

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME LX NUMBER III Sonship Gift 8: Inheritance II

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Scripture: Ephesians 1:13-14

Ephesians 1:13-14 says, *“In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.”* This tells us that Jesus in His death, burial and resurrection bought and paid for an inheritance for us. That inheritance takes several forms. In Christ we have an amazing inheritance. In the natural we may receive an inheritance from a relative at their death. We attend the reading of the will and discover what that inheritance was. How many people who were just informed they had an inheritance would blow it off and not attend the reading of the will, especially if it was suspected to be substantial? If we were informed of a substantial inheritance, chances are we would show up for the reading of the will. It would be a priority to discover the magnitude of the inheritance. How many Christians have a Bible full of a magnanimous inheritance and yet never spend any time reading it. I am amazed at this yet we see it all the time. We can never know the fullness if we don't read and nourish ourselves with the truths of our will. There is an Old Testament will and a New Testament will. An inheritance is spotlighted in both. Think about the craziness of having an inheritance and being informed that it was substantial and not bothering to find out about it. How many of those people are we going to meet on judgment day?

MONDAY, MARCH 2

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

In Matthew 10:1-16 we read the parable of the laborers. In the parable of the laborers, the landowner called a group of laborers and they agreed for a wage of a denarius a day. The landowner realized that more laborers were needed and gathered more. He went out at the sixth and the ninth hour and did likewise. About the eleventh hour the landowner went out, gathered more and put them to work saying, *“You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you what is right.”* When evening came the owner told the steward to call the laborers to pay them their wages beginning with the last ones hired to the first. So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, *‘Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.’* And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, *‘These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.’* The interesting part of this story is that they complained to the landowner. How do men judge things? When they look around what is their standard of judgment? It is money. Beware of any politician who promises you financial equality. That is akin to communism and destroys the fabric of any nation who signs onto it. Socialism doesn't work and never has! Why should those who work hard be forced to support the lazy who don't work. God's law says, if a man won't work, neither shall he eat! The landowner went on to say, *“Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?”* So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.” Our Bible has about 8,800 promises. That is a sizeable

inheritance. Some of those promises appear in the Old Testament and some we read in the New Testament. Some of those promises appear in both places. That is a significant inheritance for anyone. How much time do we spend reading the 'will'? If a person is too lazy to read and lay hold of their inheritance, they forfeit the promises!

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Scripture: Ephesians 1:14, 2 Corinthians 1:18-22

Ephesians 1:14 says that the Holy Spirit is the Guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession to the praise of His glory. When we look at the word guarantee in Greek, it is only used three times in the entire New Testament and amazingly the very first place it is used is in 2 Corinthians 1:18-22. This passage is all about the fact that the individual promises are all yes and amen in Him. In verse 22 we are told, "...who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." Here believers have a guarantee that the Spirit will bring us into the promises. That is a significant guarantee! Why won't believers read and familiarize themselves with the 'will'? Choosing to ignore an inheritance has consequences. With the Holy Spirit as the Guarantee of the promises our responsibility includes finding a church committed to teaching the inerrancy of the Bible. Such churches are increasingly hard to find. Disregarding an inheritance is not a normal behavior! Anyone who is told that they just received a significant inheritance will find out when the reading of the will is and they will be there! With 8,800 promises in the will and testament of God, we would think that would be enough motivation to discover them, but for many it is not!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 2:18-22

