

CRYSTALLIZATION-STUDY OUTLINES JOSHUA, JUDGES, RUTH, Week 5

**The Produce of the Land of Canaan and
the Intrinsic Significance
of the Allotment of the Good Land**

Scripture Reading: Josh. 5:12; 13:1—22:34; Col. 1:12; Acts 26:18

Joshua 5:12	And the manna ceased on that day, when they ate of the produce of the land ; and there was no longer manna for the children of Israel, but they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan that year .
Colossians 1:12	Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light ;
Acts 26:18	To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me .

Day 1

Joshua 5:12	And the manna ceased on that day, when they ate of the produce of the land; and there was no longer manna for the children of Israel, but they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan that year.
John 6:51	I am the living bread which came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread which I will give is My flesh, given for the life of the world.
John 6:67	Jesus therefore said to the twelve, Do you also want to go away?

I. After the children of Israel entered the land of Canaan, the manna ceased; there was no longer manna, but [they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan](#)— Josh. 5:12:

- A. The ceasing of the manna when the people began to eat the produce of the land indicates that the [produce of the land was the continuation of the manna](#).
- B. The **manna** eaten by Israel in their wandering in the wilderness (Exo. 16) typifies Christ as the heavenly food [given directly by God to His chosen people](#), which requires no labor on the part of the eaters.
- C. The rich produce of the promised land given by God to Israel in their fighting in Canaan typifies [Christ as the consummated life supply](#) given to the believers, which requires them to labor on Him—Deut. 8:7-10:
 1. As portrayed in the typology here, after possessing Christ as the land, we need to [labor on Him to produce something of Him that will become our food, our life supply](#).
 2. As we eat Christ and enjoy Him as the produce of the good land, we are constituted with Him, [being made the same as Christ in life, nature, and expression](#)— John 6:57; Phil. 1:19-21a.
 3. Ultimately, our enjoying of Christ as our inheritance, our possession, will constitute us to be [God's inheritance, God's treasure and possession](#)—Eph. 1:11-14, 18b; cf. Exo. 19:5.

Day 2

Exodus 12:3	Speak to all the assembly of Israel, saying, On the tenth of this month each man shall take a lamb according to his fathers' house, a lamb for a household.
Exodus 12:9	Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but roasted with fire — its head with its legs and with its inward parts.
1 Corinthians 5:7	Purge out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, even as you are unleavened; for our

- D. In Egypt, the wilderness, and the good land, the people of Israel experienced **three stages of eating**:
 1. In Egypt the people of Israel **ate the passover lamb**—12:3, 8-9:

- a. Just as the roasted flesh of the passover lamb was to be eaten for life supply, so we need to **eat Christ for our life supply**—vv. 8-10; John 6:53, 55-57:
 - 1) To solve the problem of the fall of man and to accomplish God's original intention, both **life and redemption are needed**.
 - 2) **God's judicial redemption** through the blood of Christ is the procedure to reach God's goal of dispensing Christ as life into us for our organic salvation—Rom. 5:10.
2. In the wilderness the people of Israel **ate manna**—Exo. 16:14-16, 31; Num. 11:7:
 - a. By giving His people manna to eat, God indicated that His intention was to **change their constitution** by changing their diet—Exo. 16:14-15:
 - 1) In name the children of Israel were not Egyptian, but in nature and in constitution **they did not differ from the Egyptians in the least**—v. 3.
 - 2) The Egyptian diet denotes all the things we desire to feed on **in order to find satisfaction**—Num. 11:4-6.
 - b. God wanted His redeemed people to forget the Egyptian diet and to **partake of heavenly food**—Deut. 8:3:
 - 1) The more manna we eat, the more we **correspond to God**, are **identified with Him**, and **live and walk according to what He is**.
 - 2) What helps us most in our daily living with the Lord is eating Christ as the heavenly food; by eating Christ, we become Christ; that is, **Christ becomes our constituent**—John 6:56-58.

Day 3

Deuteronomy 8:7-10

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. And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.

3. In Canaan the people of Israel **ate the produce of the good land**—Josh. 5:11-12:
 - a. In the third stage of eating, they ate the rich supply of the good land, which **constituted them further to be an overcoming people**.
 - b. The good land was a land of **wheat, barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive trees with oil**, and **honey**, all of which typify the **unsearchable riches of Christ**—Deut. 8:8; Eph. 3:8.
 - c. By enjoying the riches of the good land, the people of Israel **conquered the tribes in the land, established the kingdom of God**, and **built up the temple as God's dwelling place on earth**—Josh. 5:11-12.
4. These three stages typify the three stages of the **believers' enjoyment of Christ by eating Him**—John 6:51-57; 1 Cor. 5:7-8; 10:3-4; Phil. 1:19:
 - a. By their eating in the first two stages, the believers are **energized to leave the world** and are **constituted with Christ as the heavenly element**—John 6:51-57; 1 Cor. 5:7-8; 10:3-4.
 - b. To reach the goal of God's economy, **we need to progress until we enter into the highest stage of eating Christ** as the rich produce of the good land so that we may overcome the spiritual enemies, be built up to be God's dwelling place, and establish God's kingdom on earth.
 - c. As we eat Christ as the produce of the good land, **we are constituted with Him and are made the same as Christ in life, nature, and expression** for the building up of the church as the Body of Christ—Eph. 4:16.

As portrayed in the typology here, after possessing Christ as the land, we need to **labor on Him to produce something of Him that will become our food, our life supply**. This kind of food is not something general. I will try to explain it in this way. We can be in the church life, in the prophesying meetings, in the conferences, and in the trainings in an absolutely passive manner. We may merely listen. We may receive something, **yet we do not labor**. Thus, what we receive is very little and very fleeting; it does not stay with us. This is a kind of passive enjoyment, not a laboring on the Word.

