Portion:

SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 16-19
- Deuteronomy 11:24-25
- II Kings 19

Title:

APOSTOLIC FOOTPRINTS

- Give me this Mountain
- The Foot of the Matter
- Kings and Ambassadors

He has done so much for you already. Are you permitted to feel dissatisfied? I guess it depends on why? There is a very fine line between ungrateful discontentment with what the Lord has already provided and knowing that He has more for you. I am 100% convinced that the Bible teaches this, so you must be able to determine when you ought to feel satisfied—completely fulfilled, and when you ought to press into Yahweh for something more.

Distinguishing which attitude is appropriate at any moment has everything to do with God's plan for mankind, and for you personally—your specific purpose and dreams. To abide in the Lord, to immerse yourself completely in His will, means you must expand your imagination beyond human limitations. I like to think of it like this; if you can imagine it, then Yahweh has even more for you. Paul says, "Be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God, and glorify

Him who is, with His power working in us, able to do immeasurably more than all we ask, think or imagine."

I like that! But, what does "immeasurably more" even mean? Are you supposed to let your imagination run wild—demand satisfaction for every desire? No, it always hinges on knowing God's will and His promises. It's worth repeating a thousand times! To your faith, first add virtue! If your first step forward in any decision or desire is not virtuous, seeking the Lord's heart, will, direction and approval, then your next step will always be into the abyss.

However, when you seek God's heart and hear His voice, and you willingly submit to His direction and approval, you are then free to be as bold as imaginable. Take down a giant, lay down with lions, strangle a bear, open an ocean, hold back a raging river, and occupy a mountain. Sometimes God wants you to take more land, occupy higher ground, maybe even seize more authority.

However, once you are certain God is waiting on you, before He releases more, it's time to go boldly before His throne to ask for it, even at the risk of seeming dissatisfied. "Thank you Yahweh, what You've provided is amazing, but it's not complete; I'm certain there is more." Trust me, at times that is exactly what you ought to pray. However, following your bold request, it is critical you apply two safeguards. First, when Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible; take it

because it's a guarantee. And secondly, when Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!

PROPHETIC SEED:

"So Joshua answered them, "If you are a great people, then go up to the forest country and clear a place for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and the giants, since the mountains of Ephraim are too confined for you." But the children of Joseph said, "The mountain country is not enough for us; and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron... And Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph—to Ephraim and Manasseh—saying, "You are a great people and have great power; you shall not have only one lot, but the mountain country shall be yours. Although it is wooded, you shall cut it down, and its farthest extent shall be yours; for you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots and are strong."" Joshua 17:15-18 NKJV

PROPHETIC FRUIT:

"A man's heart plans his way, But **the Lord directs his steps**." Proverbs 16:9 NKJV

"...Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Exodus 3:5 NKJV

"He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet..." John 13:5 NKJV

"...shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them." Luke 9:5 NKJV

"And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly..." Romans 16:20 NKJV

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

Introduction

Last week we had a review of all the kings that both Moses and Joshua conquered. Then we got a preview of all the land that still remained for Israel to take possession. We saw the exact division of the land Israel currently possessed to the East and West of the Jordan. Then, we got details about Caleb's inheritance (note: Caleb is from the tribe of Judah), and intricate details about the division of the land of Judah and all its territories, cities and villages. (See: The Promise Remains)

This week we see the further dividing of the remaining land that had yet to be possessed by the children of Israel. We see the other half tribe of Manasseh receive their inheritance (who had not received their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan). And we see Ephraim receive their inheritance. We also see how the sons of Joseph are not satisfied with the amount of land they had been

granted, as they are the size of two full tribes, but had received the inheritance of only one tribe. They are granted more land by Joshua.

At this point Judah, Ephraim, Manasseh, Gad, and Reuben had their land, but seven tribes had not yet possessed their inheritance: Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan. We see Joshua's admonition to survey the remaining land, bring back the breakdown and he then divides that land by lot according to the Lord. Then Joshua himself receives an inheritance according to his desire!

Joshua 16

Ephraim and West Manasseh

1. The lot fell to the children of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim) who took their inheritance.

The Land of Ephraim

- 2. The borders of Ephraim's inheritance according to their families is laid out.
- There were separate cities of Ephraim that were among the inheritance of Manasseh.
- 4. They did not drive out the Canaanites who dwelt in Gezer; so those Canaanites dwelt among the Ephraimites.

Joshua 17

The Other Half-Tribe of Manasseh (West)

5. The lot for the tribe of Manasseh (Joseph's firstborn) is laid out.

- 6. Machir, the firstborn of Manasseh was a man of war, so he was given Gilead and Bashan.
- 7. So, there was a lot for the rest of the children of Manasseh.
- 8. Manasseh's six sons and their children received their inheritance.
- 9. But Zelophehad (Manasseh's great great grandson) had no sons, only daughters. They came to Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and other rulers, asking according to what the Lord commanded Moses, to give them an inheritance among their brothers, and it was granted.
- 10. The children of Manasseh could not drive out the Canaanites of some cities, who were determined to stay in that land.
- 11. But, as the children of Israel grew stronger, they eventually put those Canaanites into forced labor.

More Land for Ephraim and Manasseh

- 12. The children of Joseph felt that they had really only been designated an inheritance equal to one tribe (even though they were like two tribes). So, they asked for more land.
- 13. Joshua offers them the forest (mountain) country and tells them they can clear the land. They say it won't work because the Canaanites live in the valley and they have chariots of iron.
- 14. Joshua tells them that mountain country is the offer. They can clear wooded land, and he assures them that they will be able

to drive out the Canaanites, even though they have iron chariots and are strong.

Joshua 18

The Remainder of the Land Divided

- 15. Israel assembles in Shiloh and sets up the tabernacle of meeting.
- 16. They had certainly already subdued plenty of territory.
- 17. But, seven tribes had not yet possessed their inheritance:
 Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan
- 18. Judah, Ephraim, Manasseh, Gad, and Reuben already had.
- 19. And, of course, the Levites had no land inheritance, for the priesthood of the Lord is their inheritance.
- 20. Then Joshua said to the children of Israel: "How long will you neglect to go and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers has given you?"
- 21. Joshua instructs each of the seven tribes to select three men to survey the remaining land for their inheritance and to divide it in seven parts.
- 22. His intention is to cast lots before the Lord to decide which tribe gets which part.
- 23. The men went through the land and wrote the survey in a book in seven parts by cities and brought it back to Joshua.
- 24. Joshua cast lots for them and divided the land for each tribe.

The Land of Benjamin

- 25. The lot of the tribe of came up first.
- 26. The inheritance of the children of Benjamin, according to its boundaries all around, according to their families is described in intricate detail.
- 27. The fourteen cities of Benjamin are named with their villages.

Joshua 19

Simeon's Inheritance with Judah

- 28. The second lot came out for Simeon.
- 29. Their inheritance was within the inheritance of Judah, for the share of the children of Judah was too much for them.
- 30. Details of the borders are described and the seventeen cities and their villages are named.

The Land of Zebulun

- 31. The third lot came out for Zebulun.
- 32. The border of their inheritance is described in detail.
- 33. Twelve cities with their villages are named.

The Land of Issachar

- 34. The fourth lot came out for Issachar.
- 35. The border of their inheritance is described in detail.
- 36. Sixteen cities with their villages are named.

The Land of Asher

- 37. The fifth lot came out for Asher.
- 38. The border of their inheritance is described in detail.

39. Twenty-two cities with their villages are named.

The Land of Naphtali

- 40. The sixth lot came out for Naphtali.
- 41. The border of their inheritance is described in detail.
- 42. Nineteen cities with their villages are named.

The Land of Dan

- 43. The seventh lot came out for Dan.
- 44. The border of their inheritance is described in detail.
- 45. The border of Dan even went beyond the survey, because Dan went up to fight against Leshem and dwelt in it.
- 46. They called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

Joshua's Inheritance

- 47. When they finished dividing the land, the children of Israel gave an inheritance among them to Joshua.
- 48. According to the word of the Lord they gave him the city which he asked for, Timnath Serah in the mountains of Ephraim; and he built the city and dwelt in it.

Summary

49. "These were the inheritances which Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel divided as an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the Lord, at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. So they made an end of dividing the country." (Joshua 19:51)

GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN

1. I Want More!

A. Asking... for what was ALEADY promised...

- (1) Reminder: Caleb "...give me this mountain..." (See: <u>The</u> Promise Remains)
 - (a) Caleb reminds Joshua of what was promised to him...
 - 1. "Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him: "You know the word which the Lord said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh Barnea." Joshua 14:6 NKJV
 - a) Hey Josh, you remember the whole spy incident and what we were promised because we got it right (because of our faith and obedience)?
 - (b) I want it now. Caleb asks for what was promised!
 - 1. "Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the Lord spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the Lord will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the Lord said."" Joshua 14:12 NKJV
 - a) I am ready for what's mine! "Give me this mountain!"

