**The Book of Joshua**

**Joshua Chapter 1**

God Commissions Joshua

1And after the death of Moses the servant of Yahweh, Yahweh spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying, 2“Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, cross over this Jordan, you and all the people, to the land that I am giving to them—to the children of Israel. 3Every place that the sole of your foot will tread on, I have given to you, just as I said to Moses. 4From the wilderness and this Lebanon even to the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun will be your territory. 5No man will *be able to* stand before you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you and I will not forsake you.

6“Be strong and courageous, for you will cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. 7Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the Law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you will have success wherever you go. 8This scroll of the Law must never cease *being spoken* out of your mouth, but you are to meditate on it day and night, so that you can be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed, for Yahweh your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua Prepares the People

10Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11“Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for in three more days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess[[1]](#footnote-21146) the land that Yahweh your God gives you to possess it.’”

12Joshua spoke to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, saying, 13“Remember the word that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you, saying, ‘Yahweh your God is giving you rest and will give you this land. 14Your wives, your little ones and your livestock may live in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan; but you must cross over before your brothers organized for battle, all the valiant warriors, and must help them 15until Yahweh has given your brothers rest as he has given you, and they have also possessed the land that Yahweh your God is giving them. Then you may return to the land of your possession, and possess it, *the land* that Moses the servant of Yahweh gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise.’”

16And they answered Joshua, saying, “All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17Just as we listened to Moses in all things, so will we listen to you. Only may Yahweh your God be with you, as he was with Moses. 18Whoever rebels against your commandment and does not listen to your words in all that you command him, he will be put to death. Only be strong and courageous.”

**Joshua Chapter 2**

Spies Sent to Jericho

1Joshua the son of Nun secretly sent two men out from Shittim as spies, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho.” And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and they lay down there.

2And the king of Jericho was told, “Behold, men of the children of Israel came here tonight to search out the land.” 3So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, “Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered into your house, for they have come to search out all the land.”

4But the woman had taken the two men and hid them. Then she said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. 5And when the *city* gate was about to be shut, when it was dark, the men went out. Where the men went, I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you will catch up with them.” 6But she had brought them up to the roof, and had hidden them in the stalks of flax that she had spread out on the roof. 7The men pursued them on the road to the Jordan to the fords, and as soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate.

The Promise to Rahab

8As for the spies, before they had laid down, she came up to them on the roof, 9and she said to the men, “I know that Yahweh has given you the land and that the fear of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. 10For we have heard how Yahweh dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and to Og whom you devoted to destruction. 11As soon as we had heard it, our hearts melted, and there did not rise up any more spirit in any man because of you, for Yahweh your God, he is God in heaven above and on earth beneath. 12And now, please swear to me by Yahweh, since I have acted faithfully toward you, that you also will act faithfully toward my father’s house and give me a reliable sign, 13and that you will keep alive my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters and all that they have, and will deliver our lives from death.”

14The men said to her, “Our life for yours, if you do not tell this business of ours, and when Yahweh gives us the land, we will deal faithfully and reliably with you.”

15Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was in the outer part of the *city* wall, and she lived in the wall. 16And she said to them, “Go to the hill country, lest the pursuers encounter you, and hide yourselves there three days until the pursuers have returned. Afterward, go on your way.”

17And the men said to her, “We will be guiltless from this oath of yours that you have made us swear…. 18Behold, we are coming into the land. Tie this cord of scarlet thread in the window through which you let us down. You are to gather to yourself into the house, your father and your mother and your brothers and all your father’s household. 19And it will come to pass that whoever goes out of the doors of your house, outside, his blood will be on his head, and we will be guiltless. But whoever is with you in the house, his blood will be on our head if any hand is on him. 20But if you tell this business of ours, then we will be guiltless of your oath that you have made us to swear.”

21And she said, “According to your words, so be it.” Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

22So they went and came to the hill country and stayed there three days until the pursuers had returned. The pursuers sought them all along the road, but did not find them. 23Then the two men returned, came down from the hill country, crossed over *the Jordan* and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and they told him all that had happened to them. 24They said to Joshua, “Truly Yahweh has given into our hands all the land. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away before us.”

**Joshua Chapter 3**

Crossing the Jordan

1And Joshua rose up early in the morning, and they moved from Shittim and came to the Jordan, he and all the children of Israel. They camped there before they crossed over *the Jordan*. 2And it came to pass after three days, the officers went through the midst of the camp, 3and they commanded the people, saying, “When you see the ark of the covenant of Yahweh your God and the priests, the Levites, carrying it, then you are to set out from your place and follow it. 4Yet there is to be a space between you and it, about 2,000 cubits[[2]](#footnote-12846) by measure. Do not come near to it, so that you will know the way by which you must go; for you have not passed this way before.”

5And Joshua said to the people, “Make yourselves holy, for tomorrow Yahweh will do wonders among you.” 6And Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, “Take up the ark of the covenant and cross over before the people.” So they took up the ark of the covenant and went before the people.

7Yahweh said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to make you great in the eyes of all Israel, so that they will know that as I was with Moses, I will be with you. 8You are to command the priests who carry the ark of the covenant, saying, ‘When you come to the edge of the water of the Jordan, you are to stand still in the Jordan.’”

9And Joshua said to the children of Israel, “Draw near and hear the words of Yahweh your God.” 10Joshua said, “This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will drive out, yes, drive out from before you the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Hivite and the Perizzite and the Girgashite and the Amorite and the Jebusite. 11Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over before you into the Jordan. 12And now take for yourselves 12 men out of the tribes of Israel; one man from each tribe. 13It will come to pass, when the soles of the feet of the priests who carry the ark of Yahweh the Lord of all the earth *come to* rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan will be cut off, and the waters coming down from above will stand up in one heap.”

14It came to pass, when the people moved from their encampment to cross over the Jordan, the priests who carried the ark of the covenant were before the people, 15and when those who carried the ark had come to the Jordan and the feet of the priests—those carrying the ark—dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), 16the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in one heap a great way off, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those that went down toward the Sea of the Arabah, even the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. 17And the priests carrying the ark of the covenant of Yahweh stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel crossed over on dry ground until all the nation had crossed completely over the Jordan.

**Joshua Chapter 4**

Twelve Memorial Stones

1Now when all the nation had completely crossed over the Jordan, Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying, 2“Take for yourselves 12 men from the people, one man from each tribe, 3and command them, saying, ‘Take up from here, from the midst of the Jordan, from the place where the feet of the priests are standing firm, twelve stones, and make them cross over with you, and put them down in the camp where you will camp tonight.’”

4Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, one man from each tribe. 5And Joshua said to them, “Cross over in front of the ark of Yahweh your God into the midst of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone onto your shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, 6so that this will be a sign among you; for your children will ask in time to come, saying, ‘What do you mean by these stones?’ 7Then you are to tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in the presence of the ark of the covenant of Yahweh; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones will be for a lasting reminder for the children of Israel.’”

8And the children of Israel did that, just as Joshua commanded; and they took up twelve stones from the midst of the Jordan just as Yahweh spoke to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel; and they made them cross over with them to the camp and put them down there. 9And Joshua *also* set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests who carried the ark of the covenant stood, and they are there to this day.

10For the priests—those carrying the ark—continued standing in the midst of the Jordan until everything was finished that Yahweh commanded Joshua to say to the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua; and the people hurried and crossed over. 11And it came to pass when all the people had completely crossed over that the ark of Yahweh crossed over, and the priests, in the presence of the people. 12And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, organized for battle, in front of the children of Israel, as Moses had spoken to them, 13about 40,000 ready and armed for war crossed over in the presence of Yahweh, to battle, to the plains of Jericho.

14On that day Yahweh made Joshua great in the eyes of all Israel, and they stood in awe of him just as they stood in awe of Moses, all the days of his life. 15Then Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying, 16“Command the priests who are carrying the ark of the testimony to come up out of the Jordan.”

17So Joshua commanded the priests, saying, “Come up out of the Jordan!” 18It came to pass when the priests who were carrying the ark of the covenant of Yahweh had come up out of the midst of the Jordan—*when* the soles of the priests’ feet were separated from the ground *that had been made* dry—that the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and they flowed over all their banks, as it was before.

19And the people came up out of the Jordan on the tenth *day* of the first month and encamped in Gilgal, on the east side of Jericho. 20And those twelve stones that they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal. 21And he spoke to the children of Israel, saying, “When your children ask their fathers in times to come, saying, ‘What do these stones mean?’ 22Then you are to make known to your children, saying, ‘Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land.’ 23For Yahweh your God dried up the waters of the Jordan from before you until you had crossed over, just as Yahweh your God did to the Red Sea that he dried up from before us until we had crossed over, 24in order that all the peoples of the earth might know the hand of Yahweh, that it is mighty, *and* so that you would fear Yahweh your God forever.’”

**Joshua Chapter 5**

The New Generation Circumcised

1It came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the *Mediterranean* Sea, heard that Yahweh had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until they had crossed over, that their heart melted, nor was there spirit in them anymore because of the children of Israel.

