

The events of Joshua begin where those of Deuteronomy conclude. The book of Joshua describes the conquest and division of the land of Canaan.

God commanded the Israelites to exterminate the inhabitants of Canaan.<sup>1</sup> The destruction of the Canaanites was (1) to punish them for their gross wickedness and (2) to prevent Israel from being infected by their evil religions. However, the Canaanites were not completely destroyed, and their evil religion eventually influenced the Israelites for worse.

Day 83 - Joshua 1-4 • Joshua sent two spies secretly to view the land, especially Jericho. While in Jericho, Rahab hid the spies on the roof of her house. The Israelite army crossed the Jordan River on dry ground, while the priests who carried the ark of the covenant stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan.

What did the inhabitants of Jericho know about the Israelites, per Rahab in Joshua 2:10-11?

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Day 84 - Joshua 5-8 • In Joshua 5 the Israelites observe the Passover. The manna ceased on the day after they had eaten some of the produce of the land. Joshua met the captain of the host of the Lord, and worshiped Him as Yahweh.

In Joshua 6 the wall of Jericho fell down flat in response to the Israelite's army great shout. The Israelites utterly destroyed everything in the city of Jericho, except for Rahab and her relatives.

The city of Jericho was under the ban, meaning that no booty was to be taken by the people. In Joshua 7, the Israelites are defeated at Ai, their next battle. The Lord told Joshua that Israel had sinned by taking some of the things under the ban - the sin of one man was imputed to the nation of Israel.

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Achan and his family were found guilty of taking a long robe woven of gold and silk threads, 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold. All Israel stoned them with stones, and they burned them with fire.

In Joshua 8, the Israelites go to battle at Ai a second time, but this time they are victorious. At Ai, the Lord permitted the Israelites to take its spoil and cattle as plunder. Then Joshua built an altar to the Lord at Mount Ebal, where the Israelites offered burnt offerings and peace offerings.

What was written on the large pillar of stone, by the altar at Mount Ebal (Joshua 8:30-35)?

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Day 85 - Joshua 9-11 • Joshua 9 records how the people from the cities of Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroh, and Kirith-jearim deceived Joshua into making a covenant with them, to let them live.

Joshua 10 records a battle where the Israelites came to the aid of Gibeon, attacked by warriors from five Amorite cities - Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, and Eglon. Other cities conquered in Southern Canaan include: Makkedah, Libnah, Lachish, Gezer, Eglon, Hebron, and Debir.

Joshua 11 records the conquest of Northern Canaan, in which Joshua captured the cities of Hazor, Madon, Shimron, and Achshaph.

What two acts of God aided Joshua and the Israelites as they fought against the Amorite coalition in Joshua 10:11-14?

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Day 86 – Joshua 12-14 • Joshua 12 summarizes the victories under Moses on the east side of the Jordan, and the victories under Joshua on the west side of the Jordan.

Joshua was 90 or 100 years old at the time when the division of the land of Canaan among the twelve tribes began. Joshua 13 details the apportionment of the Transjordan region – to the half-tribe of Manasseh, the tribe of Reuben and the tribe of Gad.

Note that Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, are listed as individual tribes. The history behind this can be found in Genesis 48:5 where Jacob adopted Joseph's two sons as his own. Apparently at this time Jacob transferred the rights of the firstborn from Reuben to Joseph, the firstborn of his beloved Rachel.

Joshua 14 contains some details about Caleb, who was of the tribe of Judah. The city of Hebron and its surrounding area was allotted to Caleb as his inheritance. Still vigorous at age 85, Caleb helped drive out the Anakim (14:12) and later gave up this city to the Levites and lived in the pasture lands (21:12).

Q. What compliment is attributed to Caleb, mentioned three times in Joshua 14 (v. 8, 9, 14)?

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Day 87 – Joshua 15-17 • Chapters 15-17 detail the land in Canaan given to the tribes of Judah, Ephraim, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. Recall that the other half-tribe of Manasseh received land east of the Jordan.

Q. Of which tribe was Joshua (1 Chron. 7:22-27), and of which tribe was Caleb (1 Chron. 4:1, 15)?

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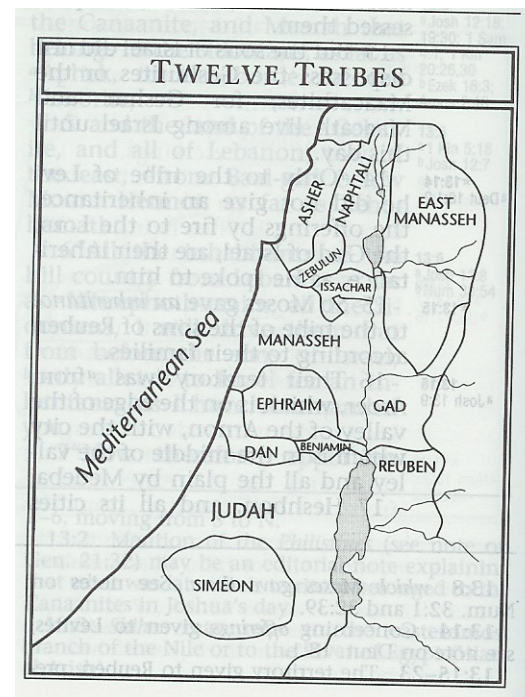
Day 88 – Joshua 18-19 • As Joshua 18 begins, there were still seven tribes of Israel who had not divided their inheritance. Joshua sent three men from each of the seven tribes to go and walk through the land. The men brought Joshua a book that described the land by cities in seven divisions. Then Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the Lord to divide up the land.

The blessing of Moses to Benjamin (Deuteronomy 33:12) was fulfilled by the territory given to Benjamin. What is this blessing and what city does it involve?

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Day 89 – Joshua 20-22 • Six cities of refuge were designated in Joshua 20, for the protection of individuals guilty of accidental homicide. In Joshua 21, the Levites were given 48 cities with their pasture lands, located within the land assigned to the other twelve tribes. In Joshua 22, Joshua reminds the 2.5 tribes of their spiritual responsibility (Joshua 22:5) before they return to their settlement east of the Jordan.

What did the 2.5 tribes east of the Jordan do (Joshua 22:10-11) that the remaining tribes feared would cause the Lord to be angry with the whole congregation of Israel (Joshua 22:16-18)?

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Day 90 – Joshua 23-24 • Joshua 23 contains Joshua's farewell address to the leaders.

In chapter 24 Joshua addresses the people, reminding them of their heritage, and the fact that Abraham's father Terah had served other gods. Joshua challenged the people to choose for themselves whom they will serve: the gods of their father Terah, or the gods of the Amorites, or the Lord.

Joshua died at age 110 and was buried in the land of his inheritance, Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim.

Who did the Israelites bury in Shechem (Joshua 24:32), a city located in the land Manasseh inherited?

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#### References

<sup>1</sup> *Ryrie Study Bible*, Moody Press, 1995, pp. 273-330.

<b>The Miracles of Joshua</b>	
Parts the Jordan River	Joshua 3:7-17
Destruction of Jericho	Joshua 6:1-27
Hail and sword destroy the Gibeonites	Joshua 10:1-11
Sun and moon stand still	Joshua 10:12-15