**Joshua Session 4**

**Part 4 – Keeping the land (ch 22-24)**

A book all about…

21:43-45 – the theological summary of the main body of the book

Structure: chs 1-4 Entering the land (by faith in the promise)

chs 5-12 Taking the land (conquest just as the Lord promised)

ch 13-21 Receiving the land (distribution and settlement as the Lord promised)

Closing chapters (Epilogue)

ch 22-24 Keeping the land (the call to covenant faithfulness)

Structured around three assemblies called by Joshua

23:16 – the issue at stake

*The application section of the book*

**Chapter 22 – The first assembly, followed by Transjordan trouble**

v1-8 The assembly

v2-3 Their obedience (*you have obeyed*) and faithfulness (*you have not deserted*)

v4 The Lord’s faithfulness and grace

v4 Release – now return to your homes

v5 No release from the continuing call to careful obedience

Colossians

1:23 - continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel.

2:6-7 - just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

v6 Joshua sends them on their way with a blessing

v7a a reminder of the land gift

v7b the content of the blessing

v9-20 The Transjordan trouble

v10 - an altar

v11- reaction of the rest of the Israelites

Deut 12:1-14

v 17 - the feared consequence

Peor (Num 25)

v18-19 - alarm

v21-29 The accusation of rebellion denied

v22 – confessing Yahweh as their God.

v24-25- exclusion feared

v26-28 - guarding against future exclusion

v30-34 Peace and unity is restored

v30-31- answer accepted

v32-34 - praising God

**Chapter 23 – The second assembly, Joshua’s final words (almost)**

c.f. 1:7 and 23:6.

v3 – Reminder of recent experience

v4 – Reminder of an inheritance allotted

Exodus 23:27-30

v5 – the promise of divine help

v6-8 – exhortation

v9-10 – motivation

v12-13 – warning

v14 –appeal to knowledge gained through experience

v15-16 – the faithfulness of God cuts both ways