

## **REST AFTER VICTORY**

### **Joshua 11:15-23**

**Introduction:** Finally, Israel has received the land promised to them by God many, many years ago but each tribe had to fight for and secure their assigned portion. They did so with the things learned through the years when they all went into battle together as a single nation.

Every truth a Christian learns must be put into practice as soon as possible in order that the benefits of that truth learned can be received and experienced immediately.

Under God's leadership Joshua took the whole promised land and victory was complete and the captured land he then divided among the tribes as previously ordained.

The Christian is not at war with God or heaven but the greatest source of conflict in the Christian's life is in not being right with God. The moment of obedience, then immediately the souls is at rest.

What the land of promise was to Israel, Jesus is to the Christian. The land, itself, rested from war and Israel settled in and began to live in it's promised place finally at peace and rest. Jesus has sat down at the right hand of God the Father on high. The battle is over, the war has been won and Jesus is at rest.

### **I. JUST WHAT KIND OF REST DOES JESUS HAVE?**

1. Jesus is finally satisfied:
  - Sin has been defeated
  - Death has been defeated.
  - Salvation has been accomplished.
  - All He came to do, He did.
2. Jesus is resting as Lord of Lords, King of Kings:
  - With our nature.
  - As a man.
  - As God.

### **II. WHAT DOES THE JESUS' REST HAVE TO DO WITH US, WITH CHRISTIANS?**

1. The Christian cannot do the work of God in his/her own strength. The Christian must learn to REST in the strength of God as Jesus did.
2. It is one thing to try to do the work of God in the dark and another thing to do the work of God in the bright sunlight.
  - One must be sensitive to the troubles of others.
  - One must be able to understand God's wisdom.
  - One must be willing to trust God, no matter what.
  - One must learn to be silent while waiting on the Lord God.
  - Only by resting in Jesus can one constantly do the will of God.
3. There is a difference in the RESTING Christian and the LAZY Christian.

### III. HOW CAN JESUS' REST BE OURS?

1. One must be at the foot of the cross where victory was first won.
  - Forgiveness
  - Death defeated
  - Sin defeated
  - Salvation assured.
2. One must realize that the war has already been won and all that remains are just battles that come and go and that the enemy cannot touch the child of God.
  - There is absolutely nothing, no circumstance, no trouble, no testing that can touch the child of God that would bring defeat.
3. One must grasp the truth that assurance comes when surrender to the will of God is done.
  - When the will is surrendered to God.
  - When the purposes in life are the same as what God wants.
  - When selfishness is laid down.
  - When prayer becomes an unbroken fellowship with God.
  - Then real will become the passage from God's Word that says, *"Delight thyself in the Lord; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."* (Psalm 37:4)

## CONCLUSION:

1. God does not make the way of salvation difficult or complicated for some of us would never get there. Perhaps it is the simplicity of it all that confuses some of us.
2. Would you like a life of rest in Jesus?
  - A rest of assured forgiveness?
  - A rest of a surrendered will, no more struggle?
  - A rest of unbroken fellowship?
  - A rest of a life satisfied in Jesus?
3. Joshua and the people took the land promised by God and then had rest. Jesus has taken the whole "land" for God's Children and God's Children have rest.
4. The life of rest in Jesus does not come from any of our own efforts, trying to do the will of God. It comes from completely relying on what Jesus has already done for us. He is at rest and so should every Christian be also.