

Sabbath Brothers

The "Canon"

The word "Canon" means "List" and characterizes the inspired books of the Bible

God told Moses to document the guidelines, commandments and events (Exodus 17:14, 34:27) in the law of Moses (the Torah).

It is said that the first written canon was the 10 commandments inscribed by the Lord (Exodus 24:12; Deuteronomy 5:1-21)

"Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you." (Joshua 1:7)



Old Testament

Beyond the Torah, Hebrew Rabbis (Pharisees) extended the Word of God to be the Tanakh

The Tanakh is an acronym for the Torah(Law), Nevi'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings)

Circa 200BC, the "Septuagint" (meaning "70") translated the Hebrew Tanakh into the Greek Language by 70/72 Jewish scholars in Alexandria at the request of Egypt's Ptolemy II.

Between 170-200 A.D., the church in Rome began compiling the New Testament Canon (The Muratorian Fragment)

New Testament

In the 2nd & 3rd Century, early church fathers (Clement of Alexandria; Origen; Tertullian) reference the "books of the New Testament."

In 367AD, St. Athanasius (the Bishop of Alexandria) lists the 27 books of the New Testament as canonical.

In the 4th Century, Catholic Bishops affirm the 27 New Testament Books at local councils:

- Council of Laodicea (360AD)
- Council of Rome (382AD)
- St Jerome's Vulgate (383AD)
- Council of Hippo (393AD)
- Councils of Carthage (397AD & 419AD)



Five Primary Criteria for Canon Requirements

- **Authoritative/Divine Inspiration** - God told the author to write it
- **Agent of God** - The individual was recognized by God's people
- **Authenticity** - It is factually true
- **Testimony** - The content was recognized by God's people as from God
- **Agreement** - The book doctrinally agrees

"Verbal Plenary Inspiration"

God has supernaturally preserved His inspired words (2 Timothy 3:16)

Joshua: The Sixth Book of Scripture

Joshua became Israel's leader around the age of 85 (Joshua 14:7, 10) and led Israel for 25 years before dying at the age of 110 (Joshua 24:29).



"Joshua" = "Jesus"
 Hebrew = Greek
"God is Salvation"

Joshua's name is spelled four different ways throughout the Old Testament:

- *Yeshoshu's*, (most frequent spelling – i.e., Joshua 1)
- *Yehoshu's* (Deuteronomy 3:21)
- *Hoshe'a* (Deuteronomy 32:44)
- *Yeshu'a* (Nehemiah 8:17)

Some believe the author of Joshua to be anonymous while others consider Joshua the author (except for his death). Joshua could write (Joshua 8:32; 24:26) and offered firsthand accounts (Joshua 5:1, 7-8, 13-15; 6:25).

It is tradition that Joshua's death was recorded by Eleazar, the priest (Joshua 24:29-30) while Eleazar's death (Joshua 24:31-33) was recorded by Eleazar's son, Phinehas (Numbers 25:7-13; 31:6-8; Joshua 22:10-34).

A "greater" Joshua is referenced in the New Testament as one providing a true Sabbath

"For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God." (Hebrews 4:8-9)

Outline of Joshua

1.	Conquest	Chapters 1-12
2.	Allotment	Chapters 13-22
3.	Farewell Address	Chapters 23-24

Joshua's conquest was accomplished with three military campaigns where Israel defeated over 30 armies in a 7 year period.

1 st Military Campaign	Central Canaan	Joshua 6-8
2 nd Military Campaign	Southern Canaan	Joshua 9-10
3 rd Military Campaign	Northern Canaan	Joshua 11-12

Joshua used the "divide and conquer" method of defeating Canaanite territory



Israel entered the Promised land around 1400 B.C.

Archeologists have translated letters (The “Amarna” Letters) dating between 1399-1350BC from Canaanite scribes living in Palestine, Phoenicia, and southern Syria addressed to Egypt’s Pharaoh Tutankhamen (King Tut) complaining about Israel’s military campaign and requesting military support.

The Amarna Tablets written in Akkadian cuneiform were discovered in 1887 by a woman in Egypt, who had stumbled upon a palace buried under sand.

A Collection of 388 Cuneiform Tablets named after the Egyptian city where they were discovered – modern day Amarna which was the ancient Egyptian city of Akhetaten

The “Amarna” Letters



Excerpt from the Amarna Tablets:

“...Let the king turn his face to the troops, and let the king, my lord, send troops! No territory remains to the king, my lord.

The Hebrews are devastating all the lands of the king. If there be troops in this year, then the lands will remain the king's, my lord's; but if no troops arrive, the lands of the king, my lord, are lost...

To the scribe of the king, my lord: Abdi-Jiiba, thy servant. Bring clearly before the king, my lord, these words: All the lands of the king, my lord, are going to ruin.”



The Lord Calls Joshua (Joshua 1:1-9)

¹ After the death of **Moses the servant of the LORD**, it came to pass that the **LORD spoke to Joshua** the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying:

² **"Moses My servant** is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel.

³ **Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you**, as I said to Moses.

⁴ **From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.**

⁵ **No man shall *be able to stand before you* all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you**

⁶ ***Be strong and of good courage***, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.

⁷ ***Only be strong and very courageous***, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; **do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.**

⁸ **This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

⁹ Have I not commanded you? ***Be strong and of good courage***, do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is with you wherever you go.*"



Moses was repeatedly called the "Servant of the Lord"

Abraham (Genesis 26:24)
David (1 Kings 8:66)
Joshua (Joshua 24:29)

Jesus the "Suffering Servant" of Isaiah 40-53

Moses (the Law) could only take them to the edge of the Promised Land, but Joshua (Jesus) can take them into the Promised Land.

