

CHAPTER 1

1 And it was after the death of Moses, the servant of Jehovah, that Jehovah said<sup>1 a</sup> to Joshua,<sup>1 b</sup> the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now arise, cross over this Jordan, you, and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the children of Israel.

3 Every place upon which the sole of your foot shall tread, that I have given to you, as I spoke to Moses, Note Jos 14:12

4 From the desert and this Lebanon even to the great river, the Euphrates River, the land of the Hittites, and to the great sea toward the going *down* of the sun, shall be your boundary.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before your face all the days of your life; as I was with

<sup>1a</sup> **1:1 said...saying...**You will find this phrase often in Joshua. The Hebrew word is the same word, *amar*, which we have consistently translated say, said, or saying. In the Books of Moses the phrase is always spoke (*dabar*)...saying (*amar*). In Joshua the phrase is said (*amar*)...saying (*amar*). The principle that *The Heritage Bible* has tried to consistently apply is always use the same English word to translate the same Hebrew word where possible, and not use different phraseology for the sake of making the English more stylish. The principle we have followed is to give to the English reader as much as is possible the Hebrew words and Hebrew way of thinking, because the Hebrew is the manner of speech that God used to communicate to us His Word and His words. We desire to capture as much of this in our hearts as possible. As long as the meaning is clear to the English reader we have maintained the Hebrew phraseology as much as possible. We believe this is a holy principle that feeds our being.

<sup>1b</sup> **1:1 Joshua, Yehowshuwa,** meaning Jehovah saves, the same name as Jesus.

Moses, I will be with you; I will not slack off from you, nor leave you.

6 Seize strength, and be powerfully alert, because you shall cause this people to inherit the land, which I swore to their fathers to give them.

7 Only seize strength, and be very powerfully alert, so that you hedge about to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you are intelligently successful<sup>7</sup> everywhere you walk.

8 This book of the law shall not be withdrawn<sup>8 a</sup> from being present in your mouth; but you shall murmur in pleasure<sup>8 b</sup> in it day and night, so that you hedge about to do according to all that is written in it, because then you shall prosper in your way, and then you shall be intelligently successful.

9 Have I not commanded you, Seize strength, and be powerfully alert? Do not be in dread, and do not break down, because Jehovah, your God, is with you everywhere you walk.

<sup>7</sup> **1:7 intelligently successful, *sakal*.** The root meaning of *sakal* is to be prudent, act intelligently, to attend with your mind, and become understanding and successful.

<sup>8a</sup> **1:8 be withdrawn from being present** is one word in Hebrew, *muwsh*, and means to withdraw or give way and not be present. It means to give up occupied territory. God commands us not to allow His Word to be withdrawn from occupying the territory of our mouth.

<sup>8b</sup> **1:8 murmur in pleasure, *hagah*.** The main meaning of *hagah* is to growl in delight over one's food, as a lion growls in pleasure as he eats his food. It is also used of the cooing of doves. Here it means to murmur or mutter sounds of delight as you meditate on the Word of God.

**JOSHUA 2** *Joshua prepares to cross Jordan; they vow loyalty to Joshua; Rahab hides the spies*

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11 Cross over through the camp, and command the people, saying, Set up for yourself food, because after three more days you shall cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which Jehovah, your God, gives you to possess.

12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, saying,

13 Remember the word which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded you, saying, Jehovah, your God, has settled you in rest, and has given you this land.

14 Your wives, your little children, and your livestock shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side of Jordan, but you shall cross over before the face of your brothers able bodied soldiers, all the mighty men of resources, and help them,

15 Until Jehovah has settled your brothers in rest, as he has given you, and they also have possessed the land which Jehovah, your God, gives them; then you shall turn back to the land of your possession, and possess it, which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, gave you across Jordan toward the rising of the sun.

16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us, we will walk.

17 According to all which we attentively heard Moses, so we will hear you attentively; only Jehovah, your God, be with you as he was with Moses.

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18 All men who rebel against your commandment, and will not attentively hear your words in all that you command him, he shall be put to death; only seize strength, and be powerfully alert.

**CHAPTER 2**

1 And Joshua, the son of Nun, sent out of Acacia two men to walk as spies secretly, saying, Walk, see the land, even Jericho. And they walked, and came into a harlot's house, named Rahab, and lay down there.

2 And it was said to the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in here tonight of the children of Israel to dig into the land.

3 And the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, Bring out the men who came to you, who came into your house, because they came to dig into all the land.

4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, The men came to me, but I did not know by seeing from where;

5 And it was at the shutting of the gate at dark, that the men went out; I do not know by seeing where the men walked; run after them hurrying, because you shall reach them.

6 And she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, having arranged *them* on the roof.

7 And the men pursued after them the way to the Jordan to the fords, and they shut the gate afterwards when they who pursued were gone out after them.

