

APPLICATION POINT

In the present account we see the true nature of our responsibilities regarding stewardship. It is obvious that there is a key role we must assume in the development and outworking of our service to God.



OVERVIEW BRIEF

The various territories of the Promised Land provinces were characterized by unique features suggested by their location (i.e. “the hills,” “the plains,” “the woods,” etc.)

In relation to us, they may typify various aspects of our unconquered character or some ensnaring habit of stifling hindrances that oppose our progress of growing in the grace of God.

As the Christian believer becomes more victorious these hindrances are brought in subjection or defeated.

Where victory has not been achieved over these adversaries their influence and threat become a serious detriment in the believer's spiritual life.

Moreover, when they are allowed to persist and remain unchecked, in some measure they ultimately regain strength to the point they again exercise considerable influence and exert control in the believer's life.

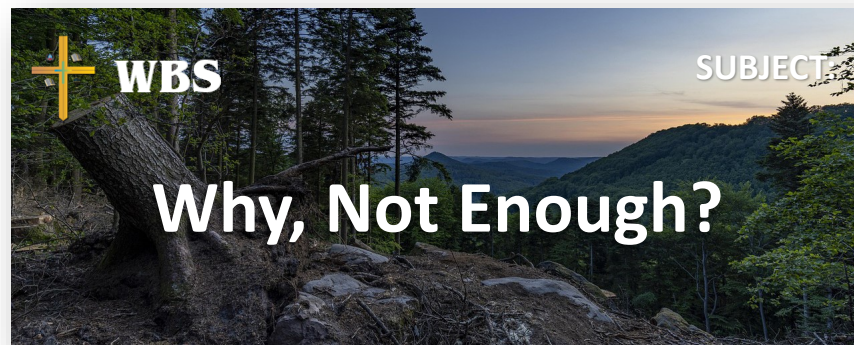
Hence, we have been given the non-negotiable and irrevocable heavenly edict to “drive them out” of our lives. Any alternative actions to the contrary are deemed unacceptable.

Moreover, the Lord expects us to advance further along the path of spiritual development (a mandatory requirement).

To fully comply with this mandate, we must confront, head on, the challenges of all life issues, conditions and situations, as well as successfully prevail over all spiritual emissaries and foes.

They must be displaced and removed; or according to Scripture (**Num 33:55**) they will resurface and their progressively, encroaching influence will resurge.

Moreover, when the normal pattern of our spirit-life does not reflect this biblical pattern (i.e., spiritual advancement); then the quality of our earthly life will degrade to the degree that the prevailing sentiment of dissatisfaction and the aggravating blossoming seed of joylessness will dominate the landscape of our thoughts and distort the perspective of our present reality.



FOCUS VERSE: And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.

Joshuah 17:16 (KJV)

CENTRAL TEXT:

Joshua 17:14-18

Joshua 17:14 And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying, Why hast thou given me but one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I am a great people, forasmuch as the Lord hath blessed me hitherto?

15 And Joshua answered them, If thou be a great people, then get thee up to the wood country, and cut down for thyself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the giants, if mount Ephraim be too narrow for thee.

16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that

dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.

17 And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, even to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, Thou art a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot only:

18 But the mountain shall be thine; for it is a wood, and thou shalt cut it down: and the outgoings of it shall be thine: for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots,