

Heritage

We want to talk about the heritage of God's people. There is no better place to start with heritage than with David. The reason he was so successful was because he understood the heritage of God. Psalm 16:5, *The Lord is the portion of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou maintainest my lot.* David believed that God had a place for him before the foundations of the earth were created. The lot means the place and the call that was on David's life. Because he believed it, he learned to walk in it. Anything God has for you, He doesn't just give it to you, you have to believe His word and then it comes. No matter what God gives you, if you don't believe it you won't get it. You have to believe, and in believing you seek Him until you receive. Verse 6, *The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places.* The lines represent God guiding you. They also represent a plummet. They would use a weight with a string on it and let it hang down and you could build a building straight. ...*yea, I have a goodly heritage.* To inherit is something that you labor for to be able to receive and yet you do no physical labor. Those that wait for their inheritance without preparing themselves to be disciplined to carry it on will lose it all. The first thing that will happen is your flesh will go wild because you have money and you will go on a spending spree. You'll never have any money; you'll never have anything, if you can't keep it together. It's the same way in the spirit. If God gives you something it's because you have prepared yourself in that you allowed God to shape and mold you to what He's able to give you. According to your will is the degree that He can give you. I believe the people that had five talents, two talents, and one talent could have been the same type of person but the faith each one had was the level of the gift that God gave them so that when He came back what He gave was multiplied. Verse 7, *I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.* It's like a horse. If you just let the horse do what he wants he will probably just go back and start eating grass. But you train them to be obedient. David says, I was guided by counsel and instructed in the night seasons. The night seasons are when you are quiet and you're meditating. When you meditate in the night your eyes can't see anything so you lay there in bed and all you see is this meditation. Probably the highest level of meditation you can get is in the night season when you lay on your bed and you're not sleepy and you begin to meditate on the Lord. Or when you go out by yourself in the daytime and there's nothing around and nothing to draw you away from the Lord. It's at that time He takes you by the hand and leads you in the path you are supposed to go. He's not going to scream at you. He waits until you're quiet and then He talks. When you're angry or stirred up you're not very teachable. You're not very accommodating to the Lord because He's the Lord of Lords, the King of kings, and He's the Almighty. If you were in the presence of a physical king and acted like that he would cut your head off. Even their wives would go in on their knees before the king and ask for a favor, not knowing if it would make him mad and she would be pushing flowers. That's the way it was back then. Verse 8, *I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.* He's saying, I have made the Lord lord of my life. For Him to be Lord is that description right there. He wants to take each one into that place where your master is the Lord, who is Jesus. The Father is the Almighty and the Holy Spirit is your teacher. All three of them must be honored before they will do anything. They will not teach you in dishonor. I have had people ask me how I hear God. The best way to hear God is to close your mouth and be quiet. Not only be quiet, but you have to come to a place of rest. That rest is a breaking of your heart to do your own will and when that takes place you are at peace with God. There is no greater place than being at peace with the Almighty. When you let Christ be Lord of your life, then your flesh will rest in hope. Verse 10, *For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.* That's the heart of David.

Psalm 61:4, *I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever.* In the New Testament we become the tabernacle and He lives in us. ...*I will trust in the covert of thy wings.* Wings represent covering and a way of escape. Verse 5, *For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name.* In Revelation 18:11 one of the four groups God rewards are those that fear Him. This fear is realizing and knowing that your soul is in His hands and He

will say, Yes, come, or No, I don't know you. God created you before the world was created; He created you ready to come on the earth at this time, but if you are not who He created you to be He won't know you. If you have the fear of the Lord, you know you are in the hands of the Almighty and His decision determines your destiny. You determine your destiny by what you choose to do: to follow the vine of the earth or the vine of heaven (John 15; Jesus is the vine). The vine is what feeds the branch. So here again we see that heritage of the promises of God, that you can inherit to a certain degree on the earth now and you can increase that heritage. If you do what David just said then you are increasing your heritage. David increased his heritage, so much that God used David as the one for His Son to come through. He trained him how to be a true king and in doing that Jesus came from the lineage of David. When that took place there was a heritage in David that from then on every king until the time of Christ from the tribe of Judah would be from the lineage of David and they would inherit the kingship until Christ came to be King of all. That's the heritage David made for himself by following God and allowing God to use him and letting God be in charge. Even though David's lineage did some pretty terrible things, at least David allowed his descendants to have a godly heritage if they chose.

