



DAILY  
B I B L E G U I D E

# The Book of Joshua

*Days 71-78 of a Yearly Bible Reading Program*

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## Table of Contents

Daily Bible Reading Plan	6
Welcome to the Book of Joshua!	7
Chapter 1 Notes	8
Chapter 2 Notes	9
Chapter 3 Notes	10
Chapter 4 Notes	11
Devotional Thoughts for Day 71	12
Hymn for Day 71	12
Chapter 5 Notes	13
Chapter 6 Notes	14
Chapter 7 Notes	15
Devotional Thoughts for Day 72	16
Hymn for Day 72	16
Chapter 8 Notes	17
Chapter 7 Notes	18
Chapter 8 Notes	19
Chapter 9 Notes	20
Devotional Thoughts for Day 73	22
Hymn for Day 73	22
Chapter 10 Notes	24
Chapter 11 Notes	26
Chapter 12 Notes	28
Devotional Thoughts for Day 74	29
Hymn for Day 74	29
Chapter 13 Notes	31
Chapter 14 Notes	33
Chapter 15 Notes	34
Devotional Thoughts for Day 75	35

Hymn for Day 75	35
Chapter 16 Notes	36
Chapter 17 Notes	37
Chapter 18 Notes	38
Devotional Thoughts for Day 76	39
Hymn for Day 76	39
Chapter 19 Notes	41
Chapter 20 Notes	42
Chapter 21 Notes	44
Devotional Thoughts for Day 77	45
Hymn for Day 77	45
Chapter 22 Notes	46
Chapter 23 Notes	47
Chapter 24 Notes	48
Devotional Thoughts for Day 78	49
Hymn for Day 78	49

## Daily Bible Reading Plan

<b>Day</b>	<b>Passage</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Day 71	Joshua 1-4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 72	Joshua 5-7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 73	Joshua 8-9	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 74	Joshua 10-12	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 75	Joshua 13-15	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 76	Joshua 16-18	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 77	Joshua 19-21	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day 78	Joshua 22-24	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Welcome to the Book of Joshua!

The Book of Joshua is the record of the conquest and settlement of the Promised Land by the Israelites after the Exodus. It is the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham in Genesis 15:18-21.

A few quick facts about Joshua:

- It was written by Joshua around 1424 B.C.
- Some material, such as 24:29-31, was added after Joshua's death. Untangling the chronology of events surrounding the Book of Judges is difficult, and some may overlap with Joshua.
- It covers events from the death of Moses in 1451 B.C. to the death of Joshua in 14:24 B.C., a period of 27 years.
- The key verses for the book are 1:8 and 24:15.
- A simple outline:
  - The Conquest of Canaan – Chapters 1-12
  - The Settlement of Canaan – Chapters 13-24
- Key events:
  - Israel crosses the Jordan – Chapter 3
  - Fall of Jericho – Chapter 6
  - The sun stands still – 10:1-15

## Chapter 1 Notes

In this chapter God readies Joshua for the task ahead and Joshua readies the people for conquest.

vs. 1-9 – These verses hardly need a comment. God commissions Joshua to lead the people into the land of Canaan and take it. God will be with them and victory is practically assured. It is impossible to read these verses without a stirring of confidence.

vs. 10-15 – Joshua sends the command to prepare to cross Jordan. The 2 ½ tribes that settled east of the Jordan are told to settle their families and be ready to march with their brethren, as Moses had agreed with them in Numbers 32:2-28.

vs. 16-18 – They people reply and pledge themselves to follow Joshua's command. In vs. 18 we see that they are willing to put any to death that refuse to follow.

## Chapter 2 Notes

In this chapter we read the story of the two spies sent to spy out Jericho.

vs. 1-8 – There are many things to note in this passage. First, Joshua’s good military sense in scouting ahead of their movement. Second, the knowledge and fear of the impending Israelite invasion among the Canaanites. Third, the description of the legendary city of Jericho. Its fabled walls made it seem impenetrable. They are so massive that Rahab’s house is literally on the wall. Fourth, the person of Rahab. She is called “a harlot”, who seems to have run a sort of tavern or inn. It was a good place to hide with so many people going in and out. She protects the spies when they are hunted.

vs. 9-14 – Rahab professes faith in the true God because of the stories about what He had done with Israel. She asks the spies to spare her family when they took Jericho, and they agree.

vs. 15-21 – Rahab helps the spies escape by letting them down by a scarlet-colored rope from the window of her house on the wall. The spies tell her to mark her house by tying the rope in the window.

vs. 22-24 – The spies escape and report back to Joshua, who takes courage in their report.

## Chapter 3 Notes

In this chapter Israel crosses the Jordan River.

vs. 1-6 – The people prepare to cross Jordan. They are to follow the Ark of the Covenant as it is carried by the priests. They are to stay back 2,000 cubits (3,000 feet) so they can witness how God is going to get them across the river. In vs. 15 we learn that it is at flood stage.

vs. 7-8 – The priests are ordered to carry the Ark into the river and stand still in it. I have often marveled at the faith of these priests, who obey without question an unusual command.

vs. 9-13 – Joshua rallies the people and tells them that what they are about to witness is proof that God is on their side and victory is assured in Canaan. Here Joshua reveals what will happen when the priests step into Jordan: the waters will pile up and allow them to cross on dry ground.

vs. 14-17 – Just as God had promised, the Jordan River stops flowing as if held back by an invisible barrier. The water amasses so that it is noticed at a site some 17 miles or so (the location of Adam and Zaretan are not certain) upriver from the place they crossed. The water that had already flowed by continues and the riverbed is empty below the crossing.