- b) Caleb knows what he was promised and he is ready to take possession of it (even with the Giants in the way!).
- (c) Caleb is given his inheritance (what was promised!)
 - 1. "Now to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a share among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the Lord to Joshua, namely, **Kirjath** [city of] **Arba, which is Hebron (Arba was the father of Anak).** Caleb drove out the three sons of Anak from there: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak." Joshua 15:13-14 NKJV
 - a) Caleb gets his inheritance and then he is **faithful to take** possession of it!
- (2) Joshua's Request— "The city which he asked for..."
 - (a) Fast forward to Joshua 19:49-50...
 - 1. "When they had made an end of dividing the land as an inheritance according to their borders, the children of Israel gave an inheritance among them to Joshua the son of Nun. According to the word of the Lord they gave him the city which he asked for, Timnath Serah in the mountains of Ephraim; and he built the city and dwelt in it." Joshua 19:49-50 NKJV
 - a) Now it's Joshua's turn.

- b) At the very end of our portion Joshua get's what he asked for!
- c) Notice: he ASKED FOR for it!

B. Boldly asking for more than was offered...

- (1) Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.
 - (a) "So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance." Joshua 16:4 NKJV
 - 1. "The separate cities for the children of Ephraim were among the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages." Joshua 16:9 NKJV
 - a) Ephraim's inheritance was contained within the boundaries of Manasseh's territory.
 - 2. "And they did not drive out the Canaanites who dwelt in Gezer; but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites to this day and have become forced laborers. {12} "Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out the inhabitants of those cities, but the Canaanites were determined to dwell in that land. And it happened, when the children of Israel grew strong, that they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but did not utterly drive them out." Joshua 17:10, 12-13 NKJV

- a) Ephraim is unable to remove the Canaanites, so they are relegated to live with them.
 - 1) Note: the "Canaanites" occupied many regions of the promised land, so this is specifically referring to those Canaanites who were living in various areas of Ephraim's inheritance.
- b) As Ephraim becomes stronger, however, they treat the Canaanites as slaves.
- c) *Nevertheless, Ephraim is subjected to the reminder that the Canaanites are very determined people.
- d) This certainly must be a factor in what comes next!
- (2) Ephraim and Manasseh want MORE!
 - (a) "Why have you given us only one lot..."
 - 1. "Then the children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, "Why have you given us only one lot and one share to inherit, since we are a great people, inasmuch as the Lord has blessed us until now?"" Joshua 17:14 NKJV
 - a) Remember, of the original 12 tribes, Joseph was one and His two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, were later taken by Jacob, as if they were his own two sons (see: Genesis 48:15-16).

- b) As such, they became two tribes (making it 12 tribes who would receive an inheritance in the promised land.)
- c) Remember: The Levites have no land inheritance!
- d) However, Ephraim and Manasseh are dissatisfied because they feel they are getting only ONE PORTION (as if they were only one tribe—Joseph) so they ask for MORE!
- e) Don't you feel dissatisfied at times, like Yahweh has more for you? Is it appropriate to feel that way at times?
- f) Joshua's response to their dissatisfaction would seem to say that it is okay to ask for more—at certain times.
- g) We can conclude then, that it must have been within Yahweh's plan and will for them to do so.
- h) What does that mean for you and me? We must seek God first and if He says it's okay, then we can move forward with our request for MORE.
- i) What happens next teaches us yet another lesson!
- 2. "So Joshua answered them, "If you are a great people, then go up to the forest country and clear a place for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites

- and the **giants**, since the mountains of Ephraim are too confined for you."" Joshua 17:15 NKJV
- a) Joshua tells them that since they are so numerous and because they feel confined, that they can go take some extra land in the forest country (in the mountains).
- b) There are two things here to notice:
 - 1) They will have to do a lot of work to clear the land of trees!
 - 2) There are giants in the land! A microcosm of the original faith and obedience needed to enter the promised land. And...something to compare to Caleb's attitude as he actually REQUESTED the mountain with Giants on it (Joshua 14:12).
- 3. "But the children of Joseph said, "The mountain country is not enough for us; and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those who are of Beth Shean and its towns and those who are of the Valley of Jezreel."" Joshua 17:16 NKJV
 - a) Their response was twofold:
 - 1) The MORE you are offering is NOT ENOUGH!
 - 2) The MORE you are offering is TOO DIFFICULT!

- b) Remember, they already had a bad experience clearing Canaanites from the land (Joshua 17:12), and now they have to clear trees too!
- c) Plus, these Canaanites have chariots of iron!
- d) I'd like to refer you to my introduction. They had asked for more and they were granted more...

 ("Thank you Yahweh, what You've provided is amazing, but it's not complete; I'm certain there is more." Trust me, at times that is exactly what you ought to pray. However, following your bold request, it is critical you apply two safeguards.

 First, when Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible; take it because it's a guarantee. And secondly, when Yahweh grants more, take "It!"

 Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!)
- e) They should have graciously accepted what they were offered and had faith to "Take it!"
- 4. "And Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph—to Ephraim and Manasseh—saying, "You are a great people and have great power; you shall not have only one lot, but the mountain country shall be

yours. Although it is wooded, you shall cut it down, and its farthest extent shall be yours; for you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots and are strong."" Joshua 17:17-18 NKJV

- a) Joshua makes a ruling (notice the pattern)!
 - 1) **Agreed (asking for more was appropriate):** You are too great in number and powerful for just one lot to inherit. ("I'm certain there is more.")
 - 2) Denied (rejecting what was offered was not appropriate!): You are getting what I offered, the mountain with the trees and the giants and the Canaanites! (When Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible.)
 - 3) **Guarantee (what is offered is guaranteed):** "You shall drive out the Canaanites." ("When Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!

C. Give and Take

- (1) He is giving; are you taking?
 - (a) Are you faithful and obedient to Enter AND Possess what was promised to you? (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)

- 1. "Let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." James 1:4
- 2. "His divine power has **given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness,** through the knowledge
 of Him..." II Peter 1:3 NKJV
- 3. "God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19
- 4. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." II Corinthians 5:17 NKJV
- 5. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13 NKJV
- 6. "Having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. ...having been set free from sin, [you've] become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness..." Romans 6:18, 22
- (b) Or, are you rejecting what God has offered?
 - 1. "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" Luke 6:46 NKJV
 - a) Do you refuse to accept God's promises?
 - 1) "The mountain country is not enough for us; and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron..." Joshua 17:16

D. Come Boldly—asking for MORE (when it's appropriate)!

"Give me this Mountain!"

- (1) How to take more territory and seize more Authority...
 - (a) FIRST STEP: Seek what is on the Lord's heart and what He has to say!
 - 1. "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." John 10:27 NKJV
 - a) His sheep hear His voice...so you need not worry if you will get an answer.
 - b) Note to self: "No is an acceptable answer!"
 - 2. "But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge," II Peter 1:5 NKJV
 - a) Again I'd like to refer to the introduction: "If your first step forward in any decision or desire is not virtuous, seeking the Lord's heart, will, direction and approval, then your next step will always be into the abyss."
 - (b) SECOND STEP: Seek what the Lord has placed on your heart!
 - 1. "Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your

- **heart**. **Commit** your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass." Psalms 37:3-5 NKJV
- a) God has placed desires in your heart from eternity past. Your job is to root them out.
- b) When you have done step one FIRST, then your desires are ALWAYS His desires.
- c) What is the workflow to knowing the desires He has placed in your heart? Trust God; Delight in God; and Commit to God!
- d) In other words—Have faith; worship and thank Him; and be dedicated to obey Him!
- e) Note: Read all of Psalm 37 and how God will defeat our enemies (our giants) as a result of... trusting, delighting, and committing to Him!
- (c) THIRD STEP: Go to the Lord and ask for MORE boldly and with passion!
 - "Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16 NKJV
 - a) Approach God's heavenly courtroom to access His power with certainty—because you have already done STEPS ONE & TWO!

- b) That is why....
- 2. The **effective**, **fervent prayer** of <u>a righteous man</u> avails much." James 5:16 NKJV
 - a) Stipulation: Effective prayer comes only from righteous lips!
 - b) Righteousness: a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith; worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God! "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man..."
 - c) Do you recognize how all these pieces fit together?
- (2) Sample Boldness (See God's heart, your own heart, and then be bold!)
 - (a) Take down a giant...
 - "So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, and struck the Philistine and killed him.