This passage is very specific in how it is worded. We need to study it because the application of this passage should be very important to each of us personally. It says, "*But as God is faithful our word to you is not Yes and No. For the Son of God, Jesus Christ who was preached among you by us—by me, Silvanus and Timothy--was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. For all the promises of God in Him are yes and in Him amen to the glory of God through us.*" What does that say? That says we are carrying around 8,800 promises in our Bible, the will of God in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Holy Spirit guarantees that any promise God gives us in Him is Yes. It is quite clear! It is yes! Is there a kicker? Yes there is, it is a big kicker. The Holy Spirit Who is the Guarantee of the inheritance, it is His job to show us the promises that are for us. He leads us into all truth! Can we dig in and find a promise that God quickens to us and comes alive in us? Yes and we can shout it from the housetops but unless the Holy Spirit has given us that promise, it is not guaranteed. Unless we spend enough time reading the will we are not going to find out if that promise is Holy Spirit certified for us. We can go to church, read a book and assume that any promise in the Bible belongs to us and Jesus bought and paid for all of them. But we can't change 1 and 2 Corinthians — the entirety of God's Word is the Logos! The Holy Spirit activates promises for us individually. These are rhema-revealed promises. In 2 Corinthians 1:18-22 there is another Greek word **ar-rhab-own**. Our Bible study last month focused on **ar-rhab-own**, as the guarantee of our inheritance. Whose job is it to show us what our specific inheritance is? It is the job of the Spirit! Not only do we have to read and know the Logos, the entire Bible, but we have to read it with the 'eye' and the 'ear' for the Spirit to reveal which promises He has for us. The Holy Spirit is our Helper, Teacher and Friend. The Holy Spirit is our Guarantee. Our Guarantee is a Person, a Divine and Creative Person! It is not just the whole Book. The Spirit births God's Words within. He is the Person assigned to guide us into what God specifically has for us in the Book. The Holy Spirit is the Author of rhema which comes from the entire Logos. So the whole Bible is the Logos the entirety of God's Word. A rhema is a very specific word that the Holy Spirit highlights for us personally. Faith explodes from **rhemas**! We have all experienced at one time or another, a verse or two jumping out of the written page and filling our being because it was a now word that came at the right time. Does God have specific words for us? Yes, He does, because we all have a specific purpose. There are promises that go with that purpose. There is provision for the purpose. There is application for the purpose. The Holy Spirit will guide us if we develop relationship. When we choose to spend time reading God's Word, we activate the Holy Spirit to reveal all He has for us! It is a personal choice! Don't expect our inheritance to rain from heaven without seeding the clouds, without wholeheartedly and intentionally seeding those promises.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture: Deuteronomy 11:16

Deuteronomy 11:16 says, *“Take heed to yourselves lest your heart be deceived and you turn aside to serve other gods and worship them.”* This simple verse is cautioning us not to be deceived. What is transpiring in the church today? We can go to church and be deceived. Some churches seem to say, ‘put your life in our hands and we will take care of you. We will show you what you need.’ This is what some politicians preach, but they are not the only ones. We can get that at some churches. Does anyone really think that we are going to get everything we need from the Bible by simply going to church. This is not a reprimand for attending church. The Bible is very clear that we are to assemble ourselves together. I’m all for church. But for many people that Sunday sermon is all the Word they get. There is a will full of specific rhema that has each one of our names on it and the Holy Spirit is charged with showing each of us what by faith belongs to us. But if we never read it, we forfeit our future in God! Why? Deception! Deception is a serious issue. We need to open our eyes. Some see no need for reading and studying the Bible expecting the substance of the sermons to keep them grounded. Don’t ever make any minister your personal Holy Spirit or a mate or any person! Develop the same relationship with God Jesus had. Anything less is beneath what is promised!

FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture: Luke 21:8

Luke 21:8 says, *“And He said: “Take heed that you not be deceived. For many will come in My name saying, ‘I am He,’ and ‘The time has drawn near.’ Therefore do not go after them.”* What is the first job of the Holy Spirit? It is to reveal truth to us. He is the Spirit of truth. He witnesses truth to our hearts. One of the jobs of the Holy Spirit is to separate truth from fiction. That is one of the reasons that we should spend time praying. We should never neglect praying in the Spirit. By doing so we will pray out the mysteries of God. He will separate truth from fiction. Probably the greatest insurance policy that we have in life is praying in the Spirit. Praying in the Spirit releases the discernment of the Holy Spirit. I am stunned by the number of Christians who lack discernment. I remember running into Spirit-filled Christians who thought a particular godless president was great. In fact was the biggest antichrist we ever had in the White House. His policies were antichrist and anti-American. Anybody who calls themselves a Christian and can vote for a politician who supports abortion and champions homosexuality is deceived. Those two violations carry Biblical death sentences. Who in their right mind chooses to vote for what will kill them? A number one warning in the New Testament is don’t be deceived. How many Christians are deceived because they have not cultivated a relationship with the Father and a purposeful knowing of the Word. Who in their right mind chooses to vote for what will kill them? The number one warning in the New Testament is **don’t be deceived**. Anyone who calls themselves a Christian who votes for anti-Bible leaders or policies better check their discernment. Voting for issues like abortion which invite destruction seriously lack a hearing ear regarding Bible truth.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:9