## Chapter 4 Notes

In this chapter Israel erects monuments to mark the place they crossed Jordan.

vs. 1-9 – After Israel had crossed the Jordan and before the priests bearing the Ark exited the riverbed, two monuments are erected. 12 men are sent to collect 12 large rocks from the riverbed, and these are set in the place where Israel camped at Gilgal. Joshua has 12 stones also placed on the riverbank where the priests had entered with the Ark.

vs. 10-18 – All of Israel crosses the Jordan, including 40,000 warriors from the 2 ½ tribes that settled on the east side. The priests come out of the riverbed, and the river starts flowing again as it had before.

vs. 19 – The date of the crossing is the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the first month. This is the day that a lamb is selected by each family for the Passover on the 14<sup>th</sup> (Exodus 12:3) We see in 5:10 that Passover was observed at Gilgal.

vs. 20-24 – The purpose of the twelve stones was to be a reminder of what God had done in bringing Israel into the land. The river itself would not show signs of the crossing, so these stones acted as a monument to the miracle.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 71

I love the fact that Joshua left a monument to the crossing of Jordan. While it is unfortunately lost to history today, for generations it stood as a reminder of what God had done for His people. We ought also to raise monuments to remember God's mighty hand in our lives. No, they do not have to be stone. Our testimony is a powerful monument.

## Hymn for Day 71

Our hymn today is an old Black spiritual called "Deep River". It was first printed in 1876 and has become one of the best-known spirituals today. It takes the theme of crossing Jordan to a better land, likely Heaven though it is not explicitly stated.

*Deep river, my home is over Jordan,  
Deep river, Lord,  
I want to cross over into campground.  
Oh, don't you want to go to that gospel feast,  
That promised land where all is peace?  
Oh, deep river, Lord,  
I want to cross over into campground.*

## Chapter 5 Notes

In this chapter God Israel prepares themselves for the battle ahead.

vs. 1 – The word of Israel’s crossing of Jordan has caused the Canaanites to panic. Their defeat seems inevitable before a people whose God can part the Jordan.

vs. 2-9 – Male circumcision was the physical sign of God’s covenant with the descendants of Abraham. It was initiated in Genesis 17:10-11 but its practice lapsed in the wilderness journey. The reason for this is unclear, and many think it was part of the judgment of God against Israel. Joshua reinstates the practice once in the Promised Land. The place they camped at is called Gilgal (“rolling”) because the reproach of Egypt was rolled away (vs. 9).

vs. 10 – We noted in the previous chapter that it was nearing Passover when Israel crossed Jordan. They observe Passover in the Promised Land for the first time.

vs. 11-12 – Now that Israel was in the Promised Land the manna ceases and they live off the land. It is the time of barley harvest, so there are likely fields ready for harvest that the Canaanites had abandoned along with grain stores. God no longer supplied through supernatural means because the natural means were now available.

vs. 13-15 – Joshua encounters the Preincarnate Christ. Joshua recognizes Him and worships Him. He has come to as the Hope of Israel to instruct Joshua on how to lead the upcoming campaign.

## Chapter 6 Notes

In this chapter we see the fall of Jericho.

vs. 1-5 – The famous march around Jericho is ordered. For six days the men of war march once around the city. On the seventh day, they march seven times around the city. The priests then blow their trumpets and the people shout. God will cause the walls to fall.

vs. 6-19 – The marches around Jericho are ordered and completed. Joshua commanded that no spoils from the city were to be taken and everything was to be consecrated to God.

vs. 20-25 – The walls fall and Israel takes the city, killing all the inhabitants except Rahab's family in her home. The city is burned. Archeology proves the Bible true:

<https://answersingenesis.org/archaeology/the-walls-of-jericho/>

vs. 26-27 – Joshua pronounces a curse upon the man that rebuilds Jericho. The rest of the story is I Kings 16:34.

## Chapter 7 Notes

In this chapter Israel is defeated at Ai and Achan's sin is revealed.

vs. 1-5 – Unbeknownst to Joshua and Israel, a man named Achan (“troubler”) had disobeyed the order to not take of the spoils of Jericho. When Israel attacks its next target, the village of Ai, they are soundly defeated.

vs. 6-15 – Joshua knew that God had promised victory and is shaken by the defeat. He and the elders of Israel mourn the defeat in the Tabernacle. God reveals the cause of the defeat was the sin in the camp. He tells Joshua to have the children of Israel march by tribe and family and God would reveal the one that had sinned. That person was to be killed and burned with all their goods. It is harsh punishment for a terrible crime against God.

vs. 16-23 – Achan's sin is revealed. He confesses to taking spoils from Jericho and hiding them in his tent. The contraband is a Babylonian Garment (fashionable clothes are always coveted!), 200 shekels of silver (~\$7,000), and 50 shekels of gold (~\$100,000).

vs. 24-26 – Achan, his family, and his livestock taken outside the camp and stoned. Stoning is a communal form of execution, showing that the nation rejected the sin. The remains were then burned and buried under a pile of stones. The name of the place is called the Valley of Achor (“trouble”).

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 72

We cannot take the blessing of God for granted. Joshua and Israel did this and were humbled before Ai. Sin creeps in when we are not vigilant and God, and often we do not recognize it until its deadly poison costs us dearly.

## Hymn for Day 72

We are going to go with another spiritual today, "Joshua Fought The Battle of Jericho". It is believed to have been written before the Civil War and was first published in 1882.

*Refrain:*

*Joshua fought the battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho,  
Joshua fought the battle of Jericho,  
and the walls came tumbling down.*

*1 You may talk about the men of Gideon,  
you may talk about the men of Saul,  
there's none like good old Joshua,  
at the battle of Jericho. (Refrain)*

*2 Up to the walls of Jericho  
he marched with sword in hand,  
"Go blow those ram's horns," Joshua cried,  
"for the battle is in God's hands." (Refrain)*

*3 Then the horns began to bellow,  
the trumpets began to sound,  
and Joshua commanded the children to shout,  
and the walls came tumbling down. (Refrain)*

## Chapter 8 Notes

In this chapter Israel avenges their defeat at Ai with a resounding victory.

vs. 1-2 – Now that the sin of Achan has been dealt with, God commands Israel to continue their conquest and take Ai.

vs. 3-13 – Joshua’s plan is to take advantage of the overconfidence of the Canaanites after the initial defeat. He will draw out the defenders by feigning retreat with his main body of 25,000. But he has placed 5,000 in ambush west of the city, to sweep in behind the defenders and seize the city.

vs. 14-29 – The plan is executed to perfection. The Canaanites chase after Joshua’s “retreating” men. Joshua signals to begin the ambush by raising his spear. The city is taken easily since no soldiers defended it. The divided forces then crush the disheartened Canaanites from two sides.

vs. 30-35 – Joshua fulfills the command of God in Deuteronomy 27 and gathers the people between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim. The entirety of the Law is read to the gathered people.

