

JOSHUA: INHERITANCE

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Welcome to these studies in Joshua. I have mainly provided tables and a presentation, which begin to show us some of the relationships between various parts of this book. On the following tables I have marked some text by bolding it and some by underlining. These are themes that relate to each other either up and down the columns or across the rows.

1. For example in the third column on page 6, in the third column under the title "Giving Land" the themes of giving, sharing and generosity are emphasized. First you find God requiring of the Levites that they share their cities with those in trouble through accidental slayings. Then He commands Israel to share their cities with the Levites and support them in their ministry at the Tabernacle, God's house. Finally in the last section, 21:43-45 it is pointed out that the most generous of all is God himself, for He is the One who gave them the land in the first place. Israel is to be like their God by being generous with each other. The Lord singles out as examples of those with whom Israel is to share, namely, people in trouble and people in "full-time" ministry.

2. Again on page 5 you could look at the whole theme of how Israel was to receive their inheritances. Similar things apply to us. At the top of the middle column you have Judah receiving their inheritance and it starts with the story of Caleb (14:6-15:63). Caleb took or received his inheritance **wholeheartedly**. Then if you look at the story about Othniel and Acsah you find a woman who is given an inheritance of land in the Negev, which is desert. She then asked for water to **develop** what she was given. We also need to receive our spiritual inheritance wholeheartedly and with an eye to developing whatever the Lord gives us be it much or little, desert or rich farm land! This section also emphasizes the importance of not only taking the cities but holding on to them. In 15:63 we are told that Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites from Jerusalem. In chapter 10, Joshua conquered an alliance led by the King of Jerusalem. Why in the light of his defeat were they not able to take that king's city? They may have taken it initially but were not able to settle in it. While Israel was off fighting other battles residents who fled Jerusalem may have returned and refortified it.

It may have been a matter of the king and army being defeated but the city itself never having been taken. Israel had fought so many other cities that when they finally returned to take Jerusalem, the Jebusites had retrenched there and were too tough to dislodge. Not till David's time was it taken.

It may very well be true that certain enemies of the church, of world evangelization, of our family or even of ourselves will not be taken until the right leader comes along do that particular job. In a sense that was what was left to Jesus. Many enemies had been conquered by Joshua, Samuel, other judges and even David but the great enemies of death, sin and Satan himself were only conquered by Jesus.

Anyway, another aspect of taking our inheritance is the importance of **holding** on to what we already have.

JOSHUA: INHERITANCE

The Main Divisions of the Book of Joshua

I. **Entering 1:1-5:12** - "... *to cross*...into the land ..." 1:2 The command to enter the land.

II. **Possessing (Receiving) 5:13-12:24** - "... *to give* to them ...", "I will give you every place where you set your foot." 1:2b-5 Israel conquers Canaan because the Lord gives it to them

III. **Dividing 13:1-21:45** - "...you will lead these people *to inherit*..." 1:6 After conquering the land Joshua divides it amongst the people

IV. **Remaining 22:1-24:33** - "Be careful *to obey* all the law ..." 1:7, "... to do everything written in it ..." 1:8, 1:7-9 In order to remain and prosper in the land they were to obey the Lord

JOSHUA: INHERITANCE

The Main Divisions and Subdivisions of Joshua

I. Entering 1:1-5:12 - "Cross ... into the land" 1:2

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|----|----------|--------------------------------|
| A. | 1:1-18, | Preparations to enter the land |
| B. | 2:1-24, | The 2 spies in Jericho |
| C. | 3:1-17, | Crossing the Jordan |
| D. | 4:1-5:1, | The 12 stones from the Jordan |
| E. | 5:2-12, | Circumcision and the Passover |

