## **Joshua**

**Inheriting the land**

**Introduction**

 The story of Joshua begins as a slave in Egypt, but he later becomes Moses’ servant fighting Israel’s battles.

 Joshua whose name in Greek is Jesus, is one of the best pictures, or types of Christ in the bible. His life parallels many events relating to our Saviour. He is Israel’s greatest general.

 An interesting fact about Joshua that many do not know is that his name does not appear anywhere in the new testament, but he is mentioned by his Greek name Jesus in the book of Hebrews.

 This is a deliberate transliteration to show the reader that Joshua and Jesus have a lot in common.

**The ears of Joshua**

Almost immediately after God delivers the children of Israel from Pharaoh, Joshua makes his first appearance in scripture.

 He is the leader of an untested military that is to protect its people on their way to the promised land as well as to fight its battles, once they arrive there.

 After Israel complains God sends Amalek to fight against her then she begins to hear the name of Joshua elevated after her victory.

***Exodus 17:8 Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. 9 And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. 10 So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11 And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. 14 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write this for a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven. 15 And Moses built an altar, and called the name of it Jehovahnissi: 16 For he said, Because the LORD hath sworn that the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation.***

 This battle was not the last that Israel would see with the Amalekites, they would pop up over and over again to try the children of Israel, just as Satan does to us from time to time.

 We next see Joshua after the children of Israel were complaining about not having any meat to eat, and that they were tired of the Manna, so God sent them so much quail they complained about it. Then God sent two men to prophesy judgment upon them.

***Numbers 11:27 And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp. 28 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them. 29 And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!***

**Spying out the land**

***Numbers 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.***

 Here we have the sending of the twelve spies into the promised land to search it out. Notice that it is God that decides to send out the twelve, not Moses.

***3 And Moses by the commandment of the LORD sent them from the wilderness of Paran: all those men were heads of the children of Israel. 4 And these were their names: of the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur. 5 Of the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori. 6 Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh. 7 Of the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph. 8 Of the tribe of Ephraim, Oshea the son of Nun. 9 Of the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu. 10 Of the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi. 11 Of the tribe of Joseph, namely, of the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi. 12 Of the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli. 13 Of the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael. 14 Of the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi. 15 Of the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi. 16 These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua.***

 Joshua (which means God saves), is mentioned here by the name of Oshea (which means he saves), which was his birth name, but Moses calls him Jehoshua (which means God is salvation).

 Joshua is a type of Christ throughout of Joshua, but another person is mentioned here which typifies the victorious believer, and that is Caleb.

The twelve spies

***17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain: 18 And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many;******19 And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; 20 And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.***

 Moses gives the twelve spies their marching orders here, but remember, God was not sending them in to see if they thought they could conquer the land, they were to search out the land and to give a report to their individual tribes so they could divide the land between them once they arrived.

***21 So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath. 22 And they ascended by the south, and came unto Hebron; where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)***

 The children of Anak (the giants) are mentioned here a thousand years before king David ever slays their most memorable descendant, Goliath.

 These Anakim were feared by all. No doubt Abraham, Isaac and Jacob had told stories about these giants to their sons.

 They must have seen them while they journeyed in the land and had passed that information on down for the next four hundred years to their children as they asked their parents what the promised land was like.

***23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs. 24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence. 25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days*.**

 During the forty days of searching the land, there is no mentioned of them sneaking around, but while they were there God showed them the fruit of the land, and they brought back a little of that fruit to show the people.

***26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land. 27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. 28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.***

 The report is given in such a way by ten of the spies as to discourage the people from wanting to enter the promised land that they had been waiting to go to for four hundred and thirty years.

***30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it. 31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. 32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. 33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.***

 Genesis six explains the origin of the giants for us. The sons of God are fallen angels that married the daughters of men.

 Their offspring become the giants known later as the Anakim. The new testament says they left their first estate and habitation and are reserved in chains. 2nd Peter 2:6-7 & Jude 5-9.

***14:1 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. 2 And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! 3 And wherefore hath the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt?***

 That was the wrong thing to say because God lets them die in the wilderness instead for their unbelief.

***4 And they said one to another, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt. 5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel. 6 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: 7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land. 8 If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.***

 Here we see Joshua joining Caleb, who were probably the two that carried the cluster of grapes on their staff, and they are renting their clothes at the fatal comments that their kinsman are making.

***10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel. 11 And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them? 12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.***

 God did not get caught off guard here and then had to change his plans for building his nation. He meant that if Israel continued in their ways, it would become necessary to start all over again.

 God was about to intervene in Israel’s future through a very great chastisement which calms God’s wrath, and it is called the wilderness wanderings. A forty-year death sentence for the unbelievers.

***13 And Moses said unto the LORD, Then the Egyptians shall hear it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;) 14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night. 15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying, 16 Because the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness. 17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying, 18 The LORD is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation. 19 Pardon, I beseech thee, the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.***

 Moses here makes an appeal on the behalf of the very same people that had often turned their backs on him.

***20 And the LORD said, I have pardoned according to thy word: 21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD. 22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice; 23 Surely they shall not see the land which I sware unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it: 24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.******25 (Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.***

 Joshua is not mentioned here as being spared, but he is mentioned in future verses. God does this to single out Caleb.

 Caleb is a man of great faith, strong, and of good courage. Caleb shall choose a place in the promise land to live that is literally populated with the giants (the Anakim).

***26 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, 27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me. 28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you: 29 Your carcases shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me, 30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun. 31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised. 32 But as for you, your carcases, they shall fall in this wilderness. 33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcases be wasted in the wilderness. 34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise. 35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.***

 God allows forty days to search out the land, and he used forty years to punish Israel. Forty is the number of testing.

***36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, 37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.***

 Plagues will come upon the whole earth during the tribulation period, but God’s two witnesses (like Joshua and Caleb) will not be hurt until they have finished their mission.

 These witnesses are found in type in the next chapter as spies who go after Rahab to deliver her.

***39 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly. 40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo,* *we be here, and will go up unto the place which the LORD hath promised: for we have sinned. 41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper. 42 Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies. 43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the LORD, therefore the LORD will not be with you. 44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp. 45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.***

 The children of Israel decide to go into the land after they are told by God that they are to wander for forty years in the wilderness as punishment for their unbelief.

 They tried to enter into their rest by their own works and not by faith. Their delayed obedience was disobedience, and it was punished by God.

***Hebrews 3:5 And Moses verily was faithful in all his house, as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken after; 6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end. 7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice, 8 Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: 9 When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. 10 Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. 11 So I sware in my wrath, They shall not enter into my rest.) 12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. 13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end; 15 While it is said, To day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the provocation. 16 For some, when they had heard, did provoke: howbeit not all that came out of Egypt by Moses. 17 But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had sinned, whose carcases fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his rest, but to them that believed not? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.***

**The commissioning of Joshua**

***Numbers 27:12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. 13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. 14 For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin. 15 And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying, 16 Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, 17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd. 18 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; 19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. 20 And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. 21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation. 22 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: 23 And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.***

**Chapter One**

**Be strong**

 Almost forty years have passed since the dreadful day in which the twelve returned from the land and the ten gave their evil report. All of that generation has died off, with the exception of Joshua and Caleb.

 Since God gave that generation forty years to wander in the wilderness until they passed away, many prophecy students have determined that a biblical generation is forty years.

 Why not sixty years, since the wilderness wanderings began with those who were twenty years old and up?

**1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,**

**“2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.”**

**Now after the death of Moses: Moses died at 120 years of age after Israel had been in the wilderness 40 years just prior to them crossing into the promised land. Deuteronomy 34:5.**

 **The book of judges starts out almost exactly the same. It says. “Now after the death of Joshua.”**

**The servant of the LORD: This title is used twenty-two times. Seventeen for Moses, twice for both Joshua and David, & once by Paul towards Timothy in 2nd Timothy 2:24.**

**LORD: Is from the four consonants in Hebrew alphabet, YHVH. Possibly pronounced as Yahweh in Hebrew. There is no letter J in Hebrew. Joshua is really pronounced Yoshua.**

 **Jews did not pronounce the name because it doesn’t have vowels in it and they didn’t want to blaspheme the name of God by pronouncing it incorrectly, so they translated his name as LORD. There are many Lords, but there is only one LORD.**

**It came to pass: This phrase is used 457 times in the bible to mark events in time.**

**The son of Nun: Joshua’s father was Nun. See Exodus 33:11.**

**Moses’ minister: Joshua went up into the mountain of God with Moses when he received the law. See Exodus 24:13.**

**The land which I do give to them: God gave the land to the children of Israel because of the abominations of those that had inhabited the land in the first place. See Leviticus 18:27.**

**Even to the children of Israel: The physical descendants of Jacob, whose name is changed to Israel. See Genesis 32:28.**

**3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.**

**“4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great** **river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.”**

**From the wilderness The wilderness was the land of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Syria.**

**And this Lebanon: The country of Lebanon.**

**The great river: The river Euphrates was the border line.**

**All the land of the Hittites, Modern day Turkey.**

**The great sea: The Mediterranean sea.**

**“5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.”**

**See Genesis 15:7**

**There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life:** Joshua could not lose, because it was God’s will to give the children of Israel the land for his future kingdom that will be fully realized after the time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7) that is still to come.

**For unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land which I sware unto their fathers:** These promises first began with Abram (Abraham) and then with Isaac and Jacob. See Genesis 12:7.

**“7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. 8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”**

**Be thou strong and very courageous: See Deuteronomy 31:23.**

**This book of the law: The five books of Moses are considered one book by the writer of the book of Joshua.**

**Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left: Don’t turn away from God’s word by adding to it or taking away from it.**

**“9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.”**

**Have not I commanded thee:** See Deuteronomy 31:23.

 The key to prosperity for Joshua, and the nation of Israel was to simply follow God’s law.

**10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,**

**“11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.”**

**Pass through the host:** The people of Israel are the host. Host simply means a large group. The word often refers to soldiers, both human and angelic. See Joshua 5:13-14.

**Prepare you victuals:** Food.

**12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying,**

**“13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land. 14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them; 15 Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD'S servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising.16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go. 17 According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses. 18 Whosoever he be that doth rebel against thy commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only be strong and of a good courage.”**

**Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you:** See Numbers 32:20-28.

 The two and a half tribes make a pledge that they will help their brethren fight and that they will follow Joshua in whatever he commands, even to the point of killing their fellow tribesmen who rebel because they don’t want to spend another forty years wandering in the wilderness.

 God had told all the children of Israel to pass over the river, but these two and a half tribes decided to remain on the other side of the Jordan because the land was good for cattle.

 Although God had promised to give Israel much of the land that was East of the Jordan river during the Millennium, he wanted them all to cross over at this time and occupy Canaan.

 God allowed these tribes to remain on the other side, but it ended up costing them later on when Israel’s enemies came up against them. They were the first ones to be defeated and taken captive.

**Chapter Two**

**Rahab the harlot**

**1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying,**

**“Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.”**

**Shittim:** A city with many Acacia trees (Shittim trees) which was used for building much of the tabernacle materials. See Exodus 38:1 & 6.

**Two men:** Joshua, a type of Christ, sends two men that are unnamed, to Jericho just as Jesus sends two unnamed witnesses to Israel during the time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7).

 Their purpose was to spy the city, as Joshua had done over the whole country forty years earlier, and they were to save a Gentile woman who would bless Israel. See Numbers 13:8 and Genesis 12:1-3.

 Who were these two unnamed men? Scripture doesn’t say. One of them could have been Salmon, who is the Father of Boaz, because we know by the genealogy in Matthew 1:5 that Salmon later marries Rahab (Rachab) the harlot.

 Prior to the Jews coming to Rahab she was an alien from the commonwealth of Israel, and a stranger from the covenant of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world. Ephesians 2:12.

**An harlots house:** Samson also went to an harlots house in Gaza to deliver Israel from the Philistines, not to sleep with her.

**Rahab:** (Rachab in the new testament) She is not a type of the body of Christ, she is a type of believing Gentiles that enter into the kingdom with Israel. See Matthew 1:5.

**2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying,**

**“Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country.”**

**3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying,**

**“Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.”**

**4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus,**

**“There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: 5 And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.”**

**I wist not: I knew not.**

**I wot not: I know not.**

**6 But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.**

**The stalks of flax: The stalks were made up of thin line, thread like string used for many things. See Exodus 9:31.**

 **7 And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.**

**Unto the fords:** A place of passage over the Jordan river.

 Rahab understood that her physical salvation was dependent protecting these two Jewish **“messengers.”**

**8 And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; 9 And she said unto the men,**

**“I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. 10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. 11 And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath. 12 Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token: 13 And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.”**

**Our hearts did melt: We were discouraged.**

**He is God in heaven above, and in the earth beneath: The gods of the heathen did not claim this only the one true God could.**

 Salvation, at this time, was of the Jews, and Rahab had submitted herself to eat the crumbs that fell from the master's (Israel’s) table. See Matthew 15:27.

***Hebrews 11:31 By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.***

 Rahab feared, and believed, while the others only feared, she was a Gentile that believed, and she became the wife of a Jew that is in the line of David, and the line of the Messiah.

***James 2:25 Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?***

**A true token: The line of scarlet thread that she let them down by. The same thing that saved them would save her and her family.**

**14 And the men answered her,**

**“Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.”**

**15 Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall. 16 And she said unto them,**

**“Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; and hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.”**

**17 And the men said unto her,**

**“We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear. 18 Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee. 19 And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.”**

**This line of scarlet thread:** When they saw the line of scarlet thread (a rope). See also Genesis 32:28 and Matthew 27:28.

 This sound like the passover for the children of Israel in Egypt. The red line is symbolic of the blood that was placed upon the door posts, and anyone that was under the blood was preserved.

**His blood shall be upon his head:** It is his own fault.

**“20 And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.”**

**21 And she said,**

**“According unto your words, so be it.”**

**We will be quit of thine oath: Guiltless, free, and clear.**

**And she sent them away, and they departed: and she bound the scarlet line in the window. 22 And they went, and came unto the mountain, and abode there three days, until the pursuers were returned: and the pursuers sought them throughout all the way, but found them not.**

 Notice that Rahab doesn’t wait until the Messengers are returning with the army to tie the scarlet thread to the window, she does it immediately.

 This scarlet thread represents the blood Jesus Christ shed prior to his death and resurrection three days later. Notice how many days it is before the men return, three days. Jesus returned three days after he shed his blood.

**23 So the two men returned, and descended from the mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all things that befell them: 24 And they said unto Joshua,**

**“Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.”**

 All the kingdoms will be delivered into Christ’s hands during the millennium kingdom because he spent three days in the heart of the earth.

**Chapter Three**

**The Israelites passed over**

 Atonement was made for Israel nationally at passover when the lamb was slain, and the blood was applied to the doorpost which had to happen before they were delivered at the Red Sea.

 Israel had to die to their old way of life as a slave to sin, typified by their bondage in Egypt, and rise up out of the Red Sea in victory.

 We know the story, the flesh got to them immediately, and they wandered for forty years in the wilderness because of it.

**1 And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. 2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host; 3 And they commanded the people, saying,**

**“When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it. 4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore.”**

**The ark of the covenant:** The ark was a box to carry the covenant of the law in which the mercy seat would sit atop it.

**A space between you and it, about two thousand cubits:** A large space separated the children of Israel from the Law and the mercy seat as they were about to enter into their rest.

**5 And Joshua said unto the people,**

**“Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”**

**Sanctify yourselves: Make yourselves ritually clean and set apart for God’s use. Exodus 13:2 and 19:10.**

**Wonders: Miracles.**

**6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying,**

**“Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people.”**

**And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people. 7 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee. 8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.”**

**The ark of the covenant: An ark that carried the covenant of the law inside it, and the mercy seat was placed upon it.**

**9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel,**

**“Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.”**

**Come hither: Come here.**

**10 And Joshua said,**

**“Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you, and that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.”**

 Seven nations are mentioned but there were originally ten. Three were already put down just like the ten-nation confederacy during the tribulation period puts down three of its own kings and nations.

 The Egyptians were the first, followed by the Amalekites, and then by Balak, and the Amorites.

**The living God:** A title used of God 30 times throughout the bible. See Deuteronomy 5:26.

**“11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan. 12 Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man. 13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.”**

**The Lord of all the earth:** The title means the master of all the earth, which will be seen by all in the coming kingdom, is used twice here and only one other time in Zechariah 6:5.

**Cut off from the waters that come down from above:** The waters above is from the sea of Galilee to the north which is higher in elevation.

 This miraculous event added to the fear that the inhabitants of the land had for the children of Israel, but mostly they feared the God of the children of Israel.

**14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people; 15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,) 16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.**

**The waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap:** This also happened at the red sea.Read Exodus 15:8.

**Very far from the city Adam:** Adam means ruddy (red). Jordan is famous for its red rock/clay areas.

**That is beside Zaretan:** In the plain of Jordain. A place of clay ground. See 1st Kings 7:46.

**Those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea failed and were cut off:** Some of the people previously thought they knew better than God and they tried to cross further to the south and were cut off by the Amalekites and Canaanites. See Numbers 14:39-45.

**The salt sea:** The Jordan river becomes the dead sea where it ends because there is no outlet, so everything dies, and the area is a place of salt mines everywhere.

**17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.**

 It was Israel’s birth as a nation that was pictured at red sea crossing. It was Christ that held the waters back for Israel to pass over here, not the priest or even the ark.

**Clean over:** Totally on the other side.

**Chapter Four**

**What mean ye by these stones?**

**1 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over Jordan, that the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,**

**“2 Take you twelve men out of the people, out of every tribe a man, 3 And command ye them, saying, Take you hence out of the midst of Jordan, out of the place where the priests' feet stood firm, twelve stones, and ye shall carry them over with you, and leave them in the lodging place, where ye shall lodge this night.”**

**Twelve stones:** Joshua, the chief of Israel, calls twelve Jews to take up twelve stones from the midst of the river, symbolizing each tribe.

 Jesus later would call twelve Jews that will one day be the Judges of the twelve tribes of Israel. See Matthew 19:27-28.

 Peter called the believing Jews in the little flock that had been scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, “lively stones” in 1st Peter 2:5.

**4 Then Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had prepared of the children of Israel, out of every tribe a man: 5 And Joshua said unto them,**

**“Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take ye up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel: 6 That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones? 7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.”**

The spot where the children of Israel crossed over is called Bethabara (the house of passage). It is the very spot that John the Baptist was baptizing the day when Jesus came to be baptized: See **Luke 3:7-9.**

***John 1:28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing. 29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.***

**8 And the children of Israel did so as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as the LORD spake unto Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them unto the place where they lodged, and laid them down there. 9 And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day. 10 For the priests which bare the ark stood in the midst of Jordan, until every thing was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak unto the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua: and the people hasted and passed over. 11 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over, that the ark of the LORD passed over, and the priests, in the presence of the people. 12 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh, passed over armed before the children of Israel, as Moses spake unto them: 13 About forty thousand prepared for war passed over before the LORD unto battle, to the plains of Jericho. 14 On that day the LORD magnified Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life.**

 Forty thousand men was a lot more than was necessary since it was God who was going to win the battle for them. The mere sight of Israel’s army would strike fear into the hearts of the inhabitants of the land.

**15 And the LORD spake unto Joshua, saying,**

**“16 Command the priests that bear the ark of the testimony, that they come up out of Jordan. 17 Joshua therefore commanded the priests, saying, Come ye up out of Jordan.”**

**The ark of the testimony: This was another way of describing the ark of the covenant.**

**18 And it came to pass, when the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD were come up out of the midst of Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet were lifted up unto the dry land, that the waters of Jordan returned unto their place, and flowed over all his banks, as they did before. 19 And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and encamped in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho.**

**The tenth day of the first month:** This was the same day they were to take a lamb without blemish out of the flock and sacrifice four days later, for passover.

 God meant for them to enter the Promised land on that very day. Nothing ever happens by chance, there are no coincidences here.

**And encamped in Gilgal:** This is where Israel set up camp. Gilgal means a rolling away See Joshua 5:9.

 Gilgal would become one of three places where Samuel the prophet would go each year to judge Israel. The other two are Bethel and Mizpeh. See 1st Samuel 7:16.

**20 And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, did Joshua pitch in Gilgal. 21 And he spake unto the children of Israel, saying,**

**“When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean these stones? 22 Then ye shall let your children know, saying, Israel came over this Jordan on dry land. 23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over: 24 That all the people of the earth might know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty: that ye might fear the LORD your God for ever.”**

 Large armies would spend weeks building bridges to pass over the Jordan, and they would often wait to attack when it was summer and not much water flowing, but God brought Israel over during the time when the banks overflowed.

**Chapter Five**

**The circumcision of the flesh**

**1 And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, which were on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.**

**The side of the Jordan westward:** Near Jericho and Ai.

**By the sea:** This was the Dead sea that the Jordan river flows into, and many nations lived in the valley alongside the Jordan river and the salt sea.

**2 At that time the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Make thee sharp knives, and circumcise again the children of Israel the second time.”**

**3 And Joshua made him sharp knives, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. 4 And this is the cause why Joshua did circumcise: All the people that came out of Egypt, that were males, even all the men of war, died in the wilderness by the way, after they came out of Egypt. 5 Now all the people that came out were circumcised: but all the people that were born in the wilderness by the way as they came forth out of Egypt, them they had not circumcised.**

**Circumcise again the children of Israel:** Circumcision is the cutting away of the flesh which is an outward action signifying that your trust is in God and not your flesh.

God is using Joshua here to teach this new nation that obeying God in the flesh is not what he is after.

 That will lead only to a wandering in the wilderness all your life just like it did to their parents who trusted in their flesh. What God is looking for is those who are circumcised in heart.

**The hill of the foreskins:** A hill where Israel circumcised all the males and left their foreskins there.

**6 For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD sware that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD sware unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey. 7 And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. 8 And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole.**

**A land that floweth with milk and honey:** An abundant land. See Exodus 3:8.

**Till they were whole: Until they were healed from their circumcision.**

**9 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you.”**

**Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day.**

**The reproach of Egypt:** They were not circumcised while they were in Egypt.

**Gilgal:** The name means a rolling away.

**10 And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho. 11 And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day. 12 And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.**

**The passover:** A memorial meal of the day the children of Israel had placed the blood of the passover lamb on their doorpost. See Exodus 12.

**The fourteenth day of the month:** That is the first month of the Jewish year given to Israel when they left Egypt.

**The manna ceased:** Israel was now off God’s welfare program of free manna, and they would have to plant their own gardens, but not immediately, because God would give them the fields of their adversaries as well as their houses.

**The captain of the host**

**13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him,**

**“Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?”**

**14 And he said,**

**“Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come.”**

**And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him,**

**“What saith my lord unto his servant?”**

**15 And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua,**

**“Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy.”**

**And Joshua did so.**

**Captain of the host of the LORD:** Here Joshua meets his name sake Jesus, in a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ.

**The place whereon thou standest is holy:** This was also done for Moses when he talked with the LORD. See Exodus 3:5.

 We know this is not Michael the archangel because Joshua bows down and worships this captain of the LORD’s host and he is not rebuked by him. Jesus always accepted worship.

**Chapter Six**

**The wall fell down flat**

**1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.**

**Striaghtly shut up:** They were totally surrounded.

**2 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. 3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. 4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. 5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.”**

 Notice here that seven priests bear seven trumpets of ram’s horns before the ark seven days in a row. The priests were not allowed to do any fighting, and the ark was never allowed to go into battle.

 Six days in a row they circle the city one time only. Mankind has been on the earth for six thousand years and things remain the same.

 On the seventh day victory happens which is symbolic of the sabbath (seventh) day of rest (the millennial kingdom), when the Messiah comes and sets up his kingdom for a thousand years. Revelation 20:1-7.

**6 And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them,**

**“Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.”**

**7 And he said unto the people,**

**“Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.”**

**8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant** **of the LORD followed them.**

**Passed on before the LORD:** Who was it that the priests passed on before? The LORD! The LORD was in or on the ark of the covenant of the LORD.

 These seven shofar trumpets are types of the trumpets that are mentioned in the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

**9 And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets. 10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying,**

**“Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.”**

**The rereward: Those that were behind the ark.**

**11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.**

It would take roughly **an half an hour** to march around the city of Jericho once, and they were commanded not to make any noise or even to speak.

 This should remind you of a verse in Revelation were the seventh trumpet was blown and there was silence in Heaven for about the space of half an hour. See Revelation 8:1.

**12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. 13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, the priests going on, and blowing with the trumpets. 14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days. 15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times. 16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people,**

**“Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city. 17 And the city shall be accursed, even it, and all that are therein, to the LORD: only Rahab the harlot shall live, she and all that are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent.”**

**On the seventh day:** This was not the sabbath day because they could not carry the ark on the sabbath day, nor could they walk more than a sabbath day’s journey. It meant on the seventh day of marching.

**She hid the messengers:** They are called messengers by the Holy Spirit instead of spies. They had a message that they were sent to deliver to a Gentile woman.

**“18 And ye, in any wise keep yourselves from the accursed thing, lest ye make yourselves accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. 19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, are consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.”**

**The accursed thing:** Jericho was to be the firstfruits of the land of Israel, and they were reserved for the LORD, just as the tithe was the LORD’S.

 Everything in Jericho belonged to the LORD, but in all the other cities the people could keep the spoils for themselves.

**20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city. 21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.**

 Who was it that knocked the wall of Jericho down? Not Joshua! Not Israel! It was God that knocked down the walls.

**The wall fell down flat:** God first knocked **the wall** (singular), down and then Joshua’s forces entered the city.

 Where did Rahab the Harlot live? On the wall**!** If all the walls came tumbling down, then Rahab’s house would have been destroyed, and all of the inhabitants with it.

 All we do know is that the portion of the wall where Rahab lived remained intact, and you can still see the archeological evidence there today.

**They utterly destroyed all:** The children of Israel went in and slayed with the sword all the inhabitants of the city.

 Why? If you read stories of wars in history, it was a common practice to do this so as to not have to fight them again thirty or forty years later.

 God had the eternal souls of his own people, and of those on the whole earth in mind when he made such difficult decrees as this concerning Israel.

 Should he allow Satan, and his masses, to eradicate Israel, to keep the Messiah from being born, and to condemn the whole world? No, of course not!

 God chose Israel to become a kingdom of priest in a future kingdom, and he will not allow Satan’s forces in any generation to wipe his chosen people. See Exodus 19:5-6.

 God gave the land to this future kingdom of priests because the inhabitants of the land were totally consumed in the worship of false gods which would condemn the world in Hell for all eternity and God was not going to allow that.

**22 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country,**

**“Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.”**

**23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.**

**The two men that spied out the country: They sent twelve in forty years ago and only two gave a good report trusting in God’s word, while ten doubted God, so this time they only sent in two.**

 **Notice that here is says they were spies, instead of calling them messengers as in the previous verses.**

**And left them without the camp of Israel:** They were left without the camp because they were uncircumcised Gentiles. Rahab’s name however would return to prominence because of a Jew she would eventually marry, named Salmon. See Matthew 1:5.

**24 And they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. 25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.**

**They burnt the city with fire:** You can still see the evidence of that fire today if you visit. More on this in the story of Ai.

 Israel was told to put all the vessels into the treasury of the house of the LORD. It cost a lot to run a country and to meet the needs of the Tabernacle and Jericho was ordained by God to be used to meet those needs.

**She dwelleth in Israel even unto this day:** The day of the writing of the book of Joshua. It was much longer than that because she marries Salmon, the father of Boaz and is in the lineage of David found in Matthew 1:5.

**26 And Joshua adjured them at that time, saying,**

**“Cursed be the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it.”**

**Joshua adjured them: He swore that God would punish whoever rebuilt Jericho.**

**Cursed be the man:** He would lose two of his children.

**He shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn:** Joshua here prophecies against Jericho and his prophecy comes to pass completely four hundred years later:

***1st Kings 16:34 In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho: he laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Joshua the son of Nun.***

 What is meant by this prophecy and its fulfillment was that the person (Hiel) who built Jericho would lose his oldest and youngest sons rebuilding this city. God means business!

**27 So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.**

**Chapter Seven**

**The accursed thing**

**1 But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel**.

**The children of Israel committed a trespass:** Notice that God is angered at Israel for the sin of one man, Achan, and secondly, Achan’s genealogy is mentioned.

