

FEBRUARY 20

Read Numbers 34–36

CHAPTER 34

AND the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

2 Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye come into the land of Canaan; (this *is* the land that shall fall unto you for an inheritance, *even* the land of Canaan with the coasts thereof:)

3 Then your south quarter shall be from the wilderness of Zin along by the coast of Edom, and your south border shall be the outmost coast of the salt sea eastward:

4 And your border shall turn from the south to the ascent of Akrabbim, and pass on to Zin: and the going forth thereof shall be from the south to Kadeshbarnea, and shall go on to Hazaraddar, and pass on to Azmon:

5 And the border shall fetch a compass from Azmon unto the river of Egypt, and the goings out of it shall be at the sea.

6 And *as for* the western border, ye shall even have the great sea for a border: this shall be your west border.

7 And this shall be your north border: from the great sea ye shall point out for you mount Hor:

8 From mount Hor ye shall point out *your border* unto the entrance of Hamath; and the goings forth of the border shall be to Zedad:

9 ¶ And the border shall go on to Ziphron, and the goings out of it shall be at Hazarenan: this shall be your north border.

10 And ye shall point out your east border from Hazarenan to Shepham:

11 And the coast shall go down from Shepham to Riblah, on the east side of Ain; and the border shall descend, and shall reach unto the side of the sea of Chinnereth eastward:

12 And the border shall go down to Jordan, and the goings out of it shall be at the salt sea: this shall be your land with the coasts thereof of round about.

13 And Moses commanded the children of Israel, saying, This *is* the land which ye shall inherit by

lot, which the LORD commanded to give unto the nine tribes, and to the half tribe:

14 For the tribe of the children of Reuben according to the house of their fathers, and the tribe of the children of Gad according to the house of their fathers, have received *their inheritance*; and half the tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance:

15 The two tribes and the half tribe have received their inheritance on this side Jordan *near Jericho* eastward, toward the sunrising.

16. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

17 These *are* the names of the men which shall divide the land unto you: Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun.

18 And ye shall take one prince of every tribe, to divide the land by inheritance.

19 And the names of the men *are* these: Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh.

20 And of the tribe of the children of Simeon, Shemuel the son of Ammihud.

21 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Eliad the son of Chislon.

22 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Dan, Bukki the son

of Jogli.

23 The prince of the children of Joseph, for the tribe of the children of Manasseh, Hanniel the son of Ephod.

24 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Ephraim, Kemuel the son of Shiphtan.

25 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Zebulun, Elizaphan the son of Parnach.

26 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Issachar, Paltiel the son of Azzan.

27 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Asher, Ahihud the son of Shelomi.

28 And the prince of the tribe of the children of Naphtali, Pedahel the son of Ammihud.

29 These *are they* whom the LORD commanded to divide the inheritance unto the children of Israel in the land of Canaan.

CHAPTER 35

AND the LORD spake unto Moses in the plains of Moab by Jordan *near Jericho*, saying,

2 Command the children of Israel, that they give unto the Levites of the inheritance of their possession cities to dwell in; and ye shall give *also* unto the Levites suburbs for the cities round about

them.

3 And the cities shall they have to dwell in; and the suburbs of them shall be for their cattle, and for their goods, and for all their beasts.

4 And the suburbs of the cities, which ye shall give unto the Levites, *shall reach* from the wall of the city and outward a thousand cubits round about.

5 And ye shall measure from without the city on the east side two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side two thousand cubits; and the city *shall be* in the midst: this shall be to them the suburbs of the cities.

6 And among the cities which ye shall give unto the Levites *there shall be* six cities for refuge, which ye shall appoint for the manslayer, that he may flee thither: and to them ye shall add forty and two cities.

7 So all the cities which ye shall give to the Levites *shall be* forty and eight cities: them *shall ye give* with their suburbs.

8 And the cities which ye shall give *shall be* of the possession of the children of Israel: from *them*

that have many ye shall give many; but from *them that have* few ye shall give few: every one shall give of his cities unto the Levites according to his inheritance which he inheriteth.