II. Possessing (Receiving) 5:13-12:24 - "I will give you every place where you set your foot, ..." 1:3-5

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|-------|----------|--|
| A. | 5:13-15 | The Man with the drawn sword |
| B. | 6:1-27 | The fall of Jericho |
| C. | 7:1-26 | The defeat of Israel at Ai and defeat of sin in Israel |
| D. | 8:1-29 | The destruction of Ai |
| E. | 8:30-35 | The Covenant renewed at Mount Ebal |
| ----- | | |
| F. | 9:1-27 | The men with moldy bread |
| G. | 10:1-43 | The defeat of the Amorite alliance |
| H. | 11:1-15 | The northern alliance defeated |
| I. | 11:16-23 | Joshua takes all the land |
| J. | 12:1-24 | List of conquered lands and defeated kings |

III. Distributing 13:1-21:45 - "... you will lead these people to inherit ..." 1:6

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| A. | 13:1-13 | Land left to be taken west of the Jordan (future) |
| B. | 13:14-33 | Distribution accomplished of the land east of the Jordan (past) |
| C. | 14:1-5 | Distribution of the land west of the Jordan (present) |
| ----- | | |
| D. | 14:6-15:63 | Allotment and cities for Judah |
| E. | 16:1-17:18 | Allotment and cities for Joseph |
| F. | 18:1-19:51 | Allotments and cities for the seven remaining tribes |
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| G. | 20:1-9 | The cities of refuge |
| H. | 21:1-42 | The cities of the Levites |
| I. | 21:43-45 | Israel given all the land |

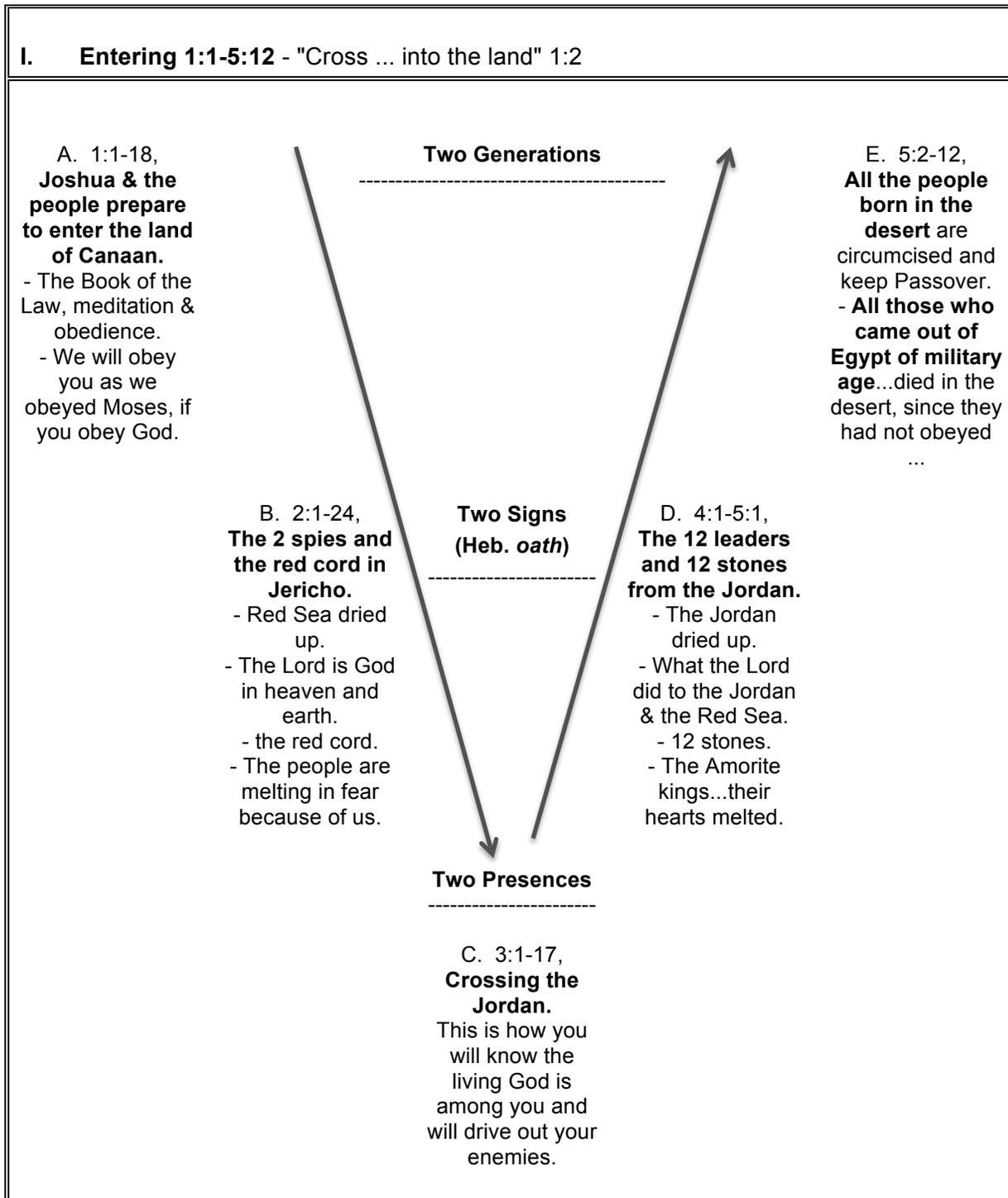
IV. Remaining 22:1-24:33 - "Be careful to obey all the law ..." 1:7-9

