

Joshua - "God Brings Israel into His Land"

From Whom: Although the author is not named, we learn from Chapter 24:26 that Joshua wrote the book. According to the Talmud, Joshua wrote all but the last 5 verses of the book, with either Phineas, or his father Eleazar, completing the book for Joshua.

Joshua was born in Egypt under slavery, he was in his 40's when he followed Moses out of Egypt, and he was in his 80's when he took over the leadership role. Joshua died in the promised land at the age of 110.

To Whom: This is the first of the 12 historical books, written to the people of Israel to record God's faithful fulfilment of His promise to bring Abraham's descendants into the promised land.

What/ Theme: The book of Joshua is the counterpart of Exodus. Exodus records how God led his people out of the land of bondage, while Joshua tells us how God led his people into the land of blessing. Moses summarizes both books in **Deut. 6:23**:

- "Then he brought us out ... that he might bring us in..." - NKJV

Joshua is the English translation of the Hebrew name, Yeshua, which means "Jehovah saves," or "Yahweh is salvation." The New Testament Greek transliteration of this name is "Iesous," which is "Jesus" in English.

Where/ Notable People: The book opens with God's people incamped east of the Jordan, opposite Jericho in a place called Shittim (Acacia Grove). However, the book focuses on how God removed the idolaters from the land and settled Abraham's descendants in the land. The key personalities are Joshua, Caleb, Rahab, Achan, Phinehas, and Eleazar.

Outline:

- 1) Entering the Promised Land (**1:1–5:15**)
- 2) Conquering the Promised Land (**6:1–12:24**)
 - a) The Central Campaign (**6:1–8:35**)
 - b) The Southern Campaign (**9:1–10:43**)
 - c) The Northern Campaign (**11:1–15**)
 - d) The Summary of Conquests (**11:16–12:24**)
- 3) Distributing Portions in the Promised Land (**13:1–22:34**)
 - a) Summary of Instructions (**13:1–33**)

- b) West of the Jordan (**14:1–19:51**)
 - c) Cities of Refuge (**20:1–9**)
 - d) Cities of the Levites (**21:1–45**)
 - e) East of the Jordan (**22:1–34**)
- 4) Retaining the Promised Land (**23:1–24:28**)
- a) The First Speech by Joshua (**23:1–16**)
 - b) The Second Speech by Joshua (**24:1–28**)
- 5) Joshua's death (**24:29–33**)

JOSHUA AT A GLANCE						
Focus	Conquest Of Canaan		Settlement In Canaan			
Reference	1:1 ——— 6:1 ——— 13:8 ——— 14:1 ——— 20:1 ——— 22:1 ——— 24:33					
Division	Preparation Of Israel	Conquest Of Canaan	Settlement Of East Jordan	Settlement Of West Jordan	Settlement Of Religious Community	Conditions For Continued Settlement
Topic	Entering Canaan	Conquering Canaan	Dividing Canaan			
	Preparation	Subjection	Possession			
Location	Jordan River	Canaan	Two And A Half Tribes--East Jordan Nine And A Half Tribes--West Jordan			
Time	c. 1 Month	c. 7 Years	c. 8 Years			

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