

Dear Heavenly Father,

### *Praise*

Joshua said, “Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass” (Josh 21:45). I praise you today as the God who keeps your promises. You gave Israel all the land which you had sworn to give to their fathers, and you gave them rest on every side. Not one of their enemies withstood them. How wonderful to serve a God like you! Hallelujah!

### *Today in Your Word*

After the land was divided, you told Joshua to designate by name the cities of refuge which you had spoken of to Moses (Exod 21:13; Num 35:6–34; Deut 19:1–13). These six cities gave asylum to those who had accidentally killed someone, and their location in the north, center and south on both sides of the Jordan made them easily accessible to those who needed their protection. This legal provision for cases of manslaughter gives me insight into your character: (1) You care about people’s motives, and you made sure that a man without hatred in his heart would not be put to death as a murderer (Josh 20:5); (2) Your justice was meant to be available to all no matter their background or class (Josh 20:9); and (3) You regard human life as precious, and it should only be taken according to your stipulations (Deut 19:10). Last but not least of the tribes, the Levites were given cities and pasture land just as you commanded through Moses (Num 35:2–8). You did this intentionally so the Levities, whose responsibilities included the teaching and administration of the law, would not be far from anyone in Israel. In this way they provided a positive spiritual influence on the entire nation. This shows how important it is for me to be salt and light in my home, my church, my neighborhood, and my nation. Like the Levites, I need to be encouraging and challenging those around me to be holy and dedicated to you.

### *Reflection*

The ten unbelieving spies had said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are” (Num 13:31). Yet because Joshua and the people believed you and obeyed your commands, all those strong enemies were defeated. Am I trusting you and being careful to keep your commands? Do I rely on you to give me victory over the giants in my life?

### *Request*

Father, help me to obey the prompting of your Spirit and make my ears sensitive to His voice. Give me the grace I need to please Him in everything I do (2 Cor 5:9).

### *Thanksgiving*

Thank you for reminding me today of my high and holy calling. You want me to live a life of good works and godliness in the midst of a wicked and perverse generation!

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

*Suggested Hymn: “[Brighten the Corner Where You Are](#)” – Ina D. Ogdon.*

*Meditation Verse: Joshua 21:45.*