Jesus died to give us an inheritance! Let’s note the Bible is equally clear about choices we make that disinherit us from the promises. 1 Corinthians 6:9 says, *“Do you not know that the unrighteous **will not inherit** the kingdom of God. Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators or idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites.”* How many Christians either don’t know that promise or don’t believe it, or don’t act on it so whenever they go vote, they go support politicians who champion policies that will actual disinherit them. Do we not know the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Having once qualified for God’s promises, why choose to disinherit ourselves? How many of our actions will disinherit us? People who say they love us but will lead us down a path that will disinherit us are liars and deceivers. Ministers who qualify are clearly building their own kingdom. Be aware, some we might even discover are in the pulpit! What are we currently doing? We ought to survey our life and choices and address those things that may somewhere, someplace disinherit us. That is a tough statement but one worth asking God to show us anything we are doing that will sever us from our inheritance. ‘Lord, show me. Holy Spirit I invite You to shine Your spotlight on the choices I am making. You are the Spirit of Truth and I welcome more truth in my life. You have been put in charge of my inheritance; therefore You are my discernment and know what will disinherit me. God show me. Lord, may we be saints in relationship with the

Spirit of Truth daily listening and ready to obey. Show me truth from error.’ By accepting our heavenly language and using tongues we get to know the Holy Spirit and build up His communication link within. The same phone line He uses to speak to us is the one we use when praying in the Spirit. Praying in the Spirit strengthens that phone line. It is the most practical thing God has ever given the church. Praying in the Spirit and developing intimacy with the Holy Spirit is of immeasurable value and the benefits are beyond description!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:33

This verse is a short, straight verse but is clearly power-packed when it comes to issues of deception. This verse says, *“Do not be deceived, evil company corrupts good habits.”* What is our first barrier against deception? Get to know the Holy Spirit! What is the second barrier? Make solid, wise choices by carefully weighing who we build relationships with! Stop aligning with mixed-seed potentially questionable people. If the Holy Spirit cautions us and we ignore it, His voice gets diminished. Let’s recognize the next time there is a caution. It comes as an impression, sometimes called ‘a witness’. Let’s use the discernment that the Holy Spirit gives us! By consistently ignoring God’s voice we silence it for a season. The consequence of each disobedience will in effect lower the volume of His voice the next time He speaks. When a conscience is seared, God’s voice is permanently silenced and we are abandoned to our own devices. When we choose to turn from His voice, the volume of His voice dims and fades. Why then should He speak to us if we choose to walk in disobedience putting self and self-interest ahead of relationship with God. In that place it is evident that the turning away of the simple will slay them. Whole-hearted surrender is needed. The real issue is choosing to be deceived and failing to discern the heart of the problem which is selfishness. Rebellion comes in appealing, cunning forms. And what do we do when we find it? When we choose to yield to rebellion sin, rules us. When we choose to yield our life to the Spirit, we live! Yielding to the Holy Spirit brings all choices into review. Let’s remember, we were bought with a price. Our life is not our own. How many deceived believers believe that their life is their own and they can do what they want to do when they want to do it? Their lives may have fallen away to a drastic point yet they do not see that they risk their salvation. Once saved always saved is a doctrine that encourages loose behavior! In Revelations 3:5 to the church at Sardis, Jesus says, *“He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out His name from the Book of Life;...”* That is crystal clear! Choose to overcome or get blotted out of heaven!

MONDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture: Galatians 6:7

Galatians 6:7 is another verse that is both short and power-packed! It says, *“Do not be deceived, God is not mocked for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.”* If we sow to the flesh, we reap corruption. The definition of the Greek word translated corruption is to become a decaying dead dog. The picture here is clear. Certain choices against God’s Word and Spirit result in death. Only genuine repentance will save us! If we turn away from reading the will and testament of God, we find ourselves living without it. The line between right and wrong becomes blurred. Deception induces us to believe we can embrace actions without consequences, but as mature believers we can’t. Often before we can recover, consequences unfold and adversity multiplies until destruction reigns. Many a Christian marriage has ended because of this path! ‘Lord, help us recover all You have ordained for us. What eye hath not seen nor ear heard, reveal to us in the days ahead and prepare us for the promised revival!’

