
Joshua: Conquering and Possessing the Promised Land

Purpose: Completion of Redemption out of Egypt. Redemption from slavery; redemption unto possession.

Transition: Up to this point, Jehovah had spoken by dreams, visions, or by angelic ministry. Now a new method is introduced. The law of Moses is the written voice of Jehovah.

Key Verse: I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. (Joshua 1:3)

Key Word: Possession

Overview:

Israel's ownership was unconditional (Gen.12:7; 15:18-21; 17:8). It was based on God's promises which are irrevocable. But Israel's possession was conditional (Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20)

1:4 Extent of Promised Land

13:1 They did not possess it all.

11:16 Joshua had conquered the land and it was available.

11:23 Each tribe was given an allotment but had to drive out the enemy. There was to be a gradual occupation of the land by each tribe.

The Christian today is given title to spiritual blessings (Eph.1:3; Rom.5:1-11, 8:37; 1 Cor.1:30; Gal.5:22,23). The Christian's practical possession and experience depends upon conflict and conquest (Eph.6:10-20; Gal.5:25; 2 Cor.10:3-6; 1 Cor.9:25-27; Heb.4:11). These are never attained through the energy of the flesh, but through the power of the Holy Spirit working in the yielded life of the believer (Rom.7 and 8).

ASSIGNMENT: Look up passages listed in the parentheses of the overview and rewrite the overview in your own words. (1 page, single spaced 12 point font.)

Outline:

- I. The Land Entered, ch.1-12
 - A. Commission and command of Joshua, 1
 - B. Contact of spies with Rahab, 2
 - C. Crossing the Jordan, 3
 - D. Construction of two memorials, 4
 - E. Conditioned for conquest, 5
 - F. Center of land attacked, 6-8
 1. Conquest of Jericho, 6
 2. Conquest of Ai, 7-8
 - G. Campaign in the south, 9-10
 1. Compact with the Gibeonites, 9
 2. Conquer 5 kings of Amorites (miracle of sun), 10
 - H. Campaign in the north, 11
(Conclusion of Joshua's leadership in war)
- I. Conquered kings listed, 12
- II. The Land Divided, ch.13-21
 - A. Command of Joshua is terminated;
Confirmation of land to 2 ½ tribes, 13
 - B. Caleb given Hebron, 14
 - C. Consignment of land to the tribes of Israel, 15-19
 - D. Cities of refuge, 20
 - E. Cities for Levites, 21
 - F. Command to 2 ½ tribes to return home;
Construction of altar as a witness, 22

- III. The Last Message of Joshua, ch.23-24
- A. Call to leaders of Israel for courage and certainty, 23
 - B. Call to all tribes of Israel for consecration and consideration of covenant with God; death of Joshua, 24

Themes:

- ◆ Preparing for Battle
 - Courage
 - Allegiance to the Lord's side
 - Baptism
 - Remembrance of Baptism
 - Circumcision
- ◆ The Battle
 - Jericho ch.6 (1 Jn. 2:15-17)
 - Ai ch.7 (Rom. 7, 8)
 - Gibeonites ch.9 (Jn.8)
- ◆ Possession
- ◆ Daily Decision 24:15

Judges: No King

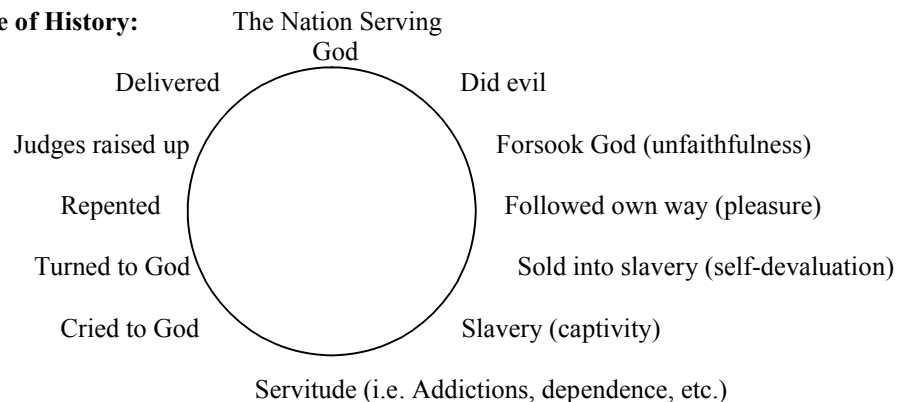
Key verse: In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit. (Judges 21:25)