**Of the tribe of Judah:** Achan is a descendant of the tribe of Judah which should cause you to look deeper because this is the family line in which the Messiah is to be born. Secondly it mentions the name of Zerah. Who is this Zerah?

***1st Chronicles 2:4 And Tamar his*** (Judah’s) ***daughter in law bare him Pharez and Zerah.***

Satan wanted all the descendants of Judah to die to prevent the Messiah’s birth, and with the death of Achan that would cut off one of Judah’s lines.

 Satan had a problem however he did not know which line to go after, so he went after all of them.

 Satan has tried numerous times to destroy Judah’s line and he would again try in Bethlehem many centuries later to kill all the children of Judah not long after Christ’s birth.

 This does not excuse Achan or his sin, because when Satan tempted him to disobey Joshua, he was responsible for the decision he made to do it.

 Satan doesn’t make us sin; we choose to sin. Satan wants to destroy all of God’s children, and since he can’t often get our life he settles for the next best thing, our testimony.

**The accursed thing:** Achan took three things that he was not supposed to take. A Babylonish garment, 200 shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold. See Joshua 7:21.

**2 And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Bethaven, on the east side of Bethel, and spake unto them, saying,**

**“Go up and view the country.”**

**Bethaven: House of vanity.**

**Bethel: House of God. One of three cities that Samuel would go to each year to judge the people.**

**And the men went up and viewed Ai. 3 And they returned to Joshua, and said unto him,**

**“Let not all the people go up; but let about two or three thousand men go up and smite Ai; and make not all the people to labour thither; for they are but few.”**

**4 So there went up thither of the people about three thousand men: and they fled before the men of Ai. 5 And the men of Ai smote of them about thirty and six men: for they chased them from before the gate even unto Shebarim, and smote them in the going down: wherefore the hearts of the people melted, and became as water.**

**Shebarim:** The broken-down ruins.

**The going down:** The steep place.

 Joshua was unaware of the acts of Achan prior to his sending forth his soldiers to battle with Ai. Had Achan been led of the Spirit he would have said no to the lust of the eyes that Satan had placed before him.

 Israel, and Joshua, also sinned in the area of pride. They just had a major victory that was won by God, and they thought they could take Ai easily with just a small army and they fell.

**About thirty and six men:** Thirty-six men died. Six is the number of man, and it can be divided into thirty-six, six times.

**The hearts of the people melted, and became as water:** See 1st Samuel 14:16 and Psalm 107:26 Their souls melted. They were discouraged greatly. Ice is solid before it melts.

**6 And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.**

**Joshua rent his clothes: He tore his clothes in anguish.**

**Pust dust upon their heads: A symbol of mourning.**

**The eventide: The tide comes in in the morning tide, and it goes out in the eventide.**

 **7 And Joshua said,**

**“Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan! 8 O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies! 9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?”**

It seems like Joshua lost it for a moment here because he thought everything was just going to be a piece of cake in the Promised land.

**Shall environ us around:** To circle or enclose.

 Things would have gone better had everyone gone along with God’s plan, but one person can hurt a lot of other people because of selfishness. God will not punish you for others sins today. We live in the dispensation of grace. See Ephesians 3:2.

**And cut off our name from the earth:** To destroy all the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**10 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face? 11 Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed my covenant which I commanded them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff.”**

**And they have transgressed my covenant: Achan broke the ten commandments. Thou shall not covet, and thou shalt not steal.**

**And dissembled also: They have hidden the accursed thing.**

**“12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies, but turned their backs before their enemies, because they were accursed: neither will I be with you any more, except ye destroy the accursed from among you.”**

**Destroy the accursed among you: They were to kill Achan for his sin.**

 **Israel was to be a kingdom of priests, an holy nation (Exodus 19:5-6). By their breaking the covenant they made with God, they lost his protection in battle, and his enemy was empowered against them.**

 **God is not doing this today in the dispensation of grace, he will be again protecting the righteous Jews in the future time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7).**

**“13 Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow: for thus saith the LORD God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel: thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you.”**

**Sanctify the people: They were to ritually wash in the nearby Jordan river.**

**“14 In the morning therefore ye shall be brought according to your tribes: and it shall be, that the tribe which the LORD taketh shall come according to the families thereof; and the family which the LORD shall take shall come by households; and the household which the LORD shall take shall come man by man. 15 And it shall be, that he that is taken with the accursed thing shall be burnt with fire, he and all that he hath: because he hath transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he hath wrought folly in Israel.”**

 Achan should have used this time to come forward, but he did not. It is better to confess things up front.

 He could have spent the night crying out to God to spare his family, but instead he chooses to hide his sin hoping that he would not be called out the next morning.

**He hath wrought folly in Israel:** To do something wicked or foolish.

**16 So Joshua rose up early in the morning, and brought Israel by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was taken: 17 And he brought the family of Judah; and he took the family of the Zarhites: and he brought the family of the Zarhites man by man; and Zabdi was taken: 18 And he brought his household man by man; and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. 19 And Joshua said unto Achan,**

**“My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide it not from me.”**

**The Zarhites: Descendants of Zerah. Judah’s son, and part of the lineage of the kings of Israel and the Messiah. Satan has tried many times to destroy, and disqualify this line through many ways, but he was unsuccessful. See Genesis 46:12.**

**20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said,**

**“Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done: 21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.”**

We first see with our eyes, and then we covet, which leads us to take that which we shouldn’t have, then we hide our sin. See James 1:14-15:

**22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it. 23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD. 24 And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor. 25 And Joshua said,**

**“Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day.”**

**And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.**

**The valley of Achor: Achor is similar to Achan’s name. Achor means troubled. Achan means trouble.**

 **His family perished with him because they were privy to it. in the middle of their tent, and him burying some under the tent.**

**26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of his anger. Wherefore the name of that place was called, The valley of Achor, unto this day.**

**A great heap of stones:** These stones like the twelve placed at the Jordan river served as teaching tools to the Israelites who would pass by there year after year.

 While Satan was not sure which family would bring forth the Messiah, he was happy he had destroyed another line. This is not the only line from Judah that he destroyed.

**The valley of Achor:** The valley of trouble.

**Chapter Eight**

**Go up to Ai**

**1 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Fear not, neither be thou dismayed: take all the people of war with thee, and arise, go up to Ai: see, I have given into thy hand the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land: 2 And thou shalt do to Ai and her king as thou didst unto Jericho and her king: only the spoil thereof, and the cattle thereof, shall ye take for a prey unto yourselves: lay thee an ambush for the city behind it.”**

 God was giving Israel the spoil of this city after he had already received the firstfruits from Jericho, minus the accursed thing of Achan.

**Lay thee an ambush for the city behind it:** God gave Joshua his battle plan, one that sounded like an actual battle plan for an actual army instead of the plan back at Jericho.

**3 So Joshua arose, and all the people of war, to go up against Ai: and Joshua chose out thirty thousand mighty men of valour, and sent them away by night. 4 And he commanded them, saying,**

**“Behold, ye shall lie in wait against the city, even behind the city: go not very far from the city, but be ye all ready: 5 And I, and all the people that are with me, will approach unto the city: and it shall come to pass, when they come out against us, as at the first, that we will flee before them, 6 (For they will come out after us) till we have drawn them from the city; for they will say, They flee before us, as at the first: therefore we will flee before them. 7 Then ye shall rise up from the ambush, and seize upon the city: for the LORD your God will deliver it into your hand. 8 And it shall be, when ye have taken the city, that ye shall set the city on fire: according to the commandment of the LORD shall ye do. See, I have commanded you.”**

**Ye shall set the city on fire:** They did this as well in Jericho because what happens when a large number of people die? Disease! Also the fire produced a lot of smoke which caused the soldiers to run back into the city to fight the 30,000.

**9** **Joshua therefore sent them forth: and they went to lie in ambush, and abode between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of Ai: but Joshua lodged that night among the people. 10 And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and numbered the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. 11 And all the people, even the people of war that were with him, went up, and drew nigh, and came before the city, and pitched on the north side of Ai: now there was a valley between them and Ai. 12 And he took about five thousand men, and set them to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.**

**Between Bethel and Ai: Bethel is named the city (Beth) of God (el), first mentioned in Genesis 12:1-9. This is the same place that Abram built an altar and where he pitched his tent. See also Genesis 13:3.**

 **There was a mountain between Bethel and Ai that Joshua’s forces could hide behind and not be detected that night.**

**13 And when they had set the people, even all the host that was on the north of the city, and their liers in wait on the west of the city, Joshua went that night into the midst of the valley. 14 And it came to pass, when the king of Ai saw it, that they hasted and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at a time appointed, before the plain; but he wist not that there were liers in ambush against him behind the city.**

**He wist not: He didn’t know.**

**15 And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness. 16 And all the people that were in Ai were called together to pursue after them: and they pursued after Joshua, and were drawn away from the city. 17 And there was not a man left in Ai or Bethel, that went not out after Israel: and they left the city open, and pursued after Israel.**

**In Ai or Bethel: Notice that Bethel joined Ai in the battle against Israel.**

**18 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Stretch out the spear that is in thy hand toward Ai; for I will give it into thine hand.”**

**And Joshua stretched out the spear that he had in his hand toward the city. 19 And the ambush arose quickly out of their place, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand: and they entered into the city, and took it, and hasted and set the city on fire. 20 And when the men of Ai looked behind them, they saw, and, behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to heaven, and they had no power to flee this way or that way: and the people that fled to the wilderness turned back upon the pursuers. 21 And when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned again, and slew the men of Ai. 22 And the other issued out of the city against them; so they were in the midst of Israel, some on this side, and some on that side: and they smote them, so that they let none of them remain or escape. 23 And the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him to Joshua.**

**And the king of Ai they took alive: This is a common practice that the victor keeps the king alive.**

**24 And it came to pass, when Israel had made an end of slaying all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness wherein they chased them, and when they were all fallen on the edge of the sword, until they were consumed, that all the Israelites returned unto Ai, and smote it with the edge of the sword. 25 And so it was, that all that fell that day, both of men and women, were twelve thousand, even all the men of Ai. 26 For Joshua drew not his hand back, wherewith he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai. 27 Only the cattle and the spoil of that city Israel took for a prey unto themselves, according unto the word of the LORD which he commanded Joshua. 28 And Joshua burnt Ai, and made it an heap for ever, even a desolation unto this day. 29 And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until eventide: and as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his carcase down from the tree, and cast it at the entering of the gate of the city, and raise thereon a great heap of stones, that remaineth unto this day.**

**The king of Ai he hanged on a tree until eventide:** The king’s grave became a memorial place for all who would pass by that God had given this land to the children of Israel because of all the abominations the inhabitants of the land had committed before them. See Joshua 10:36 and Galatians 3:13.

Now we are about to see the rest of the reason for the defeat of Israel at Ai. Israel did not keep all of God’s commandments, so they were cursed, but God in his grace allowed Israel to be forgiven on mount Ebal.

Mount Ebal

**30 Then Joshua built an altar unto the LORD God of Israel in mount Ebal, 31 As Moses the servant of the LORD commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, over which no man hath lift up any iron: and they offered thereon burnt offerings unto the LORD, and sacrificed peace offerings. 32 And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel.**

**He wrote upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses: These were not the originals, but they were a perfect copy written on stone. God has preserved his perfect words for us unto this very day. See Deuteronomy 7:25.**

**Mount Gerizim and mount Ebal**

**33 And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel. See Deuteronomy 11:26-32 below.**

**The blessings and cursings**

**Mount Gerizim:** Mount of blessing.

**Mount Ebal:** Mount of cursing.

**34 And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law. 35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.**

**The strangers: *Exodus 12:49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.***

 Joshua sacrificed on Ebal because no sacrifice is necessary with a blessing from God, but if you were cursed for your sin in the old testament a sacrifice must be made. This is found in the book of Deuteronomy:

***Deuteronomy 11:26 Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; 27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day: 28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known. 29 And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God hath brought thee in unto the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal. 30 Are they not on the other side Jordan, by the way where the sun goeth down, in the land of the Canaanites, which dwell in the champaign over against Gilgal, beside the plains of Moreh? 31 For ye shall pass over Jordan to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God giveth you, and ye shall possess it, and dwell therein. 32 And ye shall observe to do all the statutes and judgments which I set before you this day.***

 Here we see Joshua now writing a copy of the Ten Commandments for the people, and then reading the whole law of Moses unto the people as commanded by Moses.

 Six of the tribes yelled blessings at the children of Israel for following God, and six of the tribes yelled curses at them if they did not follow all of the commandments of the LORD.

***Deuteronomy 27:12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are come over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin: 13 And these shall stand upon mount Ebal to curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.***

***Deuteronomy 27:15-26 And all the people shall say, Amen.***

**Chapter Nine**

**Make ye a league with us**

**1 And it came to pass, when all the kings which were on this side Jordan, in the hills, and in the valleys, and in all the coasts of the great sea over against Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, heard thereof; 2 That they gathered themselves together, to fight with Joshua and with Israel, with one accord.**

**They gathered themselves together to fight:** Six nations aligned themselves with Adonizedek the king of Jerusalem, a Jebusite, but one of them is missing from this list intentionally by the Holy Spirit for reasons known only to God.

 Adonizedek’s name means Lord of righteousness. Joshua 10:1-3. The descendants of Ham (Canaan) here, wanted to fight the descendants of Shem (Israel).

**3 And when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done unto Jericho and to Ai, 4 They did work wilily, and went and made as if they had been ambassadors, and took old sacks upon their asses, and wine bottles, old, and rent, and bound up;**

**The inhabitants of Gibeon:** These are Hivites which are listed in the confederacy list in verse one that comes against Israel in chapter ten, but a nation breaks away from this union because they know they are on the losing side.

 This would later invoke the anger of their fellow Hivites as well as Adonizedek, the leader of the confederacy.