"For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17)

Believers should walk in faith (Romans 4:11-13; Genesis 15:18-21)

"He put all things under His feet" (Ephesians 1:22)

Israel was promised 300,000sq miles into Lebanon, Syria and Iraq; however, at the height of success under King David/Solomon, Israel only claimed 30,000 square miles (only 1 tenth of what was available) – because Israel did not "tread" there (Joshua 1:3).

Above all, strength & courage are necessary to overcome the world and to obey God's Word (Joshua 1:18, 23:6).

Not because of the Believer's Strength, but because of God's Presence

"Turn right or left" is a deviation from the standard which reflects the Hebrew concept of sin. (Deut. 5:32; 17:11,20; 28:14; Joshua 23:6; 2 Kings. 22:2; 2 Chronicles 34:2; Proverbs 4:27)

The Hebrew term "righteousness" is literally "a measuring reed."

Preparation to Cross the Jordan (Joshua 1:10-18)

¹⁰ Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

¹¹ "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within **three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.**' "

¹² And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke, saying,

¹³ "Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God is giving you rest and is giving you this land.'

¹⁴ Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side of the Jordan. But **you shall pass before your brethren armed, all your mighty men of valor, and help them.**

¹⁵ **until the LORD has given your brethren rest, as He gave you, and they also have taken possession of the land which the LORD your God is giving them.** Then you shall return to the land of your possession and enjoy it, which **Moses the LORD's servant** gave you on this side of the Jordan toward the sunrise."

¹⁶ So they answered Joshua, saying, "All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.

¹⁷ **Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you.** Only the LORD your God be with you, as He was with Moses.

¹⁸ **Whoever rebels against your command and does not heed your words, in all that you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and of good courage."**

Man's response to God's gift

2½ Transjordan Tribes



Within three days, the Israelites would begin life anew in the promised land.

The number 3 represents revelation/resurrection

The 2½ Transjordan Tribes chose to "settle" east of the Jordan & not bring their families over (Deuteronomy 3:18-20),

The 2½ Tribes battled along with their brothers in the Promised Land while leaving their families behind

God gave His people: 1. Rest 2. Land

Israel's warriors were repeatedly called "men of valor" (Joshua 6:2; 8:3; 10:7; Judges 6:12; 11:1).

The concept of "valor" is a strength of mind that enables a person to be brave and resolute in times of danger.

Moses was repeatedly called the "Servant of the Lord" over 40 times in Scripture (Exodus 4:10; Numbers 12:7-8; Deuteronomy 34:5; Joshua 1:1, 2, 7, 13, 15; 8:31, 33; 9:24; 11:12, 15; 12:6; 13:8; 14:7; 18:7; 22:2-5; 1 Kings 8:53; 2 Kings 18:12, 21:8)

Israel said that they would follow Joshua the same way that they followed Moses.

A key message is repeated (1:6, 7, 9) in the final verse of the chapter "be strong and of good courage".

Disobedience Is Rebellion Against God

Rahab Hides the Spies (Joshua 2:1-14)

Acacia wood is dark, hard wood used in the construction of the Tabernacle (Exodus 25-26); Acacia is often translated "Shittim wood".

The two spies are akin to "witnesses" (Joshua 6:17, 25; 2 Timothy 2:19; James 2:25)

Only two spies (Joshua & Caleb) had been worthwhile during the first expedition (Numbers 13), and this time Joshua was only sending two.

"Jericho" (meaning "fragrance") is called the "city of palms" and is one of the world's oldest cities (circa ~7000 B.C.).

Rahab was a Gentile innkeeper in lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1:15).

In those days, Kings/kingdoms were recognized by cities.

Rahab's son would be Boaz who married Ruth (Ruth 4:20; Matthew 1:5)

Flax (used to make linen) was traditionally sun dried in March/April (at the flood stage for the Jordan); Rahab was a woman of industry.

Rahab ("to be wide") hid the Israelite spies (and deceitfully) claimed ignorance as to their origin.

Rahab encouraged the commanders to pursue the spies quickly and not waste time. Looking through Rahab's house would have slowed the pursuit down.

"By faith the prostitute Rahab did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace." (Hebrews 11:31)

The testimony of God's power has a fearful affect (Ex 15:15-16, 23:27) while the spies being sought by men, were ready to go to sleep in peace.

Faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17)

The Amorites were idolatrous (1 Kings 21:26; 2 Kings 21:11; Joshua 24:8-15; Judges 6:10)

¹ Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out **two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly**, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and came to the house of a **harlot named Rahab**, and lodged there.

² And it was told the **king of Jericho**, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the children of Israel to search out the country."

³ So the **king of Jericho sent to Rahab**, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country."

⁴ Then the woman took the two men and hid them. So she said,

"Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from."

⁵ And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out. **Where the men went I do not know**; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them."

⁶ (But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order on the roof.)

⁷ Then the men pursued them by the road to the Jordan, to the fords. And as soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate.

⁸ Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof,

⁹ and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you."

¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

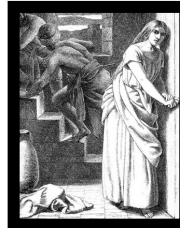
¹¹ And as soon as we heard *these things*, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, **for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.**

¹² Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the LORD, since I have shown you kindness, **that you also will show kindness to my father's house**, and give me a true token,

¹³ and **spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters**, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death."

¹⁴ So the men answered her, "Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours."

And it shall be, when the LORD has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you.



The Spies Escape (Joshua 2:15-26)

¹⁵ Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house *was* on the city wall; she dwelt on the wall.

¹⁶ And she said to them, “Get to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you. Hide there three days, until the pursuers have returned. Afterward you may go your way.”

¹⁷ So the men said to her: “We *will be* blameless of this oath of yours which you have made us swear,

¹⁸ unless, *when* we come into the land, you bind this line of scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you bring your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father’s household to your own home.