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|-------|----------|---|
| A. | 22:1-34 | Farewell to Reuben, Gad and half of Manasseh |
| B. | 23:1-16 | Joshua's farewell to the leaders |
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| C. | 24:1-28 | The Covenant to serve the Lord renewed at Shechem |
| D. | 24:29-33 | The deaths of Joshua and Eleazar, and the burial of Joseph. "Israel served the Lord ..." v.31 |

JOSHUA: INHERITANCE

"Entering the Land"

The First Main Division of Joshua and Its Subdivisions.



JOSHUA: INHERITANCE

"Possessing the Land"

The Second Main Division and Joshua and Its Subdivisions.

II. Possessing 5:13-12:24 - "I will give you every place you set your foot ..." 1:3-5	
Maintaining the Alliance with the Lord	Destroying the Alliances of the Enemy
<p>A. 5:13-15 The Man with the Drawn Sword.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are you with us or with our enemies? Neither. I am the Commander of the Lord's Army. - Joshua falls in worship. - Take off your shoes; this is holy ground. - <u>Victory comes through submitting to the Lord in holiness.</u> 	<p>F. 9:1-27 The Men with the Moldy Bread.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who are you? "From a far off land." - The Gibeonites display their worn shoes, clothes, and food deceiving the Israelite leaders. - Why didn't you consult the Lord? - <u>Victory comes through consulting the Lord and seeking his wisdom constantly.</u>
<p>B. 6:1-27 The Fall of Jericho.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - God causes the walls of Jericho to fall after Israel marches around the walls 7 days and on the 7th, marches 7 times, then blows trumpets and shouts. - The Lord fights for Israel causing amazing things to happen. - <u>When the Lord gives victory He goes ahead to prepare the way.</u> 	<p>G. 10:1-43 The Amorite Alliance Defeated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Lord drops stones destroying more of the enemy than Israel. The sun and moon stand still for almost a day. - When the Lord fights for Israel He destroys more of the enemy than they do and gives them more time. - <u>When the Lord gives victory He accomplishes more than we can accomplish.</u>
<p>C. 7:1-26 The Defeat of Israel at Ai.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Achan took of the devoted things in Jericho. The Lord is angry with Israel. - A small army sent against a small city. - This sin brings defeat by the tiny city of Ai, and a fear, that leaves the hearts of Israel like water. - The temptation to covet luxury items, robe, gold and silver - <u>Achan, who troubled Israel, is destroyed, another victory.</u> 	<p>H. 11:1-15 The Northern Alliance Defeated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jabin, king of Hazor, forms a northern alliance and brings out a huge army, with chariots and horses. - Obedience brings confidence and victory over a huge and powerful foe. - The temptation to covet technology, horses and chariots - <u>The Lord gives victory over an immense and powerful army.</u>
<p>D. 8:1-29 The Destruction of Ai.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua told not to fear and to attack Ai. God would give it to him. Israel could have the plunder. - Ai is tricked by an ambush. Joshua raised and held out his javelin as signal until all in Ai were destroyed. - <u>Winning a particular battle can take a long time and winning this battle would determine whether they would win others and take all the land.</u> 	<p>I. 11:16-23 All the Land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With exception of Gibeon no city made a treaty of peace with Israel. - The Lord hardened the kings' hearts. - Joshua destroyed Anakites (giants). - Joshua took entire land and gave it to Israel as an inheritance. Joshua waged war a long time. - <u>Winning a series of battles can take a long time.</u>
<p>E. 8:30-35 The Covenant Renewed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Israel sacrificed offerings. - Joshua made a copy of the law on stone. - Joshua read all the words of the law -the blessings and the curses- to all Israel. - <u>God's blessing or God's curse?</u> 	<p>J. 12:1-24 List of Defeated Kings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moses defeated Sihon and Og, on the east of the Jordan. Joshua took the land of the kings on the west side of the Jordan, 31 kings in all. - They gave the land to Israel as an inheritance. - <u>Nations cursed and a nation blessed.</u>