 But there was no sword in the hand of David.

 Therefore David ran and stood over the Philistine, took his sword and drew it out of its sheath and killed him, and cut off his head with it. And when the Philistines saw that their champion was dead, they fled." I Samuel 17:50-51 NKJV

- a) David rushed at the giant and prevailed. This is the attitude the Ephraimites should have had on their mountain.
- b) Then, he removed the giant's head with his own sword!
 - 1) "The wicked have drawn the sword And have bent their bow, To cast down the poor and needy, To slay those who are of upright conduct. Their sword shall enter their own heart, And their bows shall be broken." Psalms 37:14-15 NKJV
- (b) Lay down with the lions...
 - 1. "Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you."" Daniel 6:21-22 NKJV
 - a) Daniel slept in peace with a den full of lions.
- (c) Strangle a bear...
 - 1. "But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from its mouth;

and when it arose against me, I caught it by its beard, and struck and killed it. **Your servant has killed both lion and bear;** and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God."" I Samuel 17:34-36 NKJV

- a) David boldly faced wild beasts with his bare hands!
- (d) Open an ocean...
 - 1. "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left." Exodus 14:21-22 NKJV
 - a) Moses waved his rod over the sea and the waters divided!
 - b) And the people crossed over on dry ground!
- (e) Hold back a raging river...
 - 1. "So it was, when the people set out from their camp to cross over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, **and the feet of**

the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), {16} that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan." Joshua 3:14-17 NKJV

- a) The feet of the priests stepped forward in authority!
- b) They touched the waters of the Jordan with their feet and the raging river stood still!
- c) The people walked over on dry ground!
- (3) Giants, lions, bears, oceans, rivers... and even MORE?
 - (a) I want stop the Sun!
 - 1. "Then Joshua spoke to the Lord ...and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge

Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? **So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven**, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day." Joshua 10:12-13 NKJV

- a) Joshua sought the Lord's will and then asked, and the sun stood still in the sky! (See: A Relaxed Voice)
- (b) Expect more...
 - "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly
 abundantly above all that we ask or think, according
 to the power that works in us," Ephesians 3:20 NKJV
 - a) He will do exceedingly abundantly above...
 - b) It is always His power working in us!
 - c) Expect more but, before you ask for more...
 - d) And more importantly, know His will before you ask for more!
- (c) Know His will!
 - 1. "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him." I John 5:14-15 NKJV

- a) Can you see why STEPS ONE, TWO and THREE are essential?
- b) You must know God's will and then ASK for more!
- c) Don't ask for more if He does not want you to ask!
- d) And when He does want you to ask, and He does want to give you more, don't turn down His offer when He gives it to you. **Take it!**
- (d) All this...so what a small thing it is to... take the mountain and remove the Canaanites!
 - 1. "But the children of Joseph said, "The mountain country is not enough for us; and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those who are of Beth Shean and its towns and those who are of the Valley of Jezreel."" Joshua 17:16 NKJV
 - a) When God says take it—take it!
 - b) Even if there are trees to clear, giants to slay, and Canaanites to move out of the way!

THE FOOT OF THE MATTER

2. Taking Holy Ground (It's the Heart of the Matter)

A. Holy Ground

(1) Take off your sandals...

- (a) Moses—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - 1. "Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. **Take** your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is **holy ground.**"" Exodus 3:5 NKJV
- (b) Joshua—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - "Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to
 Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place
 where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so." Joshua
 5:15 NKJV
- (2) Take off your sandals...
 - (a) Why? He wants to wash your feet!
 - "After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded." John 13:5 NKJV
 - a) Why must your feet be clean? Because you represent God and every place you step is holy ground!
 - 1) "but as He who called you is holy, you also **be holy in all your conduct**, because it is written,

 "**Be holy, for I am holy** (Lev. 19:2; 20:7, 26).""

 I Peter 1:15-16 NKJV

- 2) See all of Leviticus 19-20 about the call on His people to holiness!
- **B.** You are standing on holy ground! (Take off your sandals, so I can wash your feet...)
 - (1) Clean Feet
 - (a) Apostolic Footprints
 - 1. "Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded." John 13:3-5 NKJV
 - a) Why did Y'shua's disciples need their feet washed?
 - b) Certainly, in that day, as they walked from place to place in the dry dusty climate of Israel, their feet would have been very dirty, having worn sandals.
 - c) But it's more than just a physical need (to clean dusty feet); there are layers of pastoral and prophetic ministry here.
 - d) He was preparing them for something!

- e) One side is the pastoral: follow My example and do this for others. Go lower, be meek, be last and serve!
- f) The other is prophetic: Take off your sandals, you are standing on holy ground!
- 2. "Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean."" John 13:6-11 NKJV
 - a) Don't we just love impetuous outspoken Peter?
 - b) He creates so many opportunities for Y'shua to teach us important things!
 - c) Impetuous Peter: Lord, You are NOT going to wash my feet!

- d) Y'shua: Really Peter? Well, how is this; first of all, you have no idea why I am doing this, but you will one day! It's a prophetic thing! Secondly, if you won't participate, then you can't be part of what I am doing!
- e) Impetuous Peter: Okay, Okay Lord. If that's the case, wash every square inch of my body!
- f) Y'shua: You still don't get it. You are already clean (because you are Mine); it's just the clean feet thing here that is the prophetic message. FYI: not everyone is clean here! Judas has no part of Me!
- 3. "So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. {14] If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For *I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them." John 13:12-17 NKJV

- a) Y'shua then goes on to explain the pastoral position for why He washed their dusty feet...
 - 1) Do you know what I have done to you?
 - 2) I have given you an example of what you should do. A servant is not greater than his master, so...
 - 3) If I, as your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you must wash one another's feet.
 - 4) If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.
- b) Then Judas is identified and leaves the room. (John 13:18-30)
- c) In the midst of exposing Judas, the explanation of the foot washing takes a turn toward the prophetic!
 - "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives
 whomever I send receives Me; and he who
 receives Me receives Him who sent Me."" John
 13:20 NKJV
 - 2) We are going to come back to this in a moment!
- d) Then Y'shua elaborates on the Holy Moment (the prophetic moment)...
 - 1) A New Commandment I give... (John 13:31-35)
 - 2) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you

- also love one another. **By this all will know that you are My disciples,** if you have love for one another."" John 13:34-35 NKJV
- 3) You see—there must be a way to distinguish between His chosen sent ones and everyone else. They love like He loves; they are holy like He is holy; they are standing on holy ground with clean feet!
- 4) And when they are out being "those disciples", and they are rejected, they are to wipe the dust from their feet (with His towel) to keep them clean. Because they are ALWAYS standing on holy ground.
- 5) You see: "he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." John 13:20
- e) Then Y'shua predicts Impetuous Peter's Denial (John 13:36-38)
- f) The Rest of the Upper Room Discourse (URD) is Y'shua's most lengthy and prophetic sermon of His earthly ministry. (See John 14-17)
- g) See <u>PASSOVER</u> teaching for a detailed elaboration on the URD.

- (2) I have given you this as an example. Clean feet does not just have a pastoral application! You should imitate it for prophetic reasons as well!
 - (a) Take off your sandals Moses—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - "Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."" Exodus 3:5 NKJV
 - (b) Take off your sandals Joshua—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - "Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to
 Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place
 where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so." Joshua
 5:15 NKJV
 - (c) Take off your sandals disciple—Why? He wants to wash your feet! Because you are standing on HOLY GROUND
 - "After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded." John 13:5 NKJV
- (3) Dusty feet! That is why I told you to clean your feet when you enter a place where they won't receive you!

- (a) Apostolic Footprints (the sending out!)
 - 1. (Matthew 10:1-4) He sends out the twelve. He gives them power over unclean spirits and to heal the sick!
 - 2. (Matthew 10:5-10) He sends them to preach that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand (Like John the Baptist in Matthew 3:1-2 and Y'Shua in Matthew 4:17.

 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.") He also tells them take no extra sandals! (They must be really careful to take care of their feet!)
 - 3. (Matthew 10:11-15) Shake the dust off your feet if those to whom you preach the kingdom will not receive you nor hear your words.
 - a) "And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet." Matthew 10:14 NKJV (Food for Thought: Maybe they were not received because they were dusty—not holy!)
 - b) "he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me." John 13:20
- (b) Mark specifically tells them to wear sandals....
 - 1. "but to wear sandals, and not to put on two tunics.