¹⁹ So it shall be *that whoever goes outside the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head*, and we *will be* guiltless. And whoever is with you in the house, his blood *shall be* on our head if a hand is laid on him.

²⁰ And if you tell this business of ours, then we will be free from your oath which you made us swear.”

²¹ Then she said, “According to your words, so *be it*.” And she sent them away, and they departed.

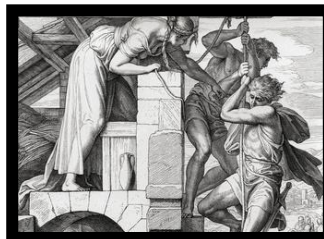
And she bound the scarlet cord in the window.

²² They departed and went to the mountain, and stayed there **three days** until the pursuers returned. The pursuers sought *them* all along the way, but did not find *them*.

²³ So the two men returned, descended from the mountain, and crossed over; and they came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them.

²⁴ And they said to Joshua, “Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us.”

Rahab is an example of the fear of God and the power of faith



Rahab became a popular subject in Jewish writings; she was recognized as one of the four most beautiful women in the world who was an ancestor of 8 prophets (including Jeremiah and Huldah)

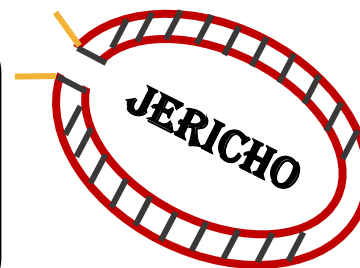
How many other men had escaped from the brothel in the same way?

The lives of several godly men were saved by escaping through a window:
1. Jericho Spies (Joshua 2:15) 2. David (1 Samuel 19:12) 3. Paul (2 Cor 11:33)

Rahab’s house was in the wall of the city, so God actually spared Rahab because the remainder of the wall collapsed (Joshua 6:20).

Her window must have been lower since she conversed with them after lowering them out of the window.

The walls of Jericho were ~6 feet wide with a radius of 357 yards (1071 feet) which was about 1.24 miles around the city.



Archeologists believe that Jericho was a double walled city where the walls were approximately ten feet apart. Wooden beams with clay/mud bricks may have connected the two walls that created “apartments/homes.”

The Jericho Spies hid in the mountains for three days

The number 3 represents revelation/resurrection



There could be no salvation without the blood. The scarlet cord brought Salvation; just as in the Passover, blood was a sign of Faith (Ex 12:7)

As with the Passover, anyone behind the door would be safe from destruction. (Ex 12:21-23)

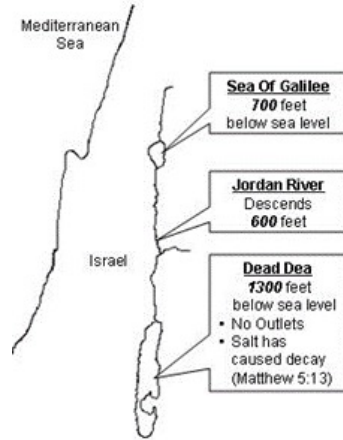
The Lord is the Provider & Deliverer



The report of the spies emphasized the fear of the Canaanites

Crossing the Jordan River (Joshua 3:1-15)

Jordan River ("descender")



Twisting
200 miles
to flow only
65 miles

Deuteronomy 28:14
Joshua 1:7, 23:6
Psalm 5:8
Ecclesiastes 1:15, 7:13
Isaiah 40:3
Luke 3:5

The Jordan is one of the fastest flowing rivers of its size.



The wood used in the construction of the Tabernacle was Acacia wood

Joshua had told the people that they would cross the Jordan in 3 days (Joshua 1:11)

Joshua sent two spies who escaped from Jericho & hid for 3 days. (Joshua 2:22)

As soon as the spies returned, Israel crossed the Jordan after waiting 3 days. (Joshua 3:2)

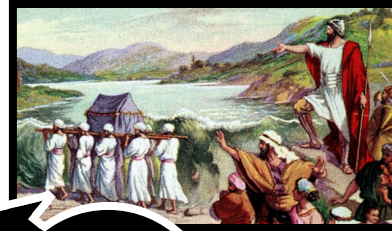
The people did not lead, they followed the ark as all believers should follow the Lord.

The Ark of the Covenant represented the presence of God.

God's people are called to purify (sanctify) themselves today and watch God's miraculous work tomorrow.

Sanctification usually entailed a ritual washing and a change of clothes.

The Priests were to stand in the Jordan River before it stopped. With Moses, the Red Sea parted with Moses staff (Ex 14:16), but this would require a "step of faith."



1,000 Yards
2,000 Cubits
3,000 Feet
.57 Mile

"Faith is not - believing in spite of the evidence; Faith is obeying in spite of the consequence."



¹ Then Joshua rose early in the morning; and they set out from Acacia Grove and came to the Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they crossed over.

² So it was, after **three days**, that the officers went through the camp;

³ and they commanded the people, saying, "**When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it.**

⁴ Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed *this way before*."

⁵ And Joshua said to the people, "**Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.**"

⁶ Then Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, "**Take up the ark of the covenant and cross over before the people.**" So they took up the ark of the covenant and went before the people.

⁷ And the LORD said to Joshua, "**This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you.**

⁸ You shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, 'When you have come to the edge of the water of the Jordan, you shall stand in the Jordan.' "

⁹ So Joshua said to the children of Israel, "Come here, and hear the words of the LORD your God."

¹⁰ And Joshua said, "By this you shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* He will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Hivites and the Perizzites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Jebusites:

¹¹ Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over before you into the Jordan.

¹² Now therefore, take for yourselves twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one man from every tribe.

¹³ And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, *that* the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap."

