JOSHUA: presence. courage. action. An "Altarcation" in Peaceful Israel - Joshua 22:1-34 May 21, 2017

Main Proposition: Let us glory in the grace of God as we remind ourselves and each other of the glorious gospel promises, and may that produce in us a wisdom-informed zeal for obedience that seeks the ultimate good of our brothers and sisters and the spiritual protection of our children, to the end that God is glorified and his people are satisfied in him.

VV. 1-9: A Promised Place

• Let us remind ourselves and one another daily of the wonderful gospel truths as we encourage each other toward holiness and loving obedience to our great God.

VV. 10-20: A Passionate People

• Let us pursue holiness that is informed by wisdom and motivated by self-sacrifice for the good of our brothers and sisters and for the glory of God.

VV. 21-29: A Protective People

• Let us have a humble zeal for the spiritual well-being of our sons and daughters, and may we be willing to do the hard work of erecting our own altars of witness so that our children might hope in God.

VV. 30-34: A Peaceful Praise

• Remember that the grace of God has saved us from his judgment and has made us into one unified body so that we might praise his name.

Further Reading:

- What Jesus Demands from the World, John Piper
- The Godly Man's Picture, Thomas Watson
- *Trained in the Fear of God*, eds. Timothy Paul Jones and Randy Stinson

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Joshua 22:1-34

- 1. Discuss the relationship between promise and obedience as it is displayed in Joshua 22. What are other biblical examples?
- 2. What gospel promises are particularly sweet to you, and how do they motivate your obedience?
- 3. What is your own experience with personal accountability? If you are not engaged in personal accountability, what ways can you begin to establish such accountability?
- 4. In what practical ways can we pursue a servant-hearted, othersfocused type of love (please read Rom. 12:9-21; Gal. 5:1-15; Phil. 2:1-11)?
- 5. In what ways have you been active in "erecting altars of witness" for your children and/or grandchildren, or for other believers?
- 6. What other thoughts from Joshua 22 do you have?