 Also He said to them, "In whatever place you enter a

- house, stay there till you depart from that place. And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them." Mark 6:9-11NKJV
- a) Why? Because later Y'shua would teach them why they needed to remove them. And He "...began to wash the disciples' feet..." John 13:5
- b) Just like He told Moses: "Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Exodus 3:5
- (c) Luke adds some prophetic juice when we look back on his words from the Upper Room Discourse (John 13-17)
 - 1. "And whoever will not receive you, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony [like Mark says] against them." Luke 9:5 NKJV
 - a) Why? Wash your feet as a testimony to distinguish the holy from the unholy. You will understand this later when I wash your feet!
 - "that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean, and that you may teach the children of Israel all the

- **statutes** which the Lord has spoken to them by the hand of Moses."" Leviticus 10:10-11 NKJV
- (d) Luke reports what happened when the disciples returned with testimonies!
 - 1. "Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. {19} Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."" Luke 10:17-19 NKJV
 - a) Y'Shua reveals the disciples' authority to take whatever territory He gives to them!
 - "And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen." Romans 16:20 NKJV
 - b) Go wherever God tells you to go—those steps are anointed (they carry the authority of God!)
 - 1) "A man's heart plans his way, But **the Lord directs his steps**." Proverbs 16:9 NKJV
- C. Taking what has already been promised
 - (1) Every place the sole of your feet treads
 - (a) Joshua was handed the reigns...

- 1. "Then He [Moses] inaugurated Joshua the son of Nun, and said, "Be strong and of good courage; for you shall bring the children of Israel into the land of which I swore to them, and I will be with you.""

 Deuteronomy 31:23 NKJV
- 2. "After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that **the Lord spoke to Joshua** the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: "Moses My servant is dead. **Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan**, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel." Joshua 1:1-2 NKJV
 - a) Joshua is passed the mantle of Moses to bring the people into the promised land.
 - b) After Moses died, Joshua is told to arise, go over the Jordan...
- "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses." Joshua 1:3 NKJV
 - a) He was promised exactly what Moses was promised in Deuteronomy 11:24.
 - b) Wherever his foot lands he will have authority over!

- 4. "Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the Lord my God. So Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children's forever, because you have wholly followed the Lord my God.'" Joshua 14:8-9 NKJV
 - a) Joshua had guarantees for his faithfulness.
 - b) He spied out the land and gave a good report.
 - c) He was made promises (corporate and personal).
 - d) "Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance."
- (2) The Precedent was set by Moses
 - (a) Excerpts from Deuteronomy 11:22-32
 - "For if you carefully keep all these commandments...
 — then the Lord will drive out all these nations ...and you will dispossess greater and mightier nations than yourselves." Deuteronomy 11:22-23 NKJV
 - 2. "Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours..." Deuteronomy 11:24 NKJV
 - 3. "No man shall be able to stand against you; ...the fear of you upon all the land where you tread..."

 Deuteronomy 11:25 NKJV

- 4. "I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey ... and the curse, if you do not obey... For you will cross over the Jordan and go in to possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you, and you will possess it and dwell in it. And you shall be careful to observe all the statutes and judgments..." Deuteronomy 11:26-32 NKJV
 - a) Obey every commandment of the Lord, and...
 - b) He will drive out every nation in your path, no matter how mighty, and...
 - c) You will have authority over every place your feet land, and...
 - d) You will enter and possess the promised land, and...
 - e) Did I say you will obey every one of My commands?

D. These feet will do the walking...right up to the mountaintop!

- (1) Powerful Footsteps
 - (a) Crossing the Jordan
 - 1. "...as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come

- down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap."" Joshua 3:13 NKJV
- 2. "So it was, when ...the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap... Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground ...and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan." Joshua 3:14-17 NKJV
 - a) As soon as the priests feet touched the water of the Jordan, it dried up, and the people walked over on dry ground.
 - b) Why? Because they were obedient to do so!

E. Beautiful Feet (those washed by Y'shua—standing on holy ground!)

- (1) Back to Joshua!
 - (a) You must take the ground you are offered!
 - 1. **The Children of Joseph:** "The mountain country is not enough for us!" (Joshua 17:16)
 - 2. **Joshua:** "The mountain is enough for you, that's the final offer!" (Joshua 17:17)

- 3. **Promise:** "You will conquer the mountain!" (Joshua 17:18)
- (2) Beautiful Footsteps
 - (a) Feet that are willing to stand on the mountain!
 - 1. "How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7 NKJV
 - 2. "And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"" Romans 10:15 NKJV
 - a) Good news about good things?
 - b) Go take the mountain; victory and peace!
 - (b) Take the mountain against God's Enemies!
 - 1. "God is jealous, and the Lord avenges; The Lord avenges and is furious. The Lord will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies; The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked. The Lord has His way In the whirlwind and in the storm, And the clouds are the dust of His feet... {14} The

Lord has given a command concerning you: "Your name shall be perpetuated no longer. Out of the house of your gods I will cut off the carved image and the molded image. I will dig your grave, For you are vile." Behold, on the mountains The feet of him who brings good tidings, Who proclaims peace! O Judah, keep your appointed feasts, Perform your vows. For the wicked one shall no more pass through you; He is utterly cut off."Nahum 1:2-3, 14-15 NKJV

- a) The Lord avenges his people and is furious with His enemies.
- b) He will not exonerate the wicked; they will be defeated.
- c) He will dig their graves and the feet of those who bring good news will take the mountain.
- (c) Put on the whole armor of God (See Ephesians 6:10-20)
 - 1. "...and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace..." Ephesians 6:15 NKJV
 - a) If you want take the mountain—get your feet moving!
- (3) Wise Footsteps (some practical walking advice)
 - (a) Ponder the path of your feet!

- {18} "But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is like darkness; They do not know what makes them stumble. My son, give attention to my words; Incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your eyes; Keep them in the midst of your heart; For they are life to those who find them, And health to all their flesh. Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, And put perverse lips far from you. Let your eyes look straight ahead, And your eyelids look right before you. {26} Ponder the path of your feet, And let all your ways **be established.** Do not turn to the right or the left; Remove your foot from evil." Proverbs 4:18-27 NKJV
 - a) The path of the righteous is a bright as the sun when the sun is at it's highest point in the sky.
 - b) Consider your every step carefully, because your every step takes territory. You will want to be certain you actually want the land you are taking.
 - c) Remember: Righteousness is defined by a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith;

- worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God!
- 1) The **effective, fervent prayer** of <u>a righteous man</u> avails much." James 5:16
- (4) Foolish Footsteps
 - (a) About heeding evil counsel...
 - 1. "For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood. Surely, in vain the net is spread In the sight of any bird; But they lie in wait for their own blood, They lurk secretly for their own lives. So are the ways of everyone who is greedy for gain; It takes away the life of its owners." Proverbs 1:16-19 NKJV
 - a) When you take advice from those who practice evil, what will will happen to you?
 - b) We know what happens to them: it takes the life of it's owners.
 - (b) About Immorality...
 - 1. "My son, pay attention to my wisdom; Lend your ear to my understanding, That you may preserve discretion, And your lips may keep knowledge. For the lips of an immoral woman drip honey, And her mouth is smoother than oil; But in the end she is bitter as wormwood, Sharp as a two-edged sword. {5}

Her feet go down to death, Her steps lay hold of hell. Lest you ponder her path of life— Her ways are unstable; You do not know them. Therefore hear me now, my children, And do not depart from the words of my mouth. Remove your way far from her, And do not go near the door of her house, Lest you give your honor to others, And your years to the cruel one; Lest aliens be filled with your wealth, And your labors go to the house of a foreigner;" Proverbs 5:1-10 NKJV

- a) Be wise; don't be enticed by a seductress!
- b) She will lead you down a path of destruction.
- c) Don't even go near her, lest you be associated with all those who fall with her!
- (c) About perversity...
 - "A worthless person, a wicked man, Walks with a perverse mouth; {13} He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his feet, He points with his fingers;
 Perversity is in his heart, He devises evil continually, He sows discord. Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken without remedy." Proverbs 6:12-15 NKJV

- a) A man who appears unsure of his steps (direction), who moves this way and that way, is not to be trusted.
- b) His downfall will be sudden. Don't fall with him!(d) About things the Lord hates...
 - 1. "These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, {18} A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren." Proverbs 6:16-19 NKJV
 - a) Feet that are swift in running to evil!
 - b) Don't be an abomination to the Lord.