9 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

10 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come over Jordan into the land of Canaan;

11 Then ye shall appoint you cities to be cities of refuge for you; that the slayer may flee thither, which killeth any person at unawares.

12 And they shall be unto you cities for refuge from the avenger; that the manslayer die not, until he stand before the congregation in judgment.

13 And of these cities which ye shall give six cities shall ye have for refuge.

14 Ye shall give three cities on this side Jordan, and three cities shall ye give in the land of Canaan, *which* shall be cities of refuge.

15 These six cities shall be a refuge, *both* for the children of Israel, and for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them: that every one that killeth any person

unawares may flee thither.

16 And if he smite him with an instrument of iron, so that he die, he *is* a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

17 And if he smite him with throwing a stone, wherewith he may die, and he die, he *is* a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

18 Or *if* he smite him with an hand weapon of wood, wherewith he may die, and he die, he *is* a murderer: the murderer shall surely be put to death.

19 The revenger of blood himself shall slay the murderer: when he meeteth him, he shall slay him.

20 But if he thrust him of hatred, or hurl at him by laying of wait, that he die;

21 Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote *him* shall surely be put to death; *for* he *is* a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.

22 But if he thrust him suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon him any thing without laying of wait,

23 Or with any stone, wherewith a man may die, seeing *him* not, and cast *it* upon him, that he

die, and *was* not his enemy, neither sought his harm:

24 Then the congregation shall judge between the slayer and the revenger of blood according to these judgments:

25 And the congregation shall deliver the slayer out of the hand of the revenger of blood, and the congregation shall restore him to the city of his refuge, whither he was fled: and he shall abide in it unto the death of the high priest, which was anointed with the holy oil.

26 But if the slayer shall at any time come without the border of the city of his refuge, whither he was fled;

27 And the revenger of blood find him without the borders of the city of his refuge, and the revenger of blood kill the slayer; he shall not be guilty of blood:

28 Because he should have remained in the city of his refuge until the death of the high priest: but after the death of the high priest the slayer shall return into the land of his possession.

29 So these *things* shall be for a statute of judgment unto you throughout your generations in all your dwellings.

30 Whoso killeth any person,

the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person *to cause him* to die.

31 Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which *is* guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death.

32 And ye shall take no satisfaction for him that is fled to the city of his refuge, that he should come again to dwell in the land, until the death of the priest.

33 So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye *are*: for blood it defileth the land: and the land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein, but by the blood of him that shed it.

34 Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, wherein I dwell: for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.

CHAPTER 36

AND the chief fathers of the families of the children of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of the sons of Joseph, came near, and spake before Moses, and before the princes, the chief fathers of the children of Israel:

2 And they said, The LORD commanded my lord to give the land for

an inheritance by lot to the children of Israel: and my lord was commanded by the LORD to give the inheritance of Zelophehad our brother unto his daughters.

3 And if they be married to any of the sons of the *other* tribes of the children of Israel, then shall their inheritance be taken from the inheritance of our fathers, and shall be put to the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they are received: so shall it be taken from the lot of our inheritance.

4 And when the jubile of the children of Israel shall be, then shall their inheritance be put unto the inheritance of the tribe whereunto they are received: so shall their inheritance be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers.

5. And Moses commanded the children of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying, The tribe of the sons of Joseph hath said well.

6 This *is* the thing which the LORD doth command concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them marry to whom they think best; only to the family of the tribe of their father shall they marry.

7 So shall not the inheritance of

the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe: for every one of the children of Israel shall keep himself to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.

8 And every daughter, that possesseth an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel, shall be wife unto one of the family of the tribe of her father, that the children of Israel may enjoy every man the inheritance of his fathers.

9 Neither shall the inheritance remove from *one* tribe to another tribe; but every one of the tribes of the children of Israel shall keep himself to his own inheritance.

10 Even as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of

Zelophehad:

11 For Mahlah, Tirzah, and Hoglah, and Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married unto their father's brothers' sons:

12 *And* they were married into the families of the sons of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of the family of their father.