The 24 (12 x 2) Memorial Stones (Joshua 4:1-14)

¹ And it came to pass, when all the people had completely crossed over the Jordan, that the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying:

² **“Take for yourselves twelve men from the people, one man from every tribe,**

³ and command them, saying, ‘**Take for yourselves twelve stones from here, out of the midst of the Jordan, from the place where the priests’ feet stood firm. You shall carry them over with you and leave them in the lodging place where you lodge tonight.**’ ”

⁴ Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, one man from every tribe

⁵ and Joshua said to them: “Cross over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of the Jordan, and

each one of you **take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel,**

⁶ that **this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, ‘What do these stones *mean* to you?’**

⁷ Then you shall answer them that **the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.”**

⁸ And the children of Israel did so, just as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones from the midst of the Jordan, as the LORD had spoken to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them to the place where they lodged, and laid them down there.

⁹ **Then Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests who bore the ark of the covenant stood; and they are there to this day.**

¹⁰ **So the priests who bore the ark stood in the midst of the Jordan until everything was finished that the LORD had commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua; and the people hurried and crossed over.**

¹¹ Then it came to pass, when all the people had completely crossed over, that the ark of the LORD and the priests crossed over in the presence of the people.

¹² **And the men of Reuben, the men of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh crossed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses had spoken to them.**

¹³ **About 40,000 prepared for war crossed over before the LORD for battle, to the plains of Jericho.**

¹⁴ **On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they had feared Moses, all the days of his life.**

12 men would carry the stones 8 miles from the location of the crossing to Gilgal where Israel spent the night.



Two Documented Occurrences

1267	1927
An earthquake caused the Jordan embankments to collapse & block water flow for 10 hours	An earthquake at the city of Adam (20 miles up-river) caused the embankments to collapse and dam the river for 21 hours.

Neither of these occurred in the springtime when waters flood down the Jordan River making it a mile wide (from the typical 100 feet wide).

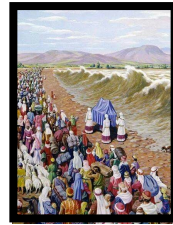
Tangible memorials are meant to encourage questions by the children



As the baptized believer is delivered from his burden of sin (Luke 11:46; Romans 15:1; Galatians 6:2; 1 John 5:3), the stones that each man bore were released into the flowing river.

All of the people crossed the Jordan in the presence of the ark of the covenant.
 The Hebrew word for “ark” is “ārōwn which means “chest” or “coffin”. The one use for coffin is for Joseph’s coffin in the final verse of Genesis (50:26).

The crossing is a possible location where John the Baptist ministered at Bethabara which means “the place of passage” (John 1:28)



The 2½ Transjordan Tribes faithfully kept their commitment to Moses.

The number “40” symbolizes Test/Trial

“God is able to raise up children from these stones” (Mt 3:9, Lk 3:8)

The Israelites hurried to get to the other side just as any believer should hasten to obey.



Israel Church

After Israel had passed through the Jordan, 12 stones were gathered for memorial in Gilgal (Joshua 4:8) and a separate 12 stones were set up as a memorial in the Jordan River (Joshua 12:9), Joshua called the priests out of the Jordan river bed. (Joshua 4:17)

The Circumcision of Israel (Joshua 5:1-12)

¹ So it was, when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had crossed over, that their heart melted; and there was no spirit in them any longer because of the children of Israel.

² At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time."

³ So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the "hill of the foreskins."

⁴ And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt.

⁵ For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness, on the way as they came out of Egypt, had not been circumcised.

⁶ For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD—to whom the LORD swore that He would not show them the land which the LORD had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey."

⁷ Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way.

⁸ So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were healed.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." Therefore the name of the place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho.

¹¹ And they ate of the produce of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day.

¹² Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year.

Gibeath-haaraloth means "the hill of the foreskins"

Testimony of the Lord Drying Up the Jordan

The inhabitants of the Promised Land are often grouped collectively into the Amorites (of the hill country) and the Canaanites (of the plains).

The flint was obsidian which was used instead of metal because obsidian flint is sterile.

Zipporah had also used a "flint" knife to circumcise her son (Exodus 4:25)



Consecration before Conquest | Worship before Warfare

The first step of preparation is sanctification to the Lord

Obedience in circumcision exposed Israel to great risk as they had already crossed over the Jordan River (Genesis 34:24-26)

Circumcision is an outward symbol of an inward covenant made with God

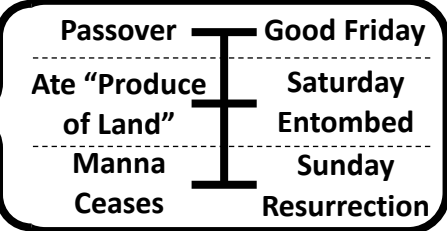


Circumcision can symbolize the cutting away of the propensities and inclinations towards the fleshly life

Gilgal becomes Joshua's center of operations (Judges 3:19; Hosea 9:15; Amos 4:4; Micah 6:5).

Israel had crossed the Red Sea (Exodus 12) and the Jordan (Joshua 5:12) at the time of Passover.

On the 17th day of Nisan, the manna stopped as Israel ate from the fruit of the land. This was three days after the Passover (Exodus 12:6) which would become the day that Jesus Christ resurrected.



The Commander of the Lord's Army (Joshua 5:13-15)

13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “**Are You for us or for our adversaries?**”

14 So He said, “**No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.**” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, “What does my Lord say to His servant?”

15 Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, “**Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.**” And Joshua did so.

The Hebrew word for “*man*” in Joshua 5:13 is **’iš (יִשְׁ)**, and not “*adam*” (**אָדָם**)

The Hebrew term **’iš (יִשְׁ)** can refer to a spiritual being (Exodus 15:3; Isaiah 42:13).

