

Don't Settle Down

Numbers 32:1-19

1 The Reubenites and Gadites, who had very large herds and flocks, saw that the lands of Jazer and Gilead were **suitable** for livestock. 2 So they came to Moses and Eleazar the priest and to the leaders of the community, and said, 3 “Ataroth, Dibon, Jazer, Nimrah, Heshbon, Elealeh, Sebam, Nebo and Beon— 4 **the land the Lord subdued before the people of Israel—are suitable for livestock**, and your servants have livestock. 5 If we have found favor in your eyes,” they said, “let this land be given to your servants as our possession. Do not make us cross the Jordan.” 6 Moses said to the Gadites and Reubenites, “**Should your fellow Israelites go to war while you sit here?** 7 Why do you discourage the Israelites from crossing over into the land the Lord has given them? 8 This is what your fathers did when I sent them from Kadesh Barnea to look over the land. 9 After they went up to the Valley of Eshkol and viewed the land, they discouraged the Israelites from entering the land the Lord had given them. 10 The Lord’s anger was aroused that day and he swore this oath: 11 ‘Because they have not followed me wholeheartedly, not one of those who were twenty years old or more when they came up out of Egypt will see the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob— 12 not one except Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua son of Nun, for they followed the Lord wholeheartedly.’ 13 The Lord’s anger burned against Israel and he made them wander in the wilderness forty years, until the whole generation of those who had done evil in his sight was gone. 14 “And here you are, a brood of sinners, standing in the place of your fathers and making the Lord even more angry with Israel. 15 If you turn away from following him, he will again leave all this people in the wilderness, and you will be the cause of their destruction.” 16 Then they came up to him and said, “We would like to build pens here for our livestock and cities for our women and children. 17 But we will arm ourselves for battle and go ahead of the Israelites until we have brought them to their place. **Meanwhile our women and children will live in fortified cities, for protection from the inhabitants of the land.** 18 We will not return to our homes until each of the Israelites has received their inheritance. **19 We will not receive any inheritance with them on the other side of the Jordan, because our inheritance has come to us on the east side of the Jordan.**”

There are several things that cause us to _____ :

_____ (v.4):

Proverbs 4:25; Luke 9:62; Philippians 3:13

_____ (v.6):

Romans 8:18; I Peter 4:13

_____ (v.1):

James 1:22; Mark 10:21; Luke 9:23

_____ (v.17):

Romans 4:18-22

_____ (v.19):

Matthew 24:12; Revelation 2:1-4

_____ **of settling for less than God’s best.**

I Chronicles 5:26 So the God of Israel stirred up the spirit of Pul king of Assyria, the spirit of Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and he took them into exile, namely, the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and brought them to Halah, Habor, Hara, and the river Gozan, to this day.