

# INHERITANCE OF ISRAEL

Israel's present inheritance consists of everything they receive in this life: good (Prov 28:10), blessings (Matt 19:29), honor (Prov 3:35; 1 Sam 2:8), cities and land in Canaan (Exod 32:13; Num 35:1–8), warnings (Psa 119:111), wind (Prov 11:29), and folly (Prov 14:18).

The land of Canaan is a gift, inheritance, and possession from God (compare "to him and to his sons I will give the land" in Deut 1:36 with "he shall cause Israel to inherit it" in 1:38 and "I will give it to them, and they shall possess it" in 1:39).

To inherit the land of Canaan is to inherit everything in the land of Canaan: the tools, weapons, houses, vineyards, olive groves, natural resources (lakes, rivers, streams, forests, mountains, minerals), olive and wine presses, threshing floors, animals (sheep, goats, livestock), silver and gold, clothing, villages and walled cities—everything possessed by the dead Canaanites. Add to all this many more blessings such as peace, security, and prosperity upon entering God's rest (Heb 3:7–4:11).

The inheritance of families (Num 33:54) and the twelve tribes varied in size from small to large (Num 35:8)—they did not all get equal portions. Faithful gentiles shared Israel's inheritance at the LORD's command (Deut 1:36; Josh 14:9; 15:13).

Israel's inheritance is perpetuated generation after generation by the fear of the LORD (Psa 25:12–13), being righteous (Psa 37:29), blameless (Psa 37:18), humble (Psa 37:11), obedient (Ezra 9:12; Psa 37:34), waiting for the LORD (Psa 37:9, 34), following the LORD fully (Josh 14:9), seeking refuge in the LORD (Isa 57:13b); and being blessed by the LORD (Psa 37:22).

Note the difference between not entering the land (the exodus generation, 1:35 and Moses, 1:37), entering the land (Joshua and his sons, 1:36, 38), and inheriting the land (Israel, 1:38, and the little ones and sons of the exodus generation, 1:39).

The opposite of inheriting the land is to be exiled (Lev 26 and Deut 28:63–64) or cut off from the land (Psa 37:9); to be cut off is to die (Gen 9:11; Exod 31:14; Lev 20:1–5; 1 Sam 24:21; 28:9; 1 Kings 9:7; Prov 2:22; Ezek 14:13, 17, 19, 21; 17:17; Zeph 1:3).

Israel's inheritance in the land of Canaan was lost by unbelief, disobedience, and evil (Psa 37:9, 22, 28, 34, 38; Prov 2:22; Heb 3:7–19); it was acquired by faith in God's promises and by following God fully (Deut 1:34–40).

Israel's future inheritance consists of everything they will receive in the next life: righteousness through faith (Heb 11:7), eternal life (Matt 19:29, 25:46), rewards (Matt 5:12; 6:1, 4, 6, 18, 20; 10:41–42; 16:27; 19:21; Mark 9:41; 10:21; Luke 6:23, 35; 10:42; 12:33; 14:14; John 4:36; Rev 11:18), promises of God (Heb 6:12, 17), land of Canaan (Exod 32:13; Heb 11:8–9), millennial Kingdom (Matt 5:3, 5, 10; 25:31–40), rule with Christ (Ezek 44:3; Rev 20:4, 6), and diadems (Rev 19:12)—all prepared when the earth was created (Matt 25:34).

Jesus inherited all created things from his Father (Heb 1:2) and will give portions of his inheritance to his brothers and sisters for an eternal inheritance (Luke 10:42; John 13:8; cf. Acts 20:32; 26:18; Eph 1:11; Col 3:24; Heb 9:15; 1 Peter 1:4).

Faithful service here and now, in contrast to unfaithful service, is rewarded with higher position, privilege, and honor in the millennial Kingdom (Ezek 44:10–16; Hag 2:23; Matt 5:19; 18:4; 19:30; 25:21, 23, 28–29; Mark 9:35).

People in mortal bodies will have inheritances and may give portions to their servants or sons as gifts in the millennial Kingdom (Ezek 46:16–18). Notice that personal inheritances will be protected by law in the future Kingdom (Ezek 46:18).

