

## JOSHUA 1 – God’s Commission to Joshua; The Order to Cross the Jordan

### OBSERVATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – **Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221**; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

#### INTRODUCTION TO JOSHUA:

Joshua needs introduction maybe more than all of the OT testament. More than just a history. Entering into a whole new division – Torah/Pentateuch – Historical books (Joshua-Esther) – Books of Poetry/wisdom – Prophets (Isaiah-Malachi)

#### Joshua – Types and Pictures of Jesus Christ

**Typical history** – an actual record, but it’s also a picture or type of the physical things they went through, Bible teaches us something spiritual – coming out of Egypt crossing the Red Sea – produces something spiritual in our life – a typology/a picture. The Old Testament Scriptures all point to Jesus. Jesus said you search the scriptures ... *but these are they which testify of Me!* (John 5:39). Bring to highest height, we must bring that package to Jesus. Volume of the Book testifies of Him (Heb. 10:7); These things were done as examples written for admonition (1 Cor. 10:1-11)

So the command of Joshua now, is to lead the people into this land. Interesting that Moses, who is representative of the law, could not lead them into the land of promise. The law cannot bring to you that full relationship with God.

Joshua is a picture of Jesus, but he is not Jesus, only a type. **Heb 4:8** *For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day.*

The Promised Land was that promised by God to Abraham beginning in Gen. 12 and repeated to Isaac and Jacob. The “Promised Land” to the believer, really a “promised life”, is that rich, full, abundant life promised to us as we die to the flesh and be alive in the Spirit, being (“born again”)! The power to represent You no matter where I am! So many promises, we should never stop growing! The Israelites never did possess all of the land which God promised. Just like so many of us! All the land was theirs, they just had to walk out on it! But they didn’t do it completely!

In coming out of Egypt crossing the Red Sea – A type of Resurrection! - produces something spiritual in our life – a typology/a picture  
Gods redemption of saving Israel – Jesus Christ’s salvation of us savings us out of sin

To speak something spiritual to us – The Law, Law – furnishing in the tabernacle – they all speak of Jesus; the sacrifices speak of Jesus, His consecration! Of our need to give our lives to the Father! Romans 12:1-2; not just technical chart -it all speaks to us of Christ

To speak something spiritual to us – The Law – furnishing in the tabernacle – they all speak of Jesus; the sacrifices speak of Jesus, His consecration! Of our need to give our lives to the Father! Romans 12:1-2; not just technical chart -it all speaks to us of Christ.

an actual record, but it’s also a picture or type of the physical things they went through, Bible teaches us something spiritual –  
The central act of redemption in the New Testament is the work of Jesus on the cross. The central act of redemption in the Old Testament is the deliverance of Israel from Egypt.

Egypt is a picture of the world -a place of bondage- were all in bondage to sin!

Gods redemption of saving Israel – His salvation of us savings us out of sin

Pharaoh is a type of the Devil, fighting to keep us out

Crossing the Red Sea – picture of water baptism

Wandering the wilderness for 40 years – unbelief - Christians who are water baptized, but they never enter the promised land – never walked by faith in the promises in the Bible; unbelief or carnality, Luke warmness, happy to just be on their way to heaven, but not being conformed every day to the image of Christ. I don’t claim the promises, I don’t step out – just wander around in the wilderness – all of a picture!

Crossing the Jordan River is representative to that place in our spiritual growth where we come to that reckoning of that old man, the old nature, to be dead with Christ. It is moving out of Romans chapter 7, where I have sought so hard in my flesh and by my works to please God, and I come to the despair of my flesh. I come to the realization with Paul, that “in me, that is in my flesh, there dwells no good thing.”

And I realize that my only way to live a victorious life is through the help and the power of God. And with Paul, in *Romans 7*, I cry out, “Oh wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?” And it is when I cry for deliverance, and I am looking outside of myself, the answer comes: for it is then that God begins His work of victory in my life, it is there where I reckon my old nature to be dead, and I begin to walk in the Spirit.

#### OUTLINE OF JOSHUA

##### INTRODUCTION:

##### **I. The Conquest of Canaan – Chapter One**

##### **A. Preparation for taking the promised land (1:1 to 5:15)**

- 1. The land was a gift from God (Gen 15:18; Deut 26:9)**
- 2. Joshua commissioned to lead the people (1:1-18)**
  - a. God appointed Joshua leader of the people (1:1-9)**
  - b. Joshua commanded the people to enter the land (1:10-11)**
  - c. Instructions to the Gadites, Reubenites, and Manasseh (1:12-15)**
  - d. The people accept Joshua as their leader (1:16-18)**
- 3. Preparing to take the land God had given them (2:1 to 5:1)**

Two spies sent to Jericho (2:1-7)

- a. Agreement with Rahab (2:8-22) Hebrews 11:31 and James 2:25**
- b. Report of the two spies (2:23-24)**
- c. Miraculous crossing of the Jordan on dry land (3:1-17)**  
God always gives the way Jeremiah 10:23, Proverbs 14:12, and Ephesians 3:3-5
- d. Two memorials consisting of 12 stones each (4:1-24)**
- e. Effect of crossing on the Kings of Canaan (5:1)**
- f. Circumcision of the males in Israel (5:2-9)**
- g. Passover observed (5:10-11)**
- h. Manna ceased (5:12)**
- i. Captain of the Lord’s host appears to Joshua (5:13-15)**

