

6 - Joshua: Salvation

- Moving out of the Torah (Law), in this 6th book God's people have been removed from the bondage of slavery in Egypt. They have wandered for 40 years in the desert under His continued guidance and direction. They have been made into a mighty nation, instructed, trained and readied to possess the land promised to them.
- Joshua begins the series of Bible books called the **HISTORY** section of the Old Testament. These contain the literal and spiritual history of Israel from the time of **Joshua before the entry into the land through to the time of Esther in Persia, after the Babylonian exile.**
- The name of the book, the name of the leader of Israel **is the name of our Redeemer.** Joshua leads the people into battle for the Promised Land. Our leader, Jesus, has conquered (overcome) this world and will lead us to the Promised Land. We can only get there through Him.



Highlights

Part 1 Preparation (1:1 to 5:15)	Part 2 Conquest of Canaan (6:1 to 13:7)	Part 3 Division of the Land of Canaan (13:7 to 22:34)	Part 4: Joshua's Death (23-24)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joshua commissioned to lead (1:1-18) ▪ Joshua commanded the people to enter the land (1:10-11) ▪ Instructions to the Gadites, Ruebenites, Manasseh (1:12-15) ▪ Preparing to take the land God had given them (2:1 to 5:1) ▪ 2 spies in Jericho (2:1-7) ▪ Agreement with Rahab (2:8-22) ▪ Report of the two spies (2:23-24) ▪ Miraculous crossing of Jordan (3:1-17) ▪ Two memorials, 12 stones each (4:1-24) ▪ Effect of crossing on the Kings of Canaan (5:1) ▪ Circumcision of the males in Israel (5:2-9) ▪ Passover (5:10-11) ▪ Manna ceased (5:12) ▪ Captain of the Lord's host appears to Joshua (5:13-15) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Victory at the battle of Jericho (6:1-27) ▪ Defeat at 1st battle of Ai (7:1-5) ▪ Sin, punishment of Achan (7:6-26) ▪ Victory at 2nd battle of Ai (8:1-35) ▪ Conquest of Southern Canaan (9:1 to 10:43) ▪ Kings in Southern Canaan join to fight Israel (9:1-2) ▪ Gibeonites deceive Israel into making a treaty (9:3-27) ▪ Five Kings of the Amorites threaten war with Gibeon (10:1-5) ▪ Gibeonites call for Israel to help them (10:6-7) ▪ Defeat of 5 kings - sun stands still (10:8-27) ▪ Finishing task in so. Canaan (10:28-43) ▪ Conquest of Northern Canaan (11:1-15) ▪ Summary of conquest of Canaan (11:16 to 12:24) ▪ Undefeated parts of Canaan (13:1-6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Possession of the land East of Jordan (13:7-33); Total territory East of Jordan (13:7-14); to Reuben (13:15-23); to Gad (13:24-28); to half tribe of Manasseh (13:29-33) ▪ Possession West of the Jordan (14:1 to 19:51); Levites given no land (only cities to live in) (14:1-5); Division to Judah and Caleb (14:6 to 15:63); Inheritance of Joseph (Manasseh and Ephraim) (16:1-17:18) ▪ Israel moves to Shiloh, sets up tabernacle (18:1) ▪ 21 men, 3 from each tribe, describe land (18:2-9) ▪ Land divided by lot among remaining seven tribes (18:10 to 19:48); to Benjamin (18:11-28); Simeon within Judah (19:1-9); to Zebulun (19:10-16); to Issachar (19:17-23); to Asher (19:24-31); to Naphtali (19:32-39); to Dan (19:40-48) ▪ Joshua given inheritance (19:49-51) ▪ Six cities of refuge (20:1-9) ▪ Levitical cities (21:1-42) ▪ Gad, Ruben, and Manasseh sent to their inheritance (22:1-9) ▪ Two and half tribes build altar (22:10) Explanation: altar was not for sacrifices but a memorial that those on East of Jordan were brothers to those West of Jordan (22:11-34) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joshua's farewell speech to Israel, warning against idolatry (23:1-16) ▪ Covenant at Shechem (24:1-25) ▪ Law written in a book and a memorial stone (24:26-28) ▪ Death of Joshua (24:29-31) ▪ Bones of Joseph buried at Shechem (24:32) ▪ Death of Eleazar, high priest (24:33)