*General principle:* present blessings and eternal rewards are proportional to obedience and serving God, not just for Israel but for individuals, nations, and the world (compare "your reward in heaven is great" in Matt 5:10–12 with "salt of the earth" in 5:13).

## INHERITANCE IN THE THEOCRATIC KINGDOM

land of Canaan to Israel forever (Exod 32:13; Num 33:54; Deut 1:38; 12:9–10; 19:14; Josh 14:1; Acts 13:19)

cities in the land of Canaan to Israel (Num 35:1–8; Josh 19:49–50)

walled city of Hebron to Caleb (Num 14:24; Deut 1:36; Josh 14:6–15; 15:13; 21:12)

Israel lost her inheritance through disobedience (Jer 17:4)

warnings (usually translated "testimonies") of God in the Scriptures (Psa 119:111)

wind to those who trouble their own house (Prov 11:29)

folly to the naïve (Prov 14:18)

good to the blameless (Prov 28:10)

honor or glory to the wise (Prov 3:35)

seat of honor to the needy who are obedient to the Covenant (1 Sam 2:8)

## INHERITANCE IN THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM

poor in spirit will possess (property in) the millennial Kingdom (Matt 5:3)

saints persecuted on account of righteousness will possess (property in) the millennial Kingdom (Matt 5:10)

gentle inherit the millennial and new earth (Matt 5:5)

tribunational saints who are righteous and do good works for Jesus and his brothers inherit the millennial Kingdom (Matt 25:34–40)

desolate portions of the earth to God's people (both Jews and Gentiles) before the restoration of all things (Isa 49:8b; cf. Acts 3:21)

mountains of Judah to the Jewish remnant that survives the Great Tribulation (Isa 65:9–10)

seed, vines, grapes, land, produce, and dew to the Jewish remnant that survives the Great Tribulation (Zech 8:12)

gentile nations such as Moab and Ammon to the Jewish remnant that survives the Great Tribulation (Zeph 2:9)

eternal life (Matt 19:29; 25:46; Mark 10:29–30)

eternal inheritance to the blameless (Psa 37:18)

new heaven and new earth to overcomers (Rev 21:1–7)

more distinguished name than the angels to Jesus (Heb 1:3b–4)

### REWARDS IN THIS LIFE

#### BLESSINGS

##### FOR FAITHFULNESS AND SERVICE

good to the blameless (Prov 28:10)  
honor or glory to the wise (Prov 3:35)  
seat of honor to the needy (1 Sam 2:8)  
hundredfold blessings for service (Matt 19:29; Mark 10:30)

#### LAND OF CANAAN

##### FOR FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

land (Exod 32:13)  
cities (Num 35:1–8)  
rest (Heb 3:7–19)

#### TREASURE

##### FOR FAITHFULNESS AND SERVICE

payment for good works (Matt 16:27)  
great reward for Abraham (Gen 15:1)  
riches and reward for Moses (Heb 11:26)  
Nehemiah asked God to remember his good works (Neh 5:19; 13:14, 22, 31)  
recompense and reward for Israel at the beginning of the Kingdom (Isa 40:10; 61:8; 62:11)  
reward for the Servant Messiah (Isa 49:4)

### REWARDS IN THE NEXT LIFE

#### VOCATION

##### FOR SERVICE

service in the millennial Temple to faithful and unfaithful levitical priests (Ezek 44:10–16)  
signet ring on God's right hand to Zerubbabel to write, seal, and send out God's decrees (Hag 2:23)

#### LAND AND POSSESSIONS

##### FOR FAITHFULNESS

land of Canaan to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gal 3:18; Heb 11:8–9)  
heavenly city (New Jerusalem) and country (Heb 11:10, 16)  
double portion to Israel (Isa 61:7)  
all things to Jesus (Heb 1:2)

#### DIADEMS

##### FOR OVERCOMING

many diadems to Jesus for overcoming the world (John 16:33; Rev 19:12)  
the world to Abraham (Rom 4:13)  
rule with Christ to martyrs of the Tribulation (Rev 20:4, 6)  
administration of the temple area to the prince (a surviving tribunational saint) (Ezek 44:3; 45:7; 46:16–18; 48:21–22)