

New Covenant Inheritance: Lesson 3 – Joy

Lesson 2 introduced you to the fact that man’s inheritance has been bound by Satan since the Garden of Eden. Adam’s sin gave Satan the right to possess and control the good things that God provided for man – Adam’s sin gave Satan power over this world. Accordingly, Satan has made it his mission to destroy man’s ability to enjoy what God provided and to get man to talk himself to death. Having had 6,000 years of experience, Satan has perfected the art of getting man to destroy himself and of preventing him from enjoying God’s blessings. However, 2000 years ago the second Adam dealt with this problem. He destroyed Satan and took back the power that had been forfeited. Jesus paid for this restoration and inherited all things, with us as joint heirs.

Not surprisingly, our inheritance was declared in the terms of the covenant that Father made with Jesus and Abram (**Genesis 15:18-21**). The land God promised to them represents the rest and blessings that we are supposed to live in. Satan had bound these blessings from man, but Jesus restored them to us. To find out what our inheritance is we have to dig into the names of each nation listed as squatting in the Promised Land. Each nation represents the opposite of what our inheritance is because they represent the bondage that was put on man by Satan. We see what Satan bound by looking at either the root word definition or at the pictogram meanings of their names. The bondage is the opposite of the benefit, and is what Jesus has released to us in our inheritance. What Satan bound and kept from us, Jesus inherited and delivered to us as our inheritance.

According to **Hebrews 2:14**, what did Jesus death do? _____

What does **Hebrews 2:15** say this event did for us? _____.

According to **Hebrews 10:12**, what did Jesus do after destroying the devil? _____.

What is Jesus now waiting for (**Hebrews 10:13**)? _____.

In the real world, Satan has already been destroyed. Jesus conquered him when he rose from the dead and inherited what the devil had been camping on. Jesus is now seated on the throne and has delegated to us all of his power to enable us to enforce the defeat of Satan in this natural world. The analogy of this truth is given in the lives of the Israelites. God gave them a natural Promised Land, but they had to move in and possess it. There is a very strong correlation between what the Israelites were told to do and what we are led to do by Holy Spirit. Of course, for the Israelites it was a natural world activity enabled by God’s power, for us it is a real and natural world activity that results in a natural world manifestation.

Read **Joshua 1:1-11** and answer the following, looking to see the New Covenant provided for us by what the Old Covenant provided for the Israelites:

Who led the Israelites into the promised land (v1,2) _____

What is the Hebrew word for this name? _____

How is this name translated in the New Testament? _____

By analogy, who leads us into our inheritance (Promised Land) _____

What land was to become the land of the Israelites (v3)? _____.

Are the boundaries in verse 4 similar to those in **Genesis 15:18**? _____

Would any of the nations be able to stand before the Israelites (v5)? _____.

What were the Israelites required to do (v6)? _____.

What power was going to get them the land (v6)? _____.

What were they required to observe (v7)? _____.

The Hebrew word 'observe' [H8104] means "to hedge about (as with thorns), that is, guard; generally to protect, attend to." Given this, what does this 'observe to do' mean In the New Covenant (**John 6:29, Hebrews 4:11**)?

What was to be continually in the Israelites' mouths (v8)? _____.

What is to be continually in our mouth (James 1:22)? _____.

What were Israelites not to allow into their minds (v9)? _____.

Who gave the Israelites the land (v11)? _____.

What did they have to do to get it (v11)? _____.

Our 'observing (protecting)' and going in to possess, involves declaring our inheritance and rejecting the curse. Given the above illustration in the lives of the Israelites, what is Jesus is sitting on the throne waiting for today?

This illustration shows that our inheritance is not automatic. It has already been provided (**2 Peter 1:3, 2 Corinthians 9:8**) but Jesus is in the process of putting all our enemies under his feet (**1 Corinthians 15:25**). Since we are his body, this process means he is enforcing the victory over death through us. We receive our inheritance by believing on Jesus and letting Holy Spirit lead us each day into what we have been given. Unfortunately, most Christians think that their inheritance is just 'getting into heaven'. However, in their spirit they know that they are supposed to be blessed and enjoy life, but they have been deceived out of this reality. They have believed the lies of the enemy that have come through human experience, human reasoning or human philosophy. Therefore, they don't receive all the good things that God has already supplied. They hope it might fall out of heaven (if they're good enough), or they spend years begging God for it, not realizing that their ignorance/unbelief and resulting words are what prevent them for receiving and enjoying their inheritance.

For this reason, we are going into the details of our inheritance. I want you to know what you have been given. I want you to receive, by revelation, what God wants your life to look like. I want your belief to go sky high and result in you declaring God's will over your life, family, circumstances, society and nation. I want you to enter into the rest of your Promised Land and to start enjoying the stress free, blessed life that Holy Spirit leads you in.

Let's get into the details of our inheritance. The first nation listed in **Genesis 15:19** is the Kenites. Let's look at the Hebrew meaning of this name and see what it identifies as the first aspect of our inheritance.

Kenites – 'koph yud nun yud' (H7017) from root word 'koph yud nun' (H6969)

Strong's definition of the root word is: (*koon*) *A primitive root; to strike a musical note, that is, chant or wail (at a funeral): - lament, mourning woman.*

The fear of death that Satan placed on man (**Hebrews 2:14-15**) has made lamentation, mourning and grief a normal part of human life. This is the opposite of what God designed for man.

According to **Psalm 30:5**, what replaces sorrow (lamentation, mourning)? _____.