- **Rahab's Faith:** Rahab, harlot of Jericho, a Gentile who becomes the mother of Boaz, and one of the ancestors of our Jesus. She believes in the God of Israel, is saved by her faith (scarlet cord)
- **Crossing the Jordan:** symbolizes entering heaven itself, but initially it is crossing over to God's side, not the enemy's. Ultimately, this foreshadowing will be fulfilled with the crossing over into the real promised land—heaven itself— where all battles cease, and sin and death will be no more.
- **Passover:** Israelites crossed the Jordan into the Promised land in a way very similar to the crossing of the Red Sea 40 years earlier. The Red Sea was parted by God so the Jews could pass through safely. The raging Jordan river at spring time flood stage, was also miraculously parted until the entire camp passed through and over into the land. The Israelites celebrated Passover AFTER crossing the Jordan and after circumcision. When they left Egypt, they celebrated Passover BEFORE leaving Egypt and crossing the Red Sea. These 40 years out of bondage into the promised land are BRACKETED by the blood of the Lamb!
- **Commander of the Lord's Army:** Joshua visited by a strange man with a drawn sword who identifies himself as "Commander of the Army of the Lord." Joshua, just like Moses in the burning bush, receives a visit from God Himself. Jesus is the only member of the Godhead to appear in incarnate (or flesh) form. He gives Joshua instructions for victory over Jericho and convinces him of His presence to calm his fears.
- **The Conquest of Jericho:** Jericho capital of the strongest (Amorites) of the 7 nations occupying Canaan. *[area still stronghold of Israel's enemies. Jericho is center of Islamic/Palestinian forces. Jericho ("Bet Yerah") means "house of the moon god"—flag of Islam is a crescent moon, taken from ancient occultic religions.]* Joshua given a plan to take the city (marching around 7 X etc.). After victory and destruction of Jericho, Joshua pronounces a curse on anyone who attempts to rebuild it. Later fulfilled 1 Kings.
- **The Failure at Ai, the Victory at Ai:** Too cocky, did not consult God, suffered losses in attempt to conquer the city of Ai. Joshua wails and complains, God tells him to get up and get right. God singles out a man, Achan, who had taken some of the booty from the battle of Jericho, blatantly disobeying God's commands not to do this. Achan and his entire family are stoned to death, then they and the booty are completely burned to cleanse the camp. This is the only time we hear of losses among the Israelites in battle throughout the conquest of the land. Second attempt to take Ai is successful.
- **Strange Tale of the Gibeonites:** Tricked into a treaty that was forbidden. The treaty had to be honored. *"but they did not ask counsel of the LORD."* Joshua trusted in appearances, rather than in the LORD.
- **The Battle at Beth-Horon:** 5 kings united against Joshua, Joshua commands the sun to stand still for time to route the enemies. There is astronomical evidence of this event in history.
- **Cities of Refuge:** Levites not given any inheritance, but assigned to 48 cities, six of which were Cities of Refuge. *Similarities between the safety found in these cities and the refuge and personal salvation in Jesus.* Names of these cities: Kadesh = "HOLY", *Jesus Christ is the Holy One of God*; Shechem = "SHOULDER" *the place of strength and safety for a shepherd carrying His sheep. Isaiah 9:7 says that the government will be upon his shoulder, and Luke 15:5 tells us that when a shepherd finds a lost sheep he joyfully puts him upon his shoulder and returns home*; Hebron = "FELLOWSHIP", *through Jesus we have fellowship with God instead of separation from Him*; Bezer = "FORTIFIED PLACE", *a tower of shelter or a stronghold. Psalm 27 says that the Lord is the stronghold of my life, my fortified place*; Ramoth = "HEIGHT" or exalted on high. *Ephesians 2:6 tells us that we have been raised up to be seated with Him in the heavenly realms*; Golan means "EXULTATION" or joy. *We joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ. There is no other joy that compares to that.*
- **Joshua introduces the Shofar and the cycle of the Jubilee.** After each 7 sabbatical years (49 years), the next year was to be a Jubilee Year: all debts were forgiven, all slaves went free, and the land returned to its original owners. Peter, referring to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, alludes to the time of restitution of all things, which is regarded as a reference to the Jubilee.



Joshua is sometimes called the "Sixth book of the Torah." It contains both spiritual and physical battles with many lessons for all of us.