*The spies from Israel arrange to spare Rahab and her family in taking Jericho* **JOSHUA 2**

8 And before they had laid down, she came up to them upon the roof,

9 And she said to the men, I know that Jehovah has given you the land, and that your dread has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have melted before your face,

10 Because we have heard how Jehovah dried up the water of the Red Sea for you, when you came out of Egypt, and as you did to the two kings of the Amorites, who were on the other side of Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you devoted,

11 And we have attentively heard, and our heart has melted, and *there* does not rise any more spirit in any man before your face, because Jehovah, your God, he is God in the heavens above, and on the earth below.

12 Now, swear, please, to me by Jehovah, because I have done to you mercy, that you will also do mercy to my father's house, and give me a true sign;

13 And that you will keep alive my father, and my mother, and my brothers, and my sisters, and all that is theirs, and snatch away our souls from death.

14 And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if you do not cause this our word to stand out boldly. And it shall be, when Jehovah has given us the land, that we will do mercy and truth with you.

15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, because her house was in the side of the wall, and she dwelt in the wall.

16 And she said to them, Walk to the mountain, lest the pursuers impinge upon you, and hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers turn back; and afterward you shall walk on your way.

17 And the men said to her, On this condition we will be blameless from this your oath which you have made us swear:

18 Behold, we are coming into the land; you shall tie this crimson cord of string to the window by which you let us down; and you shall gather to you to the house your father, and your mother, and your brothers, and all your father's house;

19 And it shall be, anyone who goes out of the doors of your house outside, his blood is upon his head, and we shall be innocent; and anyone who is with you in the house, his blood is on our head if a hand is on him.

20 And if you cause this our word to stand out boldly, then we will be innocent of your oath which you make us swear.

21 And she said, According to your words, so it is. And she sent them away, and they walked; and she tied the crimson cord to the window.

22 And they walked, and came to the mountain, and dwelt there three days, until the pursuers had turned back; and the pursuers searched the whole way, but they were not found.

23 And the two men turned back, and descended the mountain, and crossed over, and came to

**JOSHUA 3** *Joshua commands the people to prepare; Jehovah promises to magnify Joshua*

Joshua, the son of Nun, and tallied up to him all that came forth to them;

24 And they said to Joshua, Because Jehovah has given all the land into our hands, even all the inhabitants of the land melt before our face.

**CHAPTER 3**

1 And Joshua loaded up early in the dawn; and they pulled up from Acacia, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they crossed over.

2 And it was at the end of three days, that the officers crossed over through the camp,

3 And they commanded the people, saying, When you see the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall pull up from your place, and walk after it.

4 Yet there shall be a distance between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure; do not come near to it, that you may know by seeing the way by which you must walk, because you have not crossed over this way yesterday day before yesterday.

5 And Joshua said to the people, Sanctify yourselves, because tomorrow Jehovah will do wonders in your midst.

6 And Joshua said to the priests, saying, Lift up the ark of the covenant, and cross over before the face of the people. And they lifted up the ark of the covenant, and walked before the face of the people.

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7 And Jehovah said to Joshua, This day I will begin to make you great in the eyes of all Israel, that they may know by seeing that, as I was with Moses, I will be with you.

8 And you shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When you have come to the brink of the water of Jordan, you shall stand in the Jordan.

9 And Joshua said to the children of Israel, Come here, and hear the words of Jehovah, your God.

10 And Joshua said, By this you shall know by seeing that the living God is among you, and that driving out, he will drive out from before your face the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth crosses over before your face into Jordan.

12 At this time take for you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel; one man - one man for each tribe.

13 And it shall be, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of Jehovah, the lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, the waters of Jordan shall be cut off, the waters descending from the upper part, and they shall stand in one heap.

14 And it was, when the people pulled up their tents to cross over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before

the face of the people,

15 And as they who bore the ark were come to Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark were plunged in the brim of the water (and Jordan fills all its banks all the days of harvest),

16 That the waters which descended from the upper part, stood, and were rising up as one heap a very wide distance from the city Adam, that beside Zaretan; and those descending toward the sea of the desert, the salt sea, ended, being cut off; and the people crossed over in front of Jericho.

17 And the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of Jehovah stood, set up on desert ground in the midst of Jordan, and all Israel crossed over on desert ground, until all the people completely crossed over Jordan.

#### CHAPTER 4

1 And it was, when all the people completely crossed over Jordan, that Jehovah said to Joshua, saying,

2 Take for you out of the people twelve men, one man - one man out of every tribe,

3 And command them, saying, Take for you this out of the midst of Jordan, out of the exact spot where the priests' feet stood set up, twelve stones, and you shall cross them over with you, and deposit them in the lodging place where you shall lodge this night.