What timeframes do night and day represent in **Psalm 30:5**? _____.

Write out **Psalm 16:11**: _____.

Are you in the path of life? _____

Do you live in the presence of God? _____

What does God's presence give you? _____

Are you at the right hand of God? _____

What does this position provide for you? _____.

The first aspect of our inheritance that Jesus has restored to us is Joy. Satan wants you depressed, sorrowful, grieving and mourning; living in regret and "if only's". God has replaced that in your life with the fullness of joy.

The Hebrew for Joy is: - simchah (Shin mem cheth heh) [H8057] *From [H8056]; blithesomeness or glee, (religious or festival): - X exceeding (-ly), gladness, joy (-fulness), mirth, pleasure, rejoice (-ing).*

Sameach [H8056] - *From H8055; blithe or gleeful: - (be) glad, joyful, (making) merry ([-hearted]), rejoice (-ing).*

Samach (shin mem cheth) [H8055] – *A primitive root; probably to brighten up, that is, (figuratively) be (causatively make) blithe or gleesome: - cheer up, be (make) glad, (have make) joy (-ful), be (make) merry, (cause to, make to) rejoice, X very.*

Notice that the word for joy is the addition of Heh (5th Hebrew letter that represents grace) to the root word for joy (Samach). So the fullness of joy is the abounding cheerfulness and gladness of God infused with His grace. There is no place in a Christian's life for grief, sorrow, depression and so forth. Our inheritance delivered us from these. Letting these negative thoughts and emotions into our lives is giving space for Satan to rob us and destroy the abundant life that God has given to us. Resting in Jesus involves casting these negative things on him and receiving the abundant supply of joy from our innermost being. Joy is part of the living waters that flow in us.

The Greek word translated joy is 'chara' [G5479] - *From G5463; cheerfulness, that is, calm delight: - gladness, X greatly, (X be exceeding) joy (-ful, -fully, -fulness, -ous).*

Chairo [G5463] - *A primary verb; to be full of "cheer", that is, calmly happy or well off; impersonal especially as a salutation (on meeting or parting), be well: - farewell, be glad, God speed, greeting, hail, joy (-fully), rejoice.*

I love the definition of 'calm delight'. It sums up how we live in joy – resting in Jesus and delighting in life.

Read **Psalm 51:1-12**. David wrote this song after Nathan confronted him about his sin with Bathsheba and Uriah. Two death sentences were hanging over his head and he cried out to God for forgiveness. For us, Jesus has already provided what David cried out for.

Write out verse 12: _____.

Notice David uses the word salvation, which is Yeshua in Hebrew – the name of Jesus. Jesus is the source of our joy. Our joy comes from Him and His completed work in our lives; restoring us into the God-head, filling us with Holy Spirit and eradicating the curse from us. Joy is the fruit that results from knowing we are forgiven, restored and given intimacy with God. The scripture is full of declarations of praise and rejoicing because of our joy.

Write out **Galatians 5:22**. _____

What does this verse say joy is? _____

I would note here that happiness is not joy. Joy is a much more powerful, lasting and deeper substance. It is an intrinsic part of the born again spirit and manifests as one of the fruits from within us. This joy is everlasting in nature and has been placed in us by God (**Isaiah 51:11; 61:7**). Happiness is an emotion based on circumstances and events; a product of the soul. Joy is a spiritual substance that we receive and let flow through our soul to remove the negative emotions that the curse tries to control us with. When you let joy invade your soul, happiness becomes a hallmark of your emotions and the curse cannot dull that happiness.

Now write out **Romans 14:17**. _____

Joy is a defining characteristic of our kingdom. It is an intrinsic part of the nature of God. It never diminishes, gets overcome, or loses its power. The only thing that stops it working in our life is what we believe. If we allow emotions of the curse to control our mind, rather than the peace of God, we prevent our inheritance of joy from keeping our mind stayed on Him (**Isaiah 26:3**).

Now write out **Hebrews 12:2**. _____

What gave Jesus the strength to endure the cross and despise the shame? _____

When did he receive this expected benefit? _____

What was this benefit part of? _____

Are we entitled to this same benefit? _____. Why? _____

Now write out **Isaiah 55:12**: _____

Isaiah 55 is part of the New Covenant promises. **Isaiah 53** prophesies what Jesus did to establish the New Covenant. Then **Chapters 54 and 55** declare some of our New Covenant benefits. Space doesn't let me expound Chapter 55, suffice to say that the Hebrew pictograms for verse 1 say "if we have a need (*thirsty*), come to Jesus; if salvation (welfare, health, etc.) is lacking (*no money*), get it from Jesus, *get wine* (joy) *and milk* (fatness – provision, protection), but not with our self-effort (*money*) or performance (*price*). Then verse 2 and 3 tell us to simply receive the covenant blessings from God because we can't get them by our efforts. Verses 8&9 tell us that the thoughts and ways that God gives us (**Hebrews 8:10**) are far above our natural thoughts and ways. Verses 10 & 11 show that he puts his word in us (analogy of the rain coming down) and he watches over his word to make it productive. Then verse 12 says, because of this, "**we go out with joy**". Joy flows in us and we are led by Holy Spirit (peace). Abundant life manifests in us, in place of the curse, bringing glorify to God's name. Joy is God's strength in us that enables us to rest and rejoice in everything (**1 Thessalonians 5:18**) because the rivers of life flow from our innermost being (**John 7:38**).