## Chapter 7 Notes

In this chapter we see command to drive out the idolators from the land and to stay faithful to God.

vs. 1-4 – God commanded Israel to drive out or eradicate the seven nations of Canaanites in the land. They were not to make any sort of covenant or marriage with them. They were not faithful in this, and it will cause them to turn against God and face His purging judgment.

vs. 5-11 – God commands them to completely erase any vestige of idolatry from the land. They were to serve the Lord only and not give place to false gods.

vs. 12-26 – If Israel would stay faithful to God, He would give them the many blessings listed here. They would be fruitful and multiply as no people before. They would be free from disease and defeat. This ideal was never truly met.

## Chapter 8 Notes

In this chapter we see the promises of blessings and curses if Israel would serve God.

vs. 1-6 – Moses appeals to the nation to remember the lessons learned in the wilderness. They are especially called upon to remember the multitude of blessings God gave.

vs. 7-10 – The bounty of the land given by the blessing of God is described.

vs. 11-20 – A warning to not forget God when they enter the Land and enjoy His blessings.

## Chapter 9 Notes

In this chapter we read of the deception that one Canaanite tribe used to avoid destruction.

vs. 1-2 – The scattered Canaanites tribes unite in defense against Joshua and Israel.



vs. 3-13 – The Hivites of Gibeon (“hill city”) trick Joshua into believing they are not Canaanites but rather a people from another area. This is done by dressing and acting like they had just arrived after a long journey. They claim they are ambassadors seeking a treaty of peace with Israel.

vs. 14-15 – No one thinks to inquire what God would have them to do with these visitors. Joshua and the leaders of Israel believe the deception and enter a peace treaty with them.

vs. 16-27 – The deception is discovered. Israel is caught between honoring their treaty and obeying God’s command to eradicate the Canaanite tribes. It is a scandal among the people. Joshua confronts the Gibeonites. They are allowed to live, but they are to become

slaves. We read in II Samuel 21 that they remained such into the reigns of Saul and David, and assuredly until the fall of the Kingdom of Judah.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 73

Most people assume Satan attacks directly and in the open. This is rarely how he works. His usual method is to deceive. He did so in the Garden with Eve. He is like a fisherman who places a worm on a hook. All the fish sees is lunch and cannot discern the deadly hook. We must be on guard for the “hook” that is hidden in something that appears safe and whole.

## Hymn for Day 73

Our hymn today is a very rarely seen text by John Newton titled “Gibeon”. It was published in the first volume of Newton’s Olney Hymns. It takes a different angle on the story of the Gibeonites, using them as an example of the sinner coming to Christ for mercy.

*When Joshua, by GOD’s command,  
Invaded Canaan’s guilty land;  
Gibeon, unlike the nations round,  
Submission made and mercy found.*

*Their stubborn neighbors who enraged,  
United war against them waged,  
By Joshua soon were overthrown,  
For Gibeon’s cause was now his own.*

*He, from whose arm they ruin feared,  
Their leader and ally appeared  
An emblem of the Savior’s grace,  
To those who humbly seek his face.*

*The men of Gibeon wore disguise,  
And gained their peace by framing lies;  
For Joshua had no pow’r to spare,  
If he had known from whence they were.*

*But JESUS invitations sends,  
Treating with rebels as his friends;  
And holds the promise forth in view,  
To all who for his mercy sue.*