##### **B. Conquest of Canaan (6:1 to 13:7)**

- 1. Victory at the battle of Jericho (6:1-27) Hebrews 11:30**
- 2. Defeat at the first battle of Ai (7:1-5)**
- 3. The sin and punishment of Achan (7:6-26) Notice Joshua 6:18-19 and Hebrews 10:31. When God gives us our blessings we should not want to hold on to treasures of this world Colossians 3:1-5.**
- 4. Victory at the second battle of Ai (8:1-35)**
- 5. Conquest of Southern Canaan (9:1 to 10:43)**
  - a. King in Southern Canaan join forces to fight Israel (9:1-2)**
  - b. Gibeonites deceive Israel into making a league with them (9:3-27)**
  - c. Five Kings of the Amorites threaten war with Gibeon (10:1-5)**
  - d. Gibeonites call for Israel to help them (10:6-7)**
  - e. Defeat of the five kings - the sun stood still (10:8-27)**
  - f. Finishing the task in Southern Canaan (10:28-43)**

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### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

#### JOSHUA 1 – God’s Commission to Joshua;

*Jos 1:1 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:*

*Jos 1:2 "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.*

*Jos 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.*

*Jos 1:4 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.*

*Jos 1:5 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.*

*Jos 1:6 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.*

v. 1 *Now after the death of Moses,....* the book seems to be connected with the last chapter of the book of Deuteronomy, which treats of the death of Moses; and Joshua being the penman of Deu\_34:5 and of this book, goes on with the history of his own affairs, beginning where that ended, at the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord; and a faithful one he was in all things belonging to it, and in whatsoever was enjoined him by the Lord, see Deu 34:5, ...that the Lord spoke... either in a dream, or vision, or by an articulate voice out of the sanctuary: of Joshua's descent and relation, see Exo 33:11; and of his office under Moses, not as a menial servant, but a minister of state, see Exo 24:13.

v. 2 *Now therefore arise* - Let not the dying of the most useful hands be the weakening of ours. When God has work to do, he will either find or make instruments fit to carry it on. Moses the servant is dead; but God the Master is not. He lives forever. *This Jordan*, which is the only obstacle in thy way to Canaan. *Which I am giving* - That is, am now about to give you actual possession of it, as I formerly gave a right to it by promise.

v. 3 God has given them the land. The land is theirs, but their enjoyment of it depends upon their taking possession of it. That part of the land upon which they walked would belong to them.

v. 4 God gave Israel 300,000 square miles of land and the most they ever claimed was 30,000 square miles. They did not do very well, did they? They took possession of about one-tenth of what God had given them. That is about the same amount of spiritual possessions claimed by believers today.

v. 5 Joshua, being an average man that he was, needed to be encouraged. God encouraged him here in a most wonderful way. God says, "I won't desert you. Just as I was with Moses, I'll be with you."

v. 6 The same exhortation Moses gave him, Deu\_31:7; being of great moment and importance, as it is in the general of an army to show greatness and strength of mind, valor and courage, and not be dismayed at the number and strength of the enemy. As Joshua's work in fighting with the Canaanites, and conquering their land, so Christ's work in the redemption of his people, and subduing their enemies, required strength and courage, and both were very eminent in him.

vs. 1&2 Whenever a man who has been mightily used by the Lord is taken home, we must remember not to let the dying of the most useful hands be the weakening of ours. When God has work to do, he will either find or make instruments fit to carry it on, such as you and I, if we are available and willing.

v. 3 Comparatively speaking, we have been told in Eph\_1:3 that we are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies. Unfortunately, very few Christians lay hold of the spiritual blessings that belong to them.

v. 4 Israel took possession of about one-tenth of what God had given them. Is this about the same amount of spiritual possessions, as believers, we claim today?

v. 5 Can you relate to this wonderful encouragement by God, who says, "I won't desert you. Just as I was with Moses, I'll be with you?"

v. 6 Here is such an important admonition from the Lord – *Be strong and of good courage*. We need to be reminded of that, over and over!

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### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

*Jos 1:7 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.*

*Jos 1:8 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.*

*Jos 1:9 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."*

*Joshua Assumes Command*

#### The Order to Cross the Jordan

*Jos 1:10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,*

*Jos 1:11 "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.' "*

*Jos 1:12 And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke, saying,*

*Jos 1:13 "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.'*

*Jos 1:14 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,*

*v. 7 Be strong, and very courageous,....* For though Joshua was a man of valor and courage, his war with Amalek, yet there was need of this exhortation, and of repeating it, since he was to engage with a people more and mightier than those with him. *observe to do according to all the law...* to observe the whole law, and act according to it in all things. *do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left:* from the law, by adding to it, or taking from it. *May prosper wherever ...* To succeed in every battle he engaged in; the way to obtain victory over enemies being to be observant of the laws of God themselves.

*v. 8* There were no written Scriptures before Moses, and God communicated to Moses by speaking with him face to face. But Moses had faithfully recorded all that God had given to him so that the first five books of the Bible were available to Joshua and the people of Israel. In it God had given them all they needed to know to enter the land. They were not to depart from it. They were to meditate on it and observe to do it.

*v. 9* Joshua is to take the Word of God in one hand and a sword in the other. He is to move out by faith. God encourages him again to be strong and courageous. Like Joshua, we as believers need to be strong and courageous.

*v. 10* Joshua took charge, and he didn't do it by presumption but in confidence. He did it because God told him to do it.

*v. 11* Israel's ownership of the land is unconditional, but it's possession of it is conditional. Israel was required to take the land. One of the key thoughts in the Book of Joshua is not man's victory—it is God who gets the victory. The key word is possession. Israel was to possess the land.