2At that time Yahweh said to Joshua, “Make yourselves flint knives[[3]](#footnote-25029) and circumcise again the children of Israel—a second *time*.” 3So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the children of Israel at the Hill of the Foreskins. 4This is the reason Joshua circumcised them: all the people who came out of Egypt, the males, all the men of war, died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt. 5For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people who were born in the wilderness on the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised. 6For the children of Israel walked 40 years in the wilderness until all the nation, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished, because they did not listen to the voice of Yahweh. Yahweh swore to them that he would not let them see the land that Yahweh swore to their fathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. 7But their children whom he raised up in their place were circumcised by Joshua; for they were uncircumcised because they had not circumcised them on the way. 8And it came to pass when they had finished circumcising all the nation, that they stayed in their place in the camp until they were living *again*. 9And Yahweh said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you.” Therefore the name of that place was called Gilgal to this day.

First Passover in Canaan, End of Manna

10And the children of Israel encamped at Gilgal, and they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening in the plains of Jericho. 11They ate from the produce of the land on the day after the Passover—on this very day—unleavened bread and roasted *grain*. 12And the manna ceased on the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the children of Israel, but they ate of the yield of the land of Canaan that year.

Joshua Meets the Commander of the Army of Yahweh

13And it came to pass when Joshua was by Jericho that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man stood in front of him with his sword drawn in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?”

14And he said, “Neither. Rather I am the commander of the army of Yahweh. Now I have come.”

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped,[[4]](#footnote-11119) and said to him, “What does my lord have to say to his servant?”

15The commander of Yahweh’s army said to Joshua, “Take your sandals off of your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

**Joshua Chapter 6**

The Fall of Jericho

1Now Jericho was shutting *its gates* and was shut up because of the children of Israel. No one went out and no one came in. 2And Yahweh said to Joshua, “Behold, I have given Jericho into your hand and her king *and* the mighty men of valor. 3And you are to march around the city, all you men of war, going around the city one time. Do this six days. 4And seven priests are to carry seven shofars of rams’ horns ahead of the ark. And on the seventh day, you are to march around the city seven times while the priests blow on the shofars. 5And it will be that when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, and when you hear the sound of the shofar, all the people are to shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down underneath itself and the people will go up, every man straight before him.”

6So Joshua the son of Nun called for the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests carry seven shofars of rams’ horns ahead of the ark of Yahweh.” 7And he said to the people, “Go forward and march around the city and let the front troops go forward ahead of the ark of Yahweh.”

8And it was so, that just as Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven shofars of rams’ horns before Yahweh went forward and blew the shofars and the ark of the covenant of Yahweh followed them. 9The front troops went ahead of the priests who blew the shofars and the rear guard followed the ark, and *the priests* continued to blow the shofars as they walked. 10Now Joshua commanded the people, saying, “You are not to shout, nor let your voice be heard, nor is any word to proceed out of your mouth until the day I tell you to shout. Then you are to shout.” 11So he had the ark of Yahweh circle around the city, going around it one time. Then they came into the camp and lodged in the camp.

12Then Joshua rose early in the morning and the priests took up the ark of Yahweh. 13And the seven priests carrying the seven shofars of rams’ horns ahead of the ark of Yahweh walked on continually and blew the trumpets, and the forward troops went ahead of them. The rear guard came after the ark of Yahweh. The *priests* continued to blow the shofars as they walked. 14And the second day they marched around the city one time and returned to the camp. They did this six days.

15It came to pass on the seventh day that they rose early, as dawn came, and they marched around the city in the same way seven times. Only on that day they marched around the city seven times. 16And it came to pass on the seventh time, the priests blew the shofars and Joshua said to the people, “Shout! For Yahweh has given you the city! 17The city is to be devoted to Yahweh, it and all that is in it. Only Rahab the prostitute will live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers that we sent. 18But as for you, only keep yourselves away from the devoted *things*, lest as you are devoting it, you take of the devoted *things*, and you make the camp of Israel a devoted *thing* and bring disaster on it. 19For all the silver and gold and articles of bronze and iron are holy to Yahweh. They are to go into Yahweh’s treasury.”

20So the people shouted, and the priests blew the shofars. And it came to pass when the people heard the sound of the shofar that the people shouted with a great shout and the wall fell underneath itself so that the people went up into the city, every man *straight* in front of him, and they captured the city. 21They devoted *to Yahweh* all that was in the city, both man and woman, both young and old, and ox and sheep and donkey with the mouth of the sword.

Rahab and Her Family Spared

22But Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, “Go into the prostitute’s house and bring out from there the woman and all that she has, as you swore to her.” 23So the young men, the spies, went in and brought out Rahab and her father and her mother and her brothers and all that she had; they also brought out all her relatives, and they settled them outside of the camp of Israel.

24And they burned the city with fire, and all that was in it. Only they put the silver and the gold and the articles of bronze and of iron into the treasury of the house of Yahweh. 25But Rahab the prostitute, and her father’s household and all that she had, Joshua let live. She has lived in the midst of Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26Joshua laid an oath upon them at that time, saying, “Cursed before Yahweh is the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho. With his firstborn *son* he will lay its foundation, and with his youngest *son* he will set up its gates.”

27And Yahweh was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land.

**Joshua Chapter 7**

Israel Defeated at Ai

1But the children of Israel were unfaithful, yes, unfaithful regarding the devoted things, for Achan the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah of the tribe of Judah took from the devoted things. And the anger of Yahweh burned against the children of Israel.

2Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, “Go up and spy out the land.” So the men went up and spied out Ai.

3They returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not have all the people go up; but let about 2,000 men or 3,000 men go up and strike Ai. Do not make all the people toil up there, for they are *only* a few.” 4So about 3,000 men of the people went up there, but they fled before the men of Ai. 5The men of Ai struck down of them about 36 men, and they chased them from outside the gate even to Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

6Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of Yahweh until the evening, he and the elders of Israel, and they put dust on their heads. 7Joshua said, “Alas, Lord Yahweh, why have you brought this people across, yes, across the Jordan, only to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? If only we had been content to live beyond the Jordan! 8Oh, Lord, what can I say, after Israel has turned their backs before their enemies! 9For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it, and they will surround us and cut off our name from the earth. And what will you do for your great name?”

The Sin of Achan

10And Yahweh said to Joshua, “Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? 11Israel has sinned, and also they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them. And also they have taken of the devoted *things*. And also they have stolen. And also they have lied. And also they have put it among their possessions. 12That is why the children of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They will turn their backs before their enemies because they have become devoted *for destruction*. I will be with you no more unless you destroy the devoted *thing* from among you.

13“Get up! Make the people holy and say, ‘Make yourselves holy for tomorrow, for Yahweh the God of Israel, says, “There is a devoted *thing* in the midst of you, Israel. You will not be able to stand before your enemies until you remove the devoted *thing* from among you.” 14In the morning you must draw near by your tribes. And it will be that the tribe Yahweh captures *by lot* is to draw near by families. The family that Yahweh captures *by lot* is to draw near by households. The household that Yahweh captures *by lot* is to draw near man by man. 15He who is captured *by lot* with the devoted *thing* must be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of Yahweh and because he has done disgraceful folly in Israel.’”

16So Joshua rose up early in the morning and brought Israel near by their tribes. The tribe of Judah was captured *by lot*. 17And he brought near the family of Judah, and the family of the Zerahites was captured. And he brought near the family of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was captured. 18He brought near 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 captured *by lot*.

19So Joshua said to Achan, “My son, now give glory to Yahweh the God of Israel, and make confession to him. Tell me now what you have done! Do not hide it from me!”

20And Achan answered Joshua and said, “I have truly sinned against Yahweh, the God of Israel, and this is what I have done. 21When I saw among the spoil one beautiful Babylonian cloak, 200 shekels[[5]](#footnote-15657) of silver and one bar of gold weighing 50 shekels,[[6]](#footnote-26621) then I coveted them and took them. Behold, they are hidden in the ground in the middle of my tent, with the silver under it.” 22So Joshua sent messengers and they ran to the tent. Behold, it was hidden in his tent, with the silver under it. 23They took them from inside the tent and brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel, and they poured them out before Yahweh.

24Then Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the cloak, and the bar of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his cattle, and his donkeys, and his sheep, and his tent and all that he had, and they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. 25And Joshua said, “Why have you brought disaster upon us? Yahweh will bring disaster upon you this day.” And all Israel stoned him; they burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. 26And they raised over him a great pile of stones that remains to this day. Then Yahweh turned from the fierceness of his anger. Therefore the name of that place is called “The valley of Achor” to this day.

**Joshua Chapter 8**

The Fall of Ai

1Yahweh said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid or be dismayed. Take all the people of war with you and arise, go up to Ai. Behold, I have given into your hand the king of Ai and his people and his city and his land. 2You are to do to Ai and her king as you did to Jericho and her king, except its spoil and its livestock you may take as plunder for yourselves. Set for yourself an ambush behind the city.”

