

# Ezekiel 45:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

In the land shall be his possession in Israel: and my princes shall no more oppress my people; and the rest of the land shall they give to the house of Israel according to their tribes.

## Analysis

---

God's land distribution promise—"In the land shall be his possession in Israel: and my princes shall no more oppress my people; and the rest of the land shall they give to the house of Israel according to their tribes"—establishes justice. The Hebrew נַחֲלָה (nachalah, 'possession') indicates inherited property rights. The prohibition against oppression (Hebrew יָנָח, yanah—wrong, defraud, oppress) addresses historical abuses where rulers confiscated land (Ahab and Naboth's vineyard, 1 Kings 21). Tribal land distribution according to inheritance preserves family patrimony. Reformed theology sees this as teaching property rights, limited government, and just rulers who protect rather than plunder citizens. Christ's kingdom establishes ultimate justice where 'they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree' (Micah 4:4).

## Historical Context

---

Israel's kings frequently oppressed citizens economically. Saul confiscated land for redistribution (1 Samuel 8:14). Ahab murdered Naboth to steal his vineyard (1 Kings 21). Jehoiakim practiced injustice and forced labor (Jeremiah 22:13-19). The prophets consistently condemned economic oppression (Isaiah 5:8, 10:1-2; Amos 5:11; Micah 2:2). The jubilee year prevented permanent land alienation (Leviticus 25:23-28), maintaining tribal inheritances. Ezekiel's vision promises rulers will respect property rights and govern justly. The tribal distribution (Ezekiel 48) ensures equitable access to land—primary economic resource in agricultural

society. This establishes principle: just government protects property rights and prevents elite monopolization of resources.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

---

1. How do you use your resources and authority—to serve others or exploit for personal gain?
2. What does God's prohibition against oppression teach about Christian responsibility toward the economically vulnerable?
3. How seriously do you take stewardship of your 'possession'—using resources justly versus hoarding or exploiting?

## Interlinear Text

---

וְהָאָרֶץ	וְהָיָה	לֹא	לְאֻזְתָּהּ	וְיִשְׂרָאֵל	וְלֹא
In the land	H1961	H0	shall be his possession	in Israel	H3808
H776			H272	H3478	
וְיֹנֵם	עַד	נְשִׂאֵי	אֶת	עַמִּי	וְהָאָרֶץ
shall no more oppress	H5750	and my princes	H853	my people	In the land
H3238		H5387		H5971	H776
וְיָתֵן	לְבֵית	וְיִשְׂרָאֵל	לְשִׁבְטֵיהֶם:		
shall they give	to the house	in Israel	according to their tribes		
H5414	H1004	H3478	H7626		

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Ezekiel 46:18** (Parallel theme): Moreover the prince shall not take of the people's inheritance by oppression, to thrust them out of their possession; but he shall give his sons inheritance out of his own possession: that my people be not scattered every man from his possession.

**Jeremiah 23:5** (Parallel theme): Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

**Ezekiel 22:27** (Parallel theme): Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, and to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.

**Joshua 11:23** (References Israel): So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)