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"Distributing the Land"

The Third Main Division of Joshua and Its Subdivisions.

A Land Survey	Receiving Land	Giving Land
<p>13: 1-7 Land to be Taken - Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua is old and there are yet large areas to be taken - Land - Philistines, Geshurites...to Hamath - I (Lord) will drive them out - the Lord keeps the vision of the whole land constantly before them - Allocate this land to 9 1/2 tribes as inheritance 	<p>14:6-15:63 Judah's Area and Cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caleb receives his inheritance, with the Lord's help, wholeheartedly and in the face of great difficulties - Land for Judah - Caleb and Hebron, Othniel, Debir and Acsah - Acsah desires water to develop the desert, a land given to her for an inheritance - Cities for Judah - Jebusites hold Jerusalem - Taken and held much later by King David, 2Sa 5:6-10, 1Ch 11:4-9 	<p>20:1-9 Cities of Refuge</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the accidental killer to find refuge from the avenger of blood - The Levites must share their cities with those who accidentally kill someone - Here we find the Lord putting the burden of helping people in trouble squarely on the priests, those who lead the worship and who teach the Law - The Levites are to share, to give
<p>13:8-33 Division of Land East of Jordan - Past</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The land Moses had given - Levites, no inheritance; the Lord's offerings are their inheritance - Reuben's area - Gad's area - 1/2 of Manasseh's area - The Lord is Levites' inheritance <p>Note: This area was asked for when Israel was on east side of Jordan</p>	<p>16:1-17:18 Joseph's Area and Cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ephraim's area; they could not dislodge Canaanites from Gezer - Manasseh's area - Makir received Gilead and Bashan for their were good soldiers - Daughters of Zelophehad ask for inheritance - Territory of Manasseh - Towns of Ephraim in Manasseh - Manasseh had towns in Issachar and Asher, Canaanites there put to forced labor when Israel grew stronger - Joseph asks for more because they are numerous and prosperous but people in valleys have iron chariots - Joshua encourages them that they can drive out the powerful Canaanites 	<p>21:1-42 Cities for the Levites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given out of the inheritance of the others. So Israel would continue to give to the Levites to support them in their ministry before the Lord - Israel was to share, to give, to the Levites who served them in spiritual matters
<p>14:1-5 Distribution of Land West of Jordan - Present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is the area in Canaan they are giving to Israel at that time - Eleazer, Joshua & Heads - By lot to the 9 1/2 tribes - 2 1/2 tribes east of Jordan but none to Levites - Sons of Joseph are 2 tribes - Levites had no share of land, only towns with pasture - So Israel divided land just as Moses commanded 	<p>18:1-19:51 Areas and Cities of the Remaining Seven Tribes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the tent of Meeting at Shiloh the 7 tribes are asked, How long will you wait to take the land? Occasionally a rebuke is needed to spur people on to taking their spiritual inheritance - 3 men from each tribe to describe remaining 7 areas & Joshua to cast lots - Levites' priestly service - 2 1/2 tribes already receive - Areas & cities for Benjamin, Simeon (within Judah's large area), Zebulon, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali & Dan (who take Leshem) - Joshua's inheritance 	<p>21:43-45 The Lord Gave Israel all the Land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Lord shows himself generous to Israel - He gave them the land - He gave them rest from their enemies - He fulfilled all his good promises - The Lord gave to Israel and so He asked them to share and give to one another