Psalm 92:13, *Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.* To be planted means to be fed by God. You go to the house of God to be fed. Those that are planted there have faith that God will feed them and protect them and give them that heritage. Flourishing in the courts goes back to Zechariah 3. It says those that walk in the seven eyes will judge God's courts. Verse 14, *They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.* To be fat means having a lot of knowledge of God. Psalm 94:1, *O Lord God, to whom vengeance belongeth; O God, to whom vengeance belongeth, shew thyself. Lift up thyself, thou judge of the earth: render a reward to the proud. Lord, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked triumph? How long shall they utter and speak hard things? And all the workers of iniquity boast themselves? They break in pieces thy people, O Lord, and afflict thine heritage.* God's people that follow Him are His heritage. Psalm 119:111 *Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage for ever: for they are the rejoicing of my heart.* The Bible was printed so we can see the things God did for His people. What David is saying here is, I'm taking those stories of what you did as a heritage of what I can do now. The testimonies are all the things God has done, and David took it as a heritage. I'm in the family of the Almighty and if He did it for them, He'll do it for me. Because he believed that, he received it. He raised up some of the most mighty men on the face of the earth, that one person by himself would kill thousands of the enemy in just a matter of a day. Verse 112, *I have inclined mine heart to perform thy statutes always, even unto the end.* I've set my heart that no matter what happens I am going to be faithful to you till the end. He knew that if you didn't make it to the end you didn't make it. To win a race you have to make it to the end. If you have ten laps and you stay ahead the first two laps that didn't mean anything. You have to save your energy to sprint at the last. Part of the way David became what he was, is that he believed in his heritage; believing that what God did before He would do again. The heathen believed in their gods and they had a heritage in their gods, but their gods were from the vine of the earth. The vine of the earth is the old covenant, which is law, and law still brings death, which is why Christ had to come. I serve the God of the living and He feeds me the joy of heaven in that vine.

Let's look at Psalm 127:3, *Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.* The woman rewards God by giving Him children of heritage, that He will be able to live with children forever. That's why Paul said women will be saved through childbearing. The only thing God receives from this earth is the heritage of His people. God has blessed the heritage of the women that have carried a child. That doesn't mean those that haven't had children are not blessed, but there is a special blessing in those that have had children. You bless God and God blesses you, and you have a weapon in children. Children are weapons of the Lord. Verse 4, *As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man, so are children of the youth.* When you have children that are godly children, they will destroy the power of the wicked that come against the adults. Verse 5, *Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.* Isn't that incredible? God has so many things hid until the right time.

Isaiah 54:17, *No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.* I do not serve the vine of the earth. I serve the Vine that comes from heaven, who is Jesus. Righteousness is the power to reject the vine of the earth. You reject the vine of the earth and the way to recognize it is to meditate upon the Lord and know Him. When I do that, and believe my heritage in what God has done to the people before me, it happens. But sometimes it's hard to believe that God would move for me. Isaiah 58:14, *Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.* When God begins to move on your behalf and you thank Him, He causes you to ride upon the high places. Just hoping in some kind of hope isn't going to get you there. Isaiah is describing to God what he hopes for, and that is, the God of the past is the God of the present and the future. When the heritage of the past that he had read and knew happened to him, he said, God, You are alive and well, and because of the heritage of who my God is He will do it for me too. I was thinking about Jacob. Jacob worked 14 years for two women. Then God blessed him for six years and he had thousands of livestock. They may not have been very pretty but they were livestock. But by that time Jacob was broken, ready to wrestle with God for his heritage in Abraham his grandfather. Because his brother Esau was riding with four hundred men that showed me that Esau had the gifting to gather souls to labor for him like his grandfather Abraham. Because Isaac blessed Esau through the vine of the earth, and Isaac blessed Jacob as looking for a city not built by hands. So Jacob's life was a hard life because he was bringing forth something of a heritage that was not yet upon the earth. Abraham looked for it, Isaac waited, but Jacob brought it forth. We are blessed to bring forth heritage that has not yet been on the earth.