*v. 12* These two and one-half tribes did not cross over the river to settle there, and we find their defection very early. Moses was still alive when they came to the east bank of the Jordan, and you will find that they made a request recorded in *Num\_32:1-2, Num\_32:5*

*vs. 13-15* Joshua is reminding them that Moses had given them permission to live on the east side of Jordan on the condition that their army would help the other tribes possess their land on the west of the river. This they agree to do.

*v. 7* The cure for fear and anxiety is the consciousness of the presence of God. We too, need to be reminded to be strong and very courageous and to rely on the word of God furnishing out instruction to men in every situation of life..

*v. 8* How important and necessary is the Word of God in our lives. Are we meditating in it day and night? Are we observing it? Note the promise that comes from living such a life?

*v. 9* We need to possess our spiritual possessions by faith. We need to remember we are in enemy territory.

*v. 10* How often do we act in presumption and not in really seeking the Lord's will and timing?

*v. 11* Who is getting the glory in what we are doing? In our victories?

*vs. 12-15* How often do we settle for God's permissive will as opposed to waiting and praying for His perfect will to be done?

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*Jos 1:15 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."*

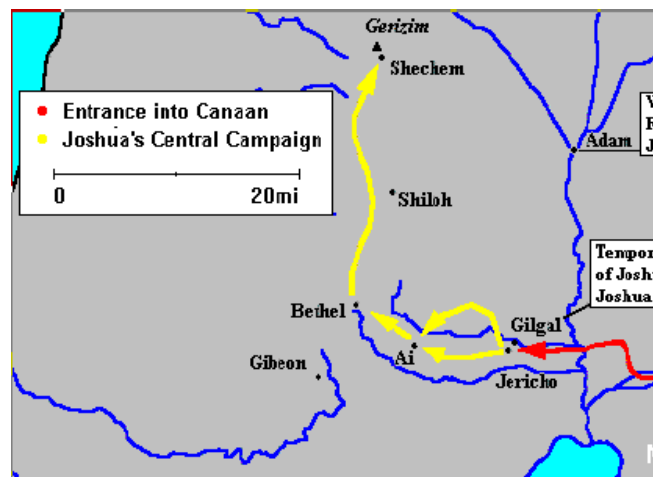
*Jos 1:16 So they answered Joshua, saying, "All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.*

*Jos 1:17 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.*

*Jos 1:18 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."*



*vs. 16-18* What is wrong with dwelling on the east side of the River Jordan? Is it so essential to cross over the river? Is not the east bank of the Jordan River part of the Promised Land? Such questions are pertinent and require that we look at the passage of Scripture in which lies the account of the crossing of the Jordan River. Crossing the Jordan River was symbolic of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Under no condition, however, does it set forth our physical death. Christ alone was nailed to that cross and, hanging there, bore all the storms of the judgment of sin. When the storms of judgment fell on Him, they fell on us. The River Jordan speaks of sanctification, and the death of Christ was for our sanctification. Later in the Book of Judges we find out that the two and one-half tribes made a big mistake staying on the wrong side of Jordan. Also, when Christ crossed the Sea of Galilee and came to the country of the Gadarenes, He found the Jews in the pig business. They started off wrong on the wrong side of the Jordan River.



*v. 16* Many Christians are in the “pig” business today and are frustrated. They ought to enter into the rest He has provided in His death and resurrection.

*vs. 17-18* How many times do we tell the Lord that we will do all that He commands us – and then later, don’t do it. It’s better not to make vows or promises, than to make them and not keep them!

**STANDING ON THE PROMISES** - Russell Carter – Maranatha Singers

*Standing on the promises of Christ the King, through eternal ages let his praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.*

*Refrain: Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior; standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.*

*Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

*Standing on the promises I now can see Perfect, present cleansing in the blood for me; Standing in the liberty where Christ makes free, Standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

*Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. (Refrain)*

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Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call,  
resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God.  
(Refrain)

Standing on the promises of Christ my King,  
Through eternal ages let his praises ring;  
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
Standing on the promises of God.  
Standing, standing,  
Standing on the promises of God my Savior;  
Standing, standing,  
I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,  
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,  
Resting in my Savior as my all in all,  
Standing on the promises of God.  
[Refrain]

Guzik

Introduction: A survey of the history of Israel from Egypt to Canaan.

1. Israel was delivered from Egypt’s degrading bondage.

a. These were historical events, but they were not only historical. God speaks through history to give an example of our deliverance from the degrading bondage of sin (as Paul makes clear in 1Co\_10:6 and 1Co\_10:11).

b. The central act of redemption in the New Testament is the work of Jesus on the cross. The central act of redemption in the Old Testament is the deliverance of Israel from Egypt.

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2. Israel, led by Moses, wandered in the Sinai wilderness.

a. During that time, Israel experienced supernatural providence such as the supply of manna, water from rocks, the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, and so forth.

b. During that time, they also received Divine revelation - the Mosaic Law. God communicated to them His holy standard.

3. The land of Canaan represents the destination of God’s people after they have been set free from degrading bondage.

b. Biblically, the land over the Jordan - the Promised Land - does not speak of heaven. Heb\_3:1-19; Heb\_4:1-16 shows Canaan as a picture of the rest and victory that can be enjoyed by every believer.

i. In this sense, F. B. Meyer connects the Book of Joshua with the Book of Ephesians. Both describe a spiritual walk of promise, wealth, and victory that are ours with Jesus.

c. This also shows that the deliverance from Egypt was only in preparation for the enjoyment of Canaan. In our Christian life, we are brought out of sin so that we might be brought in to abundant life. The wilderness is never God’s permanent destination for us.

d. Even as an entire generation of Israel died in the wilderness, so many Christians die in the desert dryness of spiritual experience, never walking in the fullness of what God has for them.