KINGS AND AMBASSADORS

3. An Ambassador's Footprint

A. Walking on Rough Terrain

- (1) Crisis Management!
 - (a) The mountain is yours if you will take it!
 - 1. "but **the mountain country shall be yours.** Although it is wooded, you shall cut it down, and its farthest extent shall be yours; for **you shall drive out the**

Canaanites, though they have iron chariots and are strong."" Joshua 17:18 NKJV

- (b) Preface: Why all the struggle?
 - 1. "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you." II Corinthians 4:7-12 NKJV
 - a) So when all looks lost—"the life of Jesus may be manifested in our body."
- (c) How does He manifest in us? Love God with radical obedience!
 - 1. "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." ... "Lord, how is it that You will

manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?" Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him." John 14:21-23 NKJV

- a) Remember: Righteousness is defined by a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith; worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God!
- b) And a Disciple is known by his love!
 - 1) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35 NKJV
- c) Get your feet washed...stand on holy ground... and realize, that on that holy ground you are to love others like He loved,
- (d) What else can you do when you are hard-pressed on every side? Repent and Pray!
 - 1. "Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The

- effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." James 5:16 NKJV
- a) Righteousness—seek God first in all things, live by faith; worship and thank God for everything; and be radically obedience!
- b) And when you make an error! REPENT!

B. A King's Footsteps

- (1) OBJECT LESSON! (Excerpts from II Kings 19)
 - (a) Sennacherib's Threat
 - 1. "...So he again sent messengers to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus you shall speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying: 'Do not let your God in whom you trust deceive you, saying, "Jerusalem shall not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria." Look! You have heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands by utterly destroying them; and shall you be delivered? Have the gods of the nations delivered those whom my fathers have destroyed...

[Sennacherib names names in his letter]." II Kings 19:8-13 NKJV

a) Sennacherib wants to convince Hezekiah that he has no shot defending himself, nor can his God help.

- b) Why? No other nation's gods could do so!
- (b) Hezekiah's Prayer
 - 1. And Hezekiah received the letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it; and Hezekiah went up to the house of the Lord, and spread it before the **Lord.** [first step after faith is virtue—to seek God's heart, will, direction and approval] Then **Hezekiah** prayed before the Lord, and said: "O Lord God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, **You are God, You alone**, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth. Incline Your ear, O Lord, and hear; open Your eyes, O Lord, and see; and hear the words of Sennacherib, which he has sent to reproach the living God. Truly, Lord, the kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, and have cast their gods into the fire; for they were not gods, but the work of men's hands—wood and stone. Therefore they destroyed them. **Now** therefore, O Lord our God, I pray, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the Lord God, You alone."" II Kings 19:14-19 NKIV

- a) Hezekiah read the letter and does immediately what he should do; he seeks Yahweh in prayer.
- b) I am asking for MORE! You see what Sennacherib is saying about You! Now save us Lord!
- (c) Yahweh is Granting MORE!
 - "Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Because **you have prayed** [because you asked for MORE] to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have **heard.**' This is the word which the Lord has spoken **concerning him:** 'The virgin, the daughter of Zion, Has despised you, laughed you to scorn; The daughter of Jerusalem Has shaken her head behind your back! 'Whom have you reproached and blasphemed? Against whom have you raised your voice, And lifted up your eyes on high? Against the Holy One of Israel. [by making Israel your enemy you have made Yahweh your enemy] By your messengers you have reproached the Lord, And said: "By the multitude of my chariots I have come up to the height of the mountains, To the limits of Lebanon; I will cut down its **tall cedars** And its choice cypress trees; I will enter the extremity of its borders, To its

fruitful forest. I have dug and drunk strange water, And with the soles of my feet I have dried up All the brooks of defense." 'Did you not hear long ago How I made it, From ancient times that I formed it? Now I have brought it to pass, That you should be For crushing fortified cities into heaps of ruins. Therefore their inhabitants had little power; [those past nations you defeated, I used you for that—in other words, they did not have Me, the only true God, to protect them!] They were dismayed and confounded; They were as the grass of the field And the green herb, As the grass on the housetops And grain blighted before it is grown. 'But I know your dwelling place, Your going out and your coming in, And your rage against Me. [but I am not like those] other God that you can come against and get away with it!] Because your rage against Me and your tumult Have come up to My ears, Therefore I will put My hook in your nose And My bridle in your lips, And I will turn you back By the way which you **came.** [I will turn you back to from where you came!] 'This shall be a sign to you [Hezekiah—you will rise again and prosper]: You shall eat this year such as

grows of itself, And in the second year what springs from the same; Also in the third year sow and reap, Plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. And the remnant who have escaped of the house of Judah Shall again take root downward, And bear fruit **upward.** For out of Jerusalem shall go a remnant, And those who escape from Mount Zion. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.' "Therefore thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria [as for Sennacherib, he will not be able to get near Jerusalem]: 'He shall not come into this city, Nor shoot an arrow there, Nor come before it with shield, Nor build a siege mound against it. By the way that he came, By the same shall he return; And he shall not come into this city,' Says the Lord. 'For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David's sake.' "" II Kings 19:20-34 NKJV

- a) The Word of the Lord Concerning Sennacherib—because of Hezekiah's prayer...
- b) By making Israel your enemy, you have made Yahweh your enemy.
- c) The reason Sennacherib defeated all those other nations is because Yahweh used him to do so!

- d) They had no God to protect them.
- e) Israel will rise again and prosper.
- f) Sennacherib will not get near Jerusalem.
- (d) Take the MORE—Sennacherib's Defeat and Death
 - 1. "And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the Lord went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and went away, returned home, and remained at Nineveh. Now it came to pass, as he was worshiping in the temple of Nisroch his god, that his sons Adrammelech and Sharezer struck him down with the sword [God used the enemy's own sword to kill him! See Psalms 37:14-15]; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. Then Esarhaddon his son reigned in his place." II Kings 19:35-37 NKJV
 - a) The angel of the Lord annihilates Sennacherib's camp.
 - b) And when he returns home his own sons strike him down with the sword.
 - c) Also see: <u>Fire, Worms & Warring Angels</u>

C. An Ambassador's Footsteps

- (1) You are leaving your footprints on holy ground!
 - (a) Apostolic Footprints
 - 1. **Apostle:** a vigorous and pioneering advocate or supporter of a particular policy, idea, or cause: advocate, apologist, proponent, promoter, spokesman, supporter, upholder, champion; campaigner, crusader, pioneer; adherent, believer; The Hebrew concept of an apostle speaks of one who is instructed (Instructed Footprints).
 - a) "A man's heart plans his way, **But the Lord directs** [instructs] **his steps**." Proverbs 16:9
 - b) "These twelve **Jesus sent out** and commanded them *[instructed them]*, saying..." Matthew 10:5
 - (b) Ambassador Footprints
 - Ambassador: An accredited diplomat sent by a
 country as its official representative (under his
 country's authority) to a foreign country; a person
 who acts as a representative or promoter of a
 specified authority, agenda, or activity; an emissary;
 a sent one.
 - a) Authority: "For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a

- command, what I should say and what I should speak." John 12:49 NKJV
- b) Agenda: "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority." John 7:16-17 NKJV
- c) Activity: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us..." II Corinthians 5:20
- d) See: Ministers of Reconciliation (<u>A Relaxed Voice</u>)
- (c) Personal Footprints
 - 1. **Personal Space:** The physical space immediately surrounding someone; the region surrounding a person which they regard as their space. The personal territory over which one presumes authority and responsibility.
 - a) Your Space: "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses." Joshua 1:3 (from Deuteronomy 11:24)
 - b) Your Authority: "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all

- the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Luke 10:19 NKJV
- c) Your Responsibility: "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers." Ephesians 4:29 NKJV

D. Apostolic Footprints

- (1) Expect More Take More
 - (a) They wanted more...
 - "But the children of Joseph said, "The mountain country is not enough for us..."" Joshua 17:16 NKJV
 - (b) Do you want more?
 - "to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge;
 that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.
 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly
 abundantly above all that we ask or think, according
 to the power that works in us," Ephesians 3:19-20
 NKJV
- (2) Looking Back and Looking Ahead
 - (a) Looking Back (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)
 - 1. "How long will you neglect to go and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers has given you?" Joshua 18:3 NKJV

- a) Israel hesitated to take what was promised!
- (b) Looking Ahead
 - 1. "So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand. Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass." Joshua 21:43-45 NKJV
 - a) Israel took possession of what was promised and God gave them rest! (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)
 - b) Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken!
- (c) The Question Remains...
 - 1. "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?" Luke 6:46 NKJV
 - 2. Remedy:
 - a) Step One: Seek what is on the Lord's heart and what He has to say!
 - b) Step Two: Seek what the Lord has placed on your heart!

