


The Book of Joshua

Preparing for the Conquest of Canaan

“Be Strong and Courageous”

- I. The Commands of God (Joshua 1:1-9)
- A. After the death of Moses, Joshua became the new leader of Israel.
 - 1. Note the simple, yet powerful, statement of God about Moses.
 - 2. “Moses my servant”
 - B. Joshua was the son of Nun, a descendant of Ephraim and Joseph (Num. 13:8).
 - 1. Led Israel in battle against the Amalekites (Exo. 17)
 - 2. Minister of Moses (Exo. 24:13; 33:11; Num. 11:28)
 - 3. One of the 12 spies - faithful, along with Caleb (Num. 13)
 - C. God’s command was for them to arise, cross the Jordan River, and go into the land of Canaan.
 - 1. Note God’s emphasis that He was giving the land to the Israelites.
 - 2. Yet, also note the emphasis upon Israel’s obedience in order to receive the land (vs. 2, 3, 7, 14-18).
 - 3. A gift can be conditional without being meritorious.
 - D. God specified the borders of the land of Israel (cf. Gen. 15:18-21; Exo. 23:31; Num. 34; Deut. 1:7; 11:24; etc.).
 - E. God made a three-fold promise to Joshua, illustrated by His faithfulness to Moses.
 - 1. He would make him victorious.
 - 2. He would never fail him.
 - 3. He would never forsake him.
 - F. Thus, God commanded Joshua to be strong and courageous.
 - 1. In leading the people
 - 2. In keeping the law
 - 3. Note that being strong and brave is commanded!
 - G. Finally, God commanded that His Word was not to depart from Joshua’s mind, mouth, or life.
- II. The Instructions of Joshua (Joshua 1:10-15)
- A. Upon receiving God’s commands, Joshua instructed the people to prepare for the journey into Canaan that would take place in three days.
 - B. He emphasized to those tribes who had settled on the east side of the Jordan River that they must keep their promise to send fighting men into the land to help their brethren defeat and drive out the inhabitants of Canaan.
 - C. God would give them rest, but only after they had fought every battle.
- III. The Answer of the People (Joshua 1:16-18)
- A. The attitude of the people was one of faithful, complete obedience.
 - B. They declared they would obey Joshua just as they had followed Moses.
 - C. They understood that God was with Joshua just as He had been with Moses.
 - D. Those who rebelled and disobeyed would be put to death.
 - E. Thus, there was no need to fear.

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Gen 15:18
On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Exod 23:31
And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you.

1 Kings 4:21
Solomon ruled over all the kingdoms from the Euphrates to the land of the Philistines and to the border of Egypt. They brought tribute and served Solomon all the days of his life.

KINGDOMS OF SAUL, DAVID, & SOLOMON

- Site fortified by Solomon
- Extent of Saul's kingdom
- Extent of David's kingdom
- Territory eventually controlled by David
- Boundary of Solomon's kingdom



David smote also Hadadezer, the son of Rehob, king of Zobah, as he went to recover his border at the river Euphrates. II Samuel 8:3

These promised borders were apparently controlled during the reign of King David according to II Samuel 8:3.

The Euphrates River extends southeast down into Babylon, modern-day Iraq.

From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. Joshua 1:4

Note: Both Deuteronomy 1:7 and 11:24 reference Lebanon and the Euphrates as northern boundaries for Israel.

Israel's Promised Land

In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: Genesis 15:18 (Note: the "river of Egypt" is the Nile)

The Nile River is located approximately 80 miles west of this point.

Mediterranean Sea aka "uttermost sea"

LEBANON

ASHER NAFTALI MANASSEH MANASSEH DAN EPHRAIM GAD BENJAMIN JUDAH REUBEN SIMEON NEBEY

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