3So Joshua and all the people of war rose up to go up to Ai. And Joshua chose 30,000 men, mighty men of valor, and sent them out by night. 4And he commanded them, saying, “Behold, you are to lie in ambush against the city, behind the city. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you be ready. 5I and all the people who are with me will approach the city, and when they come out against us like *they did* the first time, we will flee before them. 6They will come out after us until we have drawn them away from the city; for they will say, ‘They are fleeing before us like the first time!’ So we will flee before them. 7Then you are to rise up from the ambush and take possession of the city, for Yahweh your God will give it into your hand. 8And it will be when you have seized the city, that you are to set the city on fire. You are to do according to the word of Yahweh. See, I have commanded you.” 9Joshua sent them out, and they went to set up the ambush and stayed between Bethel and Ai on the west side of Ai, but Joshua stayed among the people that night.

10Joshua rose up early in the morning and mustered the people; then he went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. 11All the people, even the men of war who were with him, went up and drew near, and came in front of the city and encamped on the north side of Ai, and there was a ravine between him and Ai. 12He had taken about 5,000 men and had set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai on the west side of the city. 13So they stationed the people, all the army that was on the north of the city and the rear guard on the west of the city. And Joshua went that night into the midst of the plain.

14And it came to pass when the king of Ai saw it, that they hurried and rose up early, and the men of the city went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people to the appointed place facing the Arabah, but he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city. 15And Joshua and all Israel acted as if they were beaten before them and fled by the road to the wilderness. 16All the people who were in the city were called together to pursue after them. They pursued Joshua and were drawn away from the city. 17There was not a man left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel. They left the city open and pursued Israel.

18Then Yahweh said to Joshua, “Stretch out the javelin that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand.” So Joshua stretched out the javelin that was in his hand toward the city, 19and the ambush arose quickly out of their place and ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand. And they entered into the city and they captured it and they hurried and set the city on fire.

20And the men of Ai turned *and* looked behind them, and behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to heaven, and they had no ability to flee this way or that way. And the people who had been fleeing toward the wilderness turned back on the pursuers. 21When Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that the smoke of the city ascended, then they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. 22And the other *Israelites* came out of the city against them so they were in the middle of Israel, some on this side and some on that side. And they struck them down, so that they left no survivor or escapee. 23And they captured the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.

24And when Israel had made an end of killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the field and in the wilderness where they pursued them, and they had all fallen by the mouth of the sword until they were finished off, all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the mouth of the sword. 25And all those who fell that day, both men and women, were 12,000, all the people of Ai. 26And Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. 27Israel took only the livestock and the spoil of that city as plunder for themselves, according to the word of Yahweh that he commanded Joshua.

28So Joshua burned Ai and made it a perpetual mound of ruins, a desolation, to this day. 29And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until the evening. And at sunset Joshua commanded and they took his body down from the tree and threw it at the entrance of the gate of the city and raised over it a great heap of stones that remains to this day.

Renewed Commitment to the Law

30Then Joshua built an altar to Yahweh, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal, 31as Moses the servant of Yahweh had commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the Law of Moses: an altar of uncut stones on which no one had lifted up any iron. Then they offered burnt offerings on it to Yahweh and sacrificed peace offerings. 32And there he wrote upon the stones a copy of the Law of Moses, which he had written in the presence of the children of Israel. 33All Israel and their elders and officers and their judges stood on opposite sides of the ark, before the Levitical priests, the Levites, who carried the ark of Yahweh’s covenant—the foreigner and citizen alike—half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of Yahweh had commanded earlier, to bless the people of Israel. 34After that, he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the book of the law. 35There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones and the foreigners who walked in their midst.

**Joshua Chapter 9**

The Gibeonite Deception

1And when all the kings who were beyond the Jordan heard *of this*—in the hill country and in the Shephelah and on all the shore of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite— 2they gathered themselves together to fight with Joshua and with Israel, *under* one command.

3But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, 4they, on their part, acted with cunning, and went and gathered provisions, and took worn-out sacks on their donkeys, and wineskins *that were* worn out and torn and sewn up, 5and worn-out and patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes on themselves. All the bread of their provision was dry *and* was crumbs. 6They went to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, “We have come from a far country. Now therefore, cut a covenant with us.” 7But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “Perhaps you are living *here* among us. How then could we cut a covenant with you?” 8They said to Joshua, “We are your servants.” Joshua said to them, “Who are you and where do you come from?” 9They said to him, “Your servants have come from a very far country because of the name of Yahweh your God, for we have heard of his fame, all that he did in Egypt 10and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon king of Heshbon and to Og king of Bashan who was at Ashtaroth. 11So our elders and all the inhabitants of our country spoke to us, saying, ‘Take provision in your hand for the journey and go to meet them, and say to them, “We are your servants. Now then, cut a covenant with us.”’ 12This our bread we took hot for our provision out of our houses on the day we went out to go to you; but now, behold, it is dry and has become crumbs. 13And these wineskins that we filled were new. Look, they are torn. And these our clothes and our sandals have become worn out because of the very long journey.” 14The men took of their provisions and did not ask *counsel* *from* the mouth of Yahweh. 15Joshua made peace with them and cut a covenant with them to let them live. And the rulers of the congregation swore *an oath* to them.

Gibeonites’ Deception Discovered

16But it came to pass at the end of three days after they had cut a covenant with them that they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them. 17The children of Israel set out and came to their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. 18The children of Israel did not strike them because the rulers of the congregation had sworn to them by Yahweh, the God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured against the rulers.

19But all the rulers said to all the congregation, “We ourselves have sworn to them by Yahweh, the God of Israel, so now we are not able to touch them. 20We will do this to them and let them live, so that wrath will not be on us because of the oath that we swore to them.” 21And the rulers said to them, “Let them live and become woodcutters and drawers of water for all the congregation,” as the rulers had said concerning them.

22And Joshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, “Why have you deceived us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you live near us? 23Now, therefore, you are cursed, and some among you will never cease to be a slave; both woodcutters and drawers of water for the house of my God.”

24They answered Joshua and said, “Because your servants were told, yes, told how Yahweh your 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 very afraid for our lives because of you, and have done this thing. 25And now behold, we are in your hand. As it is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do.” 26And so he did this to them, and delivered them out of the hand of the children of Israel so that they did not kill them. 27That day Joshua made them woodcutters and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of Yahweh to this day, in the place that Yahweh would choose.

**Joshua Chapter 10**

The Sun Stands Still

1Now it came to pass when Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had taken Ai and had devoted it to destruction—just as he had done to Jericho and her king, so he had done to Ai and her king—and that the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were *living* among them, 2that they were greatly afraid, because Gibeon was a large city, like one of the royal cities, and because it was larger than Ai and all its men were mighty. 3Therefore Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem sent to Hoham king of Hebron, to Piram king of Jarmuth, to Japhia king of Lachish and to Debir king of Eglon, saying, 4“Come up to me and help me, and let’s strike Gibeon, for it has made peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.” 5So the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, *and* the king of Eglon, gathered together and went up, they and all their armies, and they encamped against Gibeon and made war against it.

6The men of Gibeon sent to Joshua to the camp to Gilgal, saying, “Do not withhold your hand from your servants! Come up to us quickly and save us, and help us, for all the kings of the Amorites that live in the hill country have gathered together against us.” 7So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of valor. 8And Yahweh said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them, for I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them will *be able to* stand before you.” 9So Joshua came against them suddenly, having marched up from Gilgal all night. 10And Yahweh threw them into a panic before Israel, and he killed them with a great slaughter at Gibeon, and chased them by the road of the ascent of Beth-horon and struck them as far as Azekah and as far as Makkedah. 11And as they fled from before Israel, while they were at the descent of Beth-horon, Yahweh cast down large stones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died. There were more who died from the hailstones than the children of Israel killed with the sword.

12Then Joshua spoke to Yahweh in the day when Yahweh gave over the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel,

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| --- | --- |
|  | “Sun, stand still at Gibeon,  and moon, in the valley of Aijalon!” |
| 13 | And the sun stood still  and the moon stopped  until the nation had taken vengeance on their enemies. |

Is this not written in the book of Jashar? The sun stayed in the middle of the sky, and did not hurry to go down about a whole day.14There was no day like that before it or after it, when Yahweh listened to the voice of a man, for Yahweh fought for Israel. 15And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp to Gilgal.

Five Amorite Kings Executed

16These five kings fled and hid themselves in the cave at Makkedah. 17Joshua was told, “The five kings have been found, hidden in the cave at Makkedah.”

18Joshua said, “Roll large stones over the mouth of the cave and set men by it to guard them. 19But do not stay there yourselves. Pursue your enemies and attack them from the rear. Do not allow them to enter into their cities, for Yahweh your God has given them into your hand.” 20It came to pass when Joshua and the children of Israel had finished killing them with a very great slaughter until they were finished off, and the remnant that remained of them had entered into the fortified cities, 21then all the people returned to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace. No one moved his tongue against any of the children of Israel.

