

The Book of Joshua

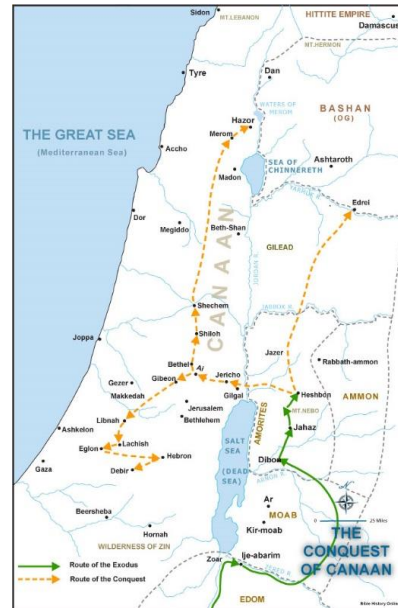
The Battle for Canaan

The Northern Campaign

Text: Joshua 11 - 12

I. The Northern Alliance (Joshua 11:1-5)

- A. After hearing about what had happened in the south, the kingdoms of northern Canaan sought to defeat Israel.
- B. Thus, they banded together and met at Merom to fight against Israel.
 1. Jabin is a title worn by leaders in that city (cf. Judges 4:2) - meaning, “the wise” or “intelligent.”
 2. Hazor (meaning, “fortified” or “enclosed”) was a stronghold in that region of Canaan.
 3. They would not be completely defeated until the time of Deborah and Barak (Judges 4:23).
- C. Chinneroth (also spelled Chinnereth [13:27]) is another name for the Sea of Galilee, also called Gennesaret (Luke 5:1).
 1. It was the name of a city that, in turn, gave the name to the lake.
 2. It was located just south of the Sea, where the Jordan River flows out of the larger body of water.
- D. The waters of Merom refer to a smaller lake located north of the Sea of Galilee, created by the swelling of the Jordan River.
- E. This fighting force was large and equipped with horses and chariots - the first time they would be used against Israel in Canaan.



II. The Victory of Israel

(Joshua 11:6-15)

- A. God promised to be with Joshua and Israel, and to give them victory over their enemies.
- B. They were not to be afraid of the number or weapons of their enemies.
 1. To hough a horse was to cut its back legs and hamstrings so that it was unable to run (or pull a chariot).
 2. Often, when this was done, the arteries were also cut, causing the animal's death.
- C. Israel launched a surprise attack on their enemies and they began to flee immediately.
- D. Israel pursued them and defeated them, just as God had promised.
- E. Thus, they took the cities of the north, burning only the city of Hazor.
- F. Great spoils were taken by the Israelites.
- G. Joshua had been obedient to the will of God (commanded by Moses); thus, God had granted victory to His people.

The Book of Joshua

- III. Summary of Israel's Conquest (Joshua 11:16-23)
- IV. Record of Defeated Canaanite Kings (Joshua 12)