

## Judges 1 - Lesson 4 - Symptoms of Spiritual Erosion

The Promises	The Problem - Spiritual Erosion	The Purpose
<p>God made a promise to Abraham and his descendants (Gen 12, 13, 15, 17) - LAND</p> <p>God's promises to Moses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- deliver the people</li> <li>- Bring them to the land which was promised</li> <li>- He was going to give them the land</li> </ul> <p>To the disobedient: would not enter the land (Nu 14)</p> <p>God's Promise to Joshua:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- every place their feet touch God had given it to them (Josh 1:1-4)</li> <li>- No man can stand before them - be strong and courageous (Josh 1:5-7, 9)</li> <li>- I will be with you (1:9)</li> </ul> <p>People's response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- choose whom they will serve (24:14, 16)</li> <li>- We would never forsake God</li> <li>- Joshua enters a covenant (24:19-28)</li> </ul>	<p>Unbelief - disobedience Partial obedience is not acceptable</p> <p>1st symptom - Add something to what God has said (1:1-3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- God said for Judah to go first</li> <li>- Judah decides to take Simeon</li> <li>- Partial obedience - wasn't trusting God</li> </ul> <p>2nd symptom - Stoop to the behavior of our enemies (4-7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- they were supposed to kill them</li> <li>- The purpose was to humiliate them</li> <li>- Pagan practice - thumbs - can't fight, big toe they can't run</li> <li>- Not doing things God's way - loose our testimony</li> </ul> <p>3rd symptom - Fear paralyzes us from doing God's work (19-20)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Lord was with Judah - they took possession of the hill country</li> <li>- They are fearful of man's chariots even though they have God on their side</li> <li>- They were told to fear God - not things or people</li> <li>- Wouldn't trust God and obey His command</li> <li>- Compromised for less than what God wanted them to have</li> </ul> <p>4th symptom - We choose to coexist with sin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- these people aren't so bad - let's live with them (20-26)</li> <li>- Eph 4:17-24</li> <li>- Jude 20-23</li> <li>- Sin will strive to overcome you (Gen 4:5-7) - it's desire is to take over - we need to destroy the sin in our lives-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- incomplete obedience brings dire consequences in our lives</li> <li>- The lack of trust in God brings defeat in our lives</li> <li>- We are quick to justify our sin</li> <li>- We need to understand that the blessings of God come when we walk in obedience to Him</li> <li>- Apathy leads to apostasy which will lead to anarchy (lawlessness)</li> </ul>