**Gibeon:** The name means a hilly place.

**They did work wilily: The worked hard to trick Israel.**

 **5 And old shoes and clouted upon their feet, and old garments upon them; and all the bread of their provision was dry and mouldy. 6 And they went to Joshua unto the camp at Gilgal, and said unto him, and to the men of Israel,**

**“We be come from a far country: now therefore make ye a league with us.”**

**Gilgal: Near Jericho. It means a rolling away. Joshua 5:9.**

**7 And the men of Israel said unto the Hivites,**

**“Peradventure ye dwell among us; and how shall we make a league with you?”**

 **8 And they said unto Joshua,**

**“We are thy servants.”**

**And Joshua said unto them,**

**“Who are ye? and from whence come ye?”**

 **9 And they said unto him,**

**“From a very far country thy servants are come because of the name of the LORD thy God: for we have heard the fame of him, and all that he did in Egypt,”**

**See Exodus 15:3-8.**

**“10 And all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, that were beyond Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, which was at Ashtaroth.”**

**See Numbers 21:21-26 & 33-35.**

 Israel was forbidden to make a league with the inhabitants of the land, and the Gibeonites knew that God was with the Israelites, so a military battle was not the right answer.

 They devised a plan to get Israel to swear an oath unto their God to protect them, because they knew Israel would not go back on their oath.

 Notice that the Gibeonites don’t mention the recent battles in Ai or Jericho because they had to pretend to be ignorant of the latest battles because they supposedly traveled from afar.

**Astaroth:** One of the cities of the giants, and the name of one of their gods/idols.

**“11 Wherefore our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spake to us, saying, Take victuals with you for the journey, and go to meet them, and say unto them, We are your servants: therefore now make ye a league with us. 12 This our bread we took hot for our provision out of our houses on the day we came forth to go unto you; but now, behold, it is dry, and it is mouldy: 13 And these bottles of wine, which we filled, were new; and, behold, they be rent: and these our garments and our shoes are become old by reason of the very long journey.”**

**14 And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD.**

 This story served as a lesson for a future king named David who continually asked counsel of God before going to war.

**15 And Joshua made peace with them, and made a league with them, to let them live: and the princes of the congregation sware unto them. 16 And it came to pass at the end of three days after they had made a league with them, that they heard that they were their neighbours, and that they dwelt among them. 17 And the children of Israel journeyed, and came unto their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjathjearim. 18 And the children of Israel smote them not, because the princes of the congregation had sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the princes.**

**On the third day: Three days after they had originally made a league with them.**

**Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjathjearim: These cities were from the land that was given to the tribe of Benjamin for an inheritance.**

 **743 Jewish men of Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kirjathjearim are recorded together in Ezra 2:25, and Nehemiah 7:29 in the Jews return to Israel from Babylonian captivity.**

 **The Gentile inhabitants of these four cities weakened the tribe of Benjamin continually. See Joshua 18:25-28.**

**And all the congregation murmured against the princes:** Israel continually had a problem with murmuring even after all the things they had been through in God judging them over and over again for their murmuring.

The oath

**19 But all the princes said unto all the congregation,**

**“We have sworn unto them by the LORD God of Israel: now therefore we may not touch them. 20 This we will do to them; we will even let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath which we sware unto them.”**

**21 And the princes said unto them,**

**“Let them live; but let them be hewers of wood and drawers of water unto all the congregation; as the princes had promised them.”**

**We have sworn an oath:** The people of these cities would become a thorn in the side of Israel for generations. Israel was not to make an oath and then not keep it. We are not Israel today. We should not be swearing on the LORD today.

**22 And Joshua called for them, and he spake unto them, saying,**

**“Wherefore have ye beguiled us, saying, We are very far from you; when ye dwell among us? 23 Now therefore ye are cursed, and there shall none of you be freed from being bondmen, and hewers of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.”**

**Ye are cursed: They would have to be servants to Israel, but they were placed working at the house of God. Not a good place to put cursed lying Gentiles.**

**Bondmen: They remained servants until the next time Judah was conquered and when Judah returned to strength they would be put back under servitude.**

**24 And they answered Joshua, and said,**

**“Because it was certainly told thy servants, how that the LORD thy God commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you, therefore we were sore afraid of our lives because of you, and have done this thing. 25 And now, behold, we are in thine hand: as it seemeth good and right unto thee to do unto us, do.”**

**We are in thine hand: They lied and accepted Israel’s punishment.**

**26 And so did he unto them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel, that they slew them not. 27 And Joshua made them that day hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of the LORD, even unto this day, in the place which he should choose.**

**For the altar of the LORD:** They were allowed to close to the temple with their new jobs and this would not be good for the nation later.

 These Gentiles understood the word of God as it was given to the people by Moses, and they believed it. Because of their faith in the God of the nation of Israel some of them were eventually saved.

**Chapter Ten**

**Come ..., save us**

**1 Now it came to pass, when Adonizedek king of Jerusalem had heard how Joshua had taken Ai, and had utterly destroyed it; as he had done to Jericho and her king, so he had done to Ai and her king; and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel, and were among them; 2 That they feared greatly, because Gibeon was a great city, as one of the royal cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all the men thereof were mighty.**

**Adonizedek king of Jerusalem:** He was a type of the Antichrist who will have a ten-nation confederacy and then he will consume three of them to end up with seven kings and he makes war with Israel and with the saints of God during the tribulation period.

**One of the royal cities:** These cities wereRabbah, Jerusalem, Gibeon, Hoham, Hebron, Lachish, Jarmuth, and Eglon.

Five kings

**3 Wherefore Adonizedek king of Jerusalem sent unto Hoham king of Hebron, and unto Piram king of Jarmuth, and unto Japhia king of Lachish, and unto Debir king of Eglon, saying,**

**“4 Come up unto me, and help me, that we may smite Gibeon: for it hath made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.”**

**Hebron: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**Debir: The word means the oracles (the word).**

**5 Therefore the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon, gathered themselves together, and went up, they and all their hosts, and encamped before Gibeon, and made war against it. 6 And the men of Gibeon sent unto Joshua to the camp to Gilgal, saying,**

**“Slack not thy hand from thy servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us: for all the kings of the Amorites that dwell in the mountains are gathered together against us**.”

 The Gentile inhabitants of Gibeon cry out to Joshua who is a type of Christ to save them. This is a picture of the Gentiles in the kingdom who place their faith in the God of Israel for their protection.

**7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he, and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valour. 8 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Fear them not: for I have delivered them into thine hand; there shall not a man of them stand before thee.”**

**9 Joshua therefore came unto them suddenly, and went up from Gilgal all night. 10 And the LORD discomfited them before Israel, and slew them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them along the way that goeth up to Bethhoron, and smote them to Azekah, and unto Makkedah.**

**Bethhoron:** A city by the sea belonging to the tribe Ephraim, Joseph’s son.

**Makkedah:** This is where the five kings hid themselves in a cave from Israel where they soon died in verse seventeen.

**11** **And it came to pass, as they fled from before Israel, and were in the going down to Bethhoron, that the LORD cast down great stones from heaven upon them unto Azekah, and they died: they were more which died with hailstones than they whom the children of Israel slew with the sword.**

**The LORD cast down great stones from heaven:** God sent hailstones to kill the enemies of Israel without killing one Israeli soldier, nor one of the inhabitants of the people of Gibeon.

Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon

**12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel,**

**“Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.”**

**The valley of Ajalon: Ayalon in Hebrew. A major road that goes through there today with the same name.**

**13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day.** **14 And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel.**

**Sun, stand thou still:** God held the Sun still for this battle which many have tried to explain away, but it happened.

**Is not this written in the book of Jasper:** A history book, not a part of scripture.

**15 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal. 16 But these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah. 17 And it was told Joshua, saying,**

**“The five kings are found hid in a cave at Makkedah.”**

**18 And Joshua said,**

**“Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave, and set men by it for to keep them: 19 And stay ye not, but pursue after your enemies, and smite the hindmost of them; suffer them not to enter into their cities**: **for the LORD your God hath delivered them into your hand.”**

The five kings

 During the tribulation period the kings of the earth also hide themselves in caves. The whole book of Joshua parallels in many ways Revelations 6:15.

**20 And it came to pass, when Joshua and the children of Israel had made an end of slaying them with a very great slaughter, till they were consumed, that the rest which remained of them entered into fenced cities. 21 And all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace: none moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel.**

**Open the cave**

 **22 Then said Joshua,**

**“Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out those five kings unto me out of the cave.”**

**23 And they did so, and brought forth those five kings unto him out of the cave, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. 24 And it came to pass, when they brought out those kings unto Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel, and said unto the captains of the men of war which went with him,**

**“Come near, put your feet upon the necks of these kings.”**

**And they came near, and put their feet upon the necks of them.**

**Put your feet upon the necks: They humbled them.**

**25 And Joshua said unto them,**

**“Fear not, nor be dismayed, be strong and of good courage: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.”**

**26 And afterward Joshua smote them, and slew them, and hanged them on five trees: and they were hanging upon the trees until the evening. 27 And it came to pass at the time of the going down of the sun, that Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave's mouth, which remain until this very day.**

 In the Revelation 6:15, they cry for the rocks to fall on them to kill them and here we see in type a picture of that future event so that when the Jews see these events occur in the tribulation period they will say, “This reminds us of the days of Joshua.”

***Deuteronomy 21:22 And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: 23 His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.***

Makkedah

**28 And that day Joshua took Makkedah, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof he utterly destroyed, them, and all the souls that were therein; he let none remain: and he did to the king of Makkedah as he did unto the king of Jericho.**

 **These kings were killed by the sword before their cities were set on fire. See Joshua 12:7-24.**

**Libnah**

**29 Then Joshua passed from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, unto Libnah, and fought against Libnah: 30 And the LORD delivered it also, and the king thereof, into the hand of Israel; and he smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein; he let none remain in it; but did unto the king thereof as he did unto the king of Jericho. See Joshua 12:7-24.**

**Lachish**

**31 And Joshua passed from Libnah, and all Israel with him, unto Lachish, and encamped against it, and fought against it: 32 And the LORD delivered Lachish into the hand of Israel, which took it on the second day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein, according to all that he had done to Libnah.**

**On the second day: The second day of the battle.**

**Gezer**

**33 Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish; and Joshua smote him and his people, until he had left him none remaining.**

**Eglon**

**34 And from Lachish Joshua passed unto Eglon, and all Israel with him; and they encamped against it, and fought against it: 35 And they took it on that day, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and all the souls that were therein he utterly destroyed that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.**

**On that day: The same day the battle started.**

**Hebron**

**36 And Joshua went up from Eglon, and all Israel with him, unto Hebron; and they fought against it: 37 And they took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof, and all the souls that were therein; he left none remaining, according to all that he had done to Eglon; but destroyed it utterly, and all the souls that were therein.**

**Debir**

**38 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to Debir; and fought against it: 39 And he took it, and the king thereof, and all the cities thereof; and they smote them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed all the souls that were therein; he left none remaining: as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to the king thereof; as he had done also to Libnah, and to her king.**

**Debir: Was previously called Kirjathsepher.** **See Joshua 15:15. The name means a city of a book.**

**The hills, the south, the vale, and the springs**

**40 So Joshua smote all the country of the hills, and of the south, and of the vale, and of the springs, and all their kings: he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded.**

**The vale of the springs: The valley of springs.**

**Kadeshbarnea, Gaza, Goshen, and Gibeon**

**41 And Joshua smote them from Kadeshbarnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon. 42 And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel. 43 And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.**

 What a perfect picture of the Messiah taking the earth back and giving it to whom he wills during the millennial kingdom.

**Chapter Eleven**

**The waters of Merom**

**1 And it came to pass, when Jabin king of Hazor had heard those things, that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, 2 And to the kings that were on the north of the mountains, and of the plains south of Chinneroth, and in the valley, and in the borders of Dor on the west, 3 And to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, and to the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite in the mountains, and to the Hivite under Hermon in the land of Mizpeh. 4 And they went out, they and all their hosts with them, much people, even as the sand that is upon the sea shore in multitude, with horses and chariots very many.**

**Chinneroth: The sea of Galilee.**

**Under Hermon: Mount Hermon on the border with Syria.**

**The land of Mizpeh: Near the base of mount Hermon. The name means a watchtower. See Isaiah 28:1. This is where the tribes of Israel gathered together to war against the tribe of Benjamin for its sin.**

**The waters of Merom**

**5 And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom, to fight against Israel. 6 And the LORD said unto Joshua,**

**“Be not afraid because of them: for to morrow about this time will I deliver them up all slain before Israel: thou shalt hough their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.”**

**The waters of Merom: This is lake Hula, in the Hula valley, which is north of the Sea of Galilee as it has many waters (tributaries) that fill it, and which form the Jordan river to the south.**

**7 So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them by the waters of Merom suddenly; and they fell upon them.**

**They fell upon them: They attacked them.**

**8 And the LORD delivered them into the hand of Israel, who smote them, and chased them unto great Zidon, and unto Misrephothmaim, and unto the valley of Mizpeh eastward; and they smote them, until they left them none remaining.**

 **Zidon is south western Lebanon, Mizpeh is near mount Hermon.**

**Misrephothmaim: The name means burning water. It is between the Zidon and Mizpeh, in north central Israel.**

**9 And Joshua did unto them as the LORD bade him: he houghed their horses, and burnt their chariots with fire.**

**Houghed: He killed them so they could not be used against him later.**

**The king of Hazor**

**10 And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms. 11 And they smote all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire. 12 And all the cities of those kings, and all the kings of them, did Joshua take, and smote them with the edge of the sword, and he utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the LORD commanded. 13 But as for the cities that stood still in their strength, Israel burned none of them, save Hazor only; that did Joshua burn.**

**Israel burned none of them, save Hazor: That was because Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms.**

**14 And all the spoil of these cities, and the cattle, the children of Israel took for a prey unto themselves; but every man they smote with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, neither left they any to breathe. 15 As the LORD commanded Moses his servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD commanded Moses.**

**Stood still in their strength: Their walls remained intact. Hazor was burned because the king there led others to fight against Israel.**

**16 So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same; 17 Even from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them. 18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. 19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle. 20 For it was of the LORD to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that he might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he might destroy them, as the LORD commanded Moses.**

**The inhabitants of Gibeon:** The people who tricked Joshua and the princes of Israel tell them they were from a far country when they were next in line to be destroyed.

**It was of the LORD to harder their hearts:** When God wanted the inhabitants of the land removed, he hardened their hearts against Israel to get them to attack Israel.

 He doesn’t do that today in the dispensation of grace, but it happened often in Israel’s past, and it will happen again in the time of Jacob’s trouble. See Jeremiah 30:7 and Romans 9:18.