13 These *are* the commandments and the judgments, which the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses unto the children of Israel in the plains of Moab by Jordan *near* Jericho.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

These chapters deal with the assigning of the inheritance, looking ahead to the time when the nation would possess Canaan. Each tribe is assigned its portion—the Levites their special cities, and, most important of all, the cities of refuge are defined in chapter 35. We can get additional information on the six cities of refuge by reading Deuteronomy 19 and Joshua 20.

The nation had no police force, and the elders of each city constituted a “court” to consider each case. If a man accidentally killed another man, he needed some kind of protection; for it was legal for a member of the slain man's family to try to avenge the blood of his slain relative.

Numbers 35:16-25 makes it clear that God considers murder and manslaughter two different things. Murder was deliberate, but manslaughter was by accident. The purpose of the cities of refuge was to protect the man who accidentally killed a person. The slayer had to flee to the nearest city of refuge, where the elders would meet him, hear his case, and hold a

trial. If they decided he was guilty of murder, he would be turned over to the proper authorities and be slain (Deuteronomy 19:11-13). If it was clear that the slaying was accidental, then the man would be allowed to live in the city under their protection, not to be touched by the avenger. However, if the man left the city, he could be slain. When the high priest died, the man would be free to safely return to his own city.

The purpose of this law was to keep the land from being polluted by murderers. Murder defiles the land, and uncondemned murderers lead the land into greater sin. This law provided for the protection of the innocent and the condemnation of the guilty. It was a just law. It is too bad that our laws today often make it easy for the guilty to go free. No wonder our nation is defiled with blood and there is little respect for law and order!

These cities of refuge are beautiful types of Christ. Hebrews 6:18 tells us that He is our refuge. Because of sin, death has passed upon all men. God commendeth His love toward us, in that while we

were yet sinners, Christ died for us, thus paying the price of sin (death for all mankind).

Today, He is the only refuge for mankind, the only way to life everlasting. Every sinner must come to Jesus for protection against the judgment of God. Repentance from sin and simple faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ is the only way sinners can escape the wrath of God. He is truly the Rock in a weary land, the Shelter in the time of storm, and the Perfect Refuge for all mankind.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

“Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles” (Proverbs 21:23).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 8: For today’s memory verses, follow instructions on page 10.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

TERESA TENA

HYMN FOR TODAY

**HOW CAN I HELP BUT LOVE HIM?
Words and Music by Elton M. Roth,
1891-1951**

We all need a strong compelling force to move us through life. Without this force we become stagnant. We can be driven by many different motives—wealth, power, prestige. The apostle Paul’s compulsion was an intense awareness of Christ’s atoning love for man and the responsibility he felt to share this truth with others. The apostle was so gripped by Christ that he counted his own life as nothing in the light of that love (Acts 20:24). Paul abandoned all ambitions as he sought to be a worthy follower and proclaimer of divine love.

Who can do anything other than love Christ after personally experiencing His divine love? Our love relationship with Christ will be demonstrated by our obedience to Him and the doing of His will for our lives (John 15:10). This obedience is not motivated by a desire for reward or a fear of punishment. It is simply a response of love for all that our Lord has done for us and for what He means in our daily lives.

The author and composer of this gospel hymn, Elton M. Roth, was a traveling music evangelist for a period of time. Later he taught music in various Bible schools, including Biola College in Los Angeles. Mr.

Roth published many anthems and over 100 hymns, including the popular “In My Heart There Rings a Melody.”

*Down from His splendor in glory He came
into a world of woe,
took on Himself all my guilt and my shame—
why should He love me so?*

*I am unworthy to take of His grace,
wonderful grace so free;
yet Jesus suffered and died in my place,
e’en for a soul like me.*

*He is the fairest of thousands to me;
His love is sweet and true;
wonderful beauty in Him I now see,
more than I ever knew.*

Refrain:

*How can I help but love Him when He loved me so?
How can I help but love Him when He loved me so?*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1792

THE UNITED STATES MAIL SERVICE BEGAN.

We turn our attention to the miracle of the mail. A letter can be mailed on the Atlantic Coast and the next day be in the hands of a loved one 3,000 miles across the country. How we should thank God for this tremendous service we enjoy in our nation.

1962

JOHN GLENN ORBITED THE EARTH THREE TIMES.

