

CONQUER IN CHRIST

Refuge



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

- NAS **Joshua 10:15** Then Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp to Gilgal.





THE REST OF THE STORY

VICTORY

- ^{NAS} **Joshua 11:23** So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Thus the land had rest from war.
- In total;
 - Two large Canaanite armies were wiped out
 - Thirty one Canaanite cities captured

HISTORICAL DETAILS

- Chapter 12: detailed list of 31 kings defeated by Moses and Joshua
- Chapters 13-21: detailed description of the division of the land amongst the tribes



CITIES OF REFUGE

APPOINTMENT OF THE CITIES

- NIV **Joshua 20:1** Then the LORD said to Joshua: ² "Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses, ³ so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.
- NIV **Exodus 21:13** However, if he does not do it intentionally, but God lets it happen, he is to flee to a place I will designate. ¹⁴ But if a man schemes and kills another man deliberately, take him away from my altar and put him to death.

RULES FOR THE CITIES

- ^{NIV} **Joshua 20:4** "When he flees to one of these cities, he is to stand in the entrance of the city gate and state his case before the elders of that city. Then they are to admit him into their city and give him a place to live with them. ⁵ If the avenger of blood pursues him, they must not surrender the one accused, because he killed his neighbor unintentionally and without malice aforethought. ⁶ He is to stay in that city until he has stood trial before the assembly and until the death of the high priest who is serving at that time. Then he may go back to his own home in the town from which he fled."

PURPOSE OF THE CITIES

1. *“it was for the interest of the land that the blood of an innocent person, whose hand only was guilty but not his heart, should not be shed, no, not by the avenger of blood”*
 - Matthew Henry
 - ^{NAS} **Deuteronomy 19:9** ... you shall add three more cities for yourself, besides these three. ¹⁰ "So innocent blood will not be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God gives you as an inheritance, and bloodguiltiness be on you.
2. Foreshadowed the Gospel.



APPLICATION

JUDGMENT FOR WILLFUL SIN

- ^{NAS} **Matthew 11:20** Then He began to reproach the cities in which most of His miracles were done, because they did not repent. ²¹ "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²² "Nevertheless I say to you, it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in *the* day of judgment, than for you. ²³ "And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You shall descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. ²⁴ "Nevertheless I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in *the* day of judgment, than for you."

PATHWAY TO REFUGE

- ^{NIV} **Matthew 11:25** At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. ²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
- ^{NIV} **John 6:46** No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father.
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 4:6** For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

REFUGE IN JESUS: YOKE

- ^{NAS} **Matthew 11:28** "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. ³⁰ "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."
- ^{NAS} **Hebrews 5:9** And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation,
- ^{NAS} **John 14:23** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him.
- ^{NAS} **John 15:10** "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments, and abide in His love.

REFUGE IN JESUS: REST

- ^{NAS} **Matthew 11:30** "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."
- ^{NAS} **Romans 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 4:17** For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,
- ^{NAS} **John 16:33** "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."



CONCLUSIONS

REFUGE FROM SIN

- ^{NAS} **Matthew 11:28** "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. ³⁰ "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."
- ^{NAS} **Romans 8:1** There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

REFUGE FOR ETERNITY

- ^{NAS} **Hebrews 6:17** In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, ¹⁸ in order that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we may have strong encouragement, we who have fled for refuge in laying hold of the hope set before us. ¹⁹ This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, ²⁰ where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us ...
- ^{NIV} **2 Corinthians 1:20** For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ.

- Standing on the promises of Christ my king,
through eternal ages let his praises ring;
glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
standing on the promises of God.
- Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.
- Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God.
- Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.