

Title: When God's Silent - Joshua 18 11-28

Read:

¹¹ The first lot turned up for the tribe of Benjamin with its clans. The border of the allotment went between the peoples of Judah and Joseph. ¹²⁻¹³ The northern border began at the Jordan, then went up to the ridge north of Jericho, ascending west into the hill country into the wilderness of Beth Aven. From there the border went around to Luz, to its southern ridge (that is, Bethel), and then down from Ataroth Addar to the mountain to the south of Lower Beth Horon. ¹⁴ There the border took a turn on the west side and swung south from the mountain to the south of Beth Horon and ended at Kiriath Baal (that is, Kiriath Jearim), a town of the people of Judah. This was the west side. ¹⁵⁻¹⁹ The southern border began at the edge of Kiriath Jearim on the west, then ran west until it reached the spring, the Waters of Nephtoah. It then descended to the foot of the mountain opposite the Valley of Ben Hinnom (which flanks the Valley of Rephaim to the north), descended to the Hinnom Valley, just south of the Jebusite ridge, and went on to En Rogel. From there it curved north to En Shemesh and Geliloth, opposite the Red Pass (Adummim), down to the Stone of Bohan the son of Reuben, continued toward the north flank of Beth Arabah, then plunged to the Arabah. It then followed the slope of Beth Hoglah north and came out at the northern bay of the Salt Sea—the south end of the Jordan. This was the southern border. ²⁰ The east border was formed by the Jordan. This was the inheritance of the people of Benjamin for their clans, marked by these borders on all sides. ²¹⁻²⁸ The cities of the tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan, were: Jericho, Beth Hoglah, Emek Keziz, Beth Arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel, Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, Kephrah, Ammoni, Ophni, and Geba—twelve towns with their villages. Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, Mizpah, Kephirah, Mozah, Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, Zelah, Haeleph, the Jebusite city (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah, and Kiriath Jearim—fourteen cities with their villages. This was the inheritance for Benjamin, according to its clans.

Think:

We've come across this before in our studying the bible together. This is a large list of names and places, how can that possibly affect the way we live our lives today? I have prayed and studied this verse but can not have wisdom for you today. So what we do when God appears silent? What do you do when you have a problem at college or school and you just don't seem to hear from God? Firstly, we have to understand that we are not alone. David, Joshua, Job and many more heroes in the Bible, seem to struggle at times with not hearing from God. Then we need to ask ourselves is there anything we are doing that would prevent God talking to us. And we have to be prepared to understand that there may not be, we may be perfectly OK with God. Lastly we must listen to God. Yes I know that's what we are having trouble with, but keeping on keeping on, is what we must do. Remember God hasn't moved anywhere. So, since I have not heard from God on this passage, what about you ask him to talk to you about it.

Pray:

Lord would you please speak to us even through this list of names and place in the Bible. Amen.

Action:

Well if you did hear from God, head over to aftershock.org.uk and leave a comment on this dev letting us know what He said to you. Bye for now.