The imagery of an angel with a drawn sword is repeated through the Old Testament (Numbers 22:31; 1 Chronicles 21:16)

Jewish Rabbis teach that this is Michael

The question wasn't whether the angelic commander was on Israel's side, but instead, whether Israel was on God's side.

“Public Victories are a result of Private Visits” – the importance of prayer and quiet times.



The Hebrew term “*captain/commander*” (**śar- שָׂר**) can mean “*prince*” (Isaiah 9:6) which is used of Daniel's national angels (Daniel 10:13,20,21; 12:1)

Only God is to be worshipped throughout Scripture (not creation), so this is a physical form of God (a “*Theophany*”)

O.T. Form of Christ is a “*Christophany*”



The “*shoe/sandal*” symbolizes separation from this world (curse of the ground – Genesis 3:17) to the believer.

There should not be separation between Man and what God has made holy (Exodus 3:5)



“The Lord your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes” (Deuteronomy 1:30)

The "ark of the covenant" was the central point of reference



The Battle of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-14)

¹ Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in.

² And the LORD said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor.

³ You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days.

⁴ And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

⁵ It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him."

⁶ Then Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD."

⁷ And he said to the people, "Proceed, and march around the city, and let him who is armed advance before the ark of the LORD."

⁸ So it was, when Joshua had spoken to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD advanced and blew the trumpets, and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

⁹ The armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard came after the ark, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.

¹⁰ Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, "You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, 'Shout!' Then you shall shout."

¹¹ So he had the ark of the LORD circle the city, going around it once. Then they came into the camp and lodged in the camp.

¹² And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

¹³ Then seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually and blew with the trumpets. And the armed men went before them. But the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while the priests continued blowing the trumpets.

¹⁴ And the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. So they did six days.

The size of Jericho "proper" was 6 acres; however, the wall would have broadened that to approximately a 9-acre complex.



Action is needed for victory

As a general rule, archeologists use a rule of thumb of 200 people per acre; however, population from the surrounding area would have also fled into Jericho resulting in several thousand people.

The population of Jericho could have swollen to 4000-5000 inhabitants

Repeatedly, God told Joshua of certain victories beforehand; the believer has already overcome (John 16:33).

Joshua is directed to "Look" and "See" with spiritual eyes because physically, Jericho remained a fortress.

Obedience is Required to Win the Battle

Men must walk obediently six days a week before cheering the Lord's work on the seventh day

Seven priests are blowing seven trumpets as a complete testimony of the coming presence of the Lord.

Israel would march around Jericho a total of 13 times; the number "13" often symbolizes "rebellion."

Archeologists have discovered ruins of Canaanite cities that were radically changed during this time period reflecting the conquest of Israel and defeat of the existing Canaanite nations.

Jericho Falls (Joshua 6:15-27)

¹⁵ But it came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times in the same manner. On that day only they marched around the city seven times.

¹⁶ And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city!”

¹⁷ Now the city shall be doomed by the LORD to destruction, it and all who are in it. Only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.

¹⁸ And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

¹⁹ But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.”

²⁰ So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat.

Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

²¹ And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

²² But Joshua had said to the two men who had spied out the country, “Go into the harlot’s house, and from there bring out the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her.”

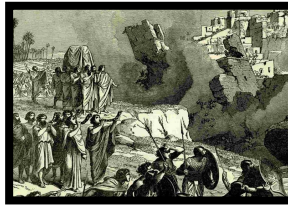
²³ And the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that she had. So they brought out all her relatives and left them outside the camp of Israel.

²⁴ But they burned the city and all that was in it with fire. Only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

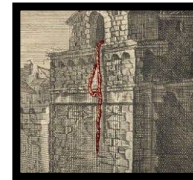
²⁵ And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father’s household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

²⁶ Then Joshua charged them at that time, saying, “Cursed be the man before the LORD who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation with his firstborn, and with his youngest he shall set up its gates.”

²⁷ So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country.



Israel would march at sunrise.



Israel had been told to obey in silence, but on the seventh day, they were told to shout in victory.

All of Israel understood the testimony and salvation of Rahab, and all had been able to see the red cord hanging from Rahab’s window in the city wall.

Israel was told not to take Jericho’s “accursed” belongings; God’s people should be separate from the things of this world (Rom 13:14)

God was to receive the first fruits of the conquest of Canaan with silver, gold, bronze and iron going into the Tabernacle’s treasury. (Exodus 23:19, 34:26; Dt 15:19; Revelation 14:4)

Although Joshua understood Rahab to be a harlot, God used the two spies to save His chosen people (Rahab’s family) from destruction (Genesis 19:15) as they are brought out into a new life (1 Corinthians 3:12-15; 1 Peter 1:17-19)

Everyone who had entered the “household of faith” (everyone who entered the door of Rahab’s home) was saved.

Jericho was rebuilt about 500 years after Joshua (1 Kings 16:34) only to be destroyed by the Roman army in 66 AD.

Five centuries after Joshua, Hiel the Bethelite lost his eldest son, Abiram, when he began to rebuild Jericho, and lost his youngest son, Segub upon completion (1 Kings 16:34).

Ai Defeats Israel (Joshua 7:1-9)

¹ But the children of Israel committed a trespass regarding the accursed things, for **Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed things;** so the anger of the LORD burned against the children of Israel.

² Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which *is* beside Beth Aven, on the east side of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the country." So the men went up and spied out Ai.

³ And they returned to Joshua and said to him, "**Do not let all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not weary all the people there, for *the people of Ai are few.***"

⁴ So about three thousand men went up there from the people, but they fled before the men of Ai.

⁵ And the men of Ai struck down about thirty-six men, for they chased them *from* before the gate as far as Shebarim, and struck them down on the descent; therefore the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

⁶ Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads.