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture: James 1:6

Here is another important and very short verse. James 1:6 says, *“Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.”* Why are there so many verses in the Bible that warn us about deception? Because, it is the number one issue and trick of the enemy. God pleads with us to avoid deception. The clear path to do that is to literally submit to the Spirit and pray in the Spirit. And of course, we must be a lover of the Word devoted to it and clear about its infallibility. It is the truth that sets free and knowing the Revealer of truth, the One who leads us and guides us into all the truth will lead us to a safety zone that will help us avoid error and deception. As we pray in the Spirit, discernment, growth and development unfold. We build up our most holy faith. Building our spiritual house with the Spirit of truth is the wisdom of God.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture: 1 John 2:25-28

1 John 2:25-28 in effect sums up what we have been talking about. It says, *“And this is the promise that He has promised us—eternal life. These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. And now little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.”* The Holy Spirit is truth and He abides in us. It is His job to release discernment and uncover deception. That is the *“You have no need that anyone should teach you.”* This doesn’t mean that we don’t need teachers. God gives us teachers. It means that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth and He is our discernment against deception. What is one of the biggest inheritances that we have? It is discernment. The Holy Spirit is the Author of discernment and He reveals deception and error. If we never pray in the Spirit, we fail to fully activate the promise. This is straightforward Bible. The promise is there but how many believers are living life and not availing themselves of the promises? What are we going to do? No one can do the Word for another. There are some things we have to acquire and lay hold of for ourselves. No one can develop a relationship with God in behalf of another. It is an action that requires personal involvement and commitment. If we do not commit to praying in the Spirit and build it into our life, we are forfeiting building our own spiritual house. We can spend our whole life Biblically uneducated or we can pray in the Spirit and spend our life spiritually educated. In doing so we will gain discernment and be able to recognize both truth and error. What an inheritance! It is ours if we do it!

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture: Song of Solomon 2:15

We often ask ourselves, how does the enemy work? He is identified in the Bible as a thief who resists us and the one who comes to steal kill and destroy. How does he steal? According to Solomon 2:15, he sends little foxes. He sends little foxes like a favorite TV show or fascinating hobby, whatever steals our time from the Word. He keeps us from what would be spiritually productive whether it is TV, our devices, social media or obsession with news events. There is a list too long to number. We all probably know what our own personal time-wasters are. Those are the ‘little foxes’. The ‘little foxes’ keep us out of the fullness of God’s inheritance. We must recognize the foxes and ask the Lord to show us precisely where and how they rise against us. Those little foxes’ will spoil the tender grapes, the new wine that the Father wants us to absorb and develop. We make choices with eternal consequences! Praying about the ‘little foxes’ has great potential to catapult us forward toward our inheritance!

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-12

2 Thessalonians 1:3 says, *“Let no one deceive you by any means...”* In verse 9 Paul goes on to talk about the coming of the lawless one who is according to the work of satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders. Then verses 11-12 say, *“And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”* The Holy Spirit identifies a group that disqualify themselves. Some will think that they qualified but they don’t. The Bible is very clear when it says, *“let no one deceive you.”* Satan is a deceiver and he comes in the last days and he comes with all deception, signs and lying wonders. We are living in a season where masses of people who attend church are being deceived. We only need look at what our colleges produce. They produce way too many antichrist people. Higher education is dominated by antichrist evangelists! Families and individuals pay money to further their education and then they actually graduate spiritually duller and darker than when they started. Many are jaded, bitter, some even become activists for lies and deception themselves. Most have had the truth of the Bible sucked right out of them. Since when throughout history did college students need hugs and ‘teddy bears’ when their candidate of choice didn’t win. Wimps and weasels cry when their toes are stepped on or their feelings are hurt. True wisdom comes from God’s Word. That is where we get it. The Holy Spirit Who is the Spirit of truth through God’s Word will lead us and guide us into all truth if we will let Him. I trust that we will choose God’s way over man’s.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture: Matthew 21:33-40