As we will see, laboring on Christ has much to do with our dealing with the Word of God, as we saw in Message 1. I like this word dealing, which we can find in the ministry. **We need to deal with the Word**. In other words, we would not simply read the Bible; rather, we would **interact** with it, let it affect us, and deal with what it speaks to us. This is to labor. This is how we need to come to the Word to gain the life supply, first for ourselves and then for others. We need to be **nourished**; then we will be able to nourish others. First Timothy 4:6 speaks of "being nourished with the words of the faith and of the good teaching" so that we might be good ministers of Christ Jesus. We need to produce something of Christ for our own supply, and then we need to produce a surplus so that we can feed the saints, new ones, and our gospel friends. (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)

Day 4

Numbers 26:55 But the land shall be apportioned by lot; they shall inherit it according to the names of the tribes of their fathers.

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think, but to think so as to be sober-minded, as God has apportioned to each a measure of faith.

II. The intrinsic significance of the allotment of the good land is that we, the possessors of the land, experience the one Christ in different ways— Josh. 13:1—22:34:

- A. Within God's economy there is something called the allotment of the land—Col. 1:12.
- B. After Joshua took possession of the land, God commanded him to allot the land that had been possessed and even the land that had not yet been possessed, because **in God's eyes all the land was for Israel**— Josh. 13:6:
 - 1. In His wisdom, God did not allot the good land as a whole to all the children of Israel; rather, He allotted that land, that is, Christ, to the **different tribes**—v. 7.
 - 2. Because the tribes were different, God could not give the same land in the same way to every tribe.
 - 3. All the tribes were possessors of the land, but the tribes possessed particular portions of the land **according to what they were**—14:6-15; 18:1—19:27.
 - 4. The fulfillment of this type of the allotment of the land is among us today—Col. 1:12:
 - a. **We all have the same Christ, but we experience Christ in different ways**—1 Cor. 1:2.
 - b. The land (Christ) we possess is **according to what we are**— Rom. 12:3; Eph. 4:7.

Day 5

Colossians 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;

Colossians 2:6-7 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him, Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

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

- C. In Colossians 1:12 Paul employs the concept of the **all-inclusive land**, speaking of "the **allotted portion of the saints**":
 - 1. The Greek word rendered "portion" can also be rendered "lot," referring to an allotment.
 - 2. When Paul was writing the Epistle to the Colossians, he had in mind the picture of the allotting of the good land to the children of Israel; he used the word portion with the Old Testament record of the land as the background—Josh. 14:2:
 - a. In Colossians Christ is revealed **as our portion, our lot**— 1:15-19; 2:6-15.
 - b. Just as the land of Canaan was everything to the children of Israel, so **Christ, the reality of the type of the good land, is everything to us**—1:12.
 - 3. **Christ as the preeminent and all-inclusive One is the allotted portion of the saints**—v. 12.
 - 4. The New Testament believers' allotted portion is not a physical land; it is the **all-inclusive Christ as the life-giving Spirit**— 2:6-7; Gal. 3:14:
 - a. The riches of the good land typify the unsearchable riches of Christ in different aspects as the **bountiful supply to His believers in His Spirit**—Deut. 8:7-10; Eph. 3:8; Phil. 1:19.
 - b. By enjoying the riches of the land, the **believers in Christ are built up to be His Body as the house of God and the kingdom of God**—Eph. 1:22-23; 2:21-22; 1 Tim. 3:15; Matt. 16:18-19; Rom. 14:17.

Day 6

Acts 26:18

To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

Ephesians 1:13-14

In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise, Who is the pledge of our inheritance, unto the redemption of the acquired possession, to the praise of His glory.

D. In Acts 26:18 Paul refers to the **all-inclusive Christ as our inheritance**:

1. As the result of having our eyes opened and of being transferred from the authority of Satan to God, we not only have the **forgiveness of sins, but we also receive a divine inheritance**.
2. This inheritance is the **Triune God Himself with all that He has, all that He has done**, and all that He will do for His redeemed **people**; this Triune God is embodied in the all-inclusive Christ, who is the portion allotted to the saints as their inheritance—Col. 2:9.
3. The good land truly is a type of the **all-inclusive Christ**, the embodiment of the processed and consummated Triune God, **who has been given to us as our inheritance**—1:12.

When Paul was writing the Epistle to the Colossians, he had in mind the picture of the allotting of the good land to the children of Israel; he used the word portion with the Old Testament record of the land as the background. In Colossians Christ is revealed as our **portion, our lot**. The description of this portion, this allotment, is in Colossians 1:15-19 and 2:6-15. Colossians 1:15-19 reveals that the **Christ who has been allotted to us is the image of the invisible God, the Firstborn of all creation, the preeminent One, the Firstborn from the dead, and the One in whom all the fullness was pleased to dwell**.

Colossians 2:6-7 says, *“As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him, having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.”* We have been planted in Christ as the soil so that we can grow, which is our being built up. **As we absorb the nutrients, the elements, of the soil, we are built up individually as members of the Body and corporately as the Body of Christ**. We should keep in mind that Colossians 2:6-15 is a description of the nutrients in the soil. This rich soil includes nutrients that eradicate the cultural things such as ordinances and philosophies, which can creep into the church life. **For Christ to replace our culture, we need to absorb the nutrients in Him as the land.** (*The Ministry of the Word, Vol. 25, No. 04: Crystallization-study of Joshua, Judges, Ruth*)