22Then Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the cave and bring those five kings out of the cave to me.” 23They did so, and brought those five kings out of the cave to him: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish *and* the king of Eglon. 24It came to pass, when they brought those kings out to Joshua, that Joshua called for all the men of Israel and said to the commanders of the men of war who went with him, “Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings.” They came near and put their feet on their necks. 25Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed. Be strong and courageous, for Yahweh will do this to all your enemies against whom you fight.”

26Afterward Joshua struck them and put them to death and hanged them on five trees. And they hung on the trees until sunset. 27It 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 threw them into the cave where they had hidden, and they laid great stones on the mouth of the cave *that remain* to this very day.

Conquest of Southern Canaan

28And Joshua captured Makkedah on that day and struck it with the mouth of the sword, with its king. He devoted to destruction all the souls who were in it. He left none remaining. He did to the king of Makkedah as he had done to the king of Jericho.

29Then Joshua, and all Israel with him, crossed over from Makkedah to Libnah and fought against Libnah. 30And Yahweh gave it also, with its king, into the hand of Israel. He struck it with the mouth of the sword and all the souls who were in it. He left none remaining in it. He did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho.

31And Joshua and all Israel with him crossed over from Libnah to Lachish and encamped against it and fought against it. 32Yahweh gave Lachish into the hand of Israel. He captured it on the second day and struck it with the mouth of the sword—and all the souls who were in it—like all that he had done to Libnah. 33Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish, but Joshua struck him and his people until he left him no one remaining.

34Then Joshua and all Israel with him crossed over from Lachish to Eglon, and they encamped against it and fought against it. 35And they captured it on that day and struck it with the mouth of the sword. He devoted to destruction all the souls who were in it that day, like all that he had done to Lachish.

36Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron, and they fought against it. 37They captured it and struck it with the mouth of the sword, with its king and all its cities and all the souls who were in it. He left none remaining, just like all that he had done to Eglon; and he devoted it to destruction and all the souls who were in it.

38Then Joshua and all Israel with him turned back to Debir, and fought against it. 39And he captured it with its king and all its cities. They struck them with the mouth of the sword and devoted to destruction all the souls who were in it. He left none remaining. As he had done to Hebron, and as he had done to Libnah and to its king, so he did to Debir and to its king.

40So Joshua struck all the land: the hill country and the Negev and the Shephelah and the slopes, and all their kings. He left none remaining, but he devoted to destruction all that breathed, as Yahweh the God of Israel commanded. 41Joshua struck them from Kadesh-barnea even as far as Gaza, and all the country of Goshen even as far as Gibeon. 42Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because Yahweh the God of Israel fought for Israel. 43Then Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

**Joshua Chapter 11**

Conquests in Northern Canaan

1It came to pass when Jabin king of Hazor heard *of it* that he sent to Jobab king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph, 2and to the kings who were in the north, in the hill country, in the Arabah south of *the Sea of* Chinneroth,[[7]](#footnote-27841) in the lowland, and in the heights of Dor in the west, 3to the Canaanite on the east and on the west, and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Jebusite in the hill country, and the Hivite under *Mount* Hermon in the land of Mizpah.

4They went out, they and all their armies with them, many people even as the sand that is on the seashore in multitude, with very many horses and chariots. 5All these kings met together and they came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight with Israel. 6And Yahweh said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid because of them, for tomorrow at this time I will make them all slain ones before Israel. You are to hamstring their horses and burn their chariots with fire.” 7So Joshua and all the people of war with him, came against them suddenly by the waters of Merom, and fell on them. 8And Yahweh gave them into the hand of Israel and they struck them and chased them as far as great Sidon and as far as Misrephoth-maim and eastward as far as the valley of Mizpeh. They struck them until they left none of them remaining. 9And Joshua did to them as Yahweh had said to him. He hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.

10And Joshua turned back at that time and captured Hazor and struck its king with the sword; for Hazor was formerly the head of all those kingdoms. 11They struck every soul who was in it with the mouth of the sword, devoting them to destruction. There was not one left who breathed. And he burned Hazor with fire. 12Joshua captured all the cities of those kings, with their kings, and he struck them with the mouth of the sword, devoting them to destruction, as Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded. 13But as for the cities that stood on their mounds, Israel burned none of them, except Hazor only, which Joshua burned. 14The children of Israel took all the spoil of these cities, with the livestock, as spoils for themselves; but they struck every person with the mouth of the sword until they had destroyed them. They did not leave any who breathed. 15As Yahweh commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that Yahweh commanded Moses.

Summary of Conquests

16So Joshua took all that land: the hill country, all the Negev, all the land of Goshen, the lowland, the Arabah, the hill country of Israel and its foothills, 17from Mount Halak that goes up to Seir, even to Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon under Mount Hermon. He captured all their kings and struck them and put them to death. 18Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. 19There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They took all *the cities* in battle. 20For it was from Yahweh to harden their hearts to come against Israel in battle in order to devote them to destruction, that they would have no mercy, in order to destroy them, as Yahweh commanded Moses.

21Joshua came at that time, and cut off the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab and from all the hill country of Judah and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua devoted them to destruction, along with their cities. 22There were none of the Anakim left in the land of the children of Israel. Only in Gaza, in Gath and in Ashdod did some remain. 23So Joshua took the whole land according to all that Yahweh spoke to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land had rest from war.

**Joshua Chapter 12**

Kings Defeated under Moses

1Now these are the kings of the land whom the children of Israel struck, and they possessed their land beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise, from the Arnon *River* valley to Mount Hermon and all the east side of the Arabah: 2Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon and ruled *over the territory* from Aroer (which is on the edge of the Arnon *River* valley), and the middle of the *Arnon* valley; and half of Gilead (as far as to the Jabbok *River* valley) *which is* the border of the children of Ammon; 3and the east side of the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth,[[8]](#footnote-20777) and to the east side of Sea of the Arabah, even the Salt Sea, the way to Beth-jeshimoth, and on the south under the slopes of Pisgah, 4and the territory of Og king of Bashan, of the remnant of the Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei 5and ruled over Mount Hermon and Salecah and over all Bashan, to the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and half of Gilead *to* the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

6Moses the servant of Yahweh and the children of Israel struck them. Moses the servant of Yahweh gave it for a possession to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

Kings Defeated under Joshua

7These are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the children of Israel struck beyond the Jordan westward, from Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon even to Mount Halak that goes up to Seir. Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as an inheritance according to their allotments, 8in the hill country and in the Shephelah, and in the Arabah, and in the slopes and in the wilderness and in the Negev; the Hittites, the Amorites and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites:

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| --- | --- |
| 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 Lassharon, one; |
| 19 | the king of Madon, one;  the king of Hazor, one; |
| 20 | the king of Shimron-meron, 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 in Carmel, one; |
| 23 | the king of Dor in the height of Dor, one;  the king of Goiim in Gilgal, one; |
| 24 | the king of Tirzah, one:  all the kings 31. |

**Joshua Chapter 13**

Land Still to Be Conquered

1Now Joshua was old and well advanced in years. Yahweh said to him, “You are old and advanced in years, and there remains yet very much land to be possessed.[[9]](#footnote-25531) 2This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines and all the Geshurites; 3from the Shihor which is before Egypt as far as the border of Ekron in the north, which is counted as Canaanite; the five lords of the Philistines; the Gazites, and the Ashdodites, the Ashkelonites, the Gittites and the Ekronites; also the Avvim 4on the south; all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that belongs to the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the border of the Amorites; 5and the land of the Gebalites and all Lebanon toward the sunrise, from Baal-gad under Mount Hermon to Lebo-hamath; 6all the inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, even all the Sidonians. I will drive them out from before the children of Israel; only allot it to Israel for an inheritance, as I have commanded you. 7So now, divide this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes and the half-tribe of Manasseh.”

The Inheritance East of the Jordan

8Along with the other half of the tribe of Manasseh, the Reubenites and the Gadites received their inheritance that Moses gave them beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise, just as Moses the servant of Yahweh gave them: 9From Aroer that is on the edge of the Arnon *River* Valley and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the plateau of Medeba to Dibon; 10and all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites who reigned in Heshbon, to the border of the children of Ammon; 11and Gilead and the border of the Geshurites and Maacathites and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salecah; 12all the kingdom of Og in Bashan who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he was left of the remnant of the Rephaim); for Moses struck them down and dispossessed them. 13Nevertheless, the children of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites, nor the Maacathites; but Geshur and Maacath dwell in the midst of Israel to this day. 14Only he gave no inheritance to the tribe of Levi. The offerings by fire to Yahweh the God of Israel are his inheritance, just as he said to him.

Inheritance of Reuben

15Moses gave to the tribe of the children of Reuben according to their families. 16Their border was: from Aroer that is on the edge of the Arnon *River* Valley and the city that is in the middle of the valley, and all the plateau by Medeba; 17Heshbon, and all its cities that are on the plateau: Dibon, Bamoth-baal, Beth-baal-meon, 18Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath, 19Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth-shahar on the hill of the valley, 20Beth-peor, the slopes of Pisgah, Beth-jeshimoth, 21all the cities of the plateau and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses struck along with the leaders of Midian, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba, the chiefs of Sihon who lived in the land. 22The children of Israel killed with the sword Balaam the son of Beor, the one who practiced divination, *in addition* to the rest of their slain. 23The border of the children of Reuben was the bank of the Jordan. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben according to their families; the cities and its villages.