In Matthew 21:33-40 Jesus taught a parable of a landowner. This landowner planted a vineyard, set a hedge about it, dug a wine press, built a tower and leased it to vinedressers. He then went out to a far country. When the grapes were ripe and the growing season was over, the landowner sent agents to the vinedressers in order to receive the fruit. What did the vinedressers do to his agents? They took his servants beat one, killed one and stoned another. The owner finally sent his son feeling certain the tenants would respect his son. When the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves. 'This is the heir. Come let us kill him and seize the inheritance.' That little phrase **seize the inheritance** really describes much of Christian life today. Many think that when they find a good Bible promise they can seize the inheritance, without building a relationship with the Holy Spirit Who will witness truth, or seeding the promise by confessing the Word as ours! They bypass hearing the Spirit-given word and then birthing it within. They choose the easier path of presumption rather than to develop relationship with the Father to the degree that they enter into Sonship. Jesus developed an intimate relationship with His Father. Out of our intimate relationship comes the ministry, the works and greater works assigned to us. A failure to surrender forfeits the anointing to minister. A failure to obey forfeits the greater works! Our inheritance is in a Person and that is the Person of the Holy Spirit who guarantees our inheritance. He is a living Roadmap and we must be vigilant to walk with Him every step of the way. Matthew 21: says, *"He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons."* That is not the outcome we want. We need to respect the Father to whom we belong and wholeheartedly cultivate that Father-Son relationship. If there are attitudes and behaviors we need to change, it's time to do it. Jesus taught this parable for a reason. He was looking at people who were deceived. We cannot grab a promise of our picking and choosing unless we behave as a legitimate Son who hears and seeks the Father's heart and direction. By consistently yielding to the Spirit we further the process of building a relationship with the Father. Doing so will make us accountable to the Word. We cannot neglect the Word and we cannot neglect building relationship with our Father. The God Who created the heavens and the earth is our Dad and He wants to relate to us. That requires time spent with Him. He doesn't count our TV time or social media time as relationship. It is time we develop 'face-time' with Father as our primary focus! What are we going to do? The number one issue of the end-times is deception. *"Do not be deceived"* is an appropriate and vital admonition. How are we doing in this arena? Is our building process headed in the right direction? Have we built relationship with the Spirit of truth?

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture: Matthew 22:1-7

In Matthew 22:1-7 Jesus is teaching the parable of the marriage feast. The father's son is getting married and the invitations are sent out. Those invited all have excuses. No I can't, no I can't, no I can't. Finally his intended guests treat the messengers terribly. They seized his servants, treated them spitefully and killed them. When the king heard about this, he was furious. He sent out his armies and destroyed the murders and burned up their city. They thought they were going to heaven. Once saved always saved didn't quite work for them. Maybe it will work for us. No, not if we don't honor the Father and really surrender to Him. We have to develop a relationship with the Lord and obey the Holy Spirit. We have to yield and surrender. If we don't yield and surrender, we don't belong to Him.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture: Matthew 22:8-14

Matthew 22:8-14 says, *"Then he said to his servant, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding. So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have a wedding garment. So he said to Him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'* For many are called but few are chosen." Let's survey how many in this present hour go to church. Count everyone in

church and then apply this verse. Why? Because little foxes like rebellion and deception spoil the vine. We need to get to know God and yield to the Holy Spirit. We need to build praying in the Spirit into our lives and do it as a daily practice. Eventually it will become an effortless connection that links us into God's highest and best for us giving us the potential for being life-giving wherever we go. This is the wisest thing we will ever do!

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Scripture: Matthew 7:13-14

Matthew 7:13-14 says, *“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life and there are few who find it.”* When we pray for our church choice, we need to ask the Lord for a narrow gate. Narrow gate-ministries increase our probability of growing and securing our position in eternity. These narrow gate-ministers seriously watch out for our souls! Are there few or many in our church expecting the pastor to get them in? How many attending are actually building their own relationship with the Lord? Can we tell it when they open their mouth and we listen to them. Are we going to take the easy way or the hard way? The hard way means we have to take personal action and build our own relationship with the Lord. We have to build our own prayer life and include praying in tongues into the process. It is one of the smartest things we will ever do. If we do it we will find the narrow way because the Holy Spirit is the Guarantee of our inheritance. A primary goal to have is to build our relationship with Him. The Spirit of truth grounds us in pure truth and gives us discernment. We recognize lies and witness to what is true because we have developed a hearing ear.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture: Matthew 7:15-16

Matthew 7:15-16 say, *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?”* The answer is no! What makes a false prophet? One indicator is that they prophecy for money. They have never passed the money test. If that is a new thought to you, please get our book *Purifying the Altar* and read it. That is what it is all about. When we pass the money test, it will multiply our discernment. This passage says, *“You will know them by their fruits.”* Thornbushes and thistles do not produce true fruit!

