

3 Friends - 2 Foes - 2 Favors

I. Slide#1 **Announce:**

- A. **Slide#2 High School Winter Camp** - in need of drivers up and back on Feb. 21,23. Call Andrew Paulsen at church office or email apaulsen@calvarymurrieta.com
- B. **Slide#3 JM3 Conf - get signed up!** Missing children rescued from Super Bowl sex trade in FBI sting. Ages 13-17 rescued. More than 45 pimps and their associates were arrested.
- C. **Slide#4 AIM** is getting airtime from **CNN International** this Sunday 2/9 4pm.
- D. **Slide#5 Sandy Adams** (CC Stone Mountain, Georgia) - next Wed night.

II. Slide#6 **Intro: 3 Friends - 2 Foes - 2 Favors**

- A. **Slide#7** (3) Any area of your life where God is telling you, *you have circled around this mountain long enough; turn northward.*
 - 1. What area of **sin** do you keep **spinning** circles in? Ready to turn northward?
 - 2. What area of **emotional trauma** do you keep **whirling** in your mind? Ready to turn northward?
 - 3. What **bad relationship** do you let **orbit** your grey matter? Ready to turn northward?
- B. **Finally**, what had been promised to Abraham 4 centuries earlier was set to be fulfilled.

III. Slide#8 **3 FRIENDS (2:4-23)**

- A. **Slide#9a-d Show Map** - of Seir (Edom) Moab & Ammon.
 - 1. **Point out 3 river boundaries: Edom** up to **Zered**; **Moab** up to **Arnon**; Ammon area East. Note area that hugs the Jordan river East side.
 - a) Note **Jabok river** (Gen 32 Jacob wrestled) & the **Yarmuk** (where get baptized).
- B. **Slide#10 SEIR** (4-7)
- C. **These careful instructions** show that the Israelites were not free to try to conquer any territory they wanted.
 - 1. God had promised them a definite land, and the war they would wage in order to conquer Canaan had a **moral** character to it, thus OT scholars have referred to it as a “holy war”.
- D. Explain these **3 regions** were about the “*cousins*”, *blood relatives* to Israel.
 - 1. **Seir** (descendants of Esau); **Moab & Ammon** (descendants of Lot).
 - a) **Explain Gen.19.** His family finally flees Sodom & Gomorrah. Wife looks back. End up in **mountains** outside of **Zoar**. He & 2 daughters living in a cave. They both get him drunk & sleep with him. **2 children Moab & Ammon.**
- E. **Slide#11 MOAB** (8-15)

- F. (14,15) Always coming back to the fact that **God** did this. God's spoken judgments are sure.
1. And when they conquer it would be **His strength**, not their military might.

G. **Slide#12 AMMON** (16-23)

IV. **Slide#13 2 FOES (2:24-3:11)**

A. 2 reasons why God allowed Israel to fight and conquer these nations:

1. **As a warning to the nations in Canaan** (25)
2. **To make the land available for the 2 1/2 tribes** that would settle east of Jordan.
 - a) **The Jews were kind to these nations** when they arrived, offering to pass through peacefully. When **the nations attacked them** though, God conquered them.
 - b) **The great walled cities** like those that had frightened the older generation were captured by the new generation (3:5). Certainly this would be an encouragement to them as they prepared to enter Canaan.

B. **Slide#14 Show Map** - of Heshbon & Bashan...area that would become the 2 1/2 tribes.

1. Reubenites, Gadites, 1/2 tribe Manasseh.

C. **Slide#15 KING SIHON OF HESHBON** (24-37)

D. **Heshbon** was *a city on a plateau* between Moab & Ammon.

E. (26-30) Sihon provoked war when he, with a hardened heart, refused Israel passage through his land.

F. Israel defeated Sihon by the Power of God.

G. (31) **I have begun...Begin to possess** - waiting for God.

1. We so easily become impatient w/His delays. **We become restless.**
2. **We can't wait for the fruit to ripen, ok pick it & eat it green then!**
3. We're encouraged to walk with God...but some times He walks so slow.
 - a) This verse reminds us its both **waiting on God** but the reminder not to **overwait**.
 - (1) **These are the times to move forward with a confident step.** *Begin to possess.*