**The Anakim**

**21 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakim from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities. 22 There was none of the Anakim left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.**

**Hebron: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**The Anakim**: The children of Anak. The Anakim liked dwelling in the mountains, near the high places where the sons of God were worshipped. They were the giant offspring of the sons of God and the daughters of men.

 They were spread-out all-over Israel and God had specifically commissioned Israel to destroy this new race of descendants of the sons of God and the daughters of men.

**Debir:** Formerly known as Kirjathsepher. **See Joshua 15:15.**

**Only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained:** These eventually produced Goliath.

 Giants do not descend from a union between godly men and lost women, but they did descend from fallen angels mingling (leaving their first estate and habitation) with the daughters of men. (See Genesis 6).

 The first batch of them were all destroyed in the flood. So Satan just commission other demons to do the same thing again after the flood.

 Which he did, and I am sure they will meet the same eternal fate as the previous ones. (1st Peter 2: and Jude 6). There is a possibility of this happening again in the tribulation period. See Daniel 2:43.

**23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.**

**Their divisions by their tribes:** See chapter thirteen.

**Chapter Twelve**

**The kings of the land**

**The other side Jordan**

**1 Now these are the kings of the land, which the children of Israel smote, and possessed their land on the other side Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the river Arnon unto mount Hermon, and all the plain on the east:**

**On the other side of Jordan toward the rising of the sun: The east side of the Jordan river. The sun comes up in the east.**

**The river Arnon: It serves as the border of the Moabites and the Amorites. See Numbers 21:13.**

**Unto mount Hermon: The northern border in the Golan area.**

**And all the plain on the east: On the plain on the east side of the Jordan river.**

**Sihon king of the Amorites**

**2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, which is upon the bank of the river Arnon, and from the middle of the river, and from half Gilead, even unto the river Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon; 3 And from the plain to the sea of Chinneroth on the east, and unto the sea of the plain, even the salt sea on the east, the way to Bethjeshimoth; and from the south, under Ashdothpisgah:**

**And from half-Gilead: Gilead was split in two between king Sihon and king Og. It was on the border of the two countries.**

**Og king of Bashan**

**4 And the coast of Og king of Bashan, which was of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,**

**Ashtaroth: One of the cities of the giants.**

**5 And reigned in mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, unto the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon. 6 Them did Moses the servant of the LORD and the children of Israel smite: and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it for a possession unto the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh.**

**Giants: The are descendants of the sons of God and the daughters of men, just like in Genesis 6:4.**

**This side Jordan on the west**

**7 And these are the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon even unto the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir; which Joshua gave unto the tribes of Israel for a possession according to their divisions; 8 In the mountains, and in the valleys, and in the plains, and in the springs, and in the wilderness, and in the south country; the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:**

**All the kings thirty and one**

**9 The king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one; 10 The king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one; 11 The king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one; 12 The king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one; 13 The king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one; 14 The king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one; 15 The king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one; 16 The king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one; 17 The king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hepher, one; 18 The king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one; 19 The king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one; 20 The king of Shimronmeron, one; the king of Achshaph, one; 21 The king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one; 22 The king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one; 23 The king of Dor in the coast of Dor, one; the king of the nations of Gilgal, one; 24 The king of Tirzah, one: all the kings thirty and one.**

**Debir:** Formerly known as Kirjathsepher. **See Joshua 15:15.**

**The king of the nations: Nations is the Hebrew word Goyim. Goy is singular. See Genesis 14:1.**

**All the kings thirty and one:** These were defeated by the LORD, Joshua, and the armies of Israel. Do not forget the LORD gave them the victories so they could inherit the land from those who had violated the land with their abominations.

**Chapter Thirteen**

**Divide this land**

**1 Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him,**

**“Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed.”**

**Thou art old and stricken in years: In Joshua 14:10 Joshua said he was 85 years old, so now he is a somewhat older than that. He lived to be 110 years old. See Joshua 24:29.**

 **2 This is the land that yet remaineth: all the borders of the Philistines, and all Geshuri, 3 From Sihor, which is before Egypt, even unto the borders of Ekron northward, which is counted to the Canaanite: five lords of the Philistines; the Gazathites, and the Ashdothites, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites:**

**All the borders of the Philistines: See verses 2 and 3 above.**

**And all Geshuri: See Deuteronomy 3:14. Verses 4-6 below.**

**Ekron: It means eradication. The most northern city of the Philistines. Near Jaffa. The Ekronites told the Philistines to return the ark because Israel’s God was punishing them. They were part of the five kings of the Philistines.**

**4 From the south, all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that is beside the Sidonians, unto Aphek, to the borders of the Amorites: 5 And the land of the Giblites, and all Lebanon, toward the sunrising, from Baalgad under mount Hermon unto the entering into Hamath. 6 All the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon unto Misrephothmaim, and all the Sidonians, them will I drive out from before the children of Israel: only divide thou it by lot unto the Israelites for an inheritance, as I have commanded thee.**

**Them will I drive out from before the children of Israel: Others he will leave in the land to teach them war in each generation.**

**On the east side of the Jordan**

**7 Now therefore divide this land for an inheritance unto the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh, 8 With whom the Reubenites and the Gadites have received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond Jordan eastward, even as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them; 9 From Aroer, that is upon the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the river, and all the plain of Medeba unto Dibon; 10 And all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, unto the border of the children of Ammon; 11 And Gilead, and the border of the Geshurites and Maachathites, and all mount Hermon, and all Bashan unto Salcah; 12 All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the giants: for these did Moses smite, and cast them out.**

**Giants: Descendants of the sons of god, and the daughters of men.**

**For these did Moses smite, and cast them out: While Israel remained on the east side of the Jordan before crossing the Jordan.**

**Ashtaroth: The name of this city and of one of their gods.**

**13 Nevertheless the children of Israel expelled not the Geshurites, nor the Maachathites: but the Geshurites and the Maachathites dwell among the Israelites until this day.**

**The tribe of Levi**

**14 Only unto the tribe of Levi he gave none inheritance; the sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, as he said unto them.**

**The sacrifices of the LORD God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance:** They ate of the offerings brought to the temple.

***Numbers 18:20 And the LORD spake unto Aaron, Thou shalt have no inheritance in their land, neither shalt thou have any part among them: I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel. 21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, for their service which they serve, even the service of the tabernacle of the congregation. 22 Neither must the children of Israel henceforth come nigh the tabernacle of the congregation, lest they bear sin, and die. 23 But the Levites shall do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they shall bear their iniquity: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they have no inheritance. 24 But the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer as an heave offering unto the LORD, I have given to the Levites to inherit: therefore I have said unto them, Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.***

**The tribe of Reuben**

**15 And Moses gave unto the tribe of the children of Reuben inheritance according to their families.**

**Their coast**

**16 And their coast was from Aroer, that is on the bank of the river Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the river, and all the plain by Medeba; 17 Heshbon, and all her cities that are in the plain; Dibon, and Bamothbaal, and Bethbaalmeon, 18 And Jahazah, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath, 19 And Kirjathaim, and Sibmah, and Zarethshahar in the mount of the valley, 20 And Bethpeor, and Ashdothpisgah, and Bethjeshimoth, 21 And all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, which reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses smote with the princes of Midian, Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, which were dukes of Sihon, dwelling in the country. 22 Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them. 23 And the border of the children of Reuben was Jordan, and the border thereof. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben after their families, the cities and the villages thereof.**

**The tribe of Gad**

**24 And Moses gave inheritance unto the tribe of Gad, even unto the children of Gad according to their families.**

**Their coast**

**25 And their coast was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon, unto Aroer that is before Rabbah; 26 And from Heshbon unto Ramathmizpeh, and Betonim; and from Mahanaim unto the border of Debir; 27 And in the valley, Betharam, and Bethnimrah, and Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, Jordan and his border, even unto the edge of the sea of Chinnereth on the other side Jordan eastward. 28 This is the inheritance of the children of Gad after their families, the cities, and their villages.**

**Debir: Formerly known as Kirjathsepher. See Joshua 15:15.**

**The half tribe of Manasseh**

**29 And Moses gave inheritance unto the half tribe of Manasseh: and this was the possession of the half tribe of the children of Manasseh by their families.**

**Their coast**

 **30 And their coast was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in Bashan, threescore cities: 31 And half Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were pertaining unto the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even to the one half of the children of Machir by their families. 32 These are the countries which Moses did distribute for inheritance in the plains of Moab, on the other side Jordan, by Jericho, eastward.**

**The tribe of Levi**

**33 But unto the tribe of Levi Moses gave not any inheritance: the LORD God of Israel was their inheritance, as he said unto them.**

**The LORD God of Israel was their inheritance: See Numbers 18:20-26.**

**Chapter Fourteen**

**I wholly followed the LORD**

**1 And these are the countries which the children of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for inheritance to them. See 2 By lot was their inheritance, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses, for the nine tribes, and for the half tribe. See Numbers 34:16-18.**

**3 For Moses had given the inheritance of two tribes and an half tribe on the other side Jordan: but unto the Levites he gave none inheritance among them. See Numbers 18:20-24.**

**The tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim**

 **4 For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim: therefore they gave no part unto the Levites in the land, save cities to dwell in, with their suburbs for their cattle and for their substance. 5 As the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did, and they divided the land.**

**Caleb**

 While Caleb is not a tribe, he was promised a city by Moses for having the testimony that he wholly followed God in his day.

**6 Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him,**

**“Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea. 7 Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart. 8 Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. 9 And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God. 10 And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. 11 As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in. 12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said.”**

**The Anakim**: The (Giants) were in Hebron. These were new offspring of the sons of God (fallen angels) that took the daughters of men to wife after the flood.

 In Genesis 6 we have the first batch before the flood that became mighty men of renown.

**13 And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance. 14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel. 15 And the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba; which Arba was a great man among the Anakim. And the land had rest from war.**

**Hebron: One of the six cities of refuge.**

 **Caleb was given the city where David would rule Judah from for seven years. It** is a place of death as Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Joseph, and his brothers are buried there.

 Here an altar was constructed by Abraham where sacrifices were made for the sins of man. It later becomes a city of refuge.

**The name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba:** City of Arba.

**Arba was a great man among the Anakim:** They were the giants produced from the marriage of the sons of God and the daughters of men.

**And the land had rest from war:** Because Caleb alone defeated all the enemies in his land.

**Chapter Fifteen**

**The children of Judah**

**1 This then was the lot of the tribe of the children of Judah by their families; even to the border of Edom the wilderness of Zin southward was the uttermost part of the south coast. 2 And their south border was from the shore of the salt sea, from the bay that looketh southward: 3 And it went out to the south side to Maalehacrabbim, and passed along to Zin, and ascended up on the south side unto Kadeshbarnea, and passed along to Hezron, and went up to Adar, and fetched a compass to Karkaa: 4 From thence it passed toward Azmon, and went out unto the river of Egypt; and the goings out of that coast were at the sea: this shall be your south coast. 5 And the east border was the salt sea, even unto the end of Jordan. And their border in the north quarter was from the bay of the sea at the uttermost part of Jordan: 6 And the border went up to Bethhogla, and passed along by the north of Betharabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben: 7 And the border went up toward Debir from the valley of Achor, and so northward, looking toward Gilgal, that is before the going up to Adummim, which is on the south side of the river: and the border passed toward the waters of Enshemesh, and the goings out thereof were at Enrogel: 8 And the border went up by the valley of the son of Hinnom unto the south side of the Jebusite; the same is Jerusalem: and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lieth before the valley of Hinnom westward, which is at the end of the valley of the giants northward:**

**Debir: Formerly known as Kirjathsepher. See Joshua 15:15.**

**The valley of the son of Hinnom: Just to the south of mount Zion in Jerusalem as you head towards Bethlehem.**

**The valley of the giants northward: It is the next valley to the northwest of the city of Jerusalem. One kilometer from the Hinnom valley.**

**9 And the border was drawn from the top of the hill unto the fountain of the water of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of mount Ephron; and the border was drawn to Baalah, which is Kirjathjearim:**

**The water of Nephtoah: See Joshua 18:15.**

**10 And the border compassed from Baalah westward unto mount Seir, and passed along unto the side of mount Jearim, which is Chesalon, on the north side, and went down to Bethshemesh, and passed on to Timnah: 11 And the border went out unto the side of Ekron northward: and the border was drawn to Shicron, and passed along to mount Baalah, and went out unto Jabneel; and the goings out of the border were at the sea. 12 And the west border was to the great sea, and the coast thereof. This is the coast of the children of Judah round about according to their families.**

**Bethshemesh: The house of Shemesh. Shemesh means the Sun. The house of the Sun.**

**Ekron: The northern most city of the Philistines.**

**Caleb re-appears**

**13 And unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, even the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron. 14 And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak.**

**Arba the father of Anak: The giant that father Anak the giant, that father three sons (the Anakim). The letters I and M at the end of a word in Hebrew meant it was plural.**

**The sons of Anak: The Anakim who were also giants. Their names were Sheshai, Ahiman, & Talmai. Who were killed by the tribe of Judah.**

**And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak: He drove them out of his inheritance, the men of Judah actually killed them.**

**15 And he went up thence to the inhabitants of Debir: and the name of Debir before was Kirjathsepher. 16 And Caleb said,**

**“He that smiteth Kirjathsepher, and taketh it, to him will I give Achsah my daughter to wife.”**

**17 And Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it: and he gave him Achsah his daughter to wife. 18 And it came to pass, as she came unto him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off her ass; and Caleb said unto her,**