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"Remaining in the Land"

The Fourth Main Division of Joshua and Its Subdivisions

Farewells	Faithfulness
<p>A. 22:1-34 Joshua's Farewell to Reuben, Gad and half of Manasseh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The men of war of the 2½ tribes who live on the east of Jordan are blessed and sent home - They build an altar at the Jordan - Israel fears they have built an altar in opposition to the Lord and come out against them - The men of the 2½ tribes reassure them that the altar is not against the Lord but to remind the tribes on the west side of the Jordan that they have as much right to the Lord and his blessing as they do - War is avoided and they are sent on with the blessing of the western tribes - Later in the book of Judges we see how turning from the Lord and into sin would even bring civil war to Israel - The western tribes rejoice at the report of the eastern tribes' faithfulness to God - The altar was called: A <u>Witness</u> Between Us that the Lord is God 	<p>C. 24:1-28 The Covenant Renewed at Shechem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua assembled all the tribes and challenged them to choose whom they would serve - First he gave them a history lesson showing how God had blessed Abraham; then delivered Israel from Egypt; from the curse of Balaam, blessing them instead; and finally had brought them into Canaan, conquering the nations and giving them their land - They were to either serve the gods of their fathers in Mesopotamia, or those of Egypt, or those of the Amorites, or to serve the Lord - Joshua says that as for him and his house they would serve the Lord - The Lord through Joshua emphasizes the importance of making a choice - Israel responds to Joshua by saying that his history lesson is accurate and that they would serve the Lord because He was their God - Joshua warns them they will fail and be judges but they insist they will serve the Lord so he renews the covenant between Israel and the Lord - Joshua records these things in the book of the Law - He set up a <u>large stone</u> said: This stone will be a <u>witness against us</u> - it has heard all the words the Lord has said to us - it will be a witness against you if you are untrue to your God
<p>B. 23:1-16 Joshua's Farewell to the Leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua summons the leaders in his old age - He reminds them of all God has done for them and will do for them - He exhorts them: Be careful to obey all that is written in the book of the Law - Hold fast to the Lord - Be careful to love the Lord your God - He warns them not to intermarry with the Amorites or those nations will cause them to perish from the land - Joshua says he is <u>about to die</u> and warns them that evil will come on them if they violate the Lord's covenant 	<p>D. 24:29-33 "Israel served the Lord..." v. 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joshua sent the people away, each to his own inheritance - As a Christian I have an inheritance, Acts 20:32 - Joshua <u>dies</u> and he was buried in his inheritance - As a Christian will I die having taken, or received, and developed, and enjoyed my inheritance? Ephesians 1:3-14;18; Colossians 3:24 - Israel served the Lord all the lifetime of Joshua and the elders who outlived him and experienced all the Lord had done for Israel - What are some of the things you have experienced that came from the Lord? - Joseph was buried in his inheritance and so was Eleazar the priest