4. The leader: Joshua as a type of Jesus.

a. Remember that the Greek name Jesus simply translates the Hebrew name Joshua. Their names are identical. Whatever Israel received in the Promised Land, they received through the hand of Joshua; whatever we receive from God we receive through Jesus Christ, our Joshua.

B. God commissions Joshua’s work.

1. (Jos\_1:1) Moses is dead, and God speaks to Joshua.

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:

a. After the death of Moses: Moses (who exemplified the law of God) could not lead Israel into the land of promise and rest. This all happens after the death of Moses.

b. The LORD spoke to Joshua: Joshua - who was not a young man at this time - had spent his entire career previously as the assistant of Moses, now finds that it is his own time to lead, but only after God prepared him.

c. Moses’ assistant: Joshua was prepared by faithful service in small things, in being Moses’ assistant. Redpath tells of a motto over a kitchen sink: “Divine service is conducted here three times daily.” The motto is true, and great men and women are prepared by faithfulness to the small things.

2. (Jos\_1:2-3) Am giving and have given.

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

a. Your foot . . . I have given you: Entrance into the land of Canaan was entrusted to a representative. Joshua was the trustee of the land for the people. In the same way, our representative Jesus goes before us and what we have in God we possess in Him.

b. I have given you: The whole land was given, but they could only possess that which they claimed (every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you). What they took must be fought for against a determined opposition.

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- i. God certainly could have simply eliminated all their enemies with a mere thought; but He calls Israel into partnership with Himself to see His will done.
- ii. Because taking the land took effort, the challenge ahead was not for those content with Egypt, but for those who would press ahead for what God had called them to.
- 3. (Jos\_1:4-5) The promise: victory is assured because Joshua is called by God.  
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. 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.
  - a. From the wilderness . . . As far as the great river: The precise territory of the land is described. This was no “pie in the sky” promise. It described real land with real boundaries.
  - b. I will be with you: Victory is assured not because Joshua is a great leader, or because Israel is a great nation, but because God is a great God, and He says to Joshua, I will be with you. This is enough for any man seeking to do God’s will.
- 4. (Jos\_1:6-9) The conditions of the promise of victory.  
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. 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. 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. 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.
  - a. Be strong and very courageous: Joshua is called to boldness in God. This exposes Joshua’s weakness; there was a need for such a command, because even a great leader like Joshua needed such encouragement.
    - i. This bold courage would not be in Joshua himself, but in God. We can be full of self-confidence that will take us to ruin, but we should instead be full of a genuine God-confidence.
    - b. That you may observe to do according to all the law: Joshua must take great care to observe the law. God’s word and Joshua’s commitment to it would be the pillars supporting his success.
    - c. Joshua did not only need to read God’s word. It had to be on his lips (shall not depart from your mouth), in his mind (meditate in it day and night), and he had to do it (observe to do according to all that is written).
    - d. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success: God’s Word so lived is a guarantee of Christian success. Not that it promises a life without problems, but it does insure a life able to deal with anything, because it takes full advantage of God’s presence and promises.
      - i. And Christian success is not measured by the same standards as the world’s success. Even if the world accounts us as sheep for the slaughter, we are actually more than conquerors through Him who loved us (Rom\_8:36-37).

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e. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go: The final encouragement, repeated from Jos\_1:5, reminds us that Joshua’s success did not depend solely on his ability to keep God’s Word. It depended even more on God’s presence with him.

C. Preparations to cross the Jordan.

1. (Jos\_1:10-11) Command to the officers.

Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, “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.’”

a. For within three days: The waiting for God is often the most difficult part for us, but days of waiting are always days of preparation in God’s work. There is no wasted time with God.

2. (Jos\_1:12-15) Reminder to the eastern tribes.

And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke, saying, “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.’ 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, 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.”

a. And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke: These tribes which decided to settle on the east side of the Jordan river (land that Israel had already conquered) had promised to cross over and help the rest of the nation take the land on the west side of the Jordan river (Num\_32:16-32).

b. But you shall pass before your brethren armed, all your mighty men of valor, and help them: This same principle operates in the Body of Christ. When one member has a need, it is the common need of the body (1Co\_12:25-26). We should never refuse to help a brother in need because our own state is settled.

3. (Jos\_1:16-18) The eastern tribes promise their allegiance to Joshua.

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

a. All you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go: Here we see Israel in the kind of unity as a nation that was essential to fulfill God’s calling and promise for them. They overcame the temptation to see the eastern tribes as separate from the rest of Israel.

b. Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you: The willingness of the people to receive Joshua as their leader, replacing Moses, was a confirmation of the LORD’s words to Joshua previously in the chapter.

c. Only be strong and of good courage: The representatives from the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and Manasseh say the same thing to Joshua that he heard from the Lord in Jos\_1:6. This must have been a confirmation of God’s word to Joshua when they said it. God loves to confirm His word to us.

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**Joshua 1**

**Tape #7063  
By Chuck Smith  
Chapter 1**

Let’s turn to the book of Joshua. Joshua is the first book of the Bible to be named after a person. The first mention of Joshua comes in Exodus as the children of Israel were being attacked by the Amalekites. Moses commissioned Joshua to go down and to lead the army of God against the enemy. Joshua, at that time, was a young man; he was Moses’ minister, or private servant. He went with Moses up into the mount, when Moses received the law from the LORD. He was with Moses when the power of God was distributed among the seventy elders to help Moses in the governing of the people. When reports came that a couple of fellows were prophesying out in the camp, it was Joshua who said, “Moses, shall I go and stop them?” Joshua is now the one that the LORD has chosen to lead the children of Israel into the promised land.