Inheritance of Gad

24Moses gave *an inheritance* to the tribe of Gad, to the children of Gad according to their families. 25Their border was: Jazer and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon to Aroer that is before Rabbah, 26and from Heshbon to Ramath-mizpeh and Betonim and from Mahanaim to the border of Debir; 27and in the valley, Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Sukkoth and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon king of Heshbon, with the Jordan as a border, as far as the south end of the Sea of Chinneroth;[[10]](#footnote-17343) beyond the Jordan River toward the sunrise. 28This is the inheritance of the children of Gad according to their families, the cities and its villages.

Inheritance of East Manasseh

29Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh. It was for the half-tribe of the children of Manasseh according to their families. 30Their border was from Mahanaim, all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair that are in Bashan; 60 cities. 31Half of Gilead, Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, were for the children of Machir the son of Manasseh, even for the half of the children of Machir according to their families.

32These are the inheritances that Moses distributed in the plains of Moab beyond the Jordan, east of Jericho. 33But to the tribe of Levi Moses gave no inheritance. Yahweh the God of Israel is their inheritance, as he said to them.

**Joshua Chapter 14**

The Inheritance West of the Jordan

1These are the *territories* that 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’ houses of the tribes of the children of Israel gave them to inherit. 2Their inheritance was by lot, as Yahweh commanded by the hand of Moses for the nine tribes and for the half-tribe. 3For Moses had given the inheritance of the two tribes and the half-tribe beyond the Jordan, but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them. 4For the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim; and they gave no portion to the Levites in the land except cities to live in with their pastureland for their livestock and for their property. 5The children of Israel did as Yahweh commanded Moses, and they divided the land.

Inheritance of Caleb

6When the children of Judah drew near to Joshua in Gilgal, Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, “You know the word that Yahweh spoke to Moses the man of God concerning me and concerning you in Kadesh-barnea. 7I was 40 years old when Moses the servant of Yahweh sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land. I brought him word again as *it was* in my heart. 8Nevertheless, my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt; but I fully *followed* after Yahweh my God. 9Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land on which your foot has walked will be an inheritance to you and to your children forever, because you have fully *followed* after Yahweh my God.’ 10Now, behold, Yahweh has kept me alive, as he spoke, these 45 years from the time that Yahweh spoke this word to Moses while Israel walked in the wilderness. And now, behold, I am 85 years old today. 11As yet I am as strong today as I was in the day that Moses sent me; as my strength was then, even so is my strength now for war and to go out and to come in. 12So now give me this hill country about which Yahweh spoke on that day, for you yourself heard on that day, “The Anakim are there, and great and fortified cities; perhaps Yahweh will be with me and I will drive them out, as Yahweh spoke.”

13Then Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. 14So Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he fully *followed* after Yahweh the God of Israel. 15Now the name of Hebron before was Kiriath-arba;[[11]](#footnote-21482)*Arba was* the greatest man among the Anakim. And the land had rest from war.

**Joshua Chapter 15**

Inheritance of Judah

1And the lot for the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families was to the border of Edom, *which is* the wilderness of Zin at the south, at the southern end.

2Their south border was from the end of the Salt Sea, from the bay that looks southward, 3and it went out to the south of the ascent of Akrabbim and passed through Zin and went up south of Kadesh-barnea, and passed along by Hezron, went up to Addar and turned toward Karka; 4and it passed along to Azmon, proceeded to the Brook of Egypt, and the border ended at the sea. This will be your south border.

5The east border was the Salt Sea, even to the end of the Jordan.

The border of the north side was from the bay of the sea at the end of the Jordan. 6The border went up to Beth-hoglah and passed along by the north of Beth-arabah; and the border went up to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben. 7The border went up to Debir from the valley of Achor, turning northward toward Gilgal that is in front of the ascent of Adummim, which is on the south side of the valley. The border passed along to the waters of En-shemesh and ended at En-rogel. 8The border went up the Valley of the son of Hinnom to the south side of the Jebusite hill (which is Jerusalem) and the border went up to the top of the mountain that lies on the west side of the Valley of Hinnom, which is at the north end of the Valley of Rephaim. 9The border extended from the top of the mountain to the spring of the Waters of Nephtoah and went out to the cities of Mount Ephron; and the border extended to Baalah (which is Kiriath-jearim); 10and the border turned westward from Baalah to Mount Seir and crossed over to the north shoulder of Mount Jearim (which is Chesalon) and went down to Beth-shemesh and passed along by Timnah; 11and the border went out to the shoulder that is north of Ekron, and the border extended to Shikkeron and passed along to Mount Baalah and went out at Jabneel, and the border ended at the sea.

12The west border is the shore of the Great Sea.

This is the border of the children of Judah according to their families.

Caleb and Othniel

13And to Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a portion among the children of Judah according to the commandment of Yahweh to Joshua, *namely,* Kiriath-arba (which is Hebron), named after *Arba* the father of Anak. 14Caleb drove out the three sons of Anak: Sheshai and Ahiman and Talmai, the children of Anak. 15From there he went up against the inhabitants of Debir (now in former times the name of Debir was Kiriath-sepher). 16And Caleb said, “He who strikes Kiriath-sepher and captures it, I will give to him my daughter Achsah as a wife.” 17Othniel the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, captured it, and he gave him Achsah his daughter as a wife. 18It came to pass when she arrived that she urged him to ask her father for a field. She got off of her donkey and Caleb said, “What do you want?” 19She said, “Give me a blessing. Since you have set me in the land of the Negev, give me also pools of water.” So he gave her the upper pools and the lower pools.

Judah’s Cities

20This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families: 21the farthest cities of the tribe of the children of Judah toward the border of Edom in the Negev were Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur, 22Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, 23Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, 24Ziph, Telem, Bealoth, 25Hazor-hadattah, Kerioth-hezron (which is Hazor), 26Amam, Shema, Moladah, 27Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet, 28Hazar-shual, Beer-sheba, Biziothiah, 29Baalah, Iim, Ezem, 30Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah, 31Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah, 32Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain and Rimmon. All the cities are 29, with their villages.

33In the Shephelah: Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah, 34Zanoah, En-gannim, Tappuah, Enam, 35Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah, 36Shaaraim, Adithaim and Gederah (or Gederothaim); 14 cities with their villages. 37Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad, 38Dilean, Mizpeh, Joktheel, 39Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon, 40Cabbon, Lahmam, Chitlish, 41Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and Makkedah; 16 cities with their villages. 42Libnah, Ether, Ashan, 43Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib, 44Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their villages. 45Ekron with its daughter-towns and its villages; 46from Ekron even to the sea, all that were near Ashdod, with their villages. 47Ashdod, its daughter-towns and its villages; Gaza, its daughter-towns and its villages to the Brook of Egypt and the coast of the Great Sea.

48In the hill country: Shamir, Jattir, Socoh, 49Dannah, Kiriath-sannah (which is Debir), 50Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim, 51Goshen, Holon and Giloh; 11 cities with their villages. 52Arab, Dumah, Eshan, 53Janim, Beth-tappuah, Aphekah, 54Humtah, Kiriath-arba (which is Hebron), and Zior; nine cities with their villages. 55Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Jutah, 56Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah, 57Kain, Gibeah and Timnah; ten cities with their villages. 58Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor, 59Maarath, Beth-anoth and Eltekon; six cities with their villages. 60Kiriath-baal (the same is Kiriath-jearim), and Rabbah; two cities with their villages.

61In the wilderness: Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah, 62Nibshan, the City of Salt and En-gedi; six cities with their villages.

63As for the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah could not drive them out; but the Jebusites live with the children of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.

**Joshua Chapter 16**

Inheritance for Ephraim

1The lot came out for the children of Joseph: from the Jordan *River* at Jericho, at the waters of Jericho on the east, *through* the wilderness, going up from Jericho into the hill country of Bethel. 2It went out from Bethel to Luz and passed along to Ataroth, the border of the Archites. 3and it went down westward to the border of the Japhletites to the border of Lower Beth-horon, and on to Gezer, and ended at the sea. 4Manasseh and Ephraim, the children of Joseph, received their inheritance.

5This was the border of the children of Ephraim according to their families: the border of their inheritance in the east was Ataroth-addar to Upper Beth-horon. 6On the north: the border went out westward from Michmethath. Also, the border turned east toward Taanath-shiloh and passed along it on the east of Janoah. 7It went down from Janoah to Ataroth, to Naarah, reached to Jericho and went out to the Jordan. 8From Tappuah the border went along westward to the brook of Kanah and ended at the sea.

This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Ephraim according to their families, 9with the cities that were set apart for the children of Ephraim in the midst of the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages. 10But they did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, but the Canaanites dwell in the midst of Ephraim to this day and have become servants *to do* forced labor.