Theme: Backsliding – and the amazing grace of God in recovering and restoring.

Purposes:

1. Historically it records the history of the nation from the death of Joshua to Samuel, the last of the judges and the first of the prophets. It bridges the gap between Joshua and the rise of the monarchy. There was no leader to take Joshua's place in the way he had taken Moses' place. This was the trial period of the theocracy after they entered the land.
2. Morally it was the time of deep declension for the people as they turned from the Unseen Leader and descended to the low level of "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes." [CONTRAST 1:1 WITH 20:18] This should have been an era of glowing progress, but it was a dark day of repeated failure.

A Cycle of History:



Overview:

Judges is a book about defeat, deliverance, and disappointment. The Israelites entered the Promised Land with high hopes and exuberant expectations. After the powerful deliverance out of Egypt, being led miraculously through the wilderness, and the glory of Mt. Sinai, you would expect them to attain a high level of living and victory in the land. Such was not the case. They failed ignobly and suffered miserable defeat after defeat.

God raised up judges (military leaders) to deliver His people when they aposticized and cried to Him in their misery.

All the judges were themselves limited in their capabilities. In fact, each one seemed to have some defect and handicap which was not a hindrance but became a positive asset under the sovereign direction of God. None of them were national leaders like Moses or Joshua. The record is not continuous but rather a spotty account of local judges in limited sections of the nation.

Outline:

- I. Introduction to era of the Judges , ch.1-2
- II. Era of the Judges, ch.3-16
- III. Results of era of the Judges, ch.17-21

AN EXAMINATION OF THE KINGDOM OF MAN

Joshua-Nehemiah

A very important lesson from Israel's history:

***INCOMPLETE OBEDIENCE* aka
BREAKING THE COVENANT
eventually results in division [of a UNION].**

**Division will always lead to captivity [being
overpowered by an antagonistic, hostile entity].**

🔒 In Deuteronomy, a covenant was made with the nation of Israel. This covenant, as with any solemn contract, is binding with phenomenal blessings when kept and dire consequences when it is broken.

A recap of the covenant...

If you will diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do [ALL] His commandments...	The Lord will set you high above all the nations of the earth.
	Blessings shall come upon you and overtake you.
	You'll be blessed in the city and in the country.
	Blessed shall be the offspring of your body ...produce of your ground...offspring of your beasts...increase in your herds and flocks.
	Blessed shall be your basket and kneading bowl.
	Blessed when you come in and ...go out.
...if you will listen to the commandments of the Lord your God...to [observe them carefully], and [do not turn aside] from any of the words which I command you today, [to the right or to the left], to go after other gods to serve them.	Enemies will be defeated...come out against you one way and flee...seven ways.
	Blessing upon your barns and in all that you put your hand to...and bless you in the land.
	The Lord will establish you as a holy people to Himself.
	All the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the Lord; and they shall be afraid of you.
	The Lord will make you abound in prosperity.
	The Lord will open for you His good storehouse, the heavens, to give you rain to your land in its season...you shall lend to many but...not borrow.
But it shall come about, if you will not obey the Lord your God, to observe to	The Lord shall make you the head and not the tail and you only shall be above...not underneath
	Cursed shall you be in the city, and...in the country. Cursed shall be the offspring of your body ...produce of your ground...offspring of your beasts...increase in your herds and flocks.