



## What's So Special?

Joshua 20 & 21

#12 in the series *The Venture and Victory of Faith* on Joshua

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### Special places.

1. The cities of refuge.  
(20:1-9; see also Exodus 21:12-14; Numbers 35:9-34; Deuteronomy 4:41-43; 19:1-13)
2. The cities of the Levites.  
(21:1-45; see also Numbers 18:1-32; 35:1-8; Deuteronomy 18:1-8)

### Special principles.

1. The importance of human life.  
(20:1-6, 9; see also Genesis 1:27; 5:1; 9:5-6; Numbers 35:1-34; Exodus 20:13; Leviticus 24:17; Matthew 5:21-22; 19:17 Romans 13:9)
2. God's servants minister to His people who then provide for them.  
(21:1-3, 43-45; see also Numbers 18:21; Luke 10:7; 1 Corinthians 9:1-14; 1 Timothy 5:17-18)
3. God provides refuge and is our refuge  
(20:1-6, 9; see also Numbers 35:1-34; Deuteronomy 19:1-13; 2 Samuel 22:3, 31; Psalm 2:12; 18:12, 30; 31:19; 34:8; 46:1; 62:7-8; Hebrews 6:18)

## In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

**Monday.** A place that is special to one person may be unremarkably ordinary to another. Yesterday we looked at two different kinds of cities that were set up in Israel. They had different purposes, but both were special for the nation. Review the introduction to the cities of refuge in Joshua 20:1-9 and to the cities of the Levites in 21:1-4. Summarize their importance to the nation.

**Tuesday.** One principle behind and running through the cities of refuge is the importance of human life. Review the foundation for this in the scripture references from Genesis. How did the process and cities of refuge value the life of a person who had been killed? How did it value the life of a person who had killed another? What are some of the applications of this principle today?

**Wednesday.** A principle from the cities of the Levites was that God's servants were to minister to His people who then were to provide for them. Why do you think God did not give the Levites a territory? Why do you think God directed that the 48 cities given to them were to be distributed throughout the country? Check the new Testament references on this principle in the outline and describe how it applies today in the church.

**Thursday.** An important principle we see in the cities of refuge, and then frequently in the Psalms, is that God provides refuge and is a refuge for His people. Survey the Bible references in the outline on this. Review some specific times and situations when you have sought and found refuge in God. Thank Him that He is your refuge.

**Friday–Saturday.** Sunday we plan to Joshua 22:1-9 and *Job Well Done!* Read that section in preparation for our time of worship together.