



A Kingdom and Priests to Our God

JOSHUA 21:1-42

CONTENTS

WELCOME:	
Fixing Our Focus	1
WORSHIP:	
Adoring Our God	1
WORD:	
Understanding Word	2

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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

Discuss with other GG members your understanding of what it means to be part of God's kingdom- who we are and what we are commanded to do for His kingdom to be fully manifested to those who still must come to faith in Christ.

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested song:

- Our God Reigns
- · Let Your Glory Fall

A Kingdom and Priests to Our God JOSHUA 21:1–42

WORD: Understanding the Word

LESSON AIM

- GG members will believe in God's promises in his Word, be bold to approach God, and be assured of salvation and its blessings.
- GG members will make personal sacrifices to enable God's servants, as a kingdom and priests to our God, to carry out their task of knowing Christ and making Him known.
- 3. GG members will never be disappointed with God's promises, for all will surely be fulfilled and come to pass in God's perfect timing.

INTRODUCTION

All the tribes of Israel have been apportioned with the land that God had promised, except for the Levites whom God had set apart for Himself as his inheritance. It is, however, God's purpose that all the tribes will have the Levites live among them, for they will serve as ministers to Israel in continuing to worship the Lord and obey his statutes and ordinances.

Faith in God's promises emboldened the request to be given their places of dwelling and service to the Lord (vv. 1–2)

The Levites were not just blessed as God's spiritual ministers and servants of the Almighty; they were also given livestock, which presumably came from the tithes of God's blessings to the people of Israel. Yet, the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites came to Eleazar, the priest, and Joshua, the son of Nun, and to the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the people of Israel.

- 1. Why and where did the heads of the fathers' house of the Levites come to Eleazer, the priest, and Joshua, and to the heads of the tribes?
- 2. What gave them the audacity to make such a request?
- 3. What was the response of the people to this request? What prompted them to grant what was requested?

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God's purposes are carried out by both his appointed ministers and his redeemed people. (vv. 3–8).

It should not come as a surprise that when God fulfills his promises and then calls his people to be partners in his redemption plans for all people, personal sacrifices sometimes must be made.

- 1. From which tribes did the Kohathite Levites, who are descendants of Aaron the priest, and the rest of the Kohathites, receive their dwelling places and their pasturelands?
- 2. From which tribes did the Gershonite Levites receive their dwelling places and their pasturelands?
- 3. From which tribes did the Merarite Levites receive their dwelling places and their pasturelands?
- 4. As redeemed people of God, how have we demonstrated our love for Christ, and what sacrifices have we made as we work out our salvation with fear and trembling?

The Levites of Israel and the Church as a Kingdom of Priests (vv. 9–42)

- How many total cities and pasturelands were given to all the clans of the Levites?
- What do you suppose was God's intention to scatter the Levites and to live among the different tribes of Israel as they were finally settled in the good land that the Lord had promised them?
- Who are the Christians today living in different parts of the world, and how are they likened to the Levites of Ancient Israel? (1 Peter 2:5; Revelation 1:6, 5:9–10)
- 4. What do we need to learn and know (as the Levites were commanded to do then) so that we can be effective servants of God in the place where God has put us? (Deuteronomy 33:10)

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APPLICATION

The world measures riches by the material wealth one possesses. Not everyone is rich by the world's standard, but like the Levites of Ancient Israel, we are the richest people in the world when we have Christ as our Savior and Lord; with him as our inheritance, we never lack anything, not here now, nor in the future, for Christ is enough!

PRAYER ITEM

Our loving Heavenly Father, thank you for saving us from our sins and redeeming us to be a kingdom of priests. We praise you for your immeasurable grace, your steadfast love, and your faithfulness as you continue to fill us with your Holy Spirit so that we can bring your gospel of love and hope to those who still have to come to know you and be saved. Grant us this day to be bold and courageous to be your servants as we minister to our community where you have purposedly put us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.



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