

**JOSHUA 11-24**

**GOD'S PRESENCE  
IN THE LAND**

# INTRODUCTION

- Israel's national identity is strengthened with every battle and culminates in chapter 12 with a list of kings overthrown by Joshua.
- Chapters 13-19 describe the division the land among tribes who receive their rightful inheritance.
- Chapter 20 describes the cities of refuge and chapter 21 describes the levitical cities for Levi's descendants.
- The final chapters of Joshua are farewell speeches.

**GOD'S PRESENCE  
GOVERNS THE LAND  
AND HIS PEOPLE**

**JOSHUA 11-19**

# CONQUEST OF NORTHERN CANAAN

- When word of Joshua's victory in the south reached the north, Jabin (king of Hazor) put together a northern coalition to attack the Israelites.
- Josephus estimates this army at 300,000 soldiers, 100,000 cavalry, and 20,000 chariots. This is the largest and best-armed force Israel has faced.
- Nevertheless they are defeated, and Hazor becomes the third city (and last city) to be burned.

# TRIBES OF ISRAEL

- Chapter 12 - reminder of the kings defeated by Moses, and a list of the kings defeated by Joshua.
- In seven years, 31 kings were defeated, and the land was now in the hands of the Israelites.
- Chapter 13 - now Joshua is very old, but the battle is not over and there are large land areas not taken.
- The people of Israel did not drive out Geshurites or the Maacathites (13:13).

# TRIBES OF ISRAEL

- Chapter 14 - Caleb reminds Joshua of his faithfulness, and Joshua blesses him with Hebron.
- Chapter 15 - provides the allotment for Judah, which is the lineage of the Messiah.
- But there is also the disturbing statement that they could not drive out the Jebusites at Jerusalem (15:63).
- David later defeat the Jebusites and then is able to take Jerusalem (2 Samuel 5:6-9).

# TRIBES OF ISRAEL

- Chapters 16-17 - division of the land for Ephraim and Manasseh.
- Chapter 18 - the inheritance for Benjamin, and the problem of complacency with remaining tribes.
- No land for the Levites: the priesthood of the LORD is their heritage (18:7).
- Chapter 19 - inheritance for Simeon, for Zebulun, for Issachar, for Naphtali, for Dan, and for Joshua.

# Division of the Promised Land to the children of Israel



**GOD'S PRESENCE  
BRINGS PROVISION**

**JOSHUA 20-21**

# CITIES OF REFUGE

- These cities are also described in Exodus 21, Numbers 35, and Deuteronomy 19.
- These were six places of refuge for someone who accidentally (without intent) or unintentionally (unknowingly) killed someone.
- They were a refuge from someone who wanted to avenge the blood of their family. Eventually, they would be allowed to return to the town.

# LAND FOR THE LEVITES

- The Levites now come to Joshua and Eleazar to remind them God's promise to them (Numbers 35).
- This included 48 towns and the 6 cities of refuge. Some of this land was not in Israelite hands.
- God's plan was for the conquest to take place quickly and for Jerusalem to be the seat of His sanctuary.
- Israel's apostasy in the time of the judges prevented the execution of God's will in the promised land.

**LEVITICAL CITIES AND  
CITIES OF REFUGE**

JOSH. 20-21

- Levitical city
- Levitical city (uncertain location)
- City of refuge
- Other city
- ▲ Mountain peak



# GOD DESIRES COMMITMENT

JOSHUA 22-24

# COMMITMENT TO UNITY

- One of Joshua's major tasks was to call God's people to commitment and worship. It was their responsibility to listen and respond.
- The Transjordan tribes stood with the other tribes in conquering Canaan. Now it was time for them to return to the land Moses gave to them.
- Joshua blesses them and sends them home with their plunder from war.

# COMMITMENT TO A RELATIONSHIP

- Joshua realized when he came to the end of his years that all the victories he won belonged to the God who fought those battle for him.
- Israel faced a great threat in Canaan because the pagan cultures tried to force their attention away from God who had delivered them.
- God's judgment would fall on those who participate in the pagan behavior around them.

# COMMITMENT TO A RELATIONSHIP

- In the final chapter of this book, Joshua reviews Israel's covenant history, their covenant commitment, and their covenant actions.
- The nation has a history with God - the Bible is a record of how God's has provided and protected.
- Joshua calls upon the nation to "fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and faithfulness" (24:14).
- He offers his household as the model (24:15).

**BLESSING IN  
ISRAEL TODAY**

# ISRAEL'S HISTORY

- God placed His blessing on Abraham in Genesis 12 -  
“I will make you a great nation . . . those who bless you I will bless, those who curse you, I will curse.”
- The blessing on the Jewish people and the simultaneous hatred (anti-Semitism) prove this.
- Even when the tribes of the southern kingdom (Judah and Benjamin) were in captivity in Babylon, God promised to restore Israel.

# ISRAEL'S HISTORY

- Ezekiel 37:11-14 - says “these bones are the whole house of Israel.”
- The prophecy continues with a promise: “I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel.”
- “Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord” and “I will put my Spirit in you.”

# ISRAEL'S HISTORY

- This promise was not fulfilled when the Jews returned from Babylon, because the members of the 12 tribes are specifically mentioned as returning to the land (37:15-23).
- We may be seeing in our day the beginnings of the fulfillment of this in Israel.
- First, with the founding of the modern state of Israel (1948). Second, with the possibility of spiritual renewal in Israel.

# JEWISH BLESSINGS

- Jewish people only make up 2 percent of America's adult population. Yet, they account of 1 / 3 of the current Supreme Court.
- Jews make up less than one half of one percent of the world's population. Yet they account for more than 20 percent of the Forbes 400 list of richest people.
- The proportion of Jews with IQs of 140 or higher is six times the proportion of everyone else.

# JEWISH BLESSINGS

- In the first half of the 20th century, despite pervasive discrimination, Jews won 14 percent of Nobel Prizes in literature, chemistry, physics, and medicine.
- In the second half of the 20th century, when Nobel Prizes were awarded to all people, that figure rose to 29 percent.
- So far in the 21st century, it has been 32 percent.

# SUCCESS OF ISRAEL

- They purchased swamp land from Arabs at high prices, drained the swamps of malaria. They irrigated barren deserts using new technology and lead the world in desalinization.
- Israel is home to more high-tech start-ups per capita than any other nation on earth.
- Even the Arabs living in Israel have benefitted from Israel's success (1967-1987).



# THE WORLD'S RESPONSE

- The Jewish people have been persecuted for centuries and centuries.
- Today 5 million Jews are surrounded by 100 million Arabs committed to their destruction.
- The countries in the United Nations continue to condemn Israel when they defend themselves
- Western countries demand that Israel give up more land for peace.

# THE WORLD'S RESPONSE

- The UN Council on Women's Rights singled out one country for condemnation as an abuser of women.
- It wasn't Iran. It wasn't Sudan. It wasn't Saudi Arabia or any other Middle Eastern country. It was Israel because it abused Palestinian women.
- African-American, transgender Janet Mock was scheduled to speak on LGBT rights at Brown University until they found out that she was not only pro-gay but pro-Israel.

# RESOURCES



