

## OT6: Joshua (Josh: 24 Chapters) Former Prophets

### Theme: Jehovah Establishes Israel in the Promised Land

**Joshua** is Moses' successor who leads the people into the Promised Land. The people conquer Canaan under his leadership, and the land is divided among the twelve tribes of Israel.

**Prayers in Joshua:** Joshua-for help and mercy Josh 7:6-9

#### Brief Outline:

- Josh 1-5: I. Jehovah causes Israel to enter the land (West Palestine); ie to cross the Jordan
- Josh 6-12: II. Jehovah causes Israel to conquer the land
  - Josh 6-8: A. Central Campaign (Jericho, Ai, Etc)
  - Josh 9-10: B. Southern Campaign (the 5 Kings, Etc)
  - Josh 11-12: C. Northern Campaign (Hazor, etc.) & Conquest Summary
- Josh 13-22: III. Jehovah Causes Israel to Inherit the Land (its division among the tribes)
- Josh 23-24: IV. Joshua, in his farewell address, emphasizes Israel's resulting obligation to worship & love Jehovah.

#### Expanded Outline:

- I. Josh 1-5 Jehovah causes Israel to enter the land (West Palestine); ie to cross the Jordan
  - Josh 1 God commissions Joshua and Joshua assumes command
  - Josh 2 Rahab Hides the spies
  - Josh 3 Israel crosses the Jordan (during harvest season!) God dries the Jordan for crossing.
  - Josh 4 Twelve memorial stones taken from midst of the Jordan. Army of 40K including Reuben, Gad, and half tribe of Manasseh
    - **Josh 4:14 Joshua exalted on that day to Moses' stature**
  - Josh 5 New generation is circumcised while surrounding nations sit in fear of Israel and their God.
    - Passover is celebrated.
    - Joshua encounters and worships the Leader of the Lord's Army (Pre-incarnate appearance of Christ)
- II. Josh 6-12 Jehovah Causes Israel to Conquer the land
  - A. Josh 6-8 Central Campaign
    - Josh 6 Jericho Devoted to Destruction (6 Days, 1 march each day, on 7<sup>th</sup> Day, 7 marches), **but Rahab and her family are saved.**
    - Joshua issues a curse on anyone who tries to rebuild Jericho.
      - Josh 6:26 "Joshua laid an oath on them at that time, saying, "Cursed before the LORD be the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho. "At the cost of his firstborn shall he lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest son shall he set up its gates" (see 1 Kings 16)
    - Josh 7 Defeat at Ai, the sin of Achin
    - Josh 8 Ai Ambushed & devoted for destruction.
      - Joshua renews covenant on Mt. Ebal (as Moses did)
  - B. Josh 9-10 Southern Campaign (5 kings of the Ammorites – from cities of Hebron, Jurmuth, Lachish, Jerusalem, and Eglon )
    - Josh 9 Unapproved-by-God treaty made by Joshua with the deceiving Gibeonites (also called the Hivites from Gibeon later on in Josh ). Gibeon deceived Joshua into thinking they lived far away.
    - Josh 10 Amorites
      - The Lord hurls large hail stones from heaven, destroying more than Israel slays with the sword

- Joshua calls on the Lord to make the Sun and Moon stand still while Israel wages war against the Amorites.
  - Josh 10:14 The Lord obeys Joshua!
  - Execution of 5 Kings of the Amorites
  - Makeda, Lachish, Libna, Gezar, Elgon, Hebron, and Debir conquered, concluding Southern Campaign.
- C. Josh 11-12 Northern Campaign (Hazor, etc.) & Conquest Summary
  - Josh 11
    - Hazor, Goshen, Arabah, Baal-Gad (Valley of Lebanon), conquered.
    - Joshua kills the Anakim
  - Josh 12 Recap
    - Josh 12:1-6 Kings Defeated by Moses: Sihon of Amorites, Og of Bashan – both in Trans-Jordan region (given to half tribe of Manasseh, Gad, and Reuben)
    - Josh 12:7-23 Kings defeated by Joshua: 31 kings thus far
- III. Josh 13-22 Jehovah Causes Israel to Inherit the Land (further conquests & division among the tribes – see “Twelve Tribes of Israel at time of Joshua – Relative Diagram.doc”)
  - Josh 13 Statues of the Promised Land
    - Lands to be conquered in Joshua’s Old Age
    - Recap of the Trans-Jordan Inheritance
    - Josh 13:13 “Yet the people of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites”
    - Josh 13:33 “But to the tribe of Levi, Moses gave no inheritance; the Lord God of Israel is their inheritance, just as He said to them”
  - Josh 14
    - Josh 14:1-5 Eleazor and Joshua begin to allot out the land to the remaining 9 ½ tribes (West of the Jordan)
    - Josh 14:6-15 Hebron is given to Caleb. Caleb is 85, this is 45 years after Caleb’s faithfulness after Canaanite Spy Expedition of Num 13-14. Caleb’s strength is unabated.
  - Josh 15 The Inheritance of Judah
    - Josh 15:13-19 Caleb drives out 3 sons of Anak and has Othniel (Caleb’s nephew) conquer Debir. Caleb offers Achsah his daughter as wife for this service. (Note: Caleb is of Judah)
    - Josh 15:63 Jebusites not driven out of Jerusalem
  - Josh 16-17 Inheritance of Joseph (Ephraim & Manasseh)
    - Josh 16 Inheritance of Ephraim
      - Josh 16:10 Canaanites not driven out of Gezer, instead, made to do forced labor.
    - Josh 17 Inheritance of Manasseh, including allotments for Daughters of Zelophehad. (This is the Western Allotment, Moses had already granted Trans-Jordan Allotment)
      - Josh 17:12-13 Canaanites not utterly driven out, but instead made to do forced labor.
  - Josh 18:1-10 Joshua calls meeting at Shiloh (in Ephraim – Joshua’s Tribe). Meeting of Benjamin, Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, & Dan. They are tasked with mapping out remaining land. After which, Joshua will draw lots before the Lord to decide who gets what land.
  - Josh 18:11 – Josh 19 The distribution of Land at Shiloh (in Ephraim) decided by Lot drawing by Joshua, before God.

