

Be Not Slack to Claim What God has Given to You!

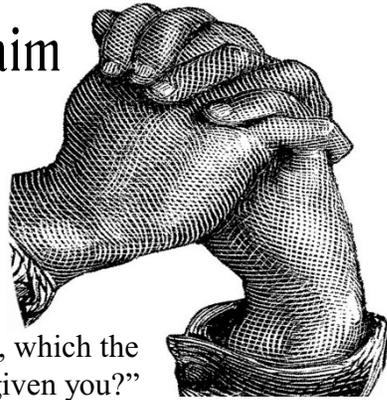
Joshua 18:1-7

“And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, **How long are ye slack** to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you?” (Josh. 18:3). God gave them the land. It was their inheritance, their rightful possession. What God gave them, they needed to possess by faith. They needed to claim by faith what God had already given them. Joshua rebuked the people for failing to possess the land and for being slack in claiming what was theirs. They were negligent in performing their duty. Someone has paraphrased the verse in this way, “How long are you going to sit around on your hands putting off taking possession of the land?” As believers, are we being slack by failing to possess by faith those things which God has given to us?

“Peace I leave with you, My peace **I give unto you**: not as the world giveth, give I unto you” (John 14:27). Am I possessing God’s peace by faith, or am I slack? “These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full” (John 15:11). Am I claiming God’s joy, or am I slack? “Thanks be unto God, which **giveth** us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57). By faith, am I possessing the victory God has given, or am I slack? “He **giveth** more grace...[He] **giveth** grace unto the humble” (James 4:6). Am I claiming God’s grace which is sufficient for every situation (2 Cor. 9:8), or am I slack?

Caleb wholly followed the Lord and wanted to possess all that God had for him: “Give me this mountain...if so be that the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out” (Josh. 14:12). **By faith may we do likewise!**

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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