

"Who Needs a Retirement Portfolio?" Joshua 14

In Joshua 14, we get a glimpse of Joshua's sidekick, Caleb, who began faithfully, waited patiently, and ended ambitiously. As a result, he received an enduring legacy!

Caleb's retirement

I. He began faithfully

"So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Thus the land had rest from war."
—Joshua 11:23

"I will not drive them out before you in a single year, that the land may not become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you. I will drive them out before you little by little, until you become fruitful and take possession of the land."
—Exodus 23:29-30

II. He waited patiently

"Now Joshua was old *and* advanced in years when the Lord said to him, 'You are old *and* advanced in years, and very much of the land remains to be possessed.'
—Joshua 13:1

III. He ended ambitiously

"Nevertheless, the people who live in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified *and* very large; and moreover, we saw the descendants of Anak there. There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."
—Numbers 13:28, 33

"I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
—Philippians 3:12b-14

“Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.”
—2 Corinthians 5:9

“Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life and attend to your own business and work with your hands.”
—1 Thess. 4:11

“And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, so that I would not build on another man’s foundation.”
—Romans 15:20

"The motto of our generation is, 'Safety first.' Many are looking for a safe job in which they can feather their nest, secure their future, insure their lives, reduce all risks, and retire on a fat pension. There is nothing wrong with providing for your future, but this spirit pervades our lives until life becomes soft and padded and all adventure is gone. We are so thickly wrapped in cotton wool that we neither feel the pain of the world nor hear the Word of God.”
—John Stott

IV. He received a legacy

“So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through *following* the same example of disobedience.”
—Hebrews 4:9-11

“Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven. This denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.”
—Hebrews 12:26-29