

Camping in Canaan



The land of Canaan is often paralleled with Heaven. But another analogy for Canaan is a victorious life won through successful spiritual warfare. We must forsake sin and follow Christ by putting off sinful habits and replacing them with Christ-like behavior.

To get a better idea of what Canaan is, let's look at the Old Testament account of Moses and the Israelites:

Read *Joshua 24:1-15*

Pilgrimage of Israel = type of Christian life

Egyptian bondage = bondage of sin

Moses as deliverer = type of Christ

Exodus from Egypt = abandon sinful life

Pharaoh's pursuit of Israel = evil pursuing believers

(Ex. 14:8-9)

Opening the Red Sea = hindrances removed

(Ex. 14:21)

Pillar of cloud and fire = divine presence with believers

(Ex. 14:19-20)

Read *Numbers 14:27-30*

The consequence for rebelling and murmuring against God was death!

Seven Murmurings

1. Concerning the way (*Num. 11:1-3*)

God's way is better than our way!

2. Concerning the food (*Num. 11:4-6*)

God provides what we need Not always what we want!

3. Concerning the giants (*Num. 13:33-14:2*)

God protects us from our enemies and is working ahead of us to ensure our victory, but we must listen to Him.

4. Concerning their leaders (*Num. 16:3*)

We need to respect our leaders and pray for them to follow God's will.

5. Concerning the divine judgments (*Num. 16:41*)

God is just. We deserve nothing!

6. Concerning the desert (*Num. 20:2-5*)

Sometimes we go through hard times because of sin in our life. God still wants to teach us.

7. The second time concerning the manna (*Num. 21:5*)

Again we say to God, the way you provide is not good enough.

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Whom will you serve?

Sin keeps us from living in Canaan. This includes idol worship. Idols do not have to be a physical object, but can be a part of your heart that has been given over to a thought, habit, possession etc. Anything you put before God is considered to be an idol and God does not bless this.

Read *Deuteronomy 28*

Serve the one and only true God = Blessings

Serve false gods/idols = Curses

Worship of golden calf (*Ex. 32*)



Real Estate

When you purchase a home, there are many things to think about. The same is true with the Christian walk. Below are some analogies of real estate and the Christian walk.

1. Get preapproved

Before you begin looking seriously for a house the realtor always asks if you are preapproved. Salvation is the “preapproval” of Christian living. Being saved is the **ONLY** way to begin living for Christ. Before you are saved, good works are as filthy rags. Only after you are a child of God are your works pleasing to Him.

2. Know where you want to move

Remember: LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! Do you want to live in the presence of God or will you settle for living in the suburbs where you’ll have a long “commute” every time you want to be close to Him?

3. Find a good realtor

Jesus Christ is the perfect realtor. He can show you the way because He is perfect and he already paid the ultimate price for you by dying on the cross.

4. Know what features you are looking for in a house

There are many areas in your life God wants to develop. Will you allow Him to work in it or will you settle for less?

5. Count the cost

Preapproval (salvation) is free and a gift from God. The cost of living like Christ far outweighs the benefits/blessings (**2 Cor. 4:17**). The cost of closeness is the sacrifices you must make as you pursue righteousness.

6. Consider the neighborhood

Who do you want to take with you? What kind of example are you setting for your spouse, children, other relatives, and friends? Don’t you want them to live in the same neighborhood as you? (Be saved and serving the Lord)

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Once you have moved into God's presence there is still work to do. Houses and people may look good on the outside, but all need daily cleaning (of sin) on the inside (the heart). Occasionally a remodel is even in order. Daily cleaning may not be something we look forward to (repenting of sin), however, it is necessary and a clean home always brings a sense of peace to the owner! We must work daily on the upkeep.

Some people camp in Canaan instead of living there. They set up temporary dwelling places in the presence of God whenever difficulty occurs or seasons of Revival come around, but choose to maintain a more permanent dwelling away from Him. It should NOT be this way. We can and should live in Canaan (God's presence) all the time.