**“What wouldest thou?”**

 **19 Who answered,**

**“Give me a blessing; for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water.”**

**And he gave her the upper springs, and the nether springs.**

**Othniel:** He is Caleb’s younger nephew, and he becomes the first Judge in Israel. Achsah his wife was his cousin.

**Nether springs:** The lower springs.

The inheritance of Judah

**20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families. 21 And the uttermost cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the coast of Edom southward were Kabzeel, and Eder, and Jagur, 22 And Kinah, and Dimonah, and Adadah, 23 And Kedesh, and Hazor, and Ithnan, 24 Ziph, and Telem, and Bealoth, 25 And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerioth, and Hezron, which is Hazor, 26 Amam, and Shema, and Moladah, 27 And Hazargaddah, and Heshmon, and Bethpalet, 28 And Hazarshual, and Beersheba, and Bizjothjah, 29 Baalah, and Iim, and Azem, 30 And Eltolad, and Chesil, and Hormah, 31 And Ziklag, and Madmannah, and Sansannah, 32 And Lebaoth, and Shilhim, and Ain, and Rimmon: all the cities are twenty and nine, with their villages: 33 And in the valley, Eshtaol, and Zoreah, and Ashnah, 34 And Zanoah, and Engannim, Tappuah, and Enam, 35 Jarmuth, and Adullam, Socoh, and Azekah, 36 And Sharaim, and Adithaim, and Gederah, and Gederothaim; fourteen cities with their villages: 37 Zenan, and Hadashah, and Migdalgad, 38 And Dilean, and Mizpeh, and Joktheel, 39 Lachish, and Bozkath, and Eglon, 40 And Cabbon, and Lahmam, and Kithlish, 41 And Gederoth, Bethdagon, and Naamah, and Makkedah; sixteen cities with their villages: 42 Libnah, and Ether, and Ashan, 43 And Jiphtah, and Ashnah, and Nezib, 44 And Keilah, and Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their villages: 45 Ekron, with her towns and her villages: 46 From Ekron even unto the sea, all that lay near Ashdod, with their villages: 47 Ashdod with her towns and her villages, Gaza with her towns and her villages, unto the river of Egypt, and the great sea, and the border thereof: 48 And in the mountains, Shamir, and Jattir, and Socoh, 49 And Dannah, and Kirjathsannah, which is Debir,**

**Kirjathsannah: An even earlier name of Kirjathsepher.**

**50 And Anab, and Eshtemoh, and Anim, 51 And Goshen, and Holon, and Giloh; eleven cities with their villages: 52 Arab, and Dumah, and Eshean, 53 And Janum, and Bethtappuah, and Aphekah, 54 And Humtah, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, and Zior; nine cities with their villages: 55 Maon, Carmel, and Ziph, and Juttah, 56 And Jezreel, and Jokdeam, and Zanoah, 57 Cain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities with their villages: 58 Halhul, Bethzur, and Gedor, 59 And Maarath, and Bethanoth, and Eltekon; six cities with their villages: 60 Kirjathbaal, which is Kirjathjearim, and Rabbah; two cities with their villages: 61 In the wilderness, Betharabah, Middin, and Secacah, 62 And Nibshan, and the city of Salt, and Engedi; six cities with their villages. 63 As for the Jebusites the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah could not drive them out: but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem unto this day.**

**The Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah: They could not drive them out because of a lack of faith.**

**Chapter Sixteen**

**The children of Joseph**

**1 And the lot of the children of Joseph fell from Jordan by Jericho, unto the water of Jericho on the east, to the wilderness that goeth up from Jericho throughout mount Bethel, 2 And goeth out from Bethel to Luz, and passeth along unto the borders of Archi to Ataroth, 3 And goeth down westward to the coast of Japhleti, unto the coast of Bethhoron the nether, and to Gezer: and the goings out thereof are at the sea. 4 So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.**

**Bethhoron the nether: The lower part of Bethhoron.**

**The goings out thereof are at the sea: The sea of Galilee.**

**Ephraim**

**5 And the border of the children of Ephraim according to their families was thus: even the border of their inheritance on the east side was Atarothaddar, unto Bethhoron the upper;**

**Bethhoron the upper: The higher part of the city of Bethhoron.**

**6 And the border went out toward the sea to Michmethah on the north side; and the border went about eastward unto Taanathshiloh, and passed by it on the east to Janohah; 7 And it went down from Janohah to Ataroth, and to Naarath, and came to Jericho, and went out at Jordan. 8 The border went out from Tappuah westward unto the river Kanah; and the goings out thereof were at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Ephraim by their families.**

**The separate cities**

**9 And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim were among the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages. 10 And they drave not out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer: but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites unto this day, and serve under tribute.**

**And serve under tribute:** The paid the Ephraimites a tax each year.

**Chapter Seventeen**

**Manasseh**

**1 There was also a lot for the tribe of Manasseh; for he was the firstborn of Joseph; to wit, for Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead: because he was a man of war, therefore he had Gilead and Bashan.**

**To wit:** More specifically, or to be precise.

**2 There was also a lot for the rest of the children of Manasseh by their families; for the children of Abiezer, and for the children of Helek, and for the children of Asriel, and for the children of Shechem, and for the children of Hepher, and for the children of Shemida: these were the male children of Manasseh the son of Joseph by their families. 3 But Zelophehad, the son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons, but daughters: and these are the names of his daughters, Mahlah, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. 4 And they came near before Eleazar the priest, and before Joshua the son of Nun, and before the princes, saying,**

**“The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brethren.”**

**Therefore according to the commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the brethren of their father. 5 And there fell ten portions to Manasseh, beside the land of Gilead and Bashan, which were on the other side Jordan; 6 Because the daughters of Manasseh had an inheritance among his sons: and the rest of Manasseh's sons had the land of Gilead. 7 And the coast of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethah, that lieth before Shechem; and the border went along on the right hand unto the inhabitants of Entappuah. 8 Now Manasseh had the land of Tappuah: but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh belonged to the children of Ephraim; 9 And the coast descended unto the river Kanah, southward of the river: these cities of Ephraim are among the cities of Manasseh: the coast of Manasseh also was on the north side of the river, and the outgoings of it were at the sea: 10 Southward it was Ephraim's, and northward it was Manasseh's, and the sea is his border; and they met together in Asher on the north, and in Issachar on the east. 11 And Manasseh had in Issachar and in Asher Bethshean and her towns, and Ibleam and her towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Endor and her towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and her towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and her towns, even three countries. 12 Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out the inhabitants of those cities; but the Canaanites would dwell in that land. 13 Yet it came to pass, when the children of Israel were waxen strong, that they put the Canaanites to tribute; but did not utterly drive them out.**

**But did not utterly drive them out: They compromised with the Canaanites. God disinherited the Canaanites. Israel allowed them to stay and pay rent basically. God did not agree with Israel’s compromise.**

**14 And the children of Joseph spake unto Joshua, saying,**

**“Why hast thou given me but one lot and one portion to inherit, seeing I am a great people, forasmuch as the LORD hath blessed me hitherto?”**

**15 And Joshua answered them,**

**“If thou be a great people, then get thee up to the wood country, and cut down for thyself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the giants, if mount Ephraim be too narrow for thee.”**

**16 And the children of Joseph said,**

**“The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both they who are of Bethshean and her towns, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.”**

**17 And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, even to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying,**

**“Thou art a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot only: 18 But the mountain shall be thine; for it is a wood, and thou shalt cut it down: and the outgoings of it shall be thine: for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, and though they be strong.”**

**Thou are a great people:** The tribe of Joseph had so many people they wanted two lots, one for Manasseh and one for Ephraim (Joseph’s two sons) and they got them.

**For it is a wood:** It is a mountain covered in trees that you can use to defeat the Canaanites.

**Chapter Eighteen**

**Together at Shiloh**

**1 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tabernacle of the congregation there. And the land was subdued before them.**

**Shiloh: Where the tabernacle was set up at. The name means rest.**

**The tabernacle of the congregation: The house of God, A tent for him to dwell in. This was its first real resting place this side of the Jordan river.**

**The remaining seven tribes**

**2 And there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes, which had not yet received their inheritance. 3 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel,**

**“How long are ye slack to go to possess the land, which the LORD God of your fathers hath given you? 4 Give out from among you three men for each tribe: and I will send them, and they shall rise, and go through the land, and describe it according to the inheritance of them; and they shall come again to me. 5 And they shall divide it into seven parts: Judah shall abide in their coast on the south, and the house of Joseph shall abide in their coasts on the north. 6 Ye shall therefore describe the land into seven parts, and bring the description hither to me, that I may cast lots for you here before the LORD our God. 7 But the Levites have no part among you; for the priesthood of the LORD is their inheritance: and Gad, and Reuben, and half the tribe of Manasseh, have received their inheritance beyond Jordan on the east, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them.”**

**Cast lots**

**8 And the men arose, and went away: and Joshua charged them that went to describe the land, saying,**

**“Go and walk through the land, and describe it, and come again to me, that I may here cast lots for you before the LORD in Shiloh.”**

**9 And the men went and passed through the land, and described it by cities into seven parts in a book, and came again to Joshua to the host at Shiloh. 10 And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD: and there Joshua divided the land unto the children of Israel according to their divisions**.

**Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh:** This was similar to drawing names from a hat or bag. Benjamin’s name was drawn first.

**Benjamin’s lot**

**11 And the lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families: and the coast of their lot came forth between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph. 12 And their border on the north side was from Jordan; and the border went up to the side of Jericho on the north side, and went up through the mountains westward; and the goings out thereof were at the wilderness of Bethaven. 13 And the border went over from thence toward Luz, to the side of Luz, which is Bethel, southward; and the border descended to Atarothadar, near the hill that lieth on the south side of the nether Bethhoron.**

**The nether Bethhoron: The lower section of the city of Bethhoron.**

**14 And the border was drawn thence, and compassed the corner of the sea southward, from the hill that lieth before Bethhoron southward; and the goings out thereof were at Kirjathbaal, which is Kirjathjearim, a city of the children of Judah: this was the west quarter. 15 And the south quarter was from the end of Kirjathjearim, and the border went out on the west, and went out to the well of waters of Nephtoah: 16 And the border came down to the end of the mountain that lieth before the valley of the son of Hinnom, and which is in the valley of the giants on the north, and descended to the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusi on the south, and descended to Enrogel, 17 And was drawn from the north, and went forth to Enshemesh, and went forth toward Geliloth, which is over against the going up of Adummim, and descended to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben, 18 And passed along toward the side over against Arabah northward, and went down unto Arabah: 19 And the border passed along to the side of Bethhoglah northward: and the outgoings of the border were at the north bay of the salt sea at the south end of Jordan: this was the south coast. 20 And Jordan was the border of it on the east side. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by the coasts thereof round about, according to their families. 21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, and Bethhoglah, and the valley of Keziz, 22 And Betharabah, and Zemaraim, and Bethel, 23 And Avim, and Parah, and Ophrah, 24 And Chepharhaammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages: 25 Gibeon, and Ramah, and Beeroth, 26 And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah, 27 And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah, 28 And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeath, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.**

**Ramah: The home town of Samuel the prophet who judged Israel.**

**Mizpeh: Near the base of mount Hermon. See Joshua 11:13.**

**Chapter Nineteen**

**Simeon’s lot**

**1 And the second lot came forth to Simeon, even for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families: and their inheritance was within the inheritance of the children of Judah. 2 And they had in their inheritance Beersheba, or Sheba, and Moladah, 3 And Hazarshual, and Balah, and Azem, 4 And Eltolad, and Bethul, and Hormah, 5 And Ziklag, and Bethmarcaboth, and Hazarsusah, 6 And Bethlebaoth, and Sharuhen; thirteen cities and their villages: 7 Ain, Remmon, and Ether, and Ashan; four cities and their villages: 8 And all the villages that were round about these cities to Baalathbeer, Ramath of the south. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.**

 **Simeon was the southernmost tribe in the land of Israel.**

**Simeon’s lot in Judah**

**9 Out of the portion of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon: for the part of the children of Judah was too much for them: therefore the children of Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of them.**

**Simeon had their inheritance within the inheritance of them: Judah had so much land that Simeon’s inheritance inside Judah’s inheritance.**

**Zebulun’s lot**

**10 And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families: and the border of their inheritance was unto Sarid: 11 And their border went up toward the sea, and Maralah, and reached to Dabbasheth, and reached to the river that is before Jokneam; 12 And turned from Sarid eastward toward the sunrising unto the border of Chislothtabor, and then goeth out to Daberath, and goeth up to Japhia, 13 And from thence passeth on along on the east to Gittahhepher, to Ittahkazin, and goeth out to Remmonmethoar to Neah; 14 And the border compasseth it on the north side to Hannathon: and the outgoings thereof are in the valley of Jiphthahel: 15 And Kattath, and Nahallal, and Shimron, and Idalah, and Bethlehem: twelve cities with their villages. 16 This is the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.**

**Bethlehem: This is the other Bethlehem. It was in the north, not where Jesus was born.**

 **This included the valley of Megiddo (Armageddon).**

**Issachar’s lot**

**17 And the fourth lot came out to Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families. 18 And their border was toward Jezreel, and Chesulloth, and Shunem, 19 And Hapharaim, and Shion, and Anaharath, 20 And Rabbith, and Kishion, and Abez, 21 And Remeth, and Engannim, and Enhaddah, and Bethpazzez; 22 And the coast reacheth to Tabor, and Shahazimah, and Bethshemesh; and the outgoings of their border were at Jordan: sixteen cities with their villages. 23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities and their villages.**

**Bethshemesh: The name means the house of the Sun.**

**Asher’s lot**

**24 And the fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families. 25 And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph, 26 And Alammelech, and Amad, and Misheal; and reacheth to Carmel westward, and to Shihorlibnath; 27 And turneth toward the sunrising to Bethdagon, and reacheth to Zebulun, and to the valley of Jiphthahel toward the north side of Bethemek, and Neiel, and goeth out to Cabul on the left hand, 28 And Hebron, and Rehob, and Hammon, and Kanah, even unto great Zidon; 29 And then the coast turneth to Ramah, and to the strong city Tyre; and the coast turneth to Hosah; and the outgoings thereof are at the sea from the coast to Achzib: 30 Ummah also, and Aphek, and Rehob: twenty and two cities with their villages. 31 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.**

**Naphtali’s lot**

**32 The sixth lot came out to the children of Naphtali, even for the children of Naphtali according to their families. 33 And their coast was from Heleph, from Allon to Zaanannim, and Adami, Nekeb, and Jabneel, unto Lakum; and the outgoings thereof were at Jordan: 34 And then the coast turneth westward to Aznothtabor, and goeth out from thence to Hukkok, and reacheth to Zebulun on the south side, and reacheth to Asher on the west side, and to Judah upon Jordan toward the sunrising. 35 And the fenced cities are Ziddim, Zer, and Hammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth, 36 And Adamah, and Ramah, and Hazor, 37 And Kedesh, and Edrei, and Enhazor, 38 And Iron, and Migdalel, Horem, and Bethanath, and Bethshemesh; nineteen cities with their villages. 39 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities and their villages.**

**Chinnereth: The sea of Galilee was also called lake kinneret.**

**Bethshemesh: The name means the house of the Son.**

**Dan’s lot**

**40 And the seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families. 41 And the coast of their inheritance was Zorah, and Eshtaol, and Irshemesh, 42 And Shaalabbin, and Ajalon, and Jethlah, 43 And Elon, and Thimnathah, and Ekron, 44 And Eltekeh, and Gibbethon, and Baalath, 45 And Jehud, and Beneberak, and Gathrimmon, 46 And Mejarkon, and Rakkon, with the border before Japho. 47 And the coast of the children of Dan went out too little for them: therefore the children of Dan went up to fight against Leshem, and took it, and smote it with the edge of the sword, and possessed it, and dwelt therein, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father. 48 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families, these cities with their villages.**

 **The Hula valley and mount Hermon were the two main terrain features in the region.**

**Ajalon: Ayalon in Hebrew. A major road that goes through there today with the same name. The valley of Ayalon.**

**Ekron: It would later go to the tribe of Judah.**

**An inheritance to Joshua**

**49 When they had made an end of dividing the land for inheritance by their coasts, the children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua the son of Nun among them: 50 According to the word of the LORD they gave him the city which he asked, even Timnathserah in mount Ephraim: and he built the city, and dwelt therein.**

**The city which he asked for: Timnath and later added the name of his daughter to make it Timnathserah.**

**He built the city and dwelt therein: He died there in mount Ephraim on the north side of the hill of Gaash.**

**51 These are the inheritances, which Eleazar the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. So they made an end of dividing the country.**

 The city of Samaria was later built on mount Ephraim and became the capital of the northern kingdom of Israel.

