

March 11 Answers

- 1) Occupying Canaan and Israel's border. The boundaries of Israel's inheritance showed that God's gift of land was specific and defined. Israel was not free to **expand** into other nations' territories at their whim (cf. Deut 2:5). This is an important reminder that all **land** belongs to God, and He **gives** it to whomever He wishes (Lev 25:23). God commanded Israel to drive out all the inhabitants of Canaan, to destroy their idols and worship sites, and to "possess" the land (Num 33:52–53). God knew that if they allowed any of the people to remain, Israel would be corrupted by their wickedness, for sin is like a **cancer**, and it will **spread** if it is not totally removed. The religious practices of the Canaanites were not to be preserved—they were to be **destroyed**. This principle should guide us today, and we should avoid becoming involved in any of the false religions of the world.