Let us pray today for America’s space program. A terrible tragedy involving the NASA space shuttle program just took place in January 1986. We need to ask God’s blessings on the space program, as we reach out into what has been called “the final frontier,” with all dangers that come with it.

1957

MA SUNDAY DIED.

Ma Sunday was a great woman. Of course, she outlived her famous husband, Billy Sunday, by many, many years and continued to bless the hearts of millions. On at least two occasions she came to a church that Jack Hyles was pastoring and spoke to his people. One of these times Life Magazine sent a photographer to photograph her and placed the picture in

the magazine. Many interesting stories came from her lips concerning the life of Billy. She told one time how Billy would pray in his campaigns. He often would forget where he was and prayer was such a part of his life that he talked to God quite like he would talk to anyone else. He would be praying on the platform and say, "Dear Lord, we thank you for the great meeting you gave us last week down in...Ma, where were we last week?"

"Detroit, Paw."

"Oh, yes, Lord, thank you for the good meeting we had in Detroit. Now Lord, bless us here in this meeting in...Ma, where are we tonight?"

"We are in Cleveland, Paw."

"Yes, Lord, bless us here in Cleveland."

Ma said Billy would pray while walking down the street. He would talk to her awhile; then talk to God for awhile. What a blessing to have known this great saint!

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1869

TENNESSEE GOVERNOR W.C. BROWNLOW DECLARED MARTIAL LAW in nine countries in Ku Klux Klan crisis.

1895

DEATH OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS (78), Anacostia Heights, District of Columbia. Douglass was the leading black spokesman for almost fifty years. He was a major abolitionist and a lecturer and editor.

1936

DEATH OF JOHN HOPE (67), president, Atlanta University.

1968

STATE TROOPERS USED TEAR GAS to stop demonstrations at Alcorn A&M College.

THE STORY OF THE PSALMS

Psalm 15

AUTHOR: David.

THE STORY BEHIND THE PSALM:

The ark of the covenant was a sacred box. It was in the holy of holies in the tabernacle. Its top was the mercy seat overlaid with gold over which the shekinah glory, representing God's presence, hovered. The ark had been captured by the Philistines, and when it was retaken by the Jews it was not brought immediately to Jerusalem. David had vowed to bring the ark back to Jerusalem. Ah, 'twas a happy day in his life when the ark returned. He was so happy that he danced around the ark singing praises. His wife, Michal, looked from the window and saw David demonstrating such ecstasy. It disgusted her and she rebuked him for it, but even the rebuke of his sullen wife did not dampen his joy. The ark was back home! David had succeeded in bringing it back! Perhaps it was then that David wrote the fifteenth Psalm. With the reclaiming of the ark fresh in his mind and with the words of rebuke from Michal still ringing in his ears, he pens the five verses of this Psalm.

THE WAY IT WAS USED BY GOD'S PEOPLE:

The Jew used this Psalm before going to Jerusalem. Three times a year the Jews were to make a trek toward the city of Jerusalem for the three main feasts. Before embarking on such a journey, it was their habit to sing the fifteenth Psalm.

It was also a Psalm sung and read before prayer. It was the kind of a Psalm that was to prepare the heart for prayer. Notice verse 1, "Lord, who shall abide in Thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in Thy holy hill?"

Before the child of God lifts his heart to prayer to ascend the holy hill of intercession or the tabernacle of fellowship with his God, he must realize that the access is found in this Psalm. God will not answer our prayers nor honor our intercession unless we come to Him by way of the prerequisites listed in Psalm 15. Notice some of them: We must walk uprightly, work righteousness, seek the truth, and refuse to gossip or do evil against our neighbor. There are others that form the stairsteps of access to God. Read it before you pray. Read it before you go to church on Sunday. It will prepare your heart.

The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR SEVEN DAYS: CONSEQUENCES OF SIN

(Assignment 8)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

Both physical and spiritual death.

() Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

A place of eternal death.

() Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A place of no mercy.

() Luke 16:24

And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

A place of torment.

() Revelation 21:8

But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

A place of everlasting punishment.

() Matthew 25:46

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.