

"Give Me This Mountain" (Josh 14:12)

Mountain Settings' Significance

I. JESUS'S MOUNTAINS

- A. Special, elevated places He found proper for various reasons.
 - 1. To teach—Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5-7)
 - 2. To pray—Jesus often went apart, early in the morning praying (Mk 1:35)
 - 3. To be transfigured on Slope of Mt Herman—a “high mountain” (Mt 17:1-8)
 - 4. To Ascend to Heaven—Mt Olivet (Acts 1:12)
- B. Conducive spots for serious instruction (city noise, distractions eliminated)

II. BIBLICAL MOUNTAINS' IMPORT

- A. **Ararat** (Gn 8:4; like Alps, a region in Armenia more than a specific mountain)—**Restoration**
 - 1. Noah in Ark finds place for new beginnings & Covenant (Gn 9:1-17)
 - 2. For us: needed rest, restoration, new start
- B. **Hebron** (Gn 13:1-18; southern Judea)—**Decision**
 - 1. Whereas Lot chose fertile plain, Abraham took to the higher ground
 - 2. For us: staying apart from sinful accommodations
- C. **Bethel** (Gn 28:10-22; central Palestine)—**Resolution**
 - 1. Jacob dreams and makes vows (specifically tithing)
 - 2. For us: resolving to serve God (i.e. tithe)
- D. **Moriah** (Gn 22:1-14; Jerusalem)—**Provision** (“the LORD will provide”)
 - 1. Abraham willing to sacrifice Isaac, finds ram to offer instead
 - 2. For us: looking for, expecting sufficient supplies for needs
- E. **Horeb** (Ex 3:1-15; Sinai Peninsula)—**Intuition** (seeing/beholding Him).
 - 1. Moses at Burning Bush recognizes “HE WHO IS”
 - 2. For us: recognizing the ONE “in whom we live and move and have our being”
- F. **Sinai** (Ex 19:16; Sinai Peninsula)—**Revelation** (Law/Commandments given)
 - 1. Moses atop mountain receives Revelation re Law
 - 2. For us: knowing God (via Revelation) ultimate Good
- G. **Hebron** again—“give me this mountain” (Josh 14:12; southern Judea)—**Entitlement**
 - 1. Caleb claims inheritance, despite age ready for acquisition
 - 2. For us: laying claim to promised inheritance
- H. **Zion** (Ps 2:6; Jerusalem)—**Adoration**
 - 1. David & Mt Zion worship—“city of God” Jerusalem
 - 2. For us: worship facing Mt Zion
- I. **Carmel** (I Kings 18:20-42; northern, coastal Israel)—**Trust**
 - 1. Elijah & priests of Baal
 - 2. For us: trusting LORD of all

III. LESSONS FOR US

- A. Places matter (e.g. “holy land”)
- B. Standing out as important places, mountains special
- C. Persons (e.g. Abraham, Moses, Caleb, Jesus) find sustenance in high places
- D. “Creative minorities” need solitary spots to prepare for action—N.B. training sites for military, athletic, missionary cadres; retreat centers (e.g. Miles Armstrong’s place for pastors)
- E. Rightly resolve: “I will lift up my eyes to the hills” (Ps 121:1)