**Shiloh:** The place of rest where Israel’s inheritance was divided to the tribes.

**Chapter Twenty**

**Cities of refuge**

**1 The LORD also spake unto Joshua, saying,**

**“2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses:”**

**Cities of refuge:** Six cities are given unto the Levites with three on one side of the Jordan river, and three on the other side.

 These are spread out all over the land of Israel. This was spoken of by God unto Joshua:

***Exodus 21:12 He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. 13 And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee.***

***Numbers 35:6 And among the cities which ye shall give unto the Levites there shall be six cities for refuge, which ye shall appoint for the manslayer, that he may flee thither:***

 Forty-eight cities of the Jews were given to the Levites and of these cities six were set apart as cities of refuge. Interesting enough they were open to Gentiles in the land. These cities are symbolic of the refuge we have in Christ.

**3 That the slayer that killeth any person unawares and unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.**

**The slayer: Anyone who kills someone by accident.**

**Unwittingly: Man-slaughter, not pre-meditated murder.**

**They shall be your refuge: The cities shall protect you from the avenger of blood if you are found innocent.**

**The avenger of blood: The person in the family who was to get justice for their loved one.**

**4 And when he that doth flee unto one of those cities shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city unto them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them. 5 And if the avenger of blood pursue after him, then they shall not deliver the slayer up into his hand; because he smote his neighbour unwittingly, and hated him not beforetime. 6 And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days: then shall the slayer return, and come unto his own city, and unto his own house, unto the city from whence he fled.**

**Until he stand before the congregation for judgment: While a person who killed someone without intent (malice), they needed to be judged by the congregation to see if they intentionally killed someone or if any neglect led to the accidental death of another.**

**And until the death of the high priest: The high priest dies and those in the city of refuge would immediately be released because he was a type of Israel’s eternal high priest (the Messiah). See Hebrews 6:17-20 and 7.**

***Exodus 21:12 He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death. 13 And if a man lie not in wait, but God deliver him into his hand; then I will appoint thee a place whither he shall flee. 14 But if a man come presumptuously upon his neighbour, to slay him with guile; thou shalt take him from mine altar, that he may die.***

 Verse fourteen above refers to those who had killed someone and then they ran and grabbed hold of the horns on the altar, the very place where the blood of an innocent bullock was placed. See Exodus 29:12.

 Since there were no cities of refuge in the wilderness a person accused of murder could run to the tabernacle and grab hold of the horn on the altar.

 See the stories of Adonijah and Joab. in 1st Kings 1:50-53 and 2:26-35 which also relates to this issue. See Hebrews 6:17-20.

**The six cities of refuge**

**7 And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in mount Naphtali, and Shechem in mount Ephraim, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, in the mountain of Judah.**

 **Kadesh is in the north, Shechem is in the middle of the land, and Hebron is in the south.**

**Kadesh: In mount Naphtali. The name means a sanctuary.**

**Shechem: In mount Ephraim. The name means a ridge.**

**Hebron: The mountain of Judah. Hebron is where David ruled for seven years. The name means a seat of association. (Congregation).**

**The other side of Jordan**

**8 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.**

**Bezer: The name means an inaccessible place. Like on a mountain.**

**Ramoth: The name means heights. In the mountains.**

**Golan: The name means a captive. They are called the Golan heights to this day because it is a mountain range.**

**9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth any person at unawares might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation.**

**The congregation:** The seat of the association.

**Chapter Twenty-One**

**Give us cities**

**1 Then came near the heads of the fathers of the Levites unto Eleazar the priest, and unto Joshua the son of Nun, and unto the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel; 2 And they spake unto them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying,**

**“The LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with the suburbs thereof for our cattle.”**

**3 And the children of Israel gave unto the Levites out of their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their suburbs.**

**The children of Aaron**

**4 And the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites: and the children of Aaron the priest, which were of the Levites, had by lot out of the tribe of Judah, and out of the tribe of Simeon, and out of the tribe of Benjamin, thirteen cities.**

**See Joshua 21:13-19 below.**

**The children of Kohath**

**5 And the rest of the children of Kohath had by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.**

**The children of Gershon**

**6 And the children of Gershon had by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.**

**The children of Merari**

**7 The children of Merari by their families had out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.**

 **Reuben, Gad and Zebulun, not the half tribe of Manasseh as we almost always see are listed together. Zebulun bordered both half tribes of Manasseh and served as a bridge connecting to two at the southwest corner of the sea of Galilee.**

**8 And the children of Israel gave by lot unto the Levites these cities with their suburbs, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.**

**Judah and Simeon**

**9 And they gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities which are here mentioned by name, 10 Which the children of Aaron, being of the families of the Kohathites, who were of the children of Levi, had: for theirs was the first lot.**

 **The tribe of Simeon was small, and it received its inheritance inside the tribe of Judah’s inheritance which is why we see this lot connecting them with the Levites.**

**The first lot: It went to Levi because they were the priests for Israel.**

**11 And they gave them the city of Arba the father of Anak, which city is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with the suburbs thereof round about it.**

 Hebron is the city of refuge where Joab slew Abner. Abner had only to stay inside the city under the protection of the high priest, but Abner died as a fool dieth. See 2nd Samuel 3:33.

**Caleb’s inheritance**

**12 But the fields of the city, and the villages thereof, gave they to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.**

**Cities for Levites in Judah, and Simeon**

**13 Thus they gave to the children of Aaron the priest Hebron with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Libnah with her suburbs, 14 And Jattir with her suburbs, and Eshtemoa with her suburbs, 15 And Holon with her suburbs, and Debir with her suburbs, 16 And Ain with her suburbs, and Juttah with her suburbs, and Bethshemesh with her suburbs; nine cities out of those two tribes.**

**Hebron: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**Debir: Formerly known as Kirjathsepher. See Joshua 15:15.**

**Bethshemesh: The name means the house of the Sun.**

 **We don’t have this list of nine cities broken down between the tribes of Judah and Simeon, because the tribe of Simeon was located inside the tribe of Judah’s land allotment.**

**The tribe of Benjamin’s cities**

**17 And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with her suburbs, Geba with her suburbs, 18 Anathoth with her suburbs, and Almon with her suburbs; four cities. 19 All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities with their suburbs.**

**The tribe of Ephraim**

**20 And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites which remained of the children of Kohath, even they had the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim. 21 For they gave them Shechem with her suburbs in mount Ephraim, to be a city of refuge for the slayer;**

**Shechem: One of six cities of refuge for the slayer.**

**Cities for Levites in Ephraim, Dan & Manasseh**

**and Gezer with her suburbs, 22 And Kibzaim with her suburbs, and Bethhoron with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Cities for the Levites out of the tribe of Dan**

**23 And out of the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with her suburbs, Gibbethon with her suburbs, 24 Aijalon with her suburbs, Gathrimmon with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Cities for Levites out of Manasseh**

**25 And out of the half tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with her suburbs, and Gathrimmon with her suburbs; two cities. 26 All the cities were ten with their suburbs for the families of the children of Kohath that remained.**

**Cities out of the half tribe of Manasseh**

**27 And unto the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the other half tribe of Manasseh they gave Golan in Bashan with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Beeshterah with her suburbs; two cities.**

**Golan: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**Cities out of the tribe of Issachar**

**28 And out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishon with her suburbs, Dabareh with her suburbs, 29 Jarmuth with her suburbs, Engannim with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Cities out of the tribe of Asher**

**30 And out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal with her suburbs, Abdon with her suburbs, 31 Helkath with her suburbs, and Rehob with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Cities out of the tribe of Naphtali**

**32 And out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Hammothdor with her suburbs, and Kartan with her suburbs; three cities. 33 All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with their suburbs.**

**Cities out of the tribe of Zebulun**

**34 And unto the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with her suburbs, and Kartah with her suburbs, 35 Dimnah with her suburbs, Nahalal with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Cities out of the tribe of Reuben**

**36 And out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with her suburbs, and Jahazah with her suburbs, 37 Kedemoth with her suburbs, and Mephaath with her suburbs; four cities.**

**Bezer: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**Cities out of the tribes of Gad**

**38 And out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with her suburbs, to be a city of refuge for the slayer; and Mahanaim with her suburbs, 39 Heshbon with her suburbs, Jazer with her suburbs; four cities in all. 40 So all the cities for the children of Merari by their families, which were remaining of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.**

**Ramoth in Gilead to be a city of refuge for the slayer: One of the six cities of refuge.**

**41 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty and eight cities with their suburbs. 42 These cities were every one with their suburbs round about them: thus were all these cities.**

**Forty and eight cities**

 Sixcities of Refuge spread out throughout the land as well as forty-two other cities for the priests to dwell in spread throughout the whole of Israel. Israel did not have to go very far if they needed a priest for God had them everywhere.

**The LORD gave them rest**

**43 And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein. 44 And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand. 45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.**

 Notice it is a gracious God that gave Israel the land they only had to go in by faith and acquire it. Their battles were not won by their swords, although they used them, they were won by the LORD.

 The rest would have never been attained if they just moved in next door to the devil’s crowd and set up camp. The rest is also mentioned as being given to them by God.

**Chapter Twenty-Two**

**The altar Ed**

**1 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh, 2 And said unto them,**

**“Ye have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you: 3 Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God. 4 And now the LORD your God hath given rest unto your brethren, as he promised them: therefore now return ye, and get you unto your tents, and unto the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side Jordan. 5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.”**

**Joshua blesses the tribes on the east side of the Jordan**

**The tribe of Manasseh’s division**

**6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away: and they went unto their tents. 7 Now to the one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan: but unto the other half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward. And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he blessed them, 8 And he spake unto them, saying,**

**“Return with much riches unto your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with brass, and with iron, and with very much raiment: divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren.”**

**9 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go unto the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, whereof they were possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.**

**A great altar**

**10 And when they came unto the borders of Jordan, that are in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by Jordan, a great altar to see to. 11 And the children of Israel heard say, Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh have built an altar over against the land of Canaan, in the borders of Jordan, at the passage of the children of Israel. 12 And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up to war against them.**

The children of Israel gathered themselves up to go to war against their own brethren because they did not want God to judge the whole nation for the acts of a few as he had done in the past.

 The nine and a half tribes saw this as a threat to divide the nation and to go after other gods and to worship them.

 This event while allowed by God and Moses did not turn out so well for the two and a half tribes in the long run as they were the first tribes taken into captivity.

**13 And the children of Israel sent unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, 14 And with him ten princes, of each chief house a prince throughout all the tribes of Israel; and each one was an head of the house of their fathers among the thousands of Israel. 15 And they came unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, unto the land of Gilead, and they spake with them, saying,**

**“16 Thus saith the whole congregation of the LORD, What trespass is this that ye have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from following the LORD, in that ye have builded you an altar, that ye might rebel this day against the LORD?”**

**Peor**

**“17 Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us, from which we are not cleansed until this day, although there was a plague in the congregation of the LORD, 18 But that ye must turn away this day from following the LORD? and it will be, seeing ye rebel to day against the LORD, that to morrow he will be wroth with the whole congregation of Israel.”**

**The iniquity of Peor See the story of Balak, Balaam and the children of Israel in Numbers 23:28, 25:18 and 31:16.**

**If the land of your possession be unclean**

**“19 Notwithstanding, if the land of your possession be unclean, then pass ye over unto the land of the possession of the LORD, wherein the LORD'S tabernacle dwelleth, and take possession among us: but rebel not against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in building you an altar beside the altar of the LORD our God.”**

**If the land of your possession be unclean: If their inheritance was to wicked, then they could inherit a place on the same side of Jordan as the rest of them.**

**A trespass in the accursed thing**

**“20 Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.”**

**Achan the son of Zerah:** He is called **the son of Carmi** his actual father who was the son of Zabdi the son of Zerah in 1st Chronicles 2:10. Carmi was dead at this time, so he is not mentioned.

 Phineas pleaded with the people to come over to this side of the Jordan and inherit the land God had originally intended for them and to go to the altar that God had ordained.

 Remember also that these tribes chose this land forty years ago because they were ranchers, and the land was very good for raising cattle.

 They settled for the land on the other side of the promise and that is what we often do, we take something that looks good and find out that there will be struggles with what we desired that may even end up destroying us.