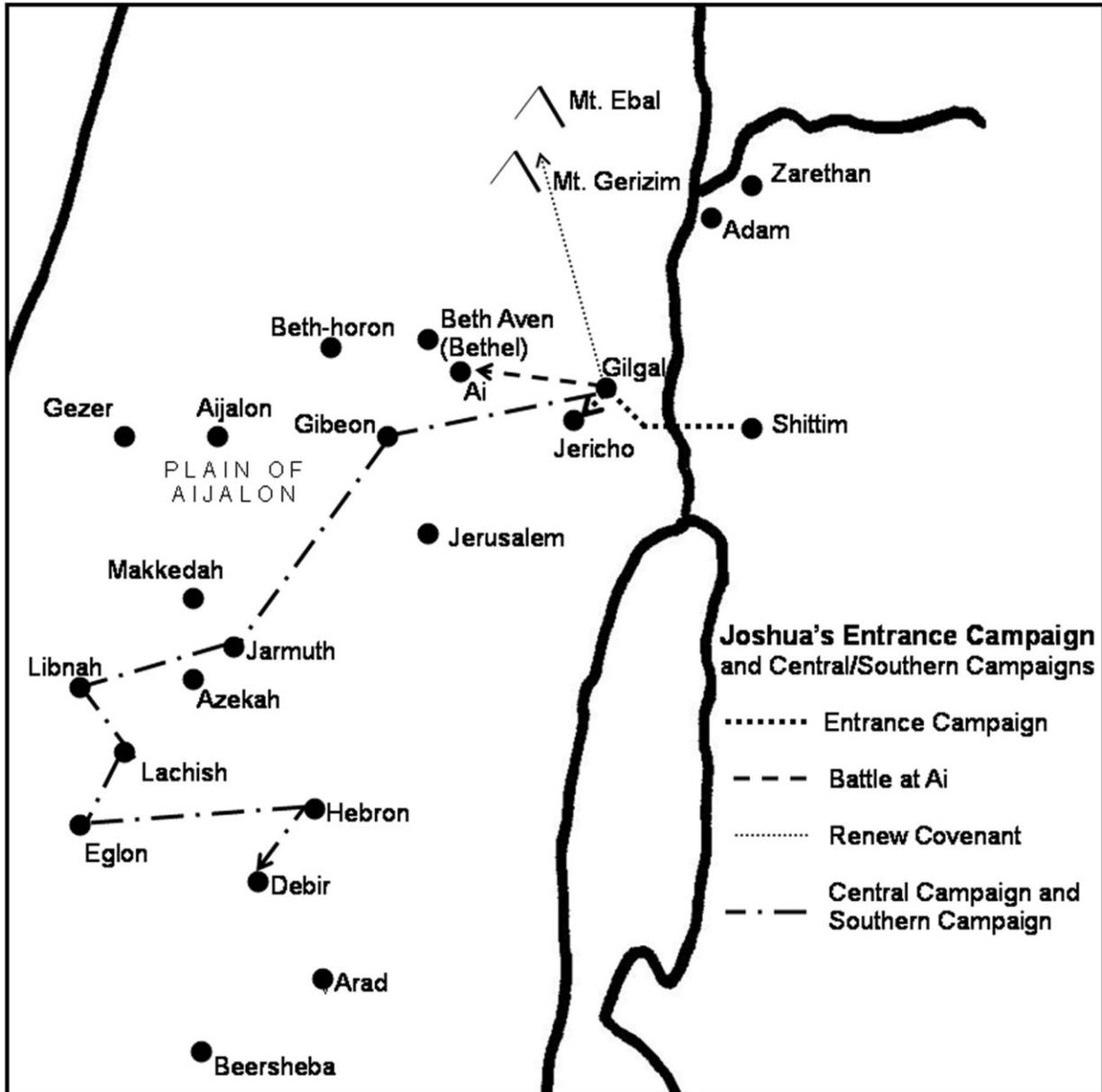
*Too long his goodness I disdained,  
Yet went at last and peace obtained;  
But soon the noise of war I heard,  
And former friends in arms appeared.*

*Weak in myself for help I cried,  
LORD, I am pressed on every side;  
The cause is thine, they fight with me,  
But every blow is aimed at thee.*

*With speed to my relief he came,  
And put my enemies to shame;  
Thus saved by grace I live to sing,  
The love and triumphs of my King.*

## Chapter 10 Notes

In this chapter Israel conquers southern Canaan.



vs. 1-6 – Adonizedek (“lord of justice”), Amorite king of Jerusalem sees the victories of Israel and leads a confederacy of Amorite kings against Gibeon. These kings rule cities that are in southern Canaan, in areas that will be later settled by Judah and the Philistines. They are seeking to punish Gibeon for allying with Israel. Gibeon appeals to Joshua for aid.

vs. 7-11 – God promises and delivers a great victory for Israel. The Amorites are routed and chased over 20 miles southwest. God contributes to the rout by sending great hail upon the enemy.

vs. 12-15 – Not wanting to lose momentum, Joshua prays that the sun and moon stand still, and God heard and performed the miracle. This mighty and singular miracle has long been the target of critics. There are sometimes reports that someone like NASA proves there is missing time that accounts for this, but those stories are simply not true. Mentioned here is a lost historical “Book of Jasher”. It is mentioned as corroborating the report of the sun standing still. It was never part of Holy Scripture, but was a real historical document that is sadly lost to time.

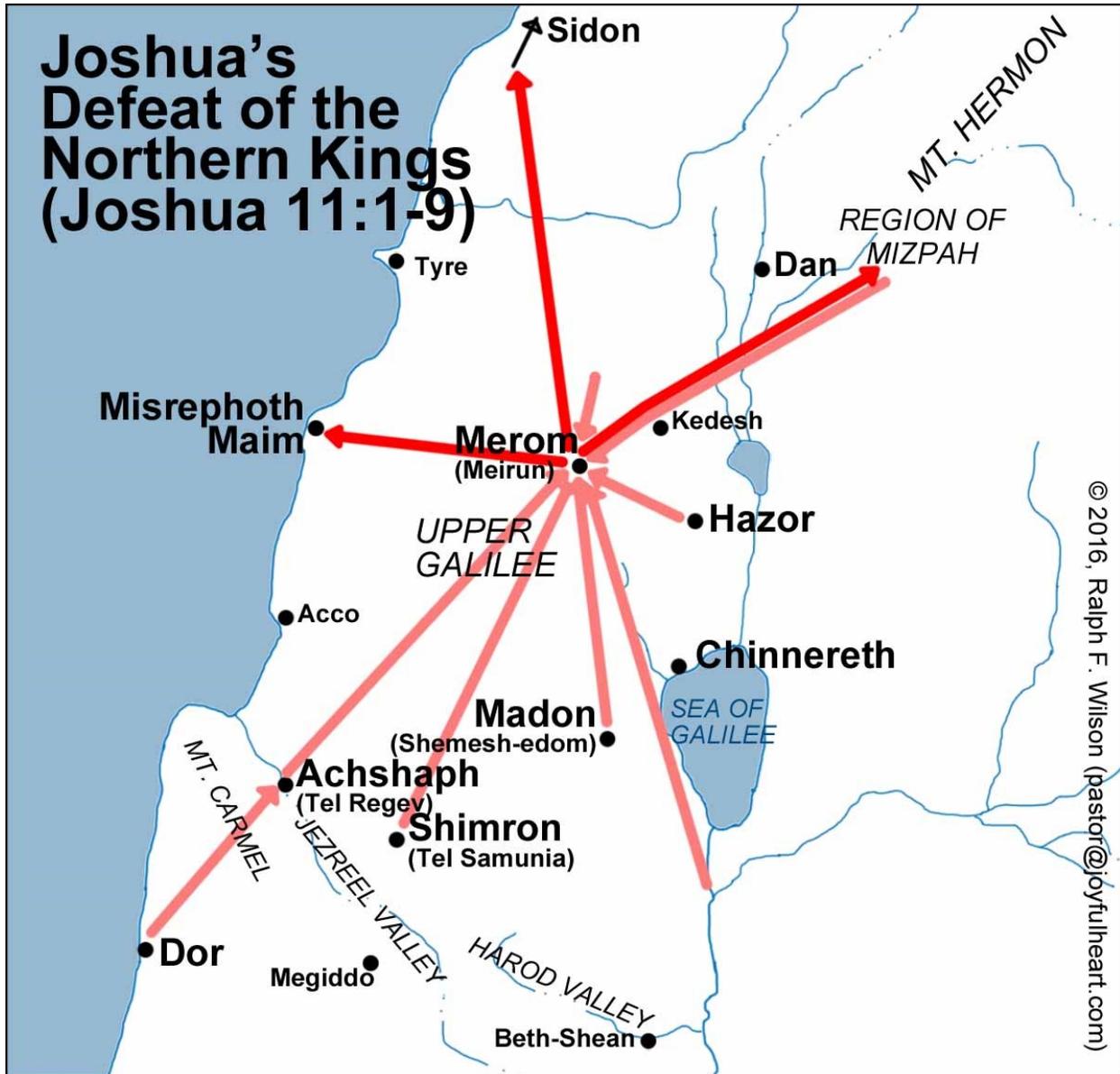
vs. 16-21 – The five Amorite kings sought refuge by hiding in a cave. Joshua has the entrance sealed and guarded while continuing the sweep of the armies. All that remained alive had hidden in fortified cities that would have to be besieged.