- c) Step Three: Go to the Lord and ask for MORE boldly and with passion!
- 3. "A man's heart plans his way, But **the Lord directs his steps**." Proverbs 16:9 NKJV
 - a) You must be able to determine when you ought to feel satisfied, and when you ought to press into Yahweh for something more.
 - b) Distinguishing which attitude is appropriate depends on God's plan for mankind, and for you personally.
 - c) You must immerse yourself completely in His will, and expand your imagination beyond human limitations.
 - d) Overflow with the power of God working in you. He means you to have immeasurably more than all you ask, think or imagine.
 - e) However, do not let your imagination run wild; asking for more hinges on knowing God's will and His promises.
 - f) If your first step forward in any decision or desire is not virtuous, seeking the Lord's heart, will, direction and approval, then your next step will always be into the abyss.

- g) However, when you seek God's heart and hear His voice, and you willingly submit to His direction and approval, you are then free to be as bold as imaginable.
- h) Take down a giant, lay down with lions, strangle a bear, open an ocean, hold back a raging river, and occupy a mountain.
- Sometimes God wants you to take more land, occupy higher ground, maybe even seize more authority.
- j) **Pray:** "Thank you Yahweh, what You've provided is amazing, but it's not complete; I'm certain there is more."
- k) Warning: apply two safeguards—
 - 1) When Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible; take it because it's a guarantee.
 - 2) When Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!

Summary: GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN

1. I Want More!

A. Asking... for what was ALEADY promised...

- (1) Reminder: Caleb "...give me this mountain..." (See: <u>The</u> Promise Remains)
 - (a) Caleb reminds Joshua of what was promised to him...
 - 1. Hey Josh, you remember the whole spy incident and what we were promised because we got it right (because of our faith and obedience)?
 - (b) I want it now. Caleb asks for what was promised!
 - 1. I am ready for what's mine! "Give me this mountain!"
 - 2. Caleb knows what he was promised and he is **ready to take** possession of it (even with the Giants in the way!).
 - (c) Caleb is given his inheritance (what was promised!)
 - Caleb gets his inheritance and then he is <u>faithful to</u> <u>take</u> possession of it!
- (2) Joshua's Request— "The city which he asked for..."
 - (a) Fast forward to Joshua 19:49-50...
 - 1. Now it's Joshua's turn.
 - 2. At the very end of our portion Joshua get's what he asked for!
 - 3. Notice: he ASKED FOR for it!

B. Boldly asking for more than was offered...

- (1) Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.
 - (a) Manasseh and Ephraim took their inheritance.
 - Ephraim's inheritance was contained within the boundaries of Manasseh's territory.
 - 2. Ephraim is unable to remove the Canaanites, so they are relegated to live with them.
 - 3. Note: the "Canaanites" occupied many regions of the promised land, so this is specifically referring to those Canaanites who were living in various areas of Ephraim's inheritance.
 - 4. As Ephraim becomes stronger, however, they treat the Canaanites as slaves.
 - 5. *Nevertheless, Ephraim is subjected to the reminder that the Canaanites are very determined people.
 - 6. This certainly must be a factor in what comes next!
- (2) Ephraim and Manasseh want MORE!
 - (a) "Why have you given us only one lot..."
 - 1. Remember, of the original 12 tribes, Joseph was one and His two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, were later taken by Jacob, as if they were his own two sons (see: Genesis 48:15-16).

- 2. As such, they became two tribes (making it 12 tribes who would receive an inheritance in the promised land.)
- 3. Remember: The Levites have no land inheritance!
- 4. However, Ephraim and Manasseh are dissatisfied because they feel they are getting only ONE PORTION (as if they were only one tribe—Joseph) so they ask for MORE!
- 5. Don't you feel dissatisfied at times, like Yahweh has more for you? Is it appropriate to feel that way at times?
- 6. Joshua's response to their dissatisfaction would seem to say that it is okay to ask for more—at certain times.
- 7. We can conclude then, that it must have been within Yahweh's plan and will for them to do so.
- 8. What does that mean for you and me? We must seek God first and if He says it's okay, then we can move forward with our request for MORE.
- 9. What happens next teaches us yet another lesson!
- 10. Joshua tells them that since they are so numerous and because they feel confined, that they can go take some extra land in the forest country (in the mountains).

- 11. There are two things here to notice:
 - 1) They will have to do a lot of work to clear the land of trees!
 - 2) There are giants in the land! A microcosm of the original faith and obedience needed to enter the promised land. And...something to compare to Caleb's attitude as he actually REQUESTED the mountain with Giants on it (Joshua 14:12).
- 12. Their response was twofold:
 - 1) The MORE you are offering is NOT ENOUGH!
 - 2) The MORE you are offering is TOO DIFFICULT!
- 13. Remember, they already had a bad experience clearing Canaanites from the land (Joshua 17:12), and now they have to clear trees too!
- 14. Plus, these Canaanites have chariots of iron!
- 15. I'd like to refer you to my introduction. They had asked for more and they were granted more...

 ("Thank you Yahweh, what You've provided is amazing, but it's not complete; I'm certain there is more." Trust me, at times that is exactly what you ought to pray. However, following your bold request, it is critical you apply two safeguards. First, when Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to

- work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible; take it because it's a guarantee. And secondly, when Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!)
- 16. They should have graciously accepted what they were offered and had faith to "Take it!"
- 17. Joshua makes a ruling (notice the pattern)!
 - 1) **Agreed (asking for more was appropriate):** You are too great in number and powerful for just one lot to inherit. ("I'm certain there is more.")
 - 2) Denied (rejecting what was offered was not appropriate!): You are getting what I offered, the mountain with the trees and the giants and the Canaanites! (When Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible.)
 - 3) Guarantee (what is offered is guaranteed): "You shall drive out the Canaanites." ("When Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!

C. Give and Take

(1) He is giving; are you taking?

- (a) Are you faithful and obedient to Enter AND Possess what was promised to you? (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)
- (b) Or, are you rejecting what God has offered?
- (c) Do you refuse to accept God's promises?

D. Come Boldly—asking for MORE (when it's appropriate)!

"Give me this Mountain!"

- (1) How to take more territory and seize more Authority...
 - (a) FIRST STEP: Seek what is on the Lord's heart and what He has to say!
 - 1. His sheep hear His voice...so you need not worry if you will get an answer.
 - 2. Note to self: "No is an acceptable answer!"
 - 3. Again I'd like to refer to the introduction: "If your first step forward in any decision or desire is not virtuous, seeking the Lord's heart, will, direction and approval, then your next step will always be into the abyss."
 - (b) SECOND STEP: Seek what the Lord has placed on your heart!
 - 1. God has placed desires in your heart from eternity past. Your job is to root them out.
 - 2. When you have done step one FIRST, then your desires are ALWAYS His desires.

- 3. What is the workflow to knowing the desires He has placed in your heart? Trust God; Delight in God; and Commit to God!
- 4. In other words—Have faith; worship and thank Him; and be dedicated to obey Him!
- 5. Note: Read all of Psalm 37 and how God will defeat our enemies (our giants) as a result of...trusting, delighting, and committing to Him!
- (c) THIRD STEP: Go to the Lord and ask for MORE boldly and with passion!
 - Approach God's heavenly courtroom to access His power with certainty—because you have already done STEPS ONE & TWO!
 - 2. That is why....The **effective, fervent prayer** of **a righteous man** avails much."
 - a) Stipulation: Effective prayer comes only from righteous lips!
 - b) Righteousness: a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith; worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God! "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man..."
 - c) Do you recognize how all these pieces fit together?

- (2) Sample Boldness (See God's heart, your own heart, and then be bold!)
 - (a) Take down a giant...
 - David rushed at the giant and prevailed. This is the attitude the Ephraimites should have had on their mountain.
 - 2. Then, he removed the giant's head with his own sword!
 - (b) Lay down with the lions...
 - 1. Daniel slept in peace with a den full of lions.
 - (c) Strangle a bear...
 - 1. David boldly faced wild beasts with his bare hands!
 - (d) Open an ocean...
 - 1. Moses waved his rod over the sea and the waters divided!
 - 2. And the people crossed over on dry ground!
 - (e) Hold back a raging river...
 - The feet of the priests stepped forward in authority!
 - 2. They touched the waters of the Jordan with their feet and the raging river stood still!
 - 3. The people walked over on dry ground!
- (3) Giants, lions, bears, oceans, rivers... and even MORE?
 - (a) I want stop the Sun!

- 1. Joshua sought the Lord's will and then asked, and the sun stood still in the sky! (See: <u>A Relaxed Voice</u>)
- (b) Expect more...
 - 1. He will do exceedingly abundantly above...
 - 2. It is always His power working in us!
 - 3. Expect more but, before you ask for more...
 - 4. And more importantly, know His will before you ask for more!
- (c) Know His will!
 - 1. Can you see why STEPS ONE, TWO and THREE are essential?
 - 2. You must know God's will and then ASK for more!
 - 3. Don't ask for more if He does not want you to ask!
 - 4. And when He does want you to ask, and He does want to give you more, don't turn down His offer when He gives it to you. **Take it!**
- (d) All this...so what a small thing it is to... take the mountain and remove the Canaanites!
 - 1. When God says take it—take it!
 - Even if there are trees to clear, giants to slay, and Canaanites to move out of the way!

