

A CHURCH UNITED, A CHURCH SCATTERED

Joshua 21:1-45

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Walkthrough Chapter 21

Who were the Levites?

- Descendants of Levi, the third son of Jacob.
- Set apart to perform priestly duties at the Tabernacle (Numbers 3:5-9) and later the Temple (1 and 2 Chronicles) and teaching the Word of God (2 Chronicles 17:7-9).
- The only tribe that did not receive an inheritance.

Two pictures of the church for today

1. A church united

- The tithes and offerings of the rest of the nation were used to provide for the needs of the Levites (Numbers 18:24-32; Deuteronomy 18:1-2).

Similarly, the church has a responsibility to provide for the needs of our staff team in the following ways:

- (a) Remuneration
- (b) Ministry work
- (c) Personal well-being

Prayer for Staff Team

2. A church scattered

- Just as God was the Levites' inheritance (Numbers 18:20; Joshua 13:14, 33; Joshua 18:7), today we as God's people have an inheritance in Christ (Ephesians 1).
- We are a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)
 - Today, the responsibility of doing God's work belongs to everyone.
 - We have the responsibility to minister to others and proclaim God's Name wherever we are.

Parallels between Levites then and Christians today.

- (a) The Levites were placed in 48 towns all over the land. We as God's people are placed in different spaces in the course of the week.
- (b) The Levites were assigned their towns by lot. We have been placed at our life stations for a purpose, primarily to declare His glory and fulfill the purposes of His Kingdom.
- (c) The Levites had been obedient in their refusal to worship the golden calf (Exodus 32: 25-29). We as God's people are called to be in the world but not of the world (Romans 12:2).

Application

How are we doing in

1. living out God's purposes for us;
2. being in the world but not of the world?