And in the book of Joshua we get some beautiful Scriptural typology. Paul, speaking of the experiences of Israel, their history of being delivered from Egypt, going through the wilderness, coming into the promised land, said, “These things all happened to them as examples for us.” That is, their’s is a typical history, so that the bondage of Egypt is equivalent to our bondage in sin. Their passing through the Red sea is equivalent to water baptism. A new relationship with God, a new life. Their wilderness experiences are typical of our early experiences in seeking to follow the LORD. “That rock in the wilderness, from which the water of life flowed, was Jesus Christ,” Paul said.

Now we come to the entering into the promised land. There are those that would make this typical of heaven, and the Jordan River as typical of death. And in some of our hymnology we find the Jordan River used as a type of death: “I will not have to cross Jordan alone, Jesus died for my sins to atone.” And so it is used as a thing of death. “Swing low, sweet chariot, coming forth to carry me home. I looked over Jordan, what did I see? A band of angels coming after me, coming forth to carry me home. Swing low, sweet chariot.” So it’s used in some of the songs to represent death.

But in reality, that would mean that the land of promise was heaven. And there are those who make that typology: that of coming into heaven, and the promises of God being fulfilled. However, there are problems with that. Inasmuch, as the first thing that happened when they came into the land is that they were in a fight. I don’t think there will be any fights in heaven. I don’t think we’ll have to do any conquering up there. I believe that when we arrive there, we have arrived, and that’s it!

So I believe that, as Paul speaks about the reckoning of the old man to be dead with Christ: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ is living in me.” But the Jordan River is representative to that place in our spiritual growth where we come to that reckoning of that old man, the old nature, to be dead with Christ. I believe it is moving out of Romans chapter 7, where I have sought so hard in my flesh and by my works to please God, and I come to the despair of my flesh. I come to the realization with Paul, that “in me, that is in my flesh, there dwells no good thing.” And I realize that my only way to live a victorious life is through the help and the power of God. And with Paul, in

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Romans 7, I cry out, “Oh wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?” And it is when I cry for deliverance, and I am looking outside of myself, the answer comes: for it is then that God begins His work of victory in my life, it is there where I reckon my old nature to be dead, and I begin to walk in the Spirit.

And as such, I begin to conquer over those strongholds that the flesh has had. I begin to see the walled cities torn down, I begin to see the giants fall, I begin to possess those glorious experiences that God has promised to the believer. I begin to really live in spiritual victory: in Christ, in heavenly places. And I believe it’s really moving in to the book of Ephesians, and into that glorious, overcoming life, that life of victory that God wants each of you to know: victory over the flesh, over the old nature because we reckon that to be dead. And we begin to see that aspect of the old nature go: the temper that we used to have, the desires we used to have, we begin to see these conquered by the Spirit of God. And I begin to take real territory, and begin to live the life that God wants me to live as His child.

And so, coming in to this full, rich life of the Spirit, we find beautiful analogies here in the book of Joshua. And as we move into the book, we will find the principles by which we overcome the enemies, we find the dangers that we have to watch for; even as we have entered into this life and we learn to walk in the Spirit, here in the book of Joshua. And thus, it promises to be an exciting journey for us, and by the grace of God, we will move with Joshua into this land, and we will begin to conquer over those areas of the world, and the flesh. And we’ll begin to see God’s Spirit working in our lives, bringing us victory where in the past we had only known defeat. And so this will be the spiritual analogy that we’ll be following, and looking for, as we move on in to the book of Joshua.

Joshua’s name was originally Oshea. It was changed by Moses as he inserted the LORD’s name into the name of Oshea, and they called him ‘Jeho-shua.’ Now, ‘shea’ means “salvation.” The ‘Jehoshua’ means “the LORD is salvation.” As you read, twice in the New Testament, references to Joshua, they call him Jesus because that is the Greek name for the Hebrew name Joshua.

And in the book of Hebrews, it speaks of how that Jesus, that is Joshua, was not able to bring the people into the rest. He brought them into the land, they conquered the land, but he never brought them into the rest. And that is what Jesus Christ has done for us: our Sabbath, who has brought us into the glorious rest where we have ceased from our own labors, and now we rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ. But that is something that Joshua could not do. It was left for Jesus to bring to us the rest. So Jehoshua, “Jehovah is salvation:” and what an appropriate name for Jesus, “Jehovah is salvation.”

When Joseph was debating whether or not to take Mary as his wife, or to put her away privately, or to expose her publicly. I mean, trying to just sift out what was happening: here he was engaged, and she turns up pregnant, and she has some kind of a far out story of an angel, and the Holy Spirit, and he’s trying to work all these things out in his mind. An angel of the LORD came to Joseph, and said, “Don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife: for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. And she is going to bear a son, and you are to call his name Jehoshua, Joshua, or Jesus (Yeshua): for he shall save his people from their sins. “Jehovah is salvation,” he will save his people from their sins.

And so a beautiful name (Joshua), and he becomes a beautiful type of Christ. So getting now into the book of Joshua, chapter 1:

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*After the death of Moses..*

The book of Joshua, in the Hebrew, begins with the Hebrew word ‘deh, which is the Hebrew word “and.” And in some of the translations, it is translated, “Now, after the death of Moses,” or more literally, “And after the death of Moses:” which shows that Joshua is just a continuation of the story. There is no break in the story, it’s just a continuation of the Pentateuch.