Summary: THE FOOT OF THE MATTER

2. Taking Holy Ground (It's the Heart of the Matter)

A. Holy Ground

- (1) Take off your sandals...
 - (a) Moses—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - (b) Joshua—you are standing on Holy Ground!
- (2) Take off your sandals...
 - (a) Why? He wants to wash your feet!
 - 1. Why must your feet be clean? Because you represent God and every place you step is holy ground!
 - 2. See all of Leviticus 19-20 about the call on His people to holiness!
- **B.** You are standing on holy ground! (Take off your sandals, so I can wash your feet...)
 - (1) Clean Feet
 - (a) Apostolic Footprints
 - 1. Why did Y'shua's disciples need their feet washed?
 - 2. Certainly, in that day, as they walked from place to place in the dry dusty climate of Israel, their feet would have been very dirty, having worn sandals.
 - 3. But it's more than just a physical need (to clean dusty feet); there are layers of pastoral and prophetic ministry here.

- 4. He was preparing them for something!
- 5. One side is the pastoral: follow My example and do this for others. Go lower, be meek, be last and serve!
- 6. The other is prophetic: Take off your sandals, you are standing on holy ground!
- 7. Don't we just love impetuous outspoken Peter?
- 8. He creates so many opportunities for Y'shua to teach us important things!
- 9. Impetuous Peter: Lord, You are NOT going to wash my feet!
- 10. Y'shua: Really Peter? Well, how is this; first of all, you have no idea why I am doing this, but you will one day! It's a prophetic thing! Secondly, if you won't participate, then you can't be part of what I am doing!
- 11. Impetuous Peter: Okay, Okay Lord. If that's the case, wash every square inch of my body!
- 12. Y'shua: You still don't get it. You are already clean (because you are Mine); it's just the clean feet thing here that is the prophetic message. FYI: not everyone is clean here! Judas has no part of Me!
- 13. Y'shua then goes on to explain the pastoral position for why He washed their dusty feet...

- Do you know what I have done to you?
- 2) I have given you an example of what you should do. A servant is not greater than his master, so...
- 3) If I, as your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you must wash one another's feet.
- 4) If you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.
- e) Then Judas is identified and leaves the room. (John 13:18-30)
- 14. In the midst of exposing Judas, the explanation of the foot washing takes a turn toward the prophetic!
- 15. Then Y'shua elaborates on the Holy Moment (the prophetic moment)...
 - 1) A New Commandment I give... (John 13:31-35)
 - 2) You see—there must be a way to distinguish between His chosen sent ones and everyone else. They love like He loves; they are holy like He is holy; they are standing on holy ground with clean feet!
 - 3) And when they are out being "those disciples", and they are rejected, they are to wipe the dust from their feet (with His towel) to keep them

- clean. Because they are ALWAYS standing on holy ground.
- 16. Then Y'shua predicts Impetuous Peter's Denial (John 13:36-38)
- 17. The Rest of the Upper Room Discourse (URD) is Y'shua's most lengthy and prophetic sermon of His earthly ministry. (See John 14-17)
- 18. See <u>PASSOVER</u> teaching for a detailed elaboration on the URD.
- (2) I have given you this as an example. Clean feet does not just have a pastoral application! You should imitate it for prophetic reasons as well!
 - (a) Take off your sandals Moses—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - (b) Take off your sandals Joshua—you are standing on Holy Ground!
 - (c) Take off your sandals disciple—Why? He wants to wash your feet! Because you are standing on HOLY GROUND
- (3) Dusty feet! That is why I told you to clean your feet when you enter a place where they won't receive you!
 - (a) Apostolic Footprints (the sending out!)

- 1. (Matthew 10:1-4) He sends out the twelve. He gives them power over unclean spirits and to heal the sick!
- 2. (Matthew 10:5-10) He sends them to preach that the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand (Like John the Baptist in Matthew 3:1-2 and Y'Shua in Matthew 4:17.

 "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.") He also tells them take no extra sandals! (They must be really careful to take care of their feet!)
- 3. (Matthew 10:11-15) Shake the dust off your feet if those to whom you preach the kingdom will not receive you nor hear your words. (Food for Thought: Maybe they were not received because they were dusty—not holy!)
- (b) Mark specifically tells them to wear sandals....
 - 1. Why? Because later Y'shua would teach them why they needed to remove them. And He "...began to wash the disciples' feet..." John 13:5
 - Just like He told Moses: "Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Exodus 3:5
- (c) Luke adds some prophetic juice when we look back on his words from the Upper Room Discourse (John 13-17)

- 1. Why? Wash your feet as a testimony to distinguish the holy from the unholy. You will understand this later when I wash your feet!
- (d) Luke reports what happened when the disciples returned with testimonies!
 - 1. Y'Shua reveals the disciples' authority to take whatever territory He gives to them!
 - 2. Go wherever God tells you to go—those steps are anointed (they carry the authority of God!)

C. Taking what has already been promised

- (1) Every place the sole of your feet treads
 - (a) Joshua was handed the reigns...
 - 1. Joshua is passed the mantle of Moses to bring the people into the promised land.
 - 2. After Moses died, Joshua is told to arise, go over the Jordan...
 - 3. He was promised exactly what Moses was promised in Deuteronomy 11:24.
 - 4. Wherever his foot lands he will have authority over!
 - 1) Joshua had guarantees for his faithfulness.
 - 2) He spied out the land and gave a good report.
 - 3) He was made promises (corporate and personal).

- 4) "Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance."
- (2) The Precedent was set by Moses
 - (a) Excerpts from Deuteronomy 11:22-32
 - 1. Obey every commandment of the Lord, and...
 - 2. He will drive out every nation in your path, no matter how mighty, and...
 - 3. You will have authority over every place your feet land, and...
 - 4. You will enter and possess the promised land, and...
 - 5. Did I say you will obey every one of My commands?

D. These feet will do the walking...right up to the mountaintop!

- (1) Powerful Footsteps
 - (a) Crossing the Jordan
 - 1. As soon as the priests feet touched the water of the Jordan, it dried up, and the people walked over on dry ground.
 - 2. Why? Because they were obedient to do so!

E. <u>Beautiful Feet (those washed by Y'shua—standing on holy ground!)</u>

- (1) Back to Joshua!
 - (a) You must take the ground you are offered!

- 1. **The Children of Joseph:** "The mountain country is not enough for us!" (Joshua 17:16)
- 2. **Joshua:** "The mountain is enough for you, that's the final offer!" (Joshua 17:17)
- 3. **Promise:** "You will conquer the mountain!" (Joshua 17:18)
- (2) Beautiful Footsteps
 - (a) Feet that are willing to stand on the mountain!
 - 1. Good news about good things?
 - 2. Go take the mountain; victory and peace!
 - (b) Take the mountain against God's Enemies!
 - 1. The Lord avenges his people and is furious with His enemies.
 - 2. He will not exonerate the wicked; they will be defeated.
 - 3. He will dig their graves and the feet of those who bring good news will take the mountain.
 - (c) Put on the whole armor of God (See Ephesians 6:10-20)
 - 1. If you want take the mountain—get your feet moving!
- (3) Wise Footsteps (some practical walking advice)
 - (a) Ponder the path of your feet!
 - 1. The path of the righteous is a bright as the sun when the sun is at it's highest point in the sky.

- 2. Consider your every step carefully, because your every step takes territory. You will want to be certain you actually want the land you are taking.
- 3. Remember: Righteousness is defined by a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith; worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God!

(4) Foolish Footsteps

- (a) About heeding evil counsel...
 - 1. When you take advice from those who practice evil, what will happen to you?
 - 2. We know what happens to them: it takes the life of it's owners.
- (b) About Immorality...
 - 1. Be wise; don't be enticed by a seductress!
 - 2. She will lead you down a path of destruction.
 - 3. Don't even go near her, lest you be associated with all those who fall with her!
- (c) About perversity...
 - A man who appears unsure of his steps (direction), who moves this way and that way, is not to be trusted.
 - 2. His downfall will be sudden. Don't fall with him!

- (d) About things the Lord hates...
 - 1. Feet that are swift in running to evil!
 - 2. Don't be an abomination to the Lord.