**Joshua Chapter 17**

Inheritance for West Manasseh

1This was the lot for the tribe of Manasseh, for he was the firstborn of Joseph. As for Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead, because he was a man of war, therefore he had Gilead and Bashan. 2So *this* was for the rest of the children of Manasseh according to their families, for the children of Abiezer, for the children of Helek, for the children of Asriel, for the children of Shechem, for the children of Hepher and for the children of Shemida: these were the male children of Manasseh the son of Joseph according to their families.

3But 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, Noa, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah. 4They came before Eleazar the priest and before Joshua the son of Nun and before the leaders, saying, “Yahweh commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brothers.” Therefore according to the commandment of Yahweh, he gave them an inheritance among the brothers of their father. 5Ten measured-areas fell to Manasseh besides the land of Gilead and Bashan, which is beyond the Jordan, 6because the daughters of Manasseh had an inheritance among his sons. But the land of Gilead belonged to the rest of the sons of Manasseh.

7The border of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethath, which is near Shechem. The border went *from Michmethath* to the south, to the inhabitants of En-tappuah. 8The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh belonged to the children of Ephraim. 9Then the border went down to the brook of Kanah. South of the brook, these cities belonged to Ephraim among the cities of Manasseh. But the border of Manasseh was north of the brook and ended at the sea. 10South *of the brook* it was Ephraim‘s, and north *of the brook* it was Manasseh’s. And the sea was his border *on the west*. They reached to Asher on the north and to Issachar on the east. 11Manasseh had in Issachar and in Asher: Beth-shean and its daughter-towns, and Ibleam and its daughter-towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and its daughter-towns, and the inhabitants of En-dor and its daughter-towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and its daughter-towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its daughter-towns; the third *city* is Napheth.

12Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out the inhabitants of those cities, but the Canaanites were determined to live in that land. 13It came to pass when the children of Israel had grown strong that they put the Canaanites to forced labor but did not completely dispossess them.

Additional Inheritance for Joseph

14The children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, “Why have you given me just one lot and one part for an inheritance since I am a numerous people because Yahweh has blessed me so far?” 15Joshua said to them, “If you are a numerous people, go up to the forest and clear *land* for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the Rephaim, if the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you.” 16The children of Joseph said, “The hill country is not enough for us. All the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, both those who are in Beth-shean and its daughter-towns and those who are in the Valley of Jezreel.” 17Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph (to Ephraim and to Manasseh), saying, “You are a numerous people and have great power. You will not have only one lot, 18for the hill country can be yours. Although it is a forest, you *can* clear it, and its farthest borders will be yours. For you can *also* drive out the Canaanites, though they have chariots of iron and though they are strong.”

**Joshua Chapter 18**

Division of the Rest of the Land

1The whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled themselves together at Shiloh and set up the Tent of Meeting there, since the land was subdued before them. 2Seven tribes remained among the children of Israel that had not yet divided up their inheritance. 3So Joshua said to the children of Israel, “How long will you be slack about going in to possess the land that Yahweh, the God of your fathers, has given you? 4Appoint for yourselves three men from each tribe. I will send them and they are to arise, walk through the land and write a description of it with a view to their inheritance. Then they are to come *back* to me. 5They are to divide it among themselves into seven sections. Judah is to remain in his borders on the south, and the house of Joseph is to remain in their borders on the north. 6You are to write a description of the land in seven parts and bring *the description* here to me, and I will cast lots for you here before Yahweh our God. 7For the Levites have no portion among you, for the priesthood of Yahweh is their inheritance. Also, Gad, Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance east of the Jordan, which Moses the servant of Yahweh gave them.”

8The men arose and went. And Joshua commanded those who went to write a description of the land, saying, “Go walk through the land, write a description of it and return to me. And I will cast lots for you here before Yahweh in Shiloh.” 9The men went and passed through the land and wrote a description of it by cities into seven sections in a book. Then they came *back* to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh. 10Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before Yahweh. And there Joshua divided the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions.

Inheritance of Benjamin

11The lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families. The border of their lot fell between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph. 12Their border on the north side *started* from the Jordan. Then the border went up to the north side of Jericho and went up westward through the hill country, and it arrived at the wilderness of Beth-aven, 13then the border passed along from there to Luz, to the south side of Luz (which is Bethel). Then the border went down to Ataroth-addar to the mountain that lies south of Lower Beth-horon. 14Then the border extended *from there* and turned south, forming the west side, from the mountain that lies near Beth-horon *and* *going* to the south and it ended at Kiriath-baal (which is Kiriath-jearim), a city of the children of Judah. This is the west side.

15The south side was from the edge of Kiriath-jearim. The border went out from the west *border* and went out to the spring of the Waters of Nephtoah. 16The border went down to the side of the mountain that lies near the valley of the son of Hinnom, and which is on the north side of the valley of Rephaim. And *the border* went down the Valley of Hinnom on the south side of the Jebusite *hill*, and went down to En-rogel. 17It extended northward, went out to En-shemesh and went out to Geliloth, which is in front of the ascent of Adummim. Then, it went down to the stone of Bohan the son of Reuben. 18It passed along near the north side of *Beth-*arabah and went down to the Arabah. 19The border passed along on the north side of Beth-hoglah, and the border ended at the north bay of the Salt Sea, at the south end of the Jordan. This is the south border. 20The Jordan was its border on the east side.

This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin by the borders around it, according to their families.

Benjamin’s Cities

21Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were:  
Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz, 22Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel, 23Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, 24Chephar-ammoni, Ophni and Geba; 12 cities with their villages. 25Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, 26Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah, 27Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, 28Zelah, Eleph, the Jebusite (which is Jerusalem), Gibeath and Kiriath; 14 cities with their villages.

This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

**Joshua Chapter 19**

Simeon’s Inheritance

1The second lot came out for Simeon, even for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. Their inheritance was in the midst of the inheritance of the children of Judah. 2They had for their inheritance:

Beer-sheba (or Sheba), Moladah, 3Hazar-shual, Balah, Ezem, 4Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, 5Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah, 6Beth-lebaoth and Sharuhen; 13 cities with their villages; 7Ain, Rimmon, Ether, and Ashan; four cities with their villages, 8and all the villages that were around these cities as far as Baalath-beer (Ramah of the Negev).

This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. 9The inheritance of the children of Simeon was out of the measured-area of the children of Judah; for the portion of the children of Judah was too much for them. Therefore the children of Simeon had inheritance in the midst of Judah’s inheritance.

Inheritance for Zebulun

10The third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families.

The territory of their inheritance reached as far as Sarid. 11Their border went up westward to Maralah and reached to Dabbesheth, and it reached to the brook that is before Jokneam. 12*Also* from Sarid it turned eastward toward the sunrise to the border of Chisloth-tabor. It went out to Daberath and went up to Japhia. 13From there it passed along eastward to Gath-hepher, to Ethkazin, and it went out at Rimmon which stretches to Neah. 14The border went around it on to the north of Hannathon, and it ended at the valley of Iphtah-el; 15Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah, and Bethlehem: 12 cities with their villages.

16This is the inheritance of the children of Zebulun according to their families, these cities with their villages.

Inheritance for Issachar

17The fourth lot came out for Issachar; for the children of Issachar according to their families.

18Their territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, 19Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, 20Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, 21Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah and Beth-pazzez. 22The border reached to Tabor, Shahazumah and Beth-shemesh. Their border ended at the Jordan: 16 cities with their villages.

23This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families; the cities with their villages.

Inheritance for Asher

24The fifth lot came out for the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families.

25Their territory included Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph, 26Allammelech, Amad, Mishal. On the west it reached to Carmel and to Shihor-libnath. 27It turned toward the sunrise to Beth-dagon and reached to Zebulun, and the valley of Iphtah-el north to Beth-emek and Neiel. It went out, passing Cabul on the left. 28and Ebron, Rehob, Hammon and Kanah, even to great Sidon. 29Then the border turned to Ramah, as far as the fortified city of Tyre, and the border turned to Hosah. It ended at the sea by the region of Achzib; 30Ummah also, and Aphek and Rehob: 22 cities with their villages.

31This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Asher according to their families, these cities with their villages.

Inheritance for Naphtali

32The sixth lot came out for the children of Naphtali, even for the children of Naphtali according to their families.

33Their border was from Heleph, from the oak in Zaanannim, Adami-nekeb and Jabneel, to Lakkum. It ended at the Jordan. 34The border turned westward to Aznoth-tabor and went out from there to Hukkok. It reached as far as Zebulun on the south and reached as far as Asher on the west, and to Judah at the Jordan toward the sunrise. 35The fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth, 36Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, 37Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor, 38Iron, Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath and Beth-shemesh; 19 cities with their villages.

39This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Naphtali according to their families, the cities with their villages.

Inheritance for Dan

40The seventh lot came out for the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families.

41The territory of their inheritance was Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir-shemesh, 42Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah, 43Elon, Timnah, Ekron, 44Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath, 45Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon, 46and Me-jarkon and Rakkon, with the territory in front of Joppa.

47(But the territory of the children of Dan was lost to them, so the children of Dan went up and fought against Leshem and took it, and struck it with the mouth of the sword and possessed it, and lived in it and called Leshem, “Dan,” after the name of Dan their father. 48This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Dan according to their families; these cities with their villages.