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture: Matthew 7:17-20

This is the Word that develops and educates our discernment. Our discernment grows if we apply this. These verses say, *“Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”* What people say is not nearly as important as what people do. We look at the fruit of what they do. We look at the condition of the fruit. We look at the condition of the people who actually believe them and act on their words. That is the fruit.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture: Matthew 7:21

Here is a principle to build our lives on, a single verse. It says, *“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.”* The hearers of the Word, if hearing is their only involvement, are not going to make it, if they don't also do it. It is the doers of the Word that make it and are blessed. It's the doers who are protected. It is the doers who God backs up! Let's choose to be doers of the Word!

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture: Matthew 7:22-23

Verses 22-23 say, *“Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”* What is that saying? It is really clear. Don’t think we are going to heaven based on what someone else does. We will be welcomed in on what we do with the relationship. Jesus bought and paid for our salvation but what are we going to do with His offer of relationship? That impacts who we are. We read here that many will be turned away. We don’t want to be counted among the vulnerable but among the prepared. This study is about the Guarantee of our inheritance. I want to see us in heaven and as a Bible teacher I will give an account to the Lord if we are not prepared and it is due to my failure to teach the whole counsel of the Word. Compromising God’s Word is a death sentence for ministries who do not repent!

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6

In this passage we have a clue or a picture of our inheritance. We are told, *“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.”* How did the enemy keep the nation of Israel out of the Promised Land for forty years. He did it through their desire for other things. We are told in this passage that they are our example. That is how important the Old Testament is! The Old Testament shows us the judicial side of God. How many believers know that? Not too many. Only a small portion of the church today has a relationship with the Judicial Christ. There is no way we can represent Him in His glory if we don’t know His judgments. That has to change. It is that dimension of Christ that winds up the age. All we need to do is read the book of Revelation to see this. The Jesus of Revelation is not preached in most churches today! Surely we should recognize that the words finalizing the entirety of the sacrifice are worth taking special note of. Revelation 22:11 says, *“He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.”* Surely Lord Jesus come! There is only one book that is named The Revelation of Jesus Christ. This book of Revelation shows us the judicial side of Christ. We ought to study Revelation, and we ought to study Exodus to find key components of God's nature and His ways. The Word says, Jesus was a prophet like Moses. How many people know that? We are told in 1 Corinthians 10 that we have to study the Old Testament examples in order to be prepared. They are our examples of how to possess our inheritance and of what puts us in jeopardy of losing our inheritance.

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:7-13

We are told not to murmur as some murmured and were destroyed by the destroyer. Verse 11 says, *“Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”* Our admonition means our growth, our training and our development. Verse 12 says, *“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.”* Every temptation comes with a way of escape. If we never develop the relationship with the Holy Spirit, we probably go into the temptation and never find the way of escape. There is the many are called but few find the way, few qualify to be chosen. We want to be sure to be a part of the few! That is our job. I don’t ever want to give an account for having helped people join ranks of the many and see through neglectful teaching someone disqualified in the last days. I want everything I say and everything I do to contribute toward the formation of God’s agents of glory! Join the few, join the few! Develop a relationship with the Holy Spirit and join the few!

