

THE MESSAGE OF JOSHUA

Introduction – Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, and 1 and 2 Kings are about salvation history based on God’s covenant outlined in Deuteronomy.

Joshua 1:6-9

A. The Conquest of Canaan Is the Work of God

1. The Jordan River parts like the Red Sea for Israel to cross over into the Promised Land.
2. The walls of Jericho fall down after Israel follows God’s plan.
3. God provides a victory over the southern coalition of city states.

Joshua 10:8-11

4. God gives victory against the northern coalition of city states.

Joshua 11:6

5. God promises to be with all the tribes as they go into their allotted territories to finish the conquest.

B. Spiritual Matters Take Precedence over Military Concerns

1. Before the conquest began the men were circumcised and everyone celebrated the Passover.
2. Sin in the camp by Achan’s family stopped a successful conquest until the sin was punished.
3. They went to Mt. Gerizim and Mt. Ebal to recite the covenant curses and blessings as commanded by the Lord.
4. The cities of refuge and towns for the Levites were selected.

C. Consequences of Human Choices

1. Rahab chose to worship God and aid Israel so she and her household were saved.
2. The Gibeonites deceived Israel into making a covenant with them and they were spared.

3. The Canaanites' corrupt culture resulted in God condemning them to death.

Genesis 15:16

4. Joshua celebrated a covenant renewal with Israel.

Joshua 24:14-15

Conclusion – Jesus was named after Joshua. Jesus' life embodied the story of Israel as their representative King. Jesus' family went to Egypt to escape death and returned at God's guidance. Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River near Jericho. He wandered 40 days in the wilderness before beginning his ministry. He fought the spiritual forces of evil to set people free. He sacrificed his life and entered the realm of the dead where he freed the righteous by his resurrection.

1 John 3:8