vs. 22-27 – The five Amorite kings are brought from the cave. The military leaders of Israel in procession place their feet on the subjugated kings, a sign of their utter humiliation.

vs. 28-43 – Joshua defeats the remaining fortified cities and kings in southern Canaan.

## Chapter 11 Notes

In this chapter we read of Joshua's campaign in northern Canaan.



vs. 1-5 – The tribes of northern Canaan now unite against Israel and gather near the Sea of Galilee. Here chariots are mentioned for the first time in Joshua. Chariots were the tanks of their day and greatly feared. They were not mentioned in the southern campaign because the territory was too hilly to use them effectively. The ground here is much flatter and chariots can make good use of it.

vs. 6 – God encourages Joshua by assuring him of the coming victory.

vs. 7-14 – Joshua attacks and sweeps the enemy from the field, driving them northward in retreat. He makes an example of Hazor by taking and burning the city. Other fortified cities are not taken.

vs. 15-23 – Joshua's work continued until he had faithfully obeyed God's commands and Israel held control of the land. This included a special campaign to drive out the giants of Anak that had found refuge in the hills of Judah. The war of conquest is now over, and Israel prepares to settle the land. It must be noted that in 13:1-6 that some areas on the borders of the land were not defeated

## Chapter 12 Notes

In this chapter we have a summary of the victories of Israel in conquering the Promised Land.

vs. 1-6 – A record of the victories of Israel under Moses.

vs. 7-24 – A record of the victories of Israel under Joshua.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 74

God surely kept His promise to give the land of Canaan to Israel. Yes, Israel had to take it, but God gave them overwhelming victory after overwhelming victory. We can trust in His Word that when we follow His command no power on heaven or earth can stop His mighty hand.

### Hymn for Day 74

Our hymn today is “Dare to Stand Like Joshua”, written by C.M. Robinson in 1898. It takes a broad view of Joshua’s life and encourages us to stand like he did for the Lord.

*1 We are bound for Canaan land,  
Tenting by the way;  
Who shall lead us on the road?  
Choose your king today.*

*Refrain:*

*Dare to stand like Joshua,  
Dare to say the word;  
As for me and for my house,  
We will serve the Lord.*

*2 Many trials we have seen,  
Thus far on our way;  
He hath led us safely thro’;  
Shall he lead today? [Refrain]*

*3 When the dark Red sea of doubt,  
Billow’d in our way;  
Then he parted ev’ry wave—  
So he will today. [Refrain]*

*4 Can we safely trust a guide  
Who knows not the way;  
God hath traveled ev’ry foot,  
Shall he lead today? [Refrain]*

*5 Just before us Jordan rolls,  
Right across the way;  
We can safely trust the Lord,  
He shall lead today. [Refrain]*

## Chapter 13 Notes

In this chapter the division of the land begins with the tribes east of Jordan.

vs. 1-6 – The area in the north was never fully held by Israel, though at times they did have some control over it. They must wait until Christ's return to realize the fulness of the boundaries promised in Exodus 23:31.

vs. 7-8 – The division of the land begins now.

vs. 9-13 – A description of the land held by Israel on the east of Jordan. The details of how this is divided are in the rest of this chapter.

vs. 14 – The tribe of Levi was not given any territory but were interspersed throughout the other tribes. See Numbers 18:20-24.

vs. 15-23 – The territory allotted to Reuben.

