**Achsah’s Ask (Judges 1)**

The story of Achsah is one of the Bible’s most ignored stories, even though it occurs twice in the Bible. It is an inspiring story, which should encourage us to have bold faith and to ask God for great things.

**Dr. Peter J. Williams** is the Principal and CEO of Tyndale House, Cambridge. He was educated at the University of Cambridge, where he received his MA, MPhil, and PhD in the study of ancient languages related to the Bible. After his PhD, he was on staff in the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Cambridge (1997–1998) and thereafter taught Hebrew and Old Testament as an Affiliated Lecturer in Hebrew and Aramaic at the University of Cambridge and Research Fellow in Old Testament at Tyndale House, Cambridge (1998–2003). From 2003 to 2007 he was on the faculty of the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, where he became a Senior Lecturer in New Testament and Deputy Head of the School of Divinity, History, and Philosophy. Since 2007 he has been leading Tyndale House. Dr Williams is also an Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, and a member of the Translation Oversight Committee of the English Standard Version of the Bible. His book Can We Trust the Gospels? (Crossway, 2018) has been translated into 12 languages. His rediscovery of part of the lost star catalogue of Hipparchus featured in the journal Nature in 2022. His latest book is The Surprising Genius of Jesus (Crossway, 2023).

1. **How the book of Judges works**
   1. The period of Judges in the story of Scripture
   2. The cycle:
   3. *Almost* 12 judges: 6 major and 6 minor, and two appendices
   4. Judges we’ve considered previously at ELF: Ehud, Gideon, Jephthah, Samson
2. **Acknowledging Achsah**
   1. The most ignored woman in Scripture
   2. Achsah in Joshua 15:13-19
   3. The context of the book of Joshua
   4. Judges 1:11-15 in the context of the book of Judges
3. **Achsah’s Ask**
   1. The description, like Genesis 24:62-65
   2. The field, like Genesis 23
   3. The name, like Isaiah 3:18
   4. The water
      1. See Genesis 21:25-26
      2. Genesis 26:17-22, 31-33
      3. Genesis 36:24
   5. How Achsah shows what Israel should have done
4. **Applying the Ask**
   1. Standing on God’s promises today
   2. Recurring theme in Judges: effectiveness of just one person when they God’s presence
   3. Christ and Psalm 2:7-8