



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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Travel Log

Personal Notes

Series of horizontal lines for taking notes.

Way Point 52

Promise Kept

Story of Israel in the Land and Return of the 2 1/2 Tribes

God has made many promises that men have depended on in times of both trouble and prosperity. In our Way Point this session, we are going to see one of these great-promised come to pass as well the promise given by men made good.

When we left our last Way Point, we began to introduce the division of the land. I do not feel our purpose here is to dissect the land and attempt to understand who settle where. This is important but not for our journey. Simply allow me to quote the last verse we left off with last Way Point to set the stage. **Joshua 11:23** *So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.*

I- Nine and a Half Tribes Division:

We pick up with a verse now that if we do not have the background knowledge to understand it seems confusing. **Joshua 13:7** *Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance unto the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh.*

Hold on, are not there 12 tribes, not 9 1/2? Yes, but you will recall that two and 1/2 tribes asked to be given their inheritance on the Transjordan side of the river. **Numbers 32:1-5** *Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of cattle: and when they saw the land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead, that, behold, the place was a place for cattle; 2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spake unto Moses... saying, ... 4 Even the country which the LORD smote before the congregation of Israel, is a land for cattle, and thy servants have cattle: 5 Wherefore, said they, if we have found grace in thy sight, let this land be given unto thy servants for a possession, and bring us not over Jordan.*

We will move to the promise that Moses solicited from them in a moment. For now, we see the reason that there are only nine and a half tribe being given the land. The different sections of the lands division if found in Joshua 14-21. The culmination of this is **Joshua 21:43-45** *And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein. 44 And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before*



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them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. 45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.

This, my beloved is a promise that had been made hundreds of years before that has happened. The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had kept His promise that He gave that the land would belong to the descendants of Abraham in the future. Promise kept. Let's refresh our memory of this promise so we can celebrate it in our hearts.

Genesis 12:7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.

Genesis 13:14-17 And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: 15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. 16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. 17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

Praise God, Praise God, Praise God.

II- A Few Things Worth Noting:

During the occupation and distribution of the land there are a couple of things that I feel are worth noting. First, is the strength of Caleb at an old age. A promise kept. Lets read in God's precious Word.

Joshua 14:6-12 Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea. 7 Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espay out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart. 8 Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. 9 And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God. 10 And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. 11 As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go



*Coordinates:
Joshua 22:1-34*

Sights to See:

- 1- God is faithful to fulfill the promises He made to Abraham.
- 2- The promises were not fulfilled in the lifetime of Abraham but his death did not negate the promise.
- 3- God's promises to us are as secure as well.
- 4- We should worship God for His faithfulness in the past.
- 5- We are never to old to let God use us to conquer new challenges if we rely in the strength of God.
- 6- Is there some mountain that God has place in your heart that you need to get busy conquering?
- 7- God placed the cities of refuge throughout the land to be a safe place to with a man could flee. God has given us a safe place to flee as well, the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 8- God wanted the people to constantly be reminded of His presence in the personage of the tribe of Levi, the priest.
- 9- He ants us to constantly be aware of His presence in our daily lives as well.
- 10- The Trans-Jordanites kept their promise to fight and then the promise give them was fulfilled. We need to kept our word.



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out, and to come in. 12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.

A few things worth noting is that fact that Caleb was still strong and he realized the strength he had came from God. He also was not afraid to tackle a new challenge, a tough challenge, yea the toughest challenge. We need more to say God give me this mountain and in your strength, I will conquer it.

Also worth noting is the setting up of cities of refuge where men could come and be safe from vengeance. *Joshua 20:1-3 The LORD also spake unto Joshua, saying, 2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses: 3 That the slayer that killeth any person unawares and unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.*

There was also cities that were given to the tribe of Levi, the tribe of priest, through the whole of the land. This was to spread those who were intercessors between the people and God throughout the land.

III- Promise Kept by/to the Trans-Jordanites:

Well, they may have not been called Trans-Jordanites but I used that to refer to the 2 1/2 tribes. Now back to the promise made and kept. We have seen that God kept His promise to deliver the land unto the descendants of Abraham. Now we see a promise kept by the tribes of Reuben, Gad and half of Manasseh. We find this in *Joshua 22:1-9 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, 2 And said unto them, Ye have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you: 3 Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God. 4 And now the LORD your God hath given rest unto your brethren, as he promised them: therefore now return ye, and get you unto your tents, and unto the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side Jordan. 5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul. 6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away: and they went unto their tents. 7 Now to the one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan: but unto the other half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward. And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he blessed them, 8 And he spake unto them, saying, Return with much riches unto your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with brass, and with iron, and with very much raiment: divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren. 9 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go unto the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, whereof they were possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.*

They were free to return to their wives and children who were on the other side of the river. These men had made a promise and had kept the promise to their brethren. Now the promise made to them is fulfilled.

The section of Way Points of a wandering nation ends with this session with them settled in the land.