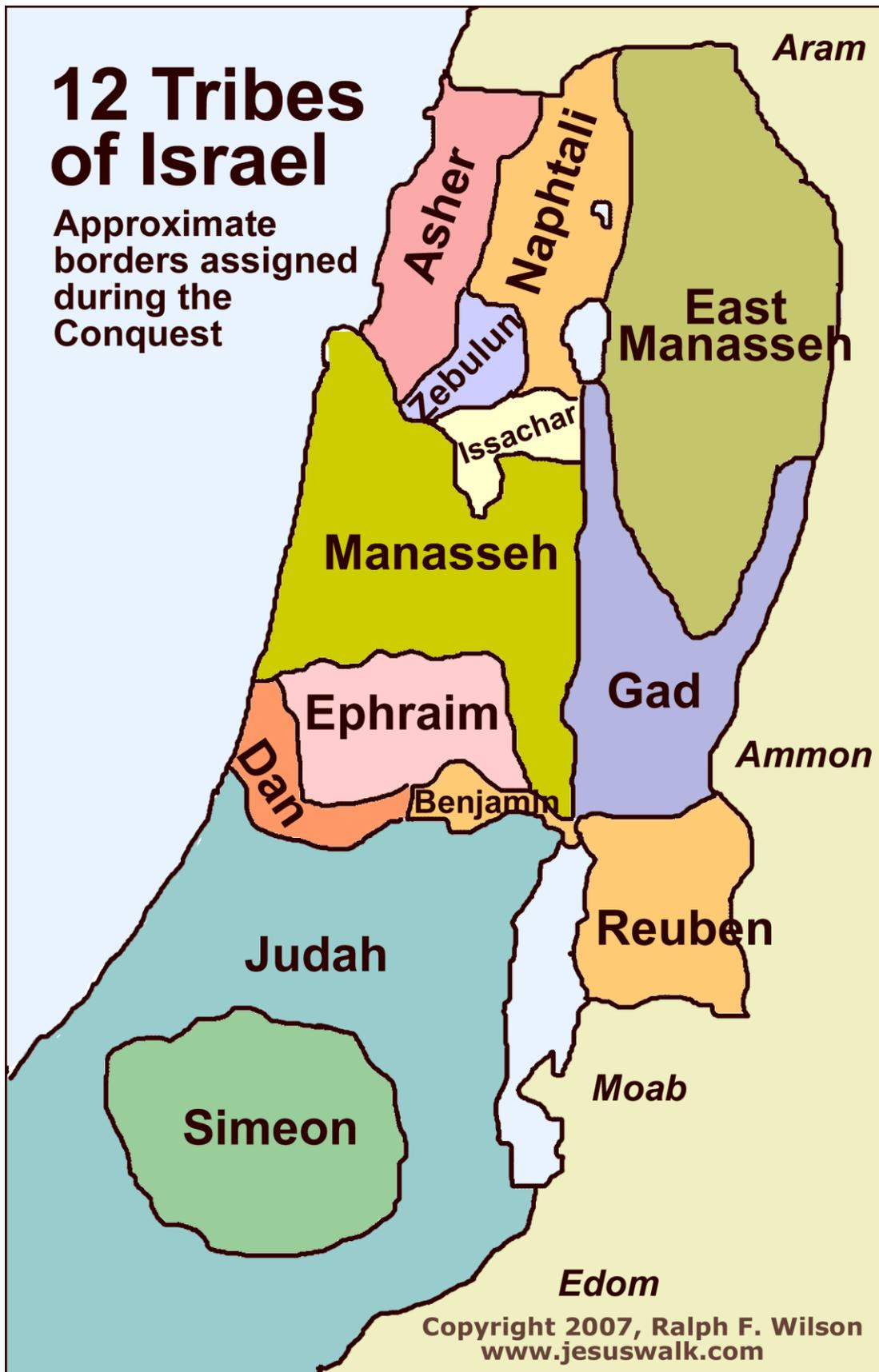
vs. 24-28 – The territory allotted to Gad.

vs. 29-32 – The territory allotted to the half tribe of Manasseh.

vs. 33 – It is restated that Levi was given no territory. See vs. 14.

# 12 Tribes of Israel

Approximate borders assigned during the Conquest



## Chapter 14 Notes

In this chapter we begin the division of land west of Jordan and Caleb claims his portion.

vs. 1-5 – An introduction to the division of the land of Canaan, west of Jordan.

vs. 6-15 – Caleb, the spy who gave the faithful report in Numbers 14, claims his allotment of land. The promise made by Moses is not recorded previously in Scripture, but no one would dare call it unreasonable. He claims the area around Hebron (“alliance”), formerly called Kirjatharba (“city of Arba”, or more literally, “city of a fourth” or “one of four cities”).

## Chapter 15 Notes

In this chapter we have the allotment of Judah's territory.

vs. 1-12 – The borders of Judah's territory are described.

vs. 13-19 – Caleb defeats the sons of Anak and takes the territory he claimed. The final city of Kirjathsepher was taken by Othniel, Caleb's nephew, who was rewarded with marrying Caleb's daughter. She is not satisfied with the dry land they are given and requests the addition of springs to their allotment to ensure they had water for their livestock.

vs. 20-62 – A description of the allotments to individual families.

vs. 63 – The Jebusites still controlled Jerusalem and would until the days of David the king in II Samuel 5.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 75

It is impossible to read these chapters without being moved by Caleb. All other land was given by random allotment, but he was able to claim his own portion. He chose not only a beautiful place, but one filled with history as it was the site of Abraham's family tomb (Genesis 23). It was still controlled by the enemy, the mighty giants of Anak. Yet Caleb was unfazed in his faith, focusing on his prize. We need more of this bold faith in our day!

## Hymn for Day 75

Today's hymn, "I Want That Mountain", was written by Bill Harvey. Bill Harvey was popular singer sometimes associated with John R. Rice. This wonderful song encouraged the listener to not let anything stop us from seeing victory in our Christian labor.

*1 I saw the Giant of Prayerlessness upon the mountain high;  
He laughed so hard at my unbended knee.  
No longer in the Wilderness I'll stay, and so I cry:  
I want that mountain, it belongs to me!*

### Chorus

*I want that mountain! I want that mountain!  
Where the milk and honey flow, where the grapes of Eshcol grow,  
I want that mountain! I want that mountain!  
The mountain that my Lord has given me.*

*2 There was a Giant of Laziness who said I wouldn't go  
And witness for the One who set me free.  
I'll come from out the Wilderness, I'll witness now I know;  
I want that mountain, it belongs to me!*

*3 One faithless Giant upon the crest of Hebron's lofty height  
Has vowed that he's the one to make me flee.  
I'll climb from out the Wilderness! and trust Jehovah's might!  
I want that mountain, it belongs to me!*

*4 Let ev'ry Giant of Distress and Unbelief and Sin  
Get ready now to vacate, for you see:  
I've come from out the Wilderness! I know I'm going to win!  
I want that mountain, it belongs to me!*

## Chapter 16 Notes

In this chapter we have the allotment of territory for Ephraim.

vs. 1-4 – Here is described the territory given to the two tribes descended from Joseph: Ephraim and Manasseh. Manasseh of course had half its tribe claim land east of Jordan. This allotment will be for the half that will settle west of Jordan.

vs. 5-10 – The description of the land allotted to Ephraim.

