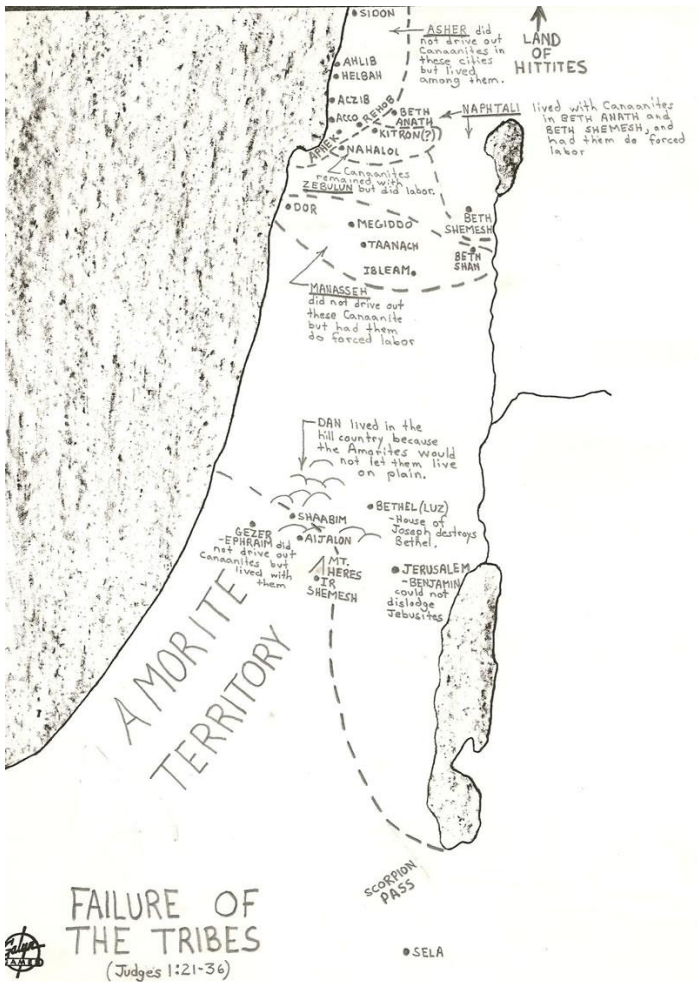


Judges week 2 Ch 1:22-2:5



This map is of the failed conquests recorded in Judges 1:21-36. It may be helpful to get familiar with the geographic locations of the land.

Half Following

Pastor Don started yesterday's sermon, talking about installing blinds. He had trouble because he didn't fully follow the instructions. He made the statement, "Half following isn't following. It means that we are half not following or half disobeying."

1. What does Pastor Don mean by half following?
2. What kind of obedience does God require? (Luke 10:27 might be helpful to consider)
3. How might we half follow God?
4. God's command was clear. Go take the land (v. 19) There's a problem. God is with them so they are able to take the hill country. However, they can't defeat the chariots. Did God fail?

Ch 1:22-26 Conquest of Bethel

Bethel vs 23-26	Jericho Joshua Ch2, Ch6:25
The Lord was with them	The Lord was with them
Spies who scout	Spies
Encounter Canaanite “a man”	Encounter Canaanite Rahab the Harlot
Recruit the helper: Why did they need a spy?	Hesed. Hebrew word meaning loyal love, unbreakable commitment, covenant loyalty
Hesed agreement	Yahweh with them
Helper pays a major role	Lord wins a great victory
Lord has minor role	Rehab has a minor role
Leaves and builds a Hittite city. All they did was relocate the city.	Becomes part of the covenant family
	The Lord was with them

5. What are some similarities and differences in the two conquests?
6. Discuss the meaning of the Hebrew word “Hesed”?
7. Below are a few Bible references of verses that use the word Hesed. Look through these verses and see what you can learn from them. Psalm 103:8, Jeremiah 33:11, Genesis 39:21
8. What is wrong with how the Bethel conquest ends? (V.26)

More failed Conquests Ch 1:27-36

9. In verses v. 27-34 how many times do we read the words “did not”? What impact does this have on the story?

In Judges 1 we see the steps of accommodation to a Cannanite world...first Judah 'goes up' and defeats the Cannanites with no mention of them living among one another...then the Benjamites are said to have Cannanites living among them...later tribes are described as living among the Cannanites, and finally the tribe of Dan seems to barely have a place at all.

10. In light of this pattern, are there predictable patterns that we need to be aware of? What would alert us that we are accommodating ourselves too much to the world around us? What are areas that Christians can accommodate?

It seems like the Israelites were forgetful of God’s commands. What are the things that you have found helpful to 'remember' in order to follow Jesus well?

Not of this world

Read John 17:14-16

11. What does it mean to 'not be of the world'?
12. Why does the world hate those who are not 'of the world'?
13. How do we balance the need to obey with the knowledge that in this world we will fall short of perfect obedience? How does the knowledge of the gospel speak to this tension?

2 conditions the people were to obey

Ch 2:2 lists the two conditions that God expected the people to obey as they entered the land. What are those conditions?

Let us pray

As we respond to what we have been learning from Judges, discuss the four points below by Jerry Bridges and then pray about them together.

4 things that help us live the Christian life well.

1. A daily time of communion with Almighty God.
2. Daily appropriation of the gospel
3. A daily commitment to God, to live as a living sacrifice.
4. A firm belief in the sovereignty (sovereign love) of God. Life is hard. It can be easy to doubt God in toughness of life