*And 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, 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, to the children of Israel. And every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon, I have given you, as I said to Moses.*

So the command of Joshua now, is to lead the people into this land. Interesting that Moses, who is representative of the law, could not lead them into the land of promise. The law cannot bring to you that full relationship with God. There are many people who seek to relate to God through laws, through rules, through standards. And there are many churches that help them by establishing church standards: “the do’s, the don’ts.” And they seek to, somehow, relate to God in this legal relationship. I did for years. I considered myself righteous because I didn’t smoke, I didn’t drink, I didn’t go to dances, I didn’t go to shows; and I was righteous on the basis of the things I didn’t do. And I looked at myself as righteous on the basis of, ‘I signed the pledge, and I’ll never do any of these things.’ And I had a legal relationship with God.

I thank God for the day He brought me into a loving relationship with Himself. It was so much easier to walk after love, to have love as that strong motivator within my life. That strong motivation to please God because of my love for God; and it was a lot easier to live that way, motivated by love, rather than motivated by fear.

Because I was taught, ‘Man, if the Lord comes, and you’re in the theater, you’re going to be left behind in the rapture.’ And so, you know, you’re fearful of doing the wrong thing in case your timing would be off, and you wouldn’t have a chance to get back to church Sunday night and get saved again. So you would really be in bad shape, you know, if the Lord should come when he caught you in one of those bad moods. So it was that legal relationship with God. But there was no peace, there was no joy. And that’s the problem with the legal relationship with God: you are lacking the joy of the Christian experience.

What joy I found once I discovered grace. What peace I found once I discovered grace. I was no longer relating to God in a legal way, but now relating to God in a loving way. And He loves me, and I love Him. And we have this beautiful, loving relationship. And oh, how rich, and how glorious it is. The law could not do that. Moses could not lead them into the land. The law cannot bring you into that life of victory, that life of glory, that life in the Spirit that God wants you to know: that life of joy, walking in the Spirit. The law can’t do that for you. That takes the Spirit of God, and the work of God’s Spirit to bring you into that dimension of relationship.

“Moses my servant is dead; (so Joshua, you take over now). And you lead the people on into the land.” And notice: “take them over

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Jordan,” that death to the old life. Now a new relationship with God. They’re never going to see the cloud and the fire again, that’s a part of the old life. ‘We’re not going to be fed with manna anymore. There won’t be the water out of the rock.’ They are coming into a land that is well watered, flowing with milk and honey. They’re going to eat the fruit of the land. And they’re going to possess, now, their possessions that God has promised.

But notice, ‘every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon, I have given you,’ past tense. ‘It’s already yours, I’ve given it to you. All you have to do is go in and take it. Go in and claim it.’ And God has given to us so many things that we have not yet laid claim to. We haven’t gone in and put our foot on it, we haven’t gone in and laid claim, and said, “By the grace of God, and by the power of the Spirit, I claim that I’m not going to do this again. That’s a part of the old nature, that’s dead. I don’t have to be subject, or in bondage to that anymore. I’m going to be free through the power of God.” And we haven’t laid claim to those promises of God, and to those victories over the flesh life that God has given to us. But every place you go, every place you set your foot, every place you claim, you can take, and you can be victorious; and God wants you to live a life of real spiritual victory. ‘I have given it to you. It’s yours,’ but it is necessary to go in and put the sole of your foot down, and to lay claim to it.

(Now God had given them) *every place from the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all of the land of the Hittites, to the (Mediterranean, the great sea) the Mediterranean sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory.* (The sun there sets over the Mediterranean.)

‘It’s all yours.’ Now God gave them more than they ever possessed. They never did possess the land all the way to the Euphrates, though God had given it to them. They never did possess the land all the way to the Nile River, though God had given it to them. There is a danger that we also stop short of all that God is desiring for us, that we never come into the total victory that God would have us to experience and know, that we leave areas unconquered, areas still in the hands of the enemy. And thus, the children of Israel failed to fully possess all of their possessions. That is why, in the book of Hebrews, we are warned, “Let us beware, lest a promise having being given to us, of entering into rest, that we should fail to do so.” Let’s have, and let’s take all that God has promised, let’s enter into the fullness of the Spirit, and the walking in the Spirit. Let’s claim all of the territory that God has given to us.

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

What a beautiful promise of God to Joshua: “No man is going to be able to stand before you, no man can rob you of your victories. I’ll be with you all the days of your life, I will not leave you, I will not forsake you.” And that’s exactly what Jesus said to you, “Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age.”

(And so the LORD said to Joshua) *be strong and of good courage: for to this people you shall divide the inheritance the land, which I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do, according to all the law,*

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*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.*

And so, the promise of God to Joshua of His presence, and of His power, to be with him. But then the exhortation to Joshua of ‘being strong, being very courageous.’ ‘Observing all of the law,’ which means that the five books of Moses had already been written at this point. And he was to observe to do all, ‘according to the law of Moses my servant, that he commanded; and don’t turn away from the law to the right hand or to the left.’ It is interesting how that so often a person feels that they have a special case. “Yes, I know God said that, but it doesn’t quite apply to my situation. You see, mine is different, mine is an exception.” When God established His laws, He really didn’t establish exceptions. If you want to be really prosperous, then don’t turn to the right or to the left: just follow and obey the law of God. Don’t look for loopholes, don’t look for special dispensations; but just observe the law of God, and the promise of God is that He will prosper you in all you do.