⁷ And Joshua said, "Alas, Lord God, why have You brought this people over the Jordan at all—to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? **Oh, that we had been content, and dwelt on the other side of the Jordan!**"

⁸ O Lord, what shall I say when Israel turns its back before its enemies?

⁹ For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear *it*, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will You do for Your great name?"



Spiritual Defeat (Ai) often follows shortly after Spiritual Victory (Jericho)

"Therefore let the one who thinks he stands watch out that he does not fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12)

Zerah was a son of Judah's by Tamar (Gen 38:30), but David and Jesus descended through the other lineage of Perez (Ruth 4:18-21; Mt 1:3).

If Joshua would have come to God beforehand (Numbers 27:18-21), he may have been told of judgment and defeat (Joshua 9:14).

The number "2" often symbolizes witnesses to God's actions (Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15)

The number "3" is often used in Scripture to symbolize revelation

The number "6" is often symbolizes insufficiency

In Israel's defeat, thirty-six (6 x 6 = 36; six being insufficient) men died.



Joshua should not have had a worldly response of falling to the earth while covering himself with dust. Believers should not respond to defeat as the world does.

Once again, Israel tells God that their defeat reflects poorly on Him when in reality, the disobedience and unfaithfulness of His people is the poor testimony.

"As wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish before God." (Psalm 68:2)

Ai was a smaller community (unlike the larger fortress of Jericho) that was 15 miles away.



In the wilderness, Israel looked back fondly at Egypt although it was brutal. Now Israel looks back before the promised land as if it would have been better to remain in the wilderness.

The Sin of Achan (Joshua 7:10-21)

¹⁰ So the LORD said to Joshua: "Get up! Why do you lie thus on your face?"

¹¹ Israel has sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commanded them. For they have even taken some of the accursed things, and have both stolen and deceived; and they have also put it among their own stuff.

¹² Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they have become doomed to destruction. Neither will I be with you anymore, unless you destroy the accursed from among you.

¹³ Get up, sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an accursed thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the accursed thing from among you."

¹⁴ In the morning therefore you shall be brought according to your tribes. And it shall be that the tribe which the LORD takes shall come according to families; and the family which the LORD takes shall come by households; and the household which the LORD takes shall come man by man.

¹⁵ Then it shall be that he who is taken with the accursed thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done a disgraceful thing in Israel.'

¹⁶ So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel by their tribes, and the tribe of Judah was taken.

¹⁷ He brought the clan of Judah, and he took the family of the Zarhites; and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man, and Zabdi was taken.

¹⁸ Then he brought his household man by man, and Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

¹⁹ Now Joshua said to Achan, "My son, I beg you, give glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession to Him, and tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me."

²⁰ And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done:

²¹ When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them.

And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it."

The groveling of Joshua did not impress God



The sin of one person can hurt many people
"Did Achan the son of Zerah not act unfaithfully in the things designated for destruction, and wrath fall on the entire congregation of Israel? So that man did not perish alone in his guilt."
(Joshua 22:20)

God's presence does not reside with the polluted of the world – there needs to be a separated walk by God's people (Romans 8:5-11).

The offender and all he has was to be destroyed by fire, so that it could not affect others. Fire is often the judgment used to cleanse from pollution because of God's burning anger (Joshua 7:1, 26)

Achan may have been a young man if his father Carmi and grandfather Zabdi were at the judgment with him; the oldest Israelites to survive the wilderness were 60 years of age.

Joshua urged Achan to give glory to God by admitting his sin



Seven People in Bible say, "I have sinned": Pharaoh, Balaam, Achan, Saul, David, Job, Judas

Coveting } Exalting
Idolatry } Self
(Colossians 3:5; 2 Cor 10:5)

Achan's Sin was a 3-step process:
See → Covet → Take
(Eve - Genesis 3:6)

Peace Treaty with Gibeon (Joshua 9:1-16)

¹ And it came to pass when **all the kings who were on “this side” of the Jordan**, in the hills and in the **lowland** and in all the **coasts of the Great Sea** toward Lebanon—the **Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite**—heard *about it*,
² that **they gathered together to fight with Joshua and Israel with one accord.**
³ But when **the inhabitants of Gibeon** heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,
⁴ **they worked craftily**, and went and **pretended to be ambassadors.** And they took old sacks on their donkeys, old wineskins torn and mended,
⁵ **old and patched sandals on their feet, and old garments on themselves; and all the bread of their provision was dry and moldy.**
⁶ And they went to Joshua, to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the men of Israel, **“We have come from a far country; now therefore, make a covenant with us.”**
⁷ Then the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you dwell among us; so how can we make a covenant with you?”
⁸ But **they said to Joshua, “We are your servants.”** And Joshua said to them, “Who *are* you, and where do you come from?”
⁹ So they said to him: **“From a very far country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God; for we have heard of His fame, and all that He did in Egypt,**
¹⁰ **and all that He did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan—to Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who was at Ashtaroth.**
¹¹ Therefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provisions with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say to them, **“We are your servants; now therefore, make a covenant with us.”**
¹² This bread of ours we took hot *for* our provision from our houses on the day we departed to come to you. But now look, it is dry and moldy.
¹³ And these wineskins which we filled *were* new, and see, they are torn; and these our garments and our sandals have become old because of the very long journey.”
¹⁴ Then **the men of Israel took some of their provisions; but they did not ask counsel of the LORD.**
¹⁵ **So Joshua made peace with them, and made a covenant with them to let them live;** and the rulers of the congregation swore to them.
¹⁶ And it happened at the end of **three days, after they had made a covenant with them, that they heard that they were their neighbors who dwelt near them**

Gibeon was located on a defensible, raised site (limestone hill) that was well-fortified 5½ miles north of Jerusalem

Gibeon was a royal city filled with mighty men (Joshua 10:2), but they did not put their hope in their abilities/status. Instead, they depended on God’s mercy.