- Inheritance of the remaining 7 tribes, and for Joshua:
      - Josh 18:11-28 Benjamin
      - Josh 19:1-9 Simeon
      - Josh 19:10-16 Zebulun
      - Josh 19:17-23 Issachar
      - Josh 19:24-31 Asher
      - Josh 19:32-39 Naphtali
      - Josh 19:40-48 Dan
      - Josh 19:49-51 Joshua's Inheritance (within Ephraim)
  - Josh 20 Cities of Refuge Established
  - Josh 21 Cities and Pasturelands Allotted to Levi: 48 Cities throughout the 13 land allotments.
    - Josh 21:43-45 "Thus the LORD gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. 44 And the LORD gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the LORD had given all their enemies into their hands. 45 Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass."
  - Josh 22 The Return of the Trans-Jordan Tribes (1/2 tribe of Manasseh, Gad, and Reuben)
    - Josh 22:1-9 Trans-Jordan tribes acknowledged as faithful to their promise to Moses, and permitted to return to their inheritance.
    - **Josh 22:10-34 The Account of the Witness Altar:** When the Trans-Jordan tribes reached the Jordan they built an imposing-of-size Altar. The western tribes (still in Shiloh) hear of it and thought it a breach of their faith. They designate Phinehas the priest (son of Eleazor – the same Phinehas from Num 25) to destroy the Trans-Jordan tribes for their breach of faith. Upon confrontation, Phineas compares their action to Israel's Baal worship harlotry in Peor of Moab (Num 25) and to the sin of Achin (Josh 7). But the Trans-Jordan tribes assure that the altar is strictly a memorial to future generations, and that is not a breach of faith, or rebellious, nor is the altar intended for burnt offerings. Phinehas & Co. is satisfied with the response, and returns to Shiloh without blood being shed.
      - Josh 22:3 "...called the altar Witness, "For, they said, "it is a witness **between** us that the LORD is God" (remember the location – the Jordan river divides the two regions – but it is the same God for both regions)
- IV. Josh 23-24 Joshua, in his farewell address, emphasizes Israel's resulting obligation to worship & love Jehovah.
  - Josh 23 After many years of rest, Joshua summons Israel and charges them
    - Josh 23:14-16 "And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one word has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed. 15But just as all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so the LORD will bring upon you all the evil things, until he has destroyed you from off this good land that the LORD your God has given you, 16if you transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them. Then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from off the good land that he has given to you"
  - Josh 24 The Covenant renewed at Shechem (in East Manasseh) and the death of Joshua

- Josh 24:1-13 Recap of God's salvation and fulfillment of promises from Terah (an Idol worshiper!) till the present.
  - Josh 24:13 **"I gave you a land on which you had not labored and cities that you had not built, and you dwell in them. You eat the fruit of vineyards and olive orchards that you did not plant"** (see Deut 6 and Zeph 1:13)
- Josh 24:14-28 Choose now whom you will serve! Israel promises to serve and obey God, and to abstain from Idol worship.
  - Josh 24:15 "And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."
  - Josh 24:28 "So Joshua sent the people away, every man to his inheritance"
- Josh 24:29 -33 Conclusion
  - Joshua dies at 110
  - Bones of Joseph are buried in Shechem (East Manasseh)
  - Eleazor son of Aaron, father of Phinehas, dies
  - Israel is faithful to the end of Joshua's life, and to the end of the lives of the Elders of Joshua.