Actually, in the first Psalm, that “blessed man who delights himself in the law of the LORD; and meditates in it day and night. He shall be like a tree that’s planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does will prosper.” The promises of God to that person who will obey the law of God, not turn to the right or the left, but will keep the commandment of the LORD.

*This book of the law (so it had already been codified, it had already been written in the book) the book of the law shall not depart from your mouth; but you shall meditate in it day and night, (the psalmist was probably thinking of this command when he wrote that first Psalm.) 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. (God’s rules for prosperity and good success are found within the law) 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.*

The cure for fear and anxiety is the consciousness of the presence of God. Again, David in the 23rd Psalm, said, “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in the green pastures: he leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul: he leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. (And) yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:” Why? Because “thou art with me.” The presence of the LORD is that which dispels fear. The consciousness of the presence of the LORD: it dispels fear. God is with me, I will not fear. I need not fear, for the LORD has promised to be with me wherever I go.

Now, it is interesting that over and over the LORD is encouraging him, telling him to be strong. In fact, in verse 6 He says, “be strong,” in verse 7 he says, “only be strong,” in verse 6 he says, “be of good courage,” in verse 7 he says, “be very courageous,” and then again in verse 9 he says, “be strong and of good courage,” and then he said, “do not be afraid or dismayed.” Now, when the LORD says, “Don’t be afraid,” it usually follows that’s why He said it: I am afraid. And Joshua was probably a little fearful. I mean, after all, it’s a pretty heavy responsibility that has been laid upon him. Up to this point, he’s only been a servant, a servant of the man Moses. And now all of the responsibilities of leading these three million people into the land falls upon his shoulder, and he realizes, ‘Hey, this is more than I can handle. I don’t know if I am equivalent to this, I don’t know if I can handle this.’ And thus, the LORD, over and over, is encouraging him to ‘be courageous, be very courageous, be of good courage, be strong, be strong, be strong, don’t be afraid, don’t be dismayed: because I will be with you, and I will do the work.’

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Many times God calls us to tasks, then as we look at them, we measure them with our ability, and our capacity, and say, “I’m not able to do that.” Somehow we think that when God calls us to do something, that, then we have to figure out how we are going to do it: and we have to apply our talents, and our abilities, and we have to work hard, and figure this whole thing out. And that is a mistake. God will not call you to do anything but He will also equip you to do it. And so the callings of God are the enablings of God. And if God has called you to do something, you don’t need to fear. Jeremiah was called to go and speak to the king, and he said, ‘He’ll never listen to me, I’m only seventeen years old.’ But God had called him. And the callings of God are the equipping of God.

*So Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, Now pass through the camp, and command the people, saying, Prepare provisions for yourself; for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God has given you to possess.*

So the orders came out through the camp: ‘Get ready. Pack up. Three days we’re moving on. In three days we’re going to cross the Jordan, we’re going to go in and begin to possess the land that God has promised to our fathers.’

Now, you remember that there were the three tribes that came to Moses and asked for their inheritance on the other side of the land: the tribe of Reuben, the tribe of Gad, and half the tribe of Manassah.

*And so the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh, (who wanted their inheritance in the land of the Amorites that they had already conquered) he (Joshua)said to them, Now you remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God is giving you rest, and has given you this land. Your wives, your little ones, your livestock, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side of Jordan; but you shall pass before your brethren armed, all your mighty men of valour, to help them; Until the LORD has given your brethren rest, as he has given 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 Jordan toward the sunrise. And they answered Joshua, saying, All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us, we will go. 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. And 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.*

Now it’s interesting that the men said the same thing to him that the LORD had said three times: “Be strong and be courageous.” And now the men of Reuben, and Gad, and Manasseh say the very same thing. Sort of confirmation: God said something to him, and now people come along and say the same thing. And as they say it, you realize, ‘Well, it must have been God who said it to me. It must have been God speaking to me,’ because here is confirmation as they repeat the very thing that God had been saying: “Be strong and be courageous.”

So they pledged their allegiance, they pledged their obedience. “We will come in, we will fight until the land is taken. May the LORD be

## JOSHUA 1 – God’s Commission to Joshua; The Order to Cross the Jordan

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with you. Be strong, be courageous.”

#### Brian Yeager's Outlines

#### Joshua Outlined

#### I. The Conquest of Canaan

##### A. Preparation for taking the promised land (1:1 to 5:15)

###### 1. The land was a gift from God (Gen 15:18; Deut 26:9)

###### 2. Joshua commissioned to lead the people (1:1-18)

- a. God appointed Joshua as leader of the people (1:1-9)
- b. Joshua commanded the people to enter the land (1:10-11)
- c. Instructions to the Gadites, Reubenites, and Manasseh (1:12-15)
- d. The people accept Joshua as their leader (1:16-18)

###### 3. Preparing to take the land God had given them (2:1 to 5:1)

- a. Two spies sent to Jericho (2:1-7)
- b. Agreement with Rahab (2:8-22) Hebrews 11:31 and James 2:25
- c. Report of the two spies (2:23-24)
- d. Miraculous crossing of the Jordan on dry land (3:1-17) God always gives the way Jeremiah 10:23, Proverbs 14:12, and Ephesians 3:3-5
- e. Two memorials consisting of 12 stones each (4:1-24)
- f. Effect of crossing on the Kings of Canaan (5:1)
- g. Circumcision of the males in Israel (5:2-9)
- h. Passover observed (5:10-11)
- i. Manna ceased (5:12)
- j. Captain of the Lord’s host appears to Joshua (5:13-15)

##### B. Conquest of Canaan (6:1 to 13:7)

###### 1. Victory at the battle of Jericho (6:1-27) Hebrews 11:30

###### 2. Defeat at the first battle of Ai (7:1-5)

###### 3. The sin and punishment of Achan (7:6-26) Notice Joshua 6:18-19 and Hebrews 10:31. When God gives us our blessings we should not want to hold on to treasures of this world Colossians 3:1-5.