Joshua did not seek God’s counsel (2 Samuel 21:2; Prov 3:5-6; James 1:15)

“These are demonic spirits that perform signs and go out to all the kings of the earth, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty.” (Revelation 16:14)

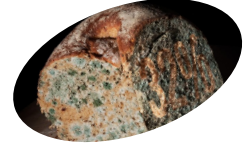
God had commanded “no treaties” in the promised land (Ex 34:12, Dt 7:1-6, 20:16)

Those Hivites (Joshua 11:19) inhabiting Gibeon who had been deceived (Gen 34:2 & 34:22-26) became deceivers.



The victories of Jericho & Ai motivated Gibeon (Joshua 9:3) but Gibeon only mentioned Egypt & the Transjordan (Sihon & Og) victories.

The bread and the wine were elements of communion (Mt 26:26-28; Lk 22:19-20) while clothing represents the righteous works of the saints (Rev 19:8)



Believers should seek the counsel of God in even matters that appear inconsequential.

God’s Plan of Salvation Detailed in Comparison of Three Characters

	Focus		Deceit	Input	Result
Chapter 2,6	Gentile	Rahab	Joshua 2:4-9	Heard – Joshua 2:10	Life – Joshua 2:12-13
Chapter 7-8	Israelite	Achan	Joshua 7:21	Saw – Joshua 7:21	Death – Joshua 8:25
Chapter 9	Gentile	Gibeonites	Joshua 9:4	Heard – Joshua 9:3	Life – Joshua 10:15

The Sun Stands Still (Joshua 10:5-15)

Five Kings Defeated by Joshua (Joshua 10)

King	Meanings of Kings	Capital	Meanings of Capitals
1. Adoni-Zedek	"lord of righteousness"	Jerusalem	"place of peace"
2. Hoham	"Jehovah compels"	Hebron	"to join/alliance"
3. Piram	"a wild donkey"	Jarmuth	"height"
4. Japhia	"enlightening/appearing"	Lachish	"invincible/impregnable"
5. Dabir	"to shine forth/ illustrious"	Eglon	"chariot"

Gibeon humbly cried out to Joshua for salvation.

The Lord would use this battle to quickly rout 5 Canaanite kings at once.

Like Gibeon, when a person makes peace with God, the world makes war with the person (1 John 3:13; John 15:18-19; 2 Timothy 3:12)

The Amorites were the wicked descendants of Canaan, son of Ham (Genesis 10:16).

The Amorites controlled Jerusalem before it became a holy city (Ezekiel 16:1-3).

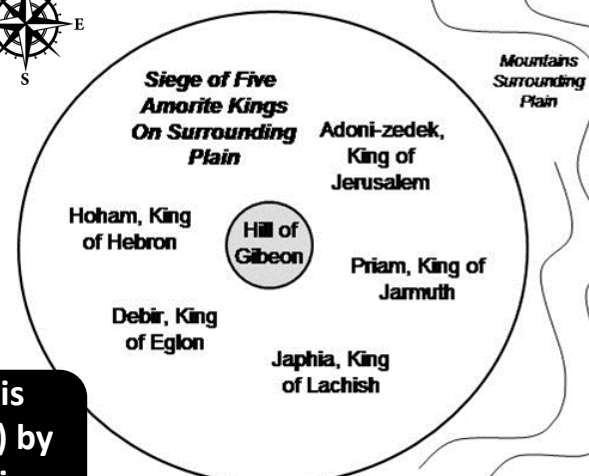
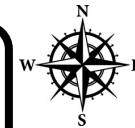
God foretells victory & encourages Joshua not to fear the enemy

The book of Jashar (meaning "righteous") is a "lost" book mentioned several times (2 Samuel 1:18).

There are witnesses to this "long day" (Habakkuk 3:11) by a number of ancient civilizations.

The Aztecs, Peruvians, and Babylonians reference a "day of twice natural length."

The Chinese Emperor Yeo reported a "long day" as did Heroditus (the Greek historian who studied the records of Egyptian priests).



Joshua's Battle to Defend the Gibeonites

18 Mile Overnight march up 1,500 ft elevation from Gilgal To Gibeon as they climb into Mountainous Region

It is thought that with the rising Sun at His back and the moon hanging in the morning sky, Joshua led Israel infantry down mountain onto five kings. (Joshua 10:12)



⁵ Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon, gathered together and went up, they and all their armies, and camped before Gibeon and made war against it.

⁶ And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp at Gilgal, saying, "Do not forsake your servants; come up to us quickly, save us and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the mountains have gathered together against us."

⁷ So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor.

⁸ And the LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand; not a man of them shall stand before you."

⁹ Joshua therefore came upon them suddenly, having marched all night from Gilgal.

¹⁰ So the LORD routed them before Israel, killed them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, chased them along the road that goes to Beth Horon, and struck them down as far as Azekah and Makedah.

¹¹ And it happened, as they fled before Israel and were on the descent of Beth Horon, that the LORD cast down large hailstones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed with the sword.

¹² Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."

¹³ So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.

¹⁴ And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.

¹⁵ Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

King David first ruled from Hebron for seven years and six months (1 Chronicles 3:2)

Hebron Allotted to Caleb (Joshua 14:6-15)

⁶ Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him:

“You know the word which the LORD said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh Barnea.

⁷ I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as *it was* in my heart.

⁸ Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

⁹ So Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance and your children’s forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.’

¹⁰ And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old.

¹¹ As yet I *am as* strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength *was* then, so now *is* my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.

¹² Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim *were* there, and *that* the cities *were* great *and* fortified. It may be that the LORD *will be* with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said.”

