

So the entire population of Ai, including men and women, was wiped out that day—12,000 in all. For Joshua kept holding out his spear until everyone who had lived in Ai was completely destroyed.

Joshua 8:25–26 (NLT)

When Joshua was an old man, the LORD said to him, “You are growing old, and much land remains to be conquered.” **Joshua 13:1 (NLT)**

WAS GOD’S TREATMENT OF THE INHABITANTS OF CANAAN FAIR?

1. GOD IS _____ AND HE CAN _____ ANYTHING HE _____

“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the LORD. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.” **Isaiah 55:8–9 (NLT)**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does. **Psalms 145:17 (NIV)**

2. WE UNDER ESTIMATE THE _____ OF _____

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 6:23 (NLT)**

3. GOD IS A _____ JUDGE

As the sun was going down, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a terrifying darkness came down over him. Then the LORD said to Abram, “You can be sure that your descendants will be strangers in a foreign land, where they will be oppressed as slaves for 400 years. But I will punish the nation that enslaves them, and in the end they will come away with great wealth. (As for you, you will die in peace and be buried at a ripe old age.) After four generations your descendants will return here to this land, for the sins of the Amorites do not yet warrant their destruction.” **Genesis 15:12–16 (NLT)**

A delegation from the tribe of Judah, led by Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite, came to Joshua at Gilgal. Caleb said to Joshua, “Remember what the LORD said to Moses, the man of God, about you and me when we were at Kadesh-barnea. I was forty years old when Moses, the servant of the LORD, sent me from Kadesh-barnea to explore the land of Canaan. I returned and gave an honest report, but my brothers who went with me frightened the people from entering the Promised Land. For my part, I wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God. So that day Moses solemnly promised me, ‘The land of Canaan on which you were just walking will be your grant of land and that of your

descendants forever, because you wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.’ Now, as you can see, the LORD has kept me alive and well as he promised for all these forty-five years since Moses made this promise—even while Israel wandered in the wilderness. Today I am eighty-five years old. I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent me on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then. So give me the hill country that the LORD promised me. You will remember that as scouts we found the descendants of Anak living there in great, walled towns. But if the LORD is with me, I will drive them out of the land, just as the LORD said.” So Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave Hebron to him as his portion of land. Hebron still belongs to the descendants of Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite because he wholeheartedly followed the LORD, the God of Israel. (Previously Hebron had been called Kiriath-arba. It had been named after Arba, a great hero of the descendants of Anak.) And the land had rest from war. **Joshua 14:6–15 (NLT)**

THREE “NEVERS” FROM THE LIFE OF CALEB

1. IT’S NEVER TOO SOON TO PUT GOD _____ IN EVERYTHING YOU DO

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it. **Numbers 14:24 (NIV)**

2. IT’S NEVER TOO LATE FOR GOD TO _____ A PROMISE

Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses

All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. **Hebrews 11:13–16 (NIV)**

3. YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO TAKE A _____ MOUNTAIN

So here I am today, eighty-five years old! I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day. **Joshua 14:11–12 (NIV)**