###### 4. Victory at the second battle of Ai (8:1-35)

###### 5. Conquest of Southern Canaan (9:1 to 10:43)

- a. King in Southern Canaan join forces to fight Israel (9:1-2)
- b. Gibeonites deceive Israel into making a league with them (9:3-27)
- c. Five Kings of the Amorites threaten war with Gibeon (10:1-5)
- d. Gibeonites call for Israel to help them (10:6-7)
- e. Defeat of the five kings - the sun stood still (10:8-27)
- f. Finishing the task in Southern Canaan (10:28-43)

###### 6. Conquest of Northern Canaan (11:1-15) 11:6; be not afraid. God delivers victory I John 5:4

## JOSHUA 1 – God’s Commission to Joshua; The Order to Cross the Jordan

### OBSERVATION

### INTERPRETATION

### APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) Click on “Latest Studies” on the right side. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

7. Summary of the conquest of Canaan (11:16 to 12:24)

8. Undeclared parts of Canaan (13:1-6)

II. Division of the Land of Canaan (13:7 to 24:33)

A. Possession of the land East of Jordan (13:7-33)

1. Total territory East of Jordan (13:7-14)

2. Portion divided to Reuben (13:15-23)

3. Portion divided to Gad (13:24-28)

4. Portion divided to the half tribe of Manasseh (13:29-33)

B. Possession West of the Jordan (14:1 to 19:51)

1. Levites given no land, save cities to live in (14:1-5) See Joshua 18:7

2. Division to Judah and Caleb (14:6 to 15:63)

3. Inheritance of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim (16:1 to 17:18)

4. Israel moves to Shiloh and set up the tabernacle (18:1)

5. Twenty-one men, three from each tribe, describe the land (18:2-9)

6. Land divided by lot among the remaining seven tribes (18:10 to 19:48)

a. Inheritance of Benjamin (18:11-28)

b. Inheritance of Simeon within Judah (19:1-9)

c. Inheritance of Zebulun (19:10-16)

d. Inheritance of Issachar (19:17-23)

e. Inheritance of Asher (19:24-31)

f. Inheritance of Naphtali (19:32-39)

g. Inheritance of Dan (19:40-48)

7. Joshua given his inheritance (19:49-51)

C. Six cities of refuge (20:1-9)

D. Levitical cities (21:1-42)

E. Gad, Ruben, and Manasseh sent to their inheritance (22:1-9)

F. Two and half tribes build an altar (22:10)

G. Explanation that the altar was not for sacrifices but for a memorial that those on the East of Jordan were brethren to those on the West of Jordan (22:11-34).

H. Joshua’s farewell speech to Israel, warning against idolatry (23:1-16) How does God feel about idols? Exodus 23:24

III. Joshua’s Death

A. The covenant at Shechem (24:1-25) 24:3 tie to Acts 7:2-3

B. The law written in a book and a memorial stone set up (24:26-28)

C. Death of Joshua (24:29-31)

D. Bones of Joseph buried at Shechem (24:32)

E. Death of Eleazar, the high priest (24:33)

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### Joshua – Types and Pictures of Jesus Christ

*Typical history – an actual record, but it’s a picture or type of the physical things they went through, Bible teaches us something spiritual – coming out of Egypt crossing the Red Sea – produces something spiritual in our life – a typology/a picture*

*Jesus said you search the scriptures ... but these are they which testify of Me! (John 5:39)*

*Bring to highest height, we must bring that package to Jesus*

*Volume of the Book testifies of Him (Heb. 10:7); these things were done as examples written for our admonition (1 Cor. 10:1-11)*

*To speak something spiritual to us*

*Law – furnishing in the tabernacle – they all speak of Jesus; the sacrifices speak of Jesus, His consecration! Of our need to give our lives to the Father! Romans 12:1-2; not just technical chart -it all speaks to us of Christ*

*Egypt is a picture of the world -a place of bondage- were all in bondage to sin!*

*Gods redemption of saving Israel – His salvation of us savings us out of sin*

*Pharaoh is a type of the Devil, fighting to keep us out*

*Crossing the Red Sea – picture of water baptism*

*Wandering the wilderness for 40 years – Christians who are water baptized, but they never enter the promised land – never walked by faith in the promises in the Bible; unbelief or carnality, Luke warmness, happy to just be on their way to heaven, but not being conformed every day to the image of Christ. I don’t claim the promises, I don’t step out – just wander around in the wilderness – all of a picture!*

*The Jordan River is representative to that place in our spiritual growth where we come to that reckoning of that old man, the old nature, to be dead with Christ. It is moving out of Romans chapter 7, where I have sought so hard in my flesh and by my works to please God, and I come to the despair of my flesh. I come to the realization with Paul, that “in me, that is in my flesh, there dwells no good thing.” And I realize that my only way to live a victorious life is through the help and the power of God. And with Paul, in Romans 7, I cry out, “Oh wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from this body of death?” And it is when I cry for deliverance, and I am looking outside of myself, the answer comes: for it is then that God begins His work of victory in my life, it is there where I reckon my old nature to be dead, and I begin to walk in the Spirit.*