## Chapter 17 Notes

In this chapter we have the allotment for the half tribe of Manasseh.

vs. 1-6 – Ten families of Manasseh are listed as receiving allotments west of Jordan, including the 5 daughters of Zelophehad from Numbers 27.

vs. 7-13 – The description of the allotment for the half tribe of Manasseh west of Jordan.

vs. 14-18 – Manasseh complains about their allotment, claiming it was too small. Joshua reminds them they can take more if they will just drive out the remaining Canaanite peoples. The people are unwilling to do so. Some people would rather complain than solve a problem.

## Chapter 18 Notes

In this chapter we see the remaining tribes pressed to receive their allotments and the allotment for Benjamin.

vs. 1 – The Tabernacle is placed at Shiloh. This will be the place of centralized worship for the nation for over 300 years until the Ark is taken and the Tabernacle is attacked by the Philistines in I Samuel 4:11 (this is not explicitly stated but there is sufficient evidence for it).

vs. 2-10 – The remaining seven tribes that have not received their allotment seem satisfied with the status quo and are not enthusiastic about receiving their inheritance. Joshua has to prod them to action.

vs. 11-28 – The description of the allotment for Benjamin.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 76

Have you noted a couple of recurring themes in these chapter concerning the allotment of land? First, that the people are wearied of war after seven years of battles. Second, that pockets of Canaanites still dwelt in the land. The failure to completely drive out the Canaanites will cause great heartaches in the coming centuries. It is so with us also when we grow complacent and allow sin to dwell in our hearts and minds. Succumbing to weariness and complacency so often robs us of spiritual victory.

## Hymn for Day 76

Our hymn today was written by John Kent and appeared in 1810 under the title “Indwelling Sin; or, the Canaanite still in the Lands”. It warns us to fully drive out the sin in our own hearts.

*The Canaanites still in the land,  
To harass, perplex, and dismay,  
Brought Israel of old at a stand,  
For Anak was stronger than they.  
What God had designed they possessed,  
Supported and kept by his hand;  
Yet, lest on their lees they should rest,  
The Canaanites dwelt in the land.*

*'Tis thus with the Israel on earth,  
Who groan with a body of sin,  
Partake of a spiritual birth,  
The work of God's Spirit within;  
Today, with a taste of his love,  
Jehovah their souls will expand,  
Tomorrow he'll give them to prove  
The Canaanites still in the land.*

*Corruptions like vapours shall rise;  
Light, love, and delight shall be gone;  
The sun shall be dark in the skies,  
And hell, with its legions, come on;  
Yet all things shall work for their good,  
Afflictions, temptations, or pain;  
And still, through the Lamb and his blood  
Their cause they shall ever maintain.*

*Like Gad, by a troop overcome,  
They fall, through the workings of sin;  
Yet glory they not in their shame,  
But mourn their defilement within.  
On Zion's bright summit above,  
Victorious at last they shall stand,  
Though now for a season they prove  
The Canaanites still in the land.*

*A thorn in the flesh they shall have,  
Their roving affections to win,  
To teach them how Jesus can save,  
And show them the depth of their sin;  
Yea, down to the Jordan of death,  
His foes shall the Christian withstand,  
And feel, when resigning his breath,  
The Canaanites still in the land.*

*To them he his oath shall fulfil,  
A poor, little, faint-hearted band;  
For 'tis of their Father's good will  
The Canaanites dwell in the land.  
Their place of repose is on high,  
No Canaanite enters therein,  
To drink of the rivers of joy,  
Remote from the regions of sin.*

## Chapter 19 Notes

In this chapter we complete the division of land among the tribes.

vs. 1-9 – The allotment of territory for Simeon is described.

vs. 10-16 - The allotment of territory for Zebulun is described.

vs. 17-23 - The allotment of territory for Issachar is described.

vs. 24-31 - The allotment of territory for Asher is described.

vs. 32-39 - The allotment of territory for Naphtali is described.

vs. 40-48 - The allotment of territory for Dan is described.

vs. 49-51 – Joshua is the last Israelite to receive a portion of land. The tract is in the territory of Ephraim and contained the city Timnath-serah (“portion of abundance”). It Judges 2:9 is it called Timnath-heres (“portion of the sun”). Thus ends the division of territory.

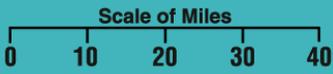
## Chapter 20 Notes

In this chapter we have the establishment of the six cities of refuge.

vs. 1-6 – A review of the purpose and use of the cities of refuge. See Numbers 35.

vs. 7-9 – The six cities are appointed: Kedesh, Shechem, and Hebron on the west of Jordan; Bezer, Ramoth-gilead, and Golan on the east of Jordan.

# Cities of Refuge



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## Chapter 21 Notes

In this chapter we have the allotment of cities to the Levites.

vs. 1-8 – The tribe of Levi has the territory assigned in which they will receive their cities. The priests (Aaron's family) and Kohathites would have thirteen cities in Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin, and ten cities in Ephraim, Dan, and west Manasseh. The Gershonites would have thirteen cities in Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and east Manasseh. The Merarites would receive twelve cities in Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun.

vs. 9-26 – The cities given to the priests and Kohathites.

vs. 27-33 – The cities given to the Gershonites.

vs. 34-40 – The cities given to the Merarites.

vs. 41-45 – A concluding summary of the state of Israel as they settle into their new homes. All the blessings that God had promised were enjoyed by His chosen people.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 77

I may get lost in the lists of cities and descriptions of territories that we lose sight of what has been accomplished. Less than 50 years prior to this the child of Israel were enslaved in Egypt. It seemed that the promises made to Abraham about possessing the land would never be fulfilled. But here we are! God has been faithful! Do not lose hope when things grow dark. We serve a great and faithful God.