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture: Leviticus 20:22-24

God's plan in giving us an inheritance is just the beginning. Finding out what that inheritance is is the place we start. Leviticus 20:22-24 highlights a truth. Here we read, *"You shall therefore keep all My statutes and all My judgments, and perform them, that the land where I am bringing you to dwell may not vomit you out. And you shall not walk in the statutes of the nation which I am casting out before you; for they commit all these things, and therefore I abhor them. But I have said to you, 'You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey.' I am the Lord your God, who has separated you from the peoples."* The land that God offered Israel after He brought them out of Egypt was called the Promised Land. It was a promise. The promise had to be possessed. Just because we have an inheritance promised does not mean it's automatically ours. The promise starts the process which is then gained by possession. We have to find out what our promise is and what God wants us to possess. There are 8,800 promises. He probably doesn't expect us to possess all of them at once. Let's recall that the children of Israel were told to possess the land little by little. Let the Holy Spirit show us what He has for us to possess. Only He has that and only He can give us that. Once He gives and quickens it within, it is our job to possess it. *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* The meaning for both the Greek and the Hebrew words for inheritance is 'to possess.' Many people assume that it is automatic, that God has promised and He alone is going to do it. That isn't the case. His promises have to be possessed. Hebrews 6:11-12 state, *"And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises."* That is why we study the possession of the geographic land in the Old Testament. When God gives us a promise, we have to possess it. In this case their possessing of the land meant dispossessing of the wicked people who had defiled it. Chances are that whatever God has promised us may well include some dispossessing in the process. This is an issue for the Holy Spirit to reveal. When the Holy Spirit does reveal it, the examples of how to walk it out are in the Word or revealed by the Spirit! The Lord has to show us how.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture: Leviticus 20:24, Numbers 36:8-10

Leviticus 20:24 says, *"But I have said to you, 'You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey. I am the Lord your God, who has separated you from the peoples.'"* Possessing follows the revelation of what the inheritance is. As soon as God identifies the inheritance, He says, 'I am giving it to you but it is up to you to possess it.' We have to be the ones to seek it, pray for it and possess it. How do we possess an inheritance? Numbers 36:8-10 shows us how important the inheritance He has for us is. It gives us the Father's view of inheritance. What it says is, *"And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel shall be the wife of one of the family of her own father's tribe, so that the children of Israel each may possess the inheritance of his fathers. Thus no inheritance shall change hands from one tribe to another, but every tribe of the children of Israel shall keep its own inheritance. Just as the Lord had commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad;"* Not every daughter walked that way, but that was God's intent. What God is revealing, is His heart! He has an inheritance for us in Christ and He wants us to have that inheritance. That is why the promises are all Yes and Amen in Him. Again the key and roadmap to our inheritance is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit knows which of those 8,800 promises have our name on them. It is the job of the Spirit to show us! Both the Old Testament and the New Testament affirm this truth! Our job is to search it out!

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:6-9, 1 Corinthians 14:2

In 1 Corinthians 2:6-9 we are told, *"However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.'"* God has prepared an inheritance for us. What has our inheritance been imparted through? It has come through wisdom, the wisdom of the Word, with the Holy Spirit as the Transmitter and the Divine Conduit. He speaks the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom.

When we build a platform of praying in the Spirit into our lives, according to 1 Corinthians 14:2, what are we praying? It is very clear in Scripture. Here it says, *“For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.”* As we pray in this manner we are calling forth the mysteries of God. It is obvious Who is charged to reveal this. It is the job of the Holy Spirit to unveil our specific inheritance. That means we get to go on a trip with the Spirit of God. We are invited on a divine journey with the Spirit of God. That is what God intended. Our life is to be an unfolding of mysteries which God has ordained for us. The only way we possess them is by building our relationship with the Holy Spirit.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture: Proverbs 25:2, 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

Proverbs 25:2 says, *“It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.”* God has glory locked up in His promises to manifest as our inheritance. Once He reveals it, then we begin the process of possessing it. That is what we want to do. The truth of what we are reading here in Proverbs 25:2 comes to full manifestation by the Holy Spirit in 1 Corinthians 2:9-10 we are told: *“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him. But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.”* The Holy Spirit is charged with leading, guiding, prompting, pushing us into our inheritance and it starts by showing us what it is. Once we see that we begin the process of possessing those promises. How do we possess the promises? In Romans 4:13-17 the Lord promises an inheritance to Abraham. It doesn't come to Abraham by law but it comes by faith. How does Abraham embrace his promise? Romans 4:16-17 gives us the answer. *“Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all as it is written, ‘I have made you a father of many nations’ in the presence of Him whom he believed—God, who gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did;”* This is step one. To possess the promise we first must agree with what God says is our inheritance. We agree with it and say it! We call it out. That is what God did as He created the heavens and the earth by speaking it into existence. We agree with God's Word and call forth the promise! We set ourselves in agreement with the rhema of God by confessing it with our mouth. That promise has to originate from or by the Holy Spirit showing it to us personally. We must know God has it for us, a personal promise God has quickened to us. This is precisely how Abraham possessed his personal promise of God bringing forth from him not only peoples but nations. God has to give us the promise. That is the first part. That is how the revealing of our inheritance unfolds. Then it is our job to agree with it. What if we have to disinherit someone? We have to obey and stand up and call for a transfer. Obedience is better than sacrifice. *‘Lord, remove those who stand against our inheritance!’*

