



ACHSAH

ACHSAH

Who is Achsah?

Bible account

Background information

Lesson from Achsah

Who is Achsah?

Achsah means “anklet”. She was the daughter of Caleb, a prince of the tribe of Judah. She was the wife of Othniel, the son of Kenaz (brother of Caleb).

Bible account:

Joshua 15:16-19; Judges 1:12-15; 1 Chronicles 2:49;

Joshua 15:16-19 - ¹⁶ And Caleb said, “He who attacks Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give Achsah my daughter as wife.” ¹⁷ So Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it; and he gave him Achsah his daughter as wife. ¹⁸ Now it was so, when she came to him, that she persuaded him to ask her father for a field. So she dismounted from her donkey, and Caleb said to her, “What do you wish?” ¹⁹ She answered, “Give me a blessing; since you have given me land in the South, give me also springs of water.” So he gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

Judges 1:12-15 - ¹² Then Caleb said, “Whoever attacks Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give my daughter Achsah as wife.” ¹³ And Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother, took it; so he gave him his daughter Achsah as wife. ¹⁴ Now it happened, when she came to him, that she urged him to ask her father for a field. And she dismounted from her donkey, and Caleb said to her, “What do you wish?” ¹⁵ So she said to him, “Give me a blessing; since you have given me land in the South, give me also springs of water.” And Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs.

1 Chronicles 2:49 - ⁴⁹ She also bore Shaaph the father of Madmannah, Sheva the father of Machbenah and the father of Gibeon. And the daughter of Caleb was Achsah

Background information:

Joshua had died and then, Israelites asked God what to do next. God told Judah to go against Canaanites and He would deliver them into their hands. So

God gave Canaanites and Perizzites into the hands of Judah and Simeon who accompanied Judah.

God gave 10,000 men and Adoni-Bezek into the hands of Judah too. Then, the children of Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it. Thereafter they proceeded further against Canaanites living in the mountain, in the South and in the lowlands.

Judah went against Canaanites dwelling in Hebron formally named Keriath-Arba. Then, they went against Canaanites dwelling in Debir, formally named Keriath-Sepher. At that time, Caleb, the prince of the tribe of Judah issues this statement: He would give his daughter, Achsah in marriage to the person who captures Keriath-Sepher. Caleb had 3 sons and one daughter. Othniel, the son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother went against Canaanites in Keriath-Sepher and married Achsah.

Caleb gave Achsah some land that she asked Caleb (V18) as dowry in her marriage. But Achsah wasn't satisfied with her land alone and wanted springs to water her land. So she asked her father, Caleb for springs of water. Caleb gave her the upper and lower springs.

NUMBERS 14 – Caleb's reward. Keriath-Sepher was a place of Canaanite learning centre.

Lessons from Achsah:

- Asking for springs of water, though Achsah had been given land by her father can be viewed as a selfish or desiring quality; but I perceive it as a sensible choice of asking. She didn't ask for more land or property but only springs of water that could benefit her land. I don't see it to be selfish or greedy.
- Even if Achsah asked for a well-watered land, there is nothing wrong in her attitude. Because, she asked her father only and not from any others. She didn't steal or covet or so.

Write to us and give us your feedback!

GAL220 Ministries

Gal220Ministries.org & XpressChrist@gmail.com