### Hymn for Day 77

Our hymn today is “Not One Hath Failed” written by Alice J. Home. It is one of the most recent songs we have featured, originally copyrighted in 1926. It takes up the wonderful theme of 21:45 that no good thing promised by God had failed.

*So shall we sing, the changeful story ended,  
When in the harbor our frail bark has sail'd,  
'Mid storm and calm, 'mid days and nights of sorrow,  
Praise His dear name, not one good thing hath fail'd.*

*Oft times it seem'd not thus; so drear our prospect,  
Anguish and fearful care well night prevail'd;  
But now with all our hearts and souls we witness  
His word is true, not one good thing hath fail'd.*

*Why not now sing a song of grateful gladness  
Whenever anxious tho't and fear assail?  
'Tis for our good all things shall work together  
Since God hath said not one good thing shall fail.*

*Yea, even in the hour of desolation  
When pass our best belov'd beyond the veil,  
Leaning on Him who wept on earth with mourners  
He will not fail us tho' our hearts should fail.*

*Then in that joyful day of glad reunion  
We shall together tell the wondrous tale  
Of all the way the Lord our God hath led us,  
His loving kindness which not once did fail.*

## Chapter 22 Notes

In this chapter we nearly have a civil war over a misunderstood monument.

vs. 1-9 – The tribes that settled east of Jordan are dismissed from their obligation in aiding their brethren in conquering the Promised Land.

vs. 10 – The dismissed tribes stop and erect a great altar beside Jordan.

vs. 11-12 – The 9 ½ tribes west of Jordan see the erection of the altar as a sign of rebellion and gather at Shiloh to prepare for war against their brethren.

vs. 13-20 – A commission is sent consisting of Phinehas, son of the high priest, and the princes of the ten tribes to speak with the tribes east of Jordan. They accuse them falling away into sin, bringing up examples such as Baalpeor and Achan.

vs. 21-29 – The accused tribes reply that they had no intention of rebelling or of even offering sacrifices on the altar they erected. It was simply a monument to show there was no division between Israel though Jordan split them apart. It had the opposite effect, unfortunately.

vs. 30-31 – The visiting commission is moved to believe the explanation for the altar.

vs. 32-34 – The tribes are again at peace. The altar is called Ed (“witness”).

## Chapter 23 Notes

In this chapter Joshua addresses the leaders of Israel.

vs. 1-2 – The heads of the tribes are called to hear the words of Joshua as the end of his life draws near. Reese's Chronological Bible has this as 20 years after the previous chapter and Joshua at 110 years of age.

vs. 3-5 – Joshua calls them to remember all that God had done for them in bringing them in the Promised Land.

vs. 6-11 – Joshua encourages the people to follow the Lord and enjoy the fulness of His blessing.

vs. 12-13 – Joshua warns the people not to fall away from God and join the pagan nations.

vs. 14-16 – Joshua ends his message with a challenge to follow the Lord to enjoy His blessing and not see His wrath.

## Chapter 24 Notes

In this chapter Joshua makes his famous appeal for the people of Israel to choose to serve the Lord.

vs. 1 – Joshua gathers the leaders of the tribes to Shechem. The reason for choosing this site is not given, but it resonates with history. Here God appeared to Abraham in Genesis 12:1-6 and Jacob lived here in Genesis 33. More recently, it was the place between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim where the Law was read to the people in Joshua 8:30-35.

vs. 2-13 – Joshua begins his address with a review of Israel’s history, from the call of Abraham to the settlement of the Promised Land.

vs. 14-15 – Joshua presses the people to choose who they will serve. They could serve God, or choose to follow the idols “on the other side of the flood” (the Euphrates River, see vs.2), Egypt, or the Canaanites.

vs. 16-18 – The people choose to follow God.

vs. 19-20 – Joshua warns them what will happen if they are not faithful.

vs. 21 – The people affirm their choice to follow God.

vs. 22-24 – The decision to serve God is solemnly sealed in sacred oath.

vs. 25-28 – An engraved stone is created as a monument to the covenant made to follow God at Shechem this day. It is displayed at Shiloh near the Tabernacle.

vs. 29-31 – Joshua dies at 110 and is buried in his allotment. His impact is great in Israel’s history. They serve God through Joshua’s days as leader and also under the leadership of the men trained by Joshua.

vs. 32-33 – A coda is added to the conclusion of the book recording the burial of Joseph’s remains at Shechem (see Genesis 50:25) and the death of Eleazar, the second High Priest.

## Devotional Thoughts for Day 78

How can your heart not be stirred by Joshua's rousing challenge of, "Choose you this day!" Our society today makes little of such commitments. We like to keep our options open and have the freedom to change our minds. We need more Christians to consecrate themselves to serve Christ and never look back!

### Hymn for Day 78

Our hymn today, "A Charge to Keep", was written by Charles Wesley in 1762. It shows that resolve that Joshua was looking for, to choose to serve God and never waver in that decision.

*A charge to keep I have,  
a God to glorify,  
a never-dying soul to save,  
and fit it for the sky.*

*To serve the present age,  
my calling to fulfill,  
O may it all my pow'rs engage  
to do my Master's will!*

*Arm me with watchful care  
as in Thy sight to live,  
and now Thy servant, Lord, prepare  
a strict account to give!*

*Help me to watch and pray,  
and still on Thee rely,  
O let me not my trust betray,  
but press to realms on high.*