Jeremiah 2:7, *And I brought you into a plentiful country, to eat the fruit thereof and the goodness thereof; but when ye entered, ye defiled my land, and made mine heritage an abomination.* Instead of receiving the heritage like David did, they went back to the vine of the earth, to feed upon flesh and blood which cannot inherit the kingdom of God. Verse 8, *The priest said not, Where is the Lord? And they that handle the law knew me not.* How many pastors today do you think are speaking things they have no idea about? They don't even know God. What did Elisha say when he received Elijah's coat? Where is the God of Elijah? And he struck it on the waters and the waters parted and he walked over. He had the heritage of Elijah and he knew it. *...the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by baal, and walked after things that do not profit.* We follow baal today in this country. In baal worship they gave their babies to baal that God would not have a heritage in that child. Verse 21, *Yet I had planted thee a noble vine, wholly a right seed: how then art thou turned into the degenerate plant of a strange vine unto me?* The strange vine is the vine of the earth, which at that time was owned by satan. Adam and Eve gave the authority to satan, because they listened to him and not God. When we listen to the world and not God, then we immediately begin to become a degenerated plant of a strange vine. Jeremiah 3:19, *But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee a pleasant land, a goodly heritage of the hosts of nations? And I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shall not turn away from me.* Those that call the Almighty their Father, if they will obey their Father, they are not a rebellious child and instead of being degenerated they will grow up in the presence of God and learn to know His ways. Jeremiah 12:7, *I have forsaken mine house, I have left mine heritage; I have given the dearly beloved of my soul into the hand of her enemies.* Why does God give His children into the hands of His enemies? He says, if you want to serve satan, you're going to bear the fruit of him. I'm going to give you to your enemies that keep you from having that godly heritage and I'm going to let you live on the vine of the earth until you are tired of being a slave to the foreign gods and want Me. Then you will know the difference between Me as being your heavenly Father and them as being the demonic force of the earth, the vine of the earth. Verse 8, *Mine heritage is unto me as a lion in the forest; it crieth out against me: therefore have I hated it. Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her; come ye, assemble all the beasts of the field, come to devour. Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness. They have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth unto me; the whole land*

is made desolate, because no man layeth it to heart. Verse 14, Thus saith the Lord against all mine evil neighbors, that touch the inheritance which I have caused my people Israel to inherit; Behold, I will pluck them out of their land, and pluck out the house of Judah from among them. And it shall come to pass, after that I have plucked them out I will return, and have compassion on them, and will bring them again, every man to his heritage, and every man to his land. When God gave them to their gods, there was only a remnant that actually came back. It wasn't until Paul went out to preach that he went to the nations to preach to the Jews. He also went to the Gentiles. God wants to return His people to a godly inheritance. If you're feeling like you're not getting what you think you ought to have and it's not so pleasant right now, it's because He's bringing you in. God wants to bring you into a place that He can restore your heritage to what it was intended to be. Verse 16, *And it shall come to pass, if they will diligently learn the ways of my people, to swear by my name, The Lord liveth; as they taught my people to swear by baal; then shall they be built in the midst of my people. But if they will not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation, saith the Lord.*

Jeremiah 50:10, *And Chaldea shall be a spoil: all that spoil her shall be satisfied, saith the Lord. Because ye were glad, because ye rejoiced, O ye destroyers of mine heritage...* God punished Chaldea because they rejoiced in seeing God's heritage be destroyed. Joel 2:17, *Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people.* Verse 21, *Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God.* In Romans 8 it says the earth mourns for the heritage of God to be upon the earth so the earth can labor for those people. The earth is crying out unto the Lord now that His people would come to a place that they want the heritage that God promised His children that the earth could labor for them. That's how much the earth wants to do what God called it to do, that is, to labor for His people. Malachi 1:1, *The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi. I have loved you, saith the Lord. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? Saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob, And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.* Because Esau turned down God and a bowl of soup was worth more than his heritage, God rejected him. He wasn't used to being in lack in the physical. He father Isaac blessed him all the more with having the fruit of the vine of the earth, but he didn't care about the vine of heaven. Jacob did. But it took him twenty years to come to the place that he could wrestle with God and enter into that heritage. He was then not called Jacob anymore, but Israel, which is the people of God. At that point he entered into the heritage of God. Even though he was blessed before that, he didn't really know God.

I Peter 5:1, *The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.* This is extremely important if you want to walk in the heritage of God. Feed the flock of God. God is going to give you oversight how to lead them into what God is calling them to be. It's not by constraint, or by you making them do it. Verse 3, *Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.* That's how we're to walk. Anyone that is trying to take people, restraining them because you have the authority, is not fit to walk in the heritage of God, because they are taking over what is God's and not giving God the opportunity. That's what the law did.

We have a great heritage available to us, if we choose to feed on the vine of heaven, and not the vine of the earth.

