

Through the Bible Course

Joshua

November 24, 1946

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Key Word: Victory of Possessions

Key Verse: 1:2,3 – refer also to 1 John 5:4

Author: Joshua (Means “Jehovah is Savior”; Greek form is “Jesus”) This is the first book in the Bible which bears the author’s name.

Purpose: Historically – to record the entrance, the possession and the division of the Promised Land. Spiritually – to declare God’s never failing faithfulness to His Word.

I. The Land Entered – chapters 1-12

1. God’s command to possess and His promises – 1:1-5
 - a. Command – vs. 2
 - b. Promise of possession – vs. 2-4
 - c. Three promises to Joshua – vs. 5
2. Be courageous, trusting God’s promises.
3. Preparation for entrance – 1:10-18
 - a. Reminds Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh of their promise – refer to Numbers 32
4. The spies sent out – chapter 2
5. Passage of Jordan – chapter 3
 - a. Ark was to precede; people to follow
 - b. God often leads His people right up to difficulties before they are removed. He seldom removes difficulties before we reach them.
 - c. This crossing was purely miraculous, being accomplished at flood and between narrow gorges. It was calculated to inspire Jews and to strike terror to hearts of their enemies.
6. The two memorials – chapter 4
7. Chapter 5
 - a. Fear of Amorites – vs. 1
 - b. God’s outward covenant renewed – vs. 2-10
 - c. New food for new land – vs. 11-12
 - d. The unseen captain of the host – vs. 13-15
8. Conquest of Jericho – chapter 6
 - a. This, too, was miraculous.
 - b. Note vs. 25 – God fulfilled promise to Rahab and her family.
9. Conquest halted by sin of Achan, but victory came after sin had been dealt with – chapters 7 and 8
10. Israel made unholy alliance with Gibeonites because (vs. 14) they asked not counsel of God – chapter 9

11. Further conquests – chapters 10-12

II. The Land Divided – chapters 13-22

1. Land divided among tribes – chapter 13
 - a. Except Reuben, Gad, and one-half tribe of Manasseh who had inheritance on other side of Jordan.
 - b. Except Levi who as ministers of God were scattered among all the tribes and cities of refuge. See Numbers 35; Joshua 20
2. Caleb given his possession – chapter 14
 - a. Note – see here manifestation of faith of Caleb – Numbers 13:30 – and God's faithfulness to His promise – Numbers 14:30
3. Joshua also given an inheritance – chapter 19:49-51
4. The cities of refuge – chapter 20
5. Portion of Levites – chapter 21
6. The proposed altar of Reuben and Gad and emphasis upon place of worship and unity of God's people – chapter 22

III. Joshua's Farewell – chapters 23, 24

1. Joshua's last counsel – chapter 23
 - a. Counsel to keep the Law – vs. 1-10
 - b. Counsel to love the Lord – vs. 11-16
2. Joshua's last charge – chapter 24
 - a. Blessings follow obedience – vs. 1-11
 - b. Sufferings follow disobedience – vs. 12-16
 - c. Each one must make their choice – vs. 14, 15
 - i. Joshua was steadfast with his choice of Jehovah, both for himself and his house. Note – Joshua was now an old man.
 - d. Warnings against sin – vs. 17-28
 - e. Joshua's death – vs. 29-33