The LORD God of gods

**21 Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh answered, and said unto the heads of the thousands of Israel,**

**“22 The LORD God of gods, the LORD God of gods, he knoweth, and Israel he shall know; if it be in rebellion, or if in transgression against the LORD, (save us not this day,) 23 That we have built us an altar to turn from following the LORD, or if to offer thereon burnt offering or meat offering, or if to offer peace offerings thereon, let the LORD himself require it; 24 And if we have not rather done it for fear of this thing, saying, In time to come your children might speak unto our children, saying, What have ye to do with the LORD God of Israel?”**

**The LORD hath made Jordan a border**

**“25 For the LORD hath made Jordan a border between us and you, ye children of Reuben and children of Gad; ye have no part in the LORD: so shall your children make our children cease from fearing the LORD. 26 Therefore we said, Let us now prepare to build us an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice: 27 But that it may be a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.”**

**Behold the pattern of the altar**

**“28 Therefore said we, that it shall be, when they should so say to us or to our generations in time to come, that we may say again, Behold the pattern of the altar of the LORD, which our fathers made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifices; but it is a witness between us and you.”**

**It is a witness between us and you: The altar was not for sacrificing upon, it was only a memorial witness that they were partners with the tribes on the west side of the Jordan.**

**“29 God forbid that we should rebel against the LORD, and turn this day from following the LORD, to build an altar for burnt offerings, for meat offerings, or for sacrifices, beside the altar of the LORD our God that is before his tabernacle.”**

The two and a half tribes settled for the permissive will of God instead of the perfect will of God.

**30 And when Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation and heads of the thousands of Israel which were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spake, it pleased them. 31 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh,**

**“This day we perceive that the LORD is among us, because ye have not committed this trespass against the LORD: now ye have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the LORD.”**

**Ye have delivered the children of the house of Israel out of the hand of the LORD: They thought they were trying to worship other gods with this altar they built, and they feared the LORD would judge them as well for the altar.**

**32 And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, unto the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again. 33 And the thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed God, and did not intend to go up against them in battle, to destroy the land wherein the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt. 34 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar Ed: for it shall be a witness between us that the LORD is God.**

**The children of Gad called the altar Ed:** The word Ed, is the word witness in Hebrew.

 There would eventually be separation between the tribes and of course the three that made the carnal choice based on the lust of the eyes would choose to go and unite with the northern tribes when they divided after Solomon’s rule.

**Chapter Twenty-Three**

**A long time after that**

**1 And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old and stricken in age. 2 And Joshua called for all Israel, and for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them,**

**“I am old and stricken in age: 3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God is he that hath fought for you. 4 Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.”**

**He shall expel them from before you**

**“5 And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.”**

**He shall expel them from before you: They have an if then covenant with God. If they obey God, then God will expel them from before you.**

**Be ye therefore very courageous**

**“6 Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left; 7 That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them: 8 But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day. 9 For the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and strong: but as for you, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day.”**

**One man of you shall chase a thousand**

**“10 One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.”**

Israel was not to even make mention of their god’s names because that would eventually lead to them swearing by them (meaning to pledge an oath in their name), which would lead to them serving them and ultimately to bowing down to them.

**“11 Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God. 12 Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you:”**

**The remnant of these nations: Those that you allow to remain in the land and pay tribute.**

**God will no more drive out any of these nations**

**“13 Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out any of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.”**

**God will no more drive out any of these nations: If Israel begins to compromise with these heathen that have been disinherited then he will allow them to be snares unto them.**

Unfortunately, that is exactly what happened to Israel.

**“14 And, behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, and not one thing hath failed thereof.”**

**I am going the way of all the earth: I am going to die.**

**“15 Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.”**

**Until he have destroyed you from off this good land: They shall go into captivity for their disobedience.**

**“16 When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you.”**

 He will soon bring about the time of Jacob’s trouble spoken about in Jeremiah 30:7, and in great depth in the book of the Revelation also referred to as Daniel’s seventieth week.

 Then Israel will repent as a nation and cling to the LORD.

**Chapter Twenty-Four**

**Thus saith the LORD**

 We now come to the end of Joshua’s life and as scripture records that he being yet dead speaketh. Joshua uses his last moments on earth to help those he cares about.

 How do you use your remaining days? Is it spent trying to make sure your life has all the comforts this world has to offer or is it spent trying to make the world a little better if only in your corner of it?

**1 And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.**

**Thus saith the LORD God of Israel**

**2 And Joshua said unto all the people,**

**“Thus saith the LORD God of Israel,”**

**Thus saith the LORD God of Israel: Now Joshua is not speaking his own words, but he is speaking the words that the LORD God of Israel wanted them to hear:**

**“Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.”**

**The other side of the flood in old time: The flood was not far removed from Terah and Nahor. It was only a few generations back to Noah, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Abraham was actually alive for 56 years before Noah died.**

**“3 And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. 4 And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. 5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out. 6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea. 7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season. 8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you. 9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you: 10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand. 11 And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand. 12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow. 13 And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.”**

**Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel: The Moabites were the last enemy Israel faced before entering into the promised land. The book of Ruth begins in the country of Moab.**

**I sent the hornet before you: This was prophesied by the LORD in Deuteronomy 7:22-28.**

**Fear the LORD**

**“14 Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.”**

**Fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: Now, the LORD has ceased speaking and Joshua is speaking again.**

**Put away the gods which your fathers served: Joshua was telling Israel to not stop obeying the LORD in finishing what he started.**

**“15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”**

**16 And the people answered and said,**

**“God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; 17 For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: 18 And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.”**

**He it is that brought us up and our fathers: They were the next generation that was not yet forty years of age when the ten spies returned with their negative report.**

**19 And Joshua said unto the people,**

**“Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. 20 If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods, then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume you, after that he hath done you good.”**

**21 And the people said unto Joshua,**

**“Nay; but we will serve the LORD.”**

**22 And Joshua said unto the people,**

**“Ye are witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him.”**

**And they said,**

**“We are witnesses. 23 Now therefore put away, said he, the strange gods which are among you, and incline your heart unto the LORD God of Israel.”**

**24 And the people said unto Joshua,**

**“The LORD our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey.”**

Put away the strange gods

 Joshua wanted to see some actions go along with Israel’s words, so he challenged them to get rid of all their idols (strange gods) on that day, and they did.

A covenant

**25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. 27 And Joshua said unto all the people,**

**“Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us: it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.”**

**Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us:** The stone was a witness that they didn’t follow the LORD because they would not have been dispersed into all the lands for rejecting their Messiah if they were following it when he came.

**28 So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance. 29 And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old. 30 And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash. 31 And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.**

**Timnathserah: The city that Joshua asked for. See Joshua 19:50. Joshua’s daughter name was Serah. The word Timnath means a portion.**

The bones of Joseph

**32 And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph. 33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill that pertained to Phinehas his son, which was given him in mount Ephraim.**

**Buried they in Shechem:** This is not the cave of Machpelah where Abraham and Sarah are buried.

 Joshua is dead, and Israel still follows the LORD for a while until all those that were elders died off. They did not listen very long to the words of Joshua, or they would have never faced the troubles they faced.

**The End**

**Joshua Test**

**Introduction Test**

1. Where does the story of Joshua begin in the Bible?

2. What is Joshua’s name in Greek?

3. What two New Testament books does Joshua most parallel?

4. Who sends the twelve spies to check out the Promised land?

5. What other spy gave a positive report with Joshua?

6. What does Joshua’s name mean?

7. Who were the children of Anak?

8. What did the ten spies say concerning the land?

9. What was Joshua and Caleb’s response?

10. What was the response of the children of Israel?

11. What was God’s verbal response to Israel’s complaints?

12. How many times did God say Israel tempted him?

13. How many years was Israel punished?

14. What did Israel get that they asked for in verse two?

15. What happened to the ten men that gave the evil report?

16. Did Israel disobey anyway and try to enter the land early?

17. How did God promote Joshua before the people?

**Chapter One Test**

1. What is the first event mentioned in the book of Joshua?

2. According to God in verse three how much land will God give to Israel?

3. What would be the key for Israel to prosper in the land according to verse seven?

4. What two things does God tell Joshua three times in this chapter?

5. What tribes stayed on the East side of the Jordan?

**Chapter Two Test**

**1.** What was Rahab's profession?

2. What was the unknown purpose of the two spies?

3. Was Rahab trusting in Christ’s death, burial and resurrection for salvation?

4. Was Rahab a type of the Body of Christ (The Church)?

5. Who would the King of Jericho be a type of?

6. What did Rahab do for the two witnesses?

7. Is it alright today to lie to protect someone’s life in a similar situation?

8. Does Rahab believe in the God of Israel?

9. What does Rahab ask for and receive from the two messengers?\

10. How could Rahab and her family only be spared in the invasion?

**Chapter Three Tests**

1. How many days are mentioned before Israel is to march to Jericho?
2. How far are they to remain away from the Ark?
3. What is this symbolic of?
4. Where is the Ark at in this story?
5. Who did God magnify in the sight of all the people beginning on that day?
6. What miracle happens that allow the children of Israel to later believe that the walls will fall?
7. What happened to the people that tried to pass over at the Salt Sea?
8. Is crossing over Jordan a picture of going to heaven? Why or why not?

**Chapter Four**

1. What did God tell Joshua to do as soon as the people crossed over the Jordan?

2. What purpose would the stones serve for the people of Israel?

3. Who later baptized at this very same crossing point?

4. What was the purpose of Joshua's placing twelve stones in the river as well?

5. On what day did the children of Israel come up out of the Jordan River?

6. Where did Joshua pitch the twelve stones that they took from the midst of the Jordan?

**Chapter Five**

1. What happened to the kings in the land when they heard God had dried up the Jordan River?

2. What did Joshua do to all the males of Israel once they had entered into the land?

3. Why did he have to do this?

4. What does the name Gilgal mean?

5. What daily miracle ceased when they crossed over Jordan?

6. Who did Joshua see later that night? What was his title?

7. Who was this person really?

**Chapter Six**

1. Did Joshua cause the walls of Jericho to fall down?

2. Describe what the children of Israel did for the next seven days?

3. Did God allow any of the laws of Moses to get broken on this day? Why?

4. In verse eight it says that the priests passed on before who?

5. What did Joshua tell the armed men to do that followed the Ark?

6. What are the spies called here in verse seventeen?

7. What does Joshua tell Israel to keep itself from in verse eighteen?

8. Where are the silver and gold from Jericho to go? Why?

9. Who were destroyed in the city?

10. Did the walls fall down or just a wall fall down according to verse twenty?

11. Who would have died if all the walls fell down and why?

12. If only one wall fell down would that allow any of the inhabitants to escape?

13. Where were Rahab's family taken to after Jericho was taken and why?

14. What did Joshua prophesy concerning the city of Jericho? Did it come to pass? When?

**Chapter Seven**

1. When is the best time for the Devil to attack you?
2. Who took of the accursed thing?
3. Why is Achan’s genealogy mentioned?
4. Was God angry at the children of Israel?
5. How many men died because of Achan’s sin?
6. What was Joshua’s response to the defeat at Ai?
7. What was God’s remedy to the problem?
8. How was Achan to be punished?
9. Did Achan voluntarily confess his sin first?
10. What is the name of the valley named for Achan?

**Chapter Eight**

1. Who devises the plan for the overthrow of Ai?
2. How many soldiers did Joshua send to ambush Ai?
3. What were the other soldiers to do that attacked Ai?
4. Who joined Ai in the battle?
5. Where did Joshua build an altar at?
6. What was the altar to be made of?
7. How were the children of Israel divided?
8. What did each mountain represent according to verse 34?

9. Why does Joshua sacrifice on Ebal, and not Gerizim?

10. What did each group of tribes yell at each other?

**Chapter Nine**

1. How many nations united to fight against Israel?

2. Who was their leader? What did his name mean?

3. Who was it that devised a plan to save their lives?

4. What did they ask of Israel?

5. What was Israel's sin in this according to verse fourteen?

6. Why did the Gibeonites not mention Israel's recent battles?

7. Who were the Gibeonites apart of?

8. Where are the Gibeonites assigned to work all of their days?
**Chapter Ten**

1. Who is Adonzedek a type of?
2. Who does Adonizedek want to fight before Israel?
3. Does Joshua have an obligation to protect Gibeon?
4. How did most of the people die in this chapter?
5. What miracle occurred in this battle with the sun?
6. What happens in the book of Revelations that is similiar to what happens to these kings?

**Chapter Eleven**

1. Who were the children of Anak (The Anakims)?
2. Where was the only place left that had descendants of Anak alive?

3. Who is the most famous Anakim?

4. Were the Anakim similiar to the descendants of the Sons of God and the daughers of men?

5. What two New Testament verses deal with the punishment of these beasts?

**Chapter Fourteen**

1. Was there any land that still needed to be possessed?
2. What did Israel do with the land?
3. What was Levi’s inheritance?
4. Which tribes remained on the East side of the Jordan?

**Chapter Fifteen**

1. Which tribe became two tribes? Joseph;
2. What individual was promised a city from Moses?
3. What city did Moses promise to Caleb?
4. Who was the city previously named after?
5. What three things was the city known for?

**Chapter Sixteen Test**

1. Whose three sons dwelt in Hebron?
2. What did Othniel receive for his victory?
3. What did his wife ask for?

**Chapter Eighteen Test**

1. Where did the children of Israel set up the tabernacle at?
2. By what method did Joshua divide up the land?
3. What city was given to Joshua?

**Chapter Twenty and Twenty-one Test**

1. How many cities of Refuge were there in Israel?
2. Where were they located?
3. How many cities belonged unto the Levites?
4. What is a city of refuge for?
5. What is an avenger of blood?
6. How long would the accused stay in the city of Refuge?
7. What cities were cities of refuge?
8. Could a stranger flee to one of these cities as well?

**Chapter Twenty-two Test**

1. What is the Altar of Ed?

2. Who built it?

3. Where was this Altar located?

4. What was the response of the rest of Israel concerning it?

5. What is the iniquity of Peor?

6. What did Israel believe the Altar would lead to?

7. Where was the Altar of the LORD located then?

8. What was the purpose of the Altar of Ed?

**Chapter Twenty-three Test**

1. What two things does Joshua tell the people not to do?

2. One man of you shall chase \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

3. What did Joshua tell Israel not to do with the heathen?

4. What would happen to Israel if they worshipped other gods?

**Chapter Twenty-four Test**

1. What does Joshua tell us about Abraham’s family?

2. What does Joshua tell Israel to put away?

3. Write out Joshua 24:15 from memory?

**4.** Where did Joshua make a covenant with all the people at?

5. How old was Joshua when he died?

6. How long did Israel continue to serve the LORD?

7. Where did Israel bury the bones of Joseph?