our praise.](#) We are all learners here. Like everybody else, we praise when we really feel wonderful. Whenever something wonderful has happened or is happening and when the blessing is upon us, we spontaneously praise the Lord.

When we are in a battle, however, one of the hardest things to do is to praise. This is why Brother Nee helps us with Hebrews 13:15 on the sacrifice of praise. Do we have the view, the vision, that Christ is the Victor? We must clearly see that He actually destroyed the devil on the cross, that He conquered death, that He has the keys of death and Hades, that He is the Lord, and that He is the Victor. He fought for victory, and we are fighting in His victory. [We fight for victory by praising His victory.](#)

We may have been in complicated, painful, and heart-rending situations concerning which thousands of prayers were offered. We may need, however, to begin to learn to stop trying to change the matter by praying but rather [praise the Lord in the midst of the situation.](#) [We can simply praise Him.](#) This terrifies the enemy. We overcome Satan by our praising. We long for what Brother Nee experienced, for how he could maintain his joy until the very end. This is the way to fight. A unique principle in spiritual warfare is to praise. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)