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture: Proverbs 4:20-22

This passage says, *“My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.”* What are the issues of life? The Hebrew word is **to-tsaw-aw**. What does **to-tsaw-aw** mean in Hebrew? It means a physical border or a physical boundary. When Joshua established the Promised Land to the various tribes, each tribe was assigned certain geographic territory but the tribes had to dispossess those who occupied their land. Joshua's job was to bring them in to the fullness of that promise. That is what Joshua did. He divided the inheritance to Israel. He established the borders and boundaries. How did Joshua do it? The same way that you and I are to do it. When we put God's promise of our inheritance in our mouth and declare it, then out of our heart comes a spiritual force that establishes a border or a boundary around that promise. It's like putting a stake in the ground at every corner and is the Old Testament counterpart to what we read in Romans. The same issue with no change, the same principle. God hasn't changed! He is the same yesterday, today and forever. Therefore the same principle by which in the Old Testament they possessed is the principle we follow for our possession today. It is the glory of God to conceal a matter but the glory of kings to search out a matter. He made us kings and priests. It is our job to search out our own inheritance. No one else can do it for us. The lazy, the uninformed, the disobedient, the selfish and many others are not aware of the loss of inheritance or what they are missing. How many believers live way beneath their inheritance? The majority! Some don't want to give up their personal agenda and yield to the Holy Spirit. Many are

called but few are chosen. The job of Bible teachers, including me should be to prepare believers to join the ‘few.’ It all begins with the first step: The Holy Spirit highlights the promise and we start agreeing with it because as we speak it forth a spiritual force comes out of our heart that angels will honor and the border and the boundary will develop around that promise until it manifests. God said to call those things that be not as though they were. Abraham had to do that and we should follow his example. We have to receive it by faith, speak it forth boldly, diligently and unrelentingly. Does it take effort on our part? Yes, but it will be eternally worth every bit of effort! No one is going to hand it to us on a silver platter. We have to possess it ourselves but God will show us the way. We must read the will if we want to discover our inheritance. Once we find it, we open our mouths and declare it.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture: Joshua 1:8-9

Joshua 1:8-9 says, *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from our mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”* When we make Jesus the Lord of our life He is with us. And when we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we have the Guarantee of our inheritance living on the inside of us. He shows us what the inheritance is and our job is to meditate in it day and night. We must speak it and declare it just as Abraham had to do. All of those who possessed their Promised Land, every tribe had to establish the borders and boundaries, the issues of life. The borders and boundaries of our life come out of our heart, in the heart and out of the mouth. It is the same principle in the New Testament as in the Old Testament.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1-2

These verses say, *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things not seen, for by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”* By faith through words God created the heavens and the earth. It hasn’t changed. It is the same. We are told over and over again in the Old Testament and in the New. It hasn’t changed. It is the same principle. The Holy Spirit reveals our inheritance. That is His job. Eye has not seen and ear has not heard, but it will be revealed to us by His Spirit. Developing a relationship with God means He will show us our inheritance. It is our part to call it into existence and to bring it forth. Let us run that we might obtain a prize!

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture: Psalm 16:5-7

In the New King James version of the Bible, the heading of this Davidic Psalm 16 says, ‘The Hope of the Faithful, and the Messiah’s Victory’. What a gripping heading for this important Psalm! Verses 5-7 say, *“O Lord, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup; You maintain my lot. The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance. I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel; My heart also instructs me in the night seasons.”* We need to declare the goodness of the Lord in choosing us, and in equipping us to arise as His sons and daughters. We should seek the Lord’s counsel and instruction to function as mature ambassadors of His light and life on the earth. God has given Himself as our Ultimate Inheritance. Our part is to walk out our purpose and all that our inheritance promises us!

*God gives me His Spirit
As His guarantee,
My path and my purpose
It's coming to me!*

*His voice dwells within me
As Leader and Guide.
My divine roadmap,
He lives deep inside.*

*The key: to stay steadfast,
Connecting with Him.
With a listening ear
God's pleasure I'll win!*

J. Houghton