¹³ And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance.

¹⁴ Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

¹⁵ And the name of Hebron formerly was Kirjath Arba (*Arba* was the greatest man among the Anakim). Then the land had rest from war.

The first to receive his inheritance was Caleb (Joshua 14:6-15), and the final recipient of the land allotments would be Joshua (Joshua 19:49-51).

“Caleb” means “bold”, “impetuous” and “dog.” Jews often referenced Gentiles as dogs.

Caleb didn’t dwell on past victories, but instead he looked for future experiences with God.

Just as Moses had been 40 years old before he went into the Midian wilderness (Acts 7:23), Caleb was 40 when he entered the wilderness with Israel. At the age of 80, Caleb was ready to enter the Promised Land; the Promised Land had been battled over for 5 years.

The battle was never to be won by Caleb’s physical strength but instead, the battle belongs to the Lord. Caleb’s faith in the Lord had only grown.

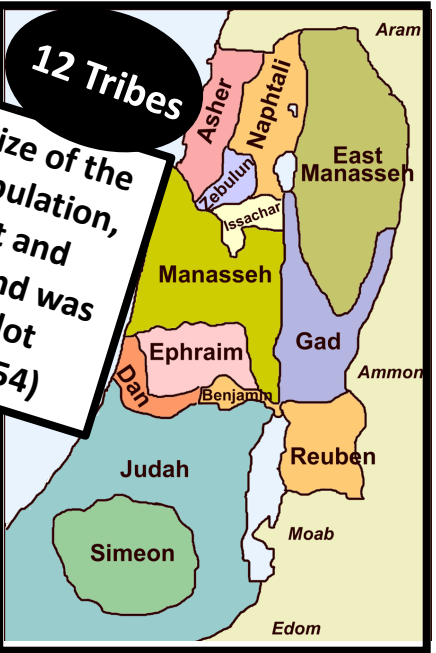
Caleb requests the “Giant” country having faith in God’s strength and promises.

“Hebron” means “friend”, “society” and “association.”

Believers are never too old to experience God’s promises.

Caleb’s father, Jephunneh, was a Kennizzite (Numbers 32:12; Joshua 14:6, 14). These were not Jews, but Kennizzites were Edomites from Esau (Genesis 15:18-19; 1 Chronicles 1:51-54) who originated in the area of Saudi Arabia before migrating to the area of Syria (Genesis 15:18-19). Along the way, they joined the people of Israel as believers. Caleb was a Gentile in a Jewish community.

The spiritual battles of this world never cease while one walks in this world, but Caleb represents a faithful servant of God (2 Timothy 4:7).



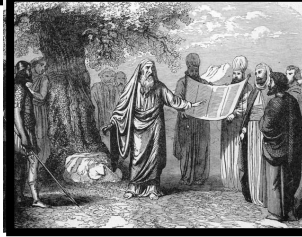
Although the size of the land was by population, the placement and location of the land was established by lot (Numbers 26:52-54)

Joshua's Farewell Address (Joshua 23:1-16)

¹ Now it came to pass, a long time after the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua was old, advanced in age.

² And Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers, and said to them: "I am old, advanced in age.

³ You have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has fought for you.



⁴ See, I have divided to you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, as far as the Great Sea westward.

⁵ And the LORD your God will expel them from before you and drive them out of your sight. So you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God promised you.

⁶ Therefore be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, lest you turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left,

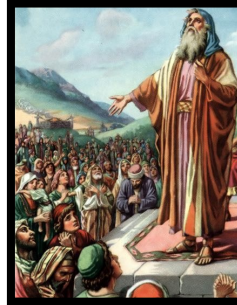
⁷ and lest you go among these nations, these who remain among you.

You shall not make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause anyone to swear by them; you shall not serve them nor bow down to them,

⁸ but you shall hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.

⁹ For the LORD has driven out from before you great and strong nations; but as for you, no one has been able to stand against you to this day.

¹⁰ One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, as He promised you.



¹¹ Therefore take careful heed to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God.

¹² Or else, if indeed you do go back, and cling to the remnant of these nations—these that remain among you—and make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you,

¹³ know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

¹⁴ "Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.

¹⁵ Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all the good things have come upon you which the LORD your God promised you, so the LORD will bring upon you all harmful things, until He has destroyed you from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

¹⁶ When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land which He has given you."

Joshua was now 110 years old (Joshua 24:29), and God had allowed Joshua to enjoy the Promised Land for some time.

It took 7 years to conquer the land and approximately 13 years to settle the allotments, so the book of Joshua covers approximately two decades.

God had told Joshua that he was old after the 7-year conquest of the Promised Land, and before any land was allotted to the tribes. (Joshua 13:1).

Joshua gave God the glory & reminds the leaders had seen what God did on their behalf.

Be courageous to be obedient (Joshua 1:6). Joshua is encouraging the leaders in the same way that God encouraged him at the beginning of his ministry.

As with all of the world, it was only "their land" in the sense that God had given it to them as their "lot" in this life, but it was God's to give and take away because ultimately, all of nature belongs to Him (Ex 9:29; Ps 24:1; 1 Cor 10:26).

God is true to His Word for blessing or curse. God's faithfulness for good is just as certain for God's faithfulness to judgment.

Although God's Palestinian Covenant for the Land was unconditional; however, he would remove the faithless generations & then restore them.

- 722BC – Assyrian Captivity of Northern Kingdom
- 605BC, 597BC, 586BC – Babylonian Captivity of Southern Kingdom
- 165BC – Syrian (Antiochus Epiphanes) Closed Down the Temple
- 70AD – Romans (Titus) Destroyed the Temple
- 135AD – Romans (Emperor Hadrian) Destroy Jerusalem
- May 14, 1948 – Israel Reestablished