



Lesson 73

Caleb Claims His Inheritance

Story Elements

- **Text:** Joshua 14:6-15; 15:13-19
- **Setting:** approx. 1412 B.C., near Hebron, a city southwest of Jerusalem
- **Characters:** God, Joshua, Caleb, Othniel, and Achsah
- **Plot:** : Caleb requests the hill country (KJV: mountain) near Hebron for his inheritance; Othniel conquers Kirjath-sereph and marries Achsah, Caleb's daughter.
- **Key word(s)** " _____ followed the LORD" (vv 8, 9, 14)
- **Climax:** *Joshua 14:12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.)*

Caleb's Mountain

1. Between the Battle of the Five Kings in Joshua 10, and Caleb's request in Joshua 14, the Bible gives a record of all the Canaanite cities that Joshua had conquered. Joshua had become old (13:1), and though there was much land left to conquer, it was time for Israel to divide the lands between the tribes of Israel.
2. (14:6-9) Before the apportioning took place, Caleb approached Joshua and reminded him of two things:
 - a. That he wholly followed the LORD when he was appointed as one of the twelve spies (Num. 13:6) and did not cause the nation's heart to _____ as the other spies had done.
 - b. The God promised him an inheritance of the land that his feet had trodden – this land was the foothills of _____. (Num 14:23, 24)
3. Caleb was 40 years old when that promise was made – ____ years later, he was ready to inherit the promise.

APPLICATION → Caleb is an illustration of great faith. The phrase "wholly followed the LORD" appears five times in the Bible, and Caleb is referenced each time. To wholly follow the LORD means that we are faithful to believe that God is _____ to His Word. Though the land had giants and cities walled up to heaven, Caleb did not fear them because he trusted the promises of God.

4. (14:10-12) Caleb also magnified God by...
 - a. ...attributing his vitality in old age to God's _____ strength.
 - b. ..._____ God to give him the victory over the Anakims of Hebron.

Achsah's Springs

5. (15:13-17) After driving out the three sons of Anak, Caleb conquered Hebron (Kirjath-arba). Next, he set his sights on Debir (Kirjath-sepher), another Canaanite city in the Judean foothills. But this time, he enlisted the help of men of valor by offering his daughter's hand in marriage to the man who conquered Debir.
 - a. _____ was the brave warrior who conquered Debir and married Achsah.
 - b. Othniel would later become one of the _____ of Israel and defeat the king of Mesopotamia, bringing a forty-year peace to Israel. (cf. Judges 3:5-11)
6. (15:18-19) The Bible records that Achsah made a very wise request for her wedding gift: since she had been giving the blessing of land in the south (which would be very _____) she asked that she given springs of water. Caleb granted her request.