Inheritance for Joshua

49So they made an end of distributing the land for inheritance by its borders. The children of Israel gave to Joshua the son of Nun an inheritance in their midst. 50According to the commandment of Yahweh, they gave him the city that he asked, even Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim, and he built up the city and lived there.

51These are the inheritances that Eleazar the priest, Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers’ houses of the tribes of the children of Israel, distributed for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before Yahweh at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting. So they made an end of dividing the land.

**Joshua Chapter 20**

Cities of Refuge

1Yahweh spoke to Joshua, saying, 2“Speak to the children of Israel, saying, ‘Set aside for yourselves the cities of refuge of which I spoke to you by Moses, 3that the killer who strikes down any person accidentally or unintentionally may flee there. They will be to you for a refuge from the avenger of blood. 4He is to flee to one of those cities and will stand at the entrance of the gate of the city and declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city. They are to take him into the city with them and give him a place so that he may live among them. 5If the avenger of blood pursues him, then they must not deliver up the killer into his hand, because he struck down his neighbor unintentionally and did not hate him previously. 6He is to live in that city until he stands before the congregation for judgment, until the death of the high priest that will be in those days. Then the killer may return and come to his own city and to his own house; to the city he fled from.’”

7So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and Kiriath-arba (which is Hebron) in the hill country of Judah. 8Beyond the Jordan at Jericho, eastward, they assigned Bezer out of the tribe of Reuben, in the wilderness on the plateau; Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad; and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.

9These were the appointed cities for all the children of Israel and for the foreigner who resides among them, that whoever kills any person unintentionally might flee there and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until he stands before the congregation.

**Joshua Chapter 21**

Cities of the Levites

1Then the heads of fathers’ *houses* of the Levites came near to Eleazar the priest and to Joshua the son of Nun and to the heads of fathers’ *houses* of the tribes of the children of Israel. 2And they spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, “Yahweh commanded by Moses to give us cities to live in with their pasturelands for our livestock.” 3So out of their *own* inheritance, by the command of Yahweh, the children of Israel gave these cities with their pasturelands to the Levites.

4The lot came out for the families of the Kohathites. So those children of Aaron the priest, who were of the Levites, had 13 cities by lot out of the tribe of Judah, out of the tribe of the Simeonites, and out of the tribe of Benjamin. 5The rest of the children of Kohath had ten cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, out of the tribe of Dan and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh.

6The children of Gershon had 13 cities by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, out of the tribe of Asher, out of the tribe of Naphtali and out of the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

7The children of Merari according to their families had 12 cities out of the tribe of Reuben, out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun.

8The children of Israel gave these cities with their pasturelands by lot to the Levites, just as Yahweh commanded by Moses.

Cities for Aaron’s Descendants

9They gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon these cities that he called by name; 10and they were for the descendants of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites who were of the children of Levi, for theirs was the first lot. 11They gave them Kiriath-arba, (*Arba* was the father of Anak), which is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, along with its pasturelands around it. 12But they gave the fields of the city and its villages to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for his possession.

13To the children of Aaron the priest they gave:

Hebron with its pasturelands, the city of refuge for the killer; Libnah with its surrounding pasturelands, 14Jattir with its surrounding pasturelands, Eshtemoa with its surrounding pasturelands, 15Holon with its surrounding pasturelands, Debir with its surrounding pasturelands, 16Ain with its surrounding pasturelands, Juttah with its surrounding pasturelands, and Beth-shemesh with its surrounding pasturelands: nine cities out of those two tribes.

17Out of the tribe of Benjamin:

Gibeon with its surrounding pasturelands, Geba with its surrounding pasturelands, 18Anathoth with its surrounding pasturelands, and Almon with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities. 19All the cities of the priests, the children of Aaron, were 13 cities with their surrounding pasturelands.

Cities for Kohath’s Other Descendants

20The families of the children of Kohath, the Levites, even the rest of the children of Kohath, had the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim. 21They gave them:

Shechem with its surrounding pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim, the city of refuge for the killer; and Gezer with its surrounding pasturelands, 22Kibzaim with its surrounding pasturelands and Beth-horon with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

23Out of the tribe of Dan:

Elteke with its surrounding pasturelands, Gibbethon with its surrounding pasturelands, 24Aijalon with its surrounding pasturelands, Gath-rimmon with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

25Out of the half-tribe of Manasseh:

Taanach with its surrounding pasturelands, and Gath-rimmon with its surrounding pasturelands: two cities.

26All the cities of the families of the rest of the children of Kohath were ten *cities* with their surrounding pasturelands.

Cities for Gershon’s Descendants

27They gave to the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the half-tribe of Manasseh:

Golan in Bashan with its surrounding pasturelands, the city of refuge for the killer; and Ashtaroth with its surrounding pasturelands: two cities.

28Out of the tribe of Issachar:

Kishion with its surrounding pasturelands, Daberath with its surrounding pasturelands, 29Jarmuth with its surrounding pasturelands, En-gannim with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

30Out of the tribe of Asher:

Mishal with its surrounding pasturelands, Abdon with its surrounding pasturelands, 31Helkath with its surrounding pasturelands and Rehob with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

32Out of the tribe of Naphtali:

Kedesh in Galilee with its surrounding pasturelands, the city of refuge for the killer; Hammoth-dor with its surrounding pasturelands, and Kartan with its surrounding pasturelands three cities.

33All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were 13 cities with their surrounding pasturelands.

Cities for Merari’s Descendants

34To the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun:

Jokneam with its surrounding pasturelands, Kartah with its surrounding pasturelands, 35Dimnah with its surrounding pasturelands and Nahalal with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

36Out of the tribe of Reuben:

Bezer with its surrounding pasturelands, Jahaz with its surrounding pasturelands, 37Kedemoth with its surrounding pasturelands and Mephaath with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities.

38Out of the tribe of Gad:

Ramoth in Gilead with its surrounding pasturelands, the city of refuge for the killer; and Mahanaim with its surrounding pasturelands, 39Heshbon with its surrounding pasturelands, Jazer with its surrounding pasturelands: four cities in all. 40All these were the cities of the children of Merari according to their families, the rest of the families of the Levites. Their lot was 12 cities.

41All the cities of the Levites in the midst of the possession of the children of Israel were 48 cities with their surrounding pasturelands. 42Each of these cities included their surrounding pasturelands around them. It was this way with all these cities.

The Promises of Yahweh Fulfilled

43So Yahweh gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. They took possession of it and lived in it. 44Yahweh gave them rest all around according to all that he swore to their fathers. Not a man of all their enemies stood before them. Yahweh gave all their enemies into their hand. 45Not one word failed of all the good things that Yahweh spoke to the house of Israel. All came to pass.

**Joshua Chapter 22**

The Eastern Tribes Return Home

1Then Joshua called the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh 2and said to them, “You have kept all that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you and have listened to my voice in all that I commanded you. 3You have not abandoned your brothers these many days to this day, but you have kept the requirement of the commandment of Yahweh your God. 4But now Yahweh your God has given rest to your brothers as he spoke to them. So now return and go to your tents, to the land of your possession that Moses the servant of Yahweh gave you beyond the Jordan. 5Only be very careful to do the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of Yahweh commanded you, to love Yahweh your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

6So Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their tents. 7Now to the half-tribe of Manasseh, Moses had given *an inheritance* in Bashan, but to the *other* half, Joshua gave *an inheritance* with their brothers beyond the Jordan to the west. And also, when Joshua sent them away to their tents, he blessed them 8and spoke to them, saying, “Return to your tents with much wealth, with very much livestock, with silver, with gold, with bronze, with iron, and with very much clothing. Divide the spoil of your enemies with your brothers.”

The Eastern Tribes' Altar of Witness

9The children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh returned *home,* and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of Gilead, to the land of their possession that they had possessed according to the commandment of Yahweh by Moses. 10When they came to the region of the Jordan that is in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh built an altar there by the Jordan, a large altar to look at.

11The children of Israel heard this, “Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh have built an altar opposite of the land of Canaan, in the region of the Jordan, across from the children of Israel.” 12When the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh to go up to make war against them.

13The children of Israel sent Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest into the land of Gilead to the children of Reuben and to the children of Gad and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, 14and with Phinehas *were* ten leaders, one leader from each father’s house from each of the tribes of Israel; and they were—each one of them—a head of their father’s house among the clans of Israel. 15They came to the children of Reuben and to the children of Gad and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, to the land of Gilead, and they spoke with them, saying, 16“This is what the whole congregation of Yahweh says, ‘What is this unfaithfulness that you have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from *following* after Yahweh, in that you have built yourselves an altar to rebel this day against Yahweh? 17Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us, which we have not *yet* cleansed ourselves from to this day even though a plague came on the congregation of Yahweh? 18And today you are turning away from *following* after Yahweh? It will be, if you are rebelling against Yahweh today, that tomorrow he will be angry with the whole congregation of Israel. 19However, if the land of your possession is unclean, then cross over to the land of the possession of Yahweh where Yahweh’s tabernacle dwells, and take possession among us; but do not rebel against Yahweh or rebel against us, by building an altar other than the altar of Yahweh our God. 20Was not Achan the son of Zerah unfaithful, yes, unfaithful regarding the devoted thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? That man did not die alone in his iniquity.’”

21Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh answered and spoke to the heads of the clans of Israel, 22“The Mighty One, God, Yahweh; the Mighty One, God, Yahweh; he knows, and let Israel know: if it was in rebellion or if in unfaithfulness against Yahweh—do not save us this day!— 23by building ourselves an altar to turn away from *following* after Yahweh, or if to offer burnt offerings or grain offerings or if to offer sacrifices of peace offerings, let Yahweh himself examine it. 24Have we not done this out of deep concern, and for a reason, saying, ‘In the future your children might speak to our children, saying, “What do you have to do with Yahweh, the God of Israel? 25For Yahweh has made the Jordan a border between us and you, O *you* children of Reuben and children of Gad. You have no portion in Yahweh.”’ So your children might make our children stop fearing Yahweh.

26“So we said, ‘Let’s take action and build ourselves an altar, not for burnt offering nor for sacrifice, 27but to be a witness between us and you, and between our generations after us, that we may carry out the service of Yahweh in his presence with our burnt offerings, with our sacrifices and with our peace offerings, so that your children do not tell our children in the future, “You have no portion in Yahweh!”’ 28So we said, ‘If they say *that* to us or to our generations in the future, we would say, “See the replica of the altar of Yahweh that our fathers made, not for burnt offerings nor for sacrifices; but it is a witness between us and you.”’ 29Far be it from us that we should rebel against Yahweh and turn away this day from *following* after Yahweh by building an altar for burnt offerings, for grain offerings, or for sacrifices, other than the altar of Yahweh our God that is before his tabernacle!”

Conflict Resolved

30When Phinehas the priest and the leaders of the congregation, the heads of the clans of Israel that were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spoke, it was good in their eyes. 31So Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said to the children of Reuben, to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, “Today we know that Yahweh is in the midst of us because you have not committed this unfaithfulness against Yahweh. Now you have rescued the children of Israel out of the hand of Yahweh.”

32Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the leaders, returned from the children of Reuben and from the children of Gad out from the land of Gilead to the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel and brought back word to them. 33The word was good in the eyes of the children of Israel, and the children of Israel blessed God and spoke no more of going up against them to war to destroy the land where the children of Reuben and the children of Gad lived. 34And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad named the altar, “A Witness Between Us that Yahweh is God.”

**Joshua Chapter 23**

Joshua’s Farewell to the Leaders

1It came to pass after many days, when Yahweh had given rest to Israel from their enemies all around and Joshua was old and well advanced in years, 2that Joshua called for all Israel: for their elders and for their heads and for their judges and for their officers, and said to them, “I am old and well advanced in years. 3Now you yourselves have seen all that Yahweh your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is Yahweh your God who fights for you. 4See, I have allotted to you, as an inheritance for your tribes, these nations that remain, as well as all the nations that I have cut off from the Jordan to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun. 5Yahweh your God will thrust them out from before you and drive them out from before you. And you are to take possession of their land as Yahweh your God spoke to you.

6“Therefore be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the Law of Moses, so that you do not turn aside from it to the right or to the left, 7so that you do not mix with these nations, these that remain among you; nor invoke the name of their gods, nor swear *by them*, nor serve them, nor bow down[[12]](#footnote-26859) to them; 8but hold fast to Yahweh your God as you have done to this day.

9“For Yahweh has driven nations, great and numerous, out from before you. But as for you, no man has stood before you to this day. 10One man of you will chase 1,000, for it is Yahweh your God who fights for you, as he spoke to you. 11So watch yourselves very carefully, that you love Yahweh your God. 12But if you turn away, yes, turn away *from Yahweh*, and hold fast to the remnant of these nations, these who remain among you, and make marriages with them and mix with them, and they with you, 13*then* know, yes, know that Yahweh your God will no longer drive these nations out from before you, but they will be a snare and a trap to you, a whip for your sides and thorns in your eyes until you perish from off this good land that Yahweh your God has given you.

14“Behold, today I am going the way of all the earth. You know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word has failed of all the good things that Yahweh your God spoke concerning you. All have happened to you. Not one thing has failed of it. 15But just as all the good things have come on you of which Yahweh your God spoke to you, so Yahweh will bring on you all the evil things until he has destroyed you from off this good land that Yahweh your God has given you, 16if you transgress the covenant of Yahweh your God that he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down[[13]](#footnote-22254) to them. Then the anger of Yahweh will be kindled against you, and you will perish quickly from off the good land that he has given to you.”

**Joshua Chapter 24**

Summary of Israel’s History

1Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. 2And Joshua said to all the people, “This is what Yahweh, the God of Israel, says: ‘In ancient times your fathers lived beyond the *Euphrates* River—Terah the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor—and they served other gods. 3But I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him throughout all the land of Canaan and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. 4I gave Jacob and Esau to Isaac. And I gave Mount Seir to Esau to possess it, but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.

5“‘Then I sent Moses and Aaron and I plagued Egypt by what I did in its midst, and afterward I brought you out. 6I brought your fathers out of Egypt, and you came to the sea. The Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and with horsemen to the Red Sea. 7When they cried out to Yahweh, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians and brought the sea on them and covered them. And your eyes saw what I did in Egypt, and you lived in the wilderness many days.

8“‘I brought you into the land of the Amorites that lived beyond the Jordan, and they fought with you and I gave them into your hand. You took possession of their land, and I destroyed them from before you. 9Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and fought against Israel: he sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you, 10but I would not listen to Balaam; so he blessed, yes, blessed you, and I delivered you out of his hand.

11“‘Then you crossed over the Jordan and came to Jericho. The leaders of Jericho fought against you, *and also* the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Girgashite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, and I gave them into your hand. 12I sent the hornet before you that drove them out from before you, the two kings of the Amorites, not with your sword, nor with your bow. 13I gave you a land for which you had not labored and cities that you did not build, and you live in them. You eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.’

Choose Whom You Will Serve

14“Now therefore, fear Yahweh and serve him in integrity and in faithfulness. Get rid of the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve Yahweh. 15But if it seems evil in your eyes to serve Yahweh, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods that your fathers served that were beyond the *Euphrates* River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.”

16The people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake Yahweh to serve other gods! 17For Yahweh our God is he who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt from the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and guarded us on all the way in which we went and among all the peoples through whose midst we passed. 18Yahweh drove out from before us all the peoples, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We also will serve Yahweh, for he is our God.”

19And Joshua said to the people, “You will not be able to serve Yahweh, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God. He will not forgive your disobedience or your sins. 20If you forsake Yahweh and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you evil and put an end to you after he has done good to you.”

21And the people said to Joshua, “No! For we will serve Yahweh.”

22Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen Yahweh for yourselves, to serve him.”

And they said, “*We are* witnesses!”

23“So now get rid of the foreign gods that are among you, and stretch out your heart to Yahweh the God of Israel.”

24The people said to Joshua, “We will serve Yahweh our God and we will listen to his voice.”

25So Joshua cut a covenant with the people that day and set down for them a statute and a judgment in Shechem. 26Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak that was by the sacred precinct of Yahweh. 27And Joshua said to all the people, “Behold, this stone will be a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of Yahweh that he spoke to us. It will be therefore a witness against you, lest you deny your God.” 28So Joshua sent the people away, each to his inheritance.

Joshua's Death and Burial

29It came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Yahweh, died, being 110 years old. 30They buried him in the territory of his inheritance in Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. 31And Israel served Yahweh all the days of Joshua and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua and had known all the work of Yahweh that he had worked for Israel.

32And the bones of Joseph that the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt they buried in Shechem, in the parcel of ground that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for 100 qisitah,[[14]](#footnote-26965)and they became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

33And Eleazar the son of Aaron died, and they buried him in the hill of Phinehas his son, which had been given to him in the hill country of Ephraim.

1. Or “inherit” [↑](#footnote-ref-21146)
2. About 3,000 feet (914 meters) [↑](#footnote-ref-12846)
3. Lit. “swords” [↑](#footnote-ref-25029)
4. Or “bowed down” [↑](#footnote-ref-11119)
5. Roughly 5 pounds (2.26 kilograms) [↑](#footnote-ref-15657)
6. Roughly 1.25 pounds (567 grams) [↑](#footnote-ref-26621)
7. The Sea of Galilee [↑](#footnote-ref-27841)
8. The Sea of Galilee [↑](#footnote-ref-20777)
9. Or “inherited” [↑](#footnote-ref-25531)
10. The Sea of Galilee [↑](#footnote-ref-17343)
11. Kiriath-arba means “City of Arba.” [↑](#footnote-ref-21482)
12. Or “worship” [↑](#footnote-ref-26859)
13. Or “worship” [↑](#footnote-ref-22254)
14. A qisitah is an unknown unit of money. [↑](#footnote-ref-26965)