Summary: KINGS AND AMBASSADORS

3. An Ambassador's Footprint

A. Walking on Rough Terrain

- (1) Crisis Management!
 - (a) The mountain is yours if you will take it!
 - 1. Preface: Why all the struggle?
 - 2. So when all looks lost—"the life of Jesus may be manifested in our body."
 - (b) How does He manifest in us? Love God with radical obedience!
 - 1. Remember: Righteousness is defined by a man who seeks God first in all things, lives by faith; worships and thanks God for everything; and is dedicated to radical obedience to God!
 - 2. And a Disciple is known by his love!
 - 3. Get your feet washed...stand on holy ground... and realize, that on that holy ground you are to love others like He loved,

- (c) What else can you do when you are hard-pressed on every side? Repent and Pray!
 - 1. Righteousness—seek God first in all things, live by faith; worship and thank God for everything; and be radically obedience!
 - 2. And when you make an error! REPENT!

B. A King's Footsteps

- (1) OBJECT LESSON! (Excerpts from II Kings 19)
 - (a) Sennacherib's Threat
 - 1. Sennacherib wants to convince Hezekiah that he has no shot defending himself, nor can his God help.
 - 2. Why? No other nation's gods could do so!
 - (b) Hezekiah's Prayer
 - 1. Hezekiah read the letter and does immediately what he should do; he seeks Yahweh in prayer.
 - 2. I am asking for MORE! You see what Sennacherib is saying about You! Now save us Lord!
 - (c) Yahweh is Granting MORE!
 - The Word of the Lord Concerning Sennacherib because of Hezekiah's prayer...
 - 2. By making Israel your enemy, you have made Yahweh your enemy.

- 3. The reason Sennacherib defeated all those other nations is because Yahweh used him to do so!
- 4. They had no God to protect them.
- 5. Israel will rise again and prosper.
- 6. Sennacherib will not get near Jerusalem.
- (d) Take the MORE—Sennacherib's Defeat and Death
 - 1. The angel of the Lord annihilates Sennacherib's camp.
 - 2. And when he returns home his own sons strike him down with the sword.
 - 3. Also see: Fire, Worms & Warring Angels

C. An Ambassador's Footsteps

- (1) You are leaving your footprints on holy ground!
 - (a) Apostolic Footprints
 - 1. **Apostle:** a vigorous and pioneering advocate or supporter of a particular policy, idea, or cause: advocate, apologist, proponent, promoter, spokesman, supporter, upholder, champion; campaigner, crusader, pioneer; adherent, believer; The Hebrew concept of an apostle speaks of one who is instructed (Instructed Footprints).
 - (b) Ambassador Footprints

- Ambassador: An accredited diplomat sent by a
 country as its official representative (under his
 country's authority) to a foreign country; a person
 who acts as a representative or promoter of a
 specified authority, agenda, or activity; an emissary;
 a sent one.
 - a) See: Ministers of Reconciliation (<u>A Relaxed Voice</u>)
- (c) Personal Footprints
 - Personal Space: The physical space immediately surrounding someone; the region surrounding a person which they regard as their space. The personal territory over which one presumes authority and responsibility.

D. Apostolic Footprints

- (1) Expect More Take More
 - (a) They wanted more...
 - 1. Do you want more?
- (2) Looking Back and Looking Ahead
 - (a) Looking Back (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)
 - 1. Israel hesitated to take what was promised!
 - (b) Looking Ahead
 - 1. Israel took possession of what was promised and God gave them rest! (See: <u>The Promise Remains</u>)

- 2. Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken!
- (c) The Question Remains...
 - 1. "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"
 - 2. Remedy:
 - a) Step One: Seek what is on the Lord's heart and what He has to say!
 - b) Step Two: Seek what the Lord has placed on your heart!
 - c) Step Three: Go to the Lord and ask for MORE boldly and with passion!
 - 3. "A man's heart plans his way, But the Lord directs his steps."
 - a) You must be able to determine when you ought to feel satisfied, and when you ought to press into Yahweh for something more.
 - b) Distinguishing which attitude is appropriate depends on God's plan for mankind, and for you personally.
 - c) You must immerse yourself completely in His will, and expand your imagination beyond human limitations.

- d) Overflow with the power of God working in you. He means you to have immeasurably more than all you ask, think or imagine.
- e) However, do not let your imagination run wild; asking for more hinges on knowing God's will and His promises.
- f) If your first step forward in any decision or desire is not virtuous, seeking the Lord's heart, will, direction and approval, then your next step will always be into the abyss.
- g) However, when you seek God's heart and hear His voice, and you willingly submit to His direction and approval, you are then free to be as bold as imaginable.
- h) Take down a giant, lay down with lions, strangle a bear, open an ocean, hold back a raging river, and occupy a mountain.
- Sometimes God wants you to take more land, occupy higher ground, maybe even seize more authority.
- j) Pray: "Thank you Yahweh, what You've provided is amazing, but it's not complete; I'm certain there is more."

- k) Warning: apply two safeguards—
 - 1) When Yahweh grants more, "Take it!" Even if you have to work for it, or it looks scary, or it looks impossible; take it because it's a guarantee.
 - 2) When Yahweh grants more, take "It!" Stop asking; don't you dare request something different!

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. Describe Caleb's approach to what he was promised in Joshua 14:6-14.
 - A. Be sure to include his request, the answer to his request, and what he did with what he was given.
 - B. What is similar about Joshua's request in Joshua 19:49-50?
- 2. We see another type of request by the children of Joseph in Joshua 17:10-18.
 - A. What do we know about the land they were presently inhabiting? (See Joshua 17:10-13)
 - B. Why were they dissatisfied? (See Joshua 17:14)
 - C. What were they offered? (See Joshua 17:15)
 - D. Why did reject the offer? (See Joshua 17:16)

- E. What was Joushua's reaction to their initial rejection? (See Joshua 17:17-18)
- F. Write a short essay about how this narrative should apply to your life.

3. It is clear from Joshua 17:10-18 that, at times, it perfectly fine to ask God for something more...

A. Use the following scriptures to craft a three-step process for how to know when to ask for more. (John 10:27; II Peter 1:5; I John 5:14-15; Psalms 37:3-5; Hebrews 4:16; James 5:16)

4. Once we know God's will, it is time to get bold!

- A. Use the following scriptures to describe what it means to be bold. (I Samuel 17:50-51; Psalms 37:14-15; Daniel 6:21-22; I Samuel 17:34-36; Exodus 14:21-22; Exodus 14:21-22; Joshua 10:12-13)
- B. How are the above consistent with Ephesians 3:19-20?

5. Use the following scriptures to describe the importance of "clean feet." (Exodus 3:5; Joshua 5:15; John 13:5)

A. How are the above scriptures related to disciples of Christ relative to I Peter 1:15-16?

6. Read the entire narrative of Y'shua washing His disciples feet in John 13...

A. Why did Y'shua's disciples need their feet washed? (Hint: Exodus 3:5)

- B. What was the key lesson for Peter? Why was Y'shua insistent on distinguishing clean feet from the rest of the body? (See John 13:6-11)
- C. What was the pastoral example Y'shua was making? (See John 13:12-17)
- D. What was the prophetic example Y'shua was making? (See John 13:31-35)
- E. How does Y'shua's prophetic lesson in John 13:5 relate to John 13:20; Exodus 3:5; and Matthew 10:14?
- F. Bonus: Why then was shaking the dust off their feet in Luke 9:5 considered a testimony against those who would metaphorical "not have have their feet washed by Christ?"
- 7. Setting your feet down as a sign of authority over where you stand is rooted in Deuteronomy 11:22-32...
 - A. How does that sign play out in the following scriptures? (See: Joshua 3:13-17; Isaiah 52:7; Nahum 1:-15; Ephesians 6:15)
- 8. We have many types of footsteps available to us. Describe each:
 - A. Wise Footsteps (Proverbs 4:18-27)
 - B. Foolish Footsteps (Proverbs 1:16-19; 5:1-10; 6:12-19)
- 9. We all must walk on rough terrain at times...
 - A. How should we handle that rough ground according to II Corinthians 4:7-12; John 14:21-23; James 5:16)

10. Read about a King's Footsteps in II Kings 19...

- A. What is the threat?
- B. What does Hezekiah do?
- C. What is the outcome?
- **11. An Ambassador's Footsteps...** An Ambassador is an official representative of some other entity, and promotes the specific authority, agenda, or activity if that entity.
 - A. Describe an Ambassadors authority, agenda, or activity using the following scriptures:
 - 1) Authority: John 12:49
 - 2) Agenda: John 7:16-17
 - 3) Activity: II Corinthians 5:20
 - B. What is your authority and responsibility as an Ambassador of Christ? (See: Luke 10:19; Ephesians 4:29)