H. **Slide#16 KING OG OF BASHAN** (3:1-11)

I. (1) Bashan high & fertile region East of Galilee, from the **Jabbok river** up to **Mount Hermon**.

1. (5) It was a kingdom of strong cities.
2. (11) Og's huge **iron bed** became a "**museum piece**" even in antiquity.

J. He also was defeated by the power of God. (2,3)

- K. **Slide#17 Utterly destroy**(2:34; 3:6; 7:2) - The description of defeat is **graphic & rather shocking [it should shock u]**
1. The Hebrew word (*na-harem*) meant “to ban” or “to devote” to God people or objects who were thoroughly hostile toward Him.
 - a) It was from the idea of “holiness” or “total separation” from evil things.
 - b) By placing **a city & its inhabitants** “under the ban” they became God’s exclusive property to dispose of as He saw fit.
 2. These wars, along with several others once in the Land of Canaan, are referred to by the term **holy war**. (see Deut 7:1,2 for the 7 enemies in the land)
 - a) **I’ll note: we (USA) nor Islamic Countries can pronounce Jihad or Holy War today.**
 3. The command to destroy them **totally**, that is, men, women, and children, has often been thought of as **unethical** for a loving God.
 - a) **However, several points must be kept in mind concerning these people:**
 - (1) **First, they deserved to die for their sin** (9:4,5).
 - (a) Studies of their **religion, literature, and archeological remains** reveal that they were ***the most morally depraved culture on the earth at that time.***
 - (2) **Second, they persisted in their hatred of God** (7:10).
 - (a) **Had they repented, God would have spared them as He spared the Ninevites who repented at the preaching of Jonah.** Yet repentance seemed to be out of the question for these people.
 - (3) **Third, they constituted a moral cancer** and even one of them - even a child left alive - had the potential of introducing an **idolatry** and **immorality** which would spread rapidly among the Israelites and bring about the destruction of God’s own people.
 - (4) **Fourth, in some ways the death of one of their children could have been a blessing.**
 - (a) For if the child died before reaching the **age of accountability** it is likely that his or her eternal destiny would have been made secure in heaven.
 - (5) **Fourth, one day Jesus Christ will return to slaughter the unrepentant wicked on the earth** (though nothing is said about His killing children).
 - (a) And that “holy war” will make Israel’s holy war look pale by comparison (2 Thes. 2:5-10; Rev. 19:11-21).
 4. So there is no dichotomy between the God of the OT and the God of the NT.
 - a) In both testaments He is revealed as a **loving** and **righteous** God.
 - b) The command to engage in holy war is, of course, **not applicable today** since at the present time God is **not** working through **one nation** to set up His kingdom on the earth.

- c) **But Christians today** should learn from this command that they should be *as ruthless with sin* in their **own lives** as Israel should have been against these people groups.

V. Slide#18 **2 FAVORS (3:12-29)**

- A. Slide#19 **REQUEST OF 2 1/2 TRIBES** (12-22)
- B. This land was particularly well suited to cattle grazing, which formed the economic base of these tribes. (Reubenites, Gadites, 1/2 tribe Manasseh)
- C. Slide#20 Here is where the **Golan Heights** today fits in.
- D. Slide#21 **REQUEST OF MOSES** (23-29)
- E. (24) **Began** - or *only begun*. He was awestruck at the great things that yet lay in store for Israel.
1. *O Sovereign Lord, you have only begun to show your greatness and the strength of your hand to me, your servant.* nlt
- F. (26a) **Numb.20:7-12**.
- G. (26b) Certain things God says **stop praying about**.
- H. **What has God refused you to do?** Probably not too much. *Begin to possess*.