4 And Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had set up of the children of Israel, one man - one man out of every tribe;

5 And Joshua said to them, Cross over before the face of the ark of Jehovah, your God, into the midst of Jordan, and every man of you raise up one stone upon his shoulder, for the number of the tribes of the children of Israel,

6 That this shall be a sign among you, that when your children shall ask in time to come, saying, What are these stones to you?

7 And you shall say to them, Because the waters of Jordan were cut off before the face of the ark of the covenant of Jehovah; the waters of Jordan were cut off as it crossed into Jordan, and these stones are for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.

8 And so the children of Israel did as Joshua commanded, and lifted up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as Jehovah spoke to Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and crossed them over with them to the place where they lodged, and deposited them there.

9 And Joshua raised up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the exact spot<sup>9</sup> where the feet of the priests were bearing the ark of the covenant, and they are there to this day.

<sup>9</sup> 4:9 Notice that this verse says that Joshua raised up another pillar of 12 stones in the edge of the water where the priests stood. So there were two piles of stones raised in memorial to their crossing: one on the western side where they lodged that night, and the other on the east side in the spot where the priests stood while everyone was crossing, which memorial was visible and not in the water after that the flood season subsided.

**JOSHUA 5** *They cross Jordan, the water returns, Joshua instructs them on the memorial*

10 And the priests bearing the ark were standing in the midst of Jordan, until every word was completed that Jehovah commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua, and the people flowed like liquid and crossed over.

11 And it was, when all the people had completed crossing over that the ark of Jehovah and the priests crossed over before the face of the people.

12 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh, crossed over able bodied soldiers before the face of the children of Israel, as Moses had spoken to them -

13 About forty thousand equipped with arms for the host crossed over before the face of Jehovah to battle, to the desert of Jericho.

14 On that day Jehovah made Joshua great in the eyes of all Israel, and they feared him, as they feared Moses, all the days of his life.

15 And Jehovah said to Joshua, saying,

16 Command the priests who bear the ark of the testimony, that they come up out of Jordan.

17 And Joshua commanded the priests, saying, Come up out of Jordan.

18 And it was, the priests came up who bore the ark of the covenant of Jehovah out of the midst of Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet were plucked up to the desert, and the waters of

Jordan turned back to their place, and walked as yesterday day before yesterday over all its banks.

19 And the people came up out of Jordan on the tenth of the first new moon, and pitched in Gilgal, in the east border of Jericho.

20 And those twelve stones, which they took out of Jordan, Joshua raised in Gilgal.

21 And he said to the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What are these stones?

22 Then you shall cause your children to know by seeing, saying, Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry ground,

23 Because Jehovah, your God, dried up the waters of Jordan from before your face, until you were crossed over, as Jehovah, your God, did to the Red Sea, which he dried up from before our face until we crossed over;

24 So that all the people of the earth shall know by seeing the hand of Jehovah, that it is strong, so that you may fear Jehovah, your God, all days.

## CHAPTER 5

1 And it was, when all the kings of the Amorites, who were across Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites, who were by the sea, attentively heard that Jehovah had dried up the waters of Jordan from before the face of the children of Israel until they crossed over, that their heart melted, and there was no spirit in them any more, before

*Jehovah commands circumcision and the Passover; Jehovah appears to Joshua* **JOSHUA 5**  
the face of the children of Israel.

Note 24:12

2 At that time Jehovah said to Joshua, Make for yourselves knives of strong rock, and turn back to circumcise the children of Israel the second time.

3 And Joshua made him knives of strong rock, and circumcised the children of Israel at the hill of the foreskins.

4 And this is the word why Joshua circumcised: all the people who came out of Egypt, all the males, the men of war, had died in the desert on the way, after they came out of Egypt,

5 Because all the people who came out were circumcised, and all the people who were born in the desert on the way as they came out of Egypt had not been circumcised,

6 Because the children of Israel walked forty years in the desert, until all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were finished, because they did not attentively hear the voice of Jehovah, to whom Jehovah swore that he would not let them see the land, which Jehovah swore to their fathers to give us, a land flowing milk and honey.

7 And he raised up their children in their place; Joshua circumcised them, because they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them on the way.

8 And it was, when all the people had finished being circumcised, that they abode in their places in the camp until they were restored to *normal* life.

9 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Today I have rolled the reproach of Egypt off of you. And he called the name of the place Gilgal until this day. Gilgal means rolled away.

10 And the children of Israel pitched their tents at Gilgal, and did the Passover on the fourteenth day of the new moon at dusk in the desert of Jericho.

11 And they ate of the stored grain of the land on the next day of the Passover, unleavened and toasted cakes in this same day.

12 And the manna ceased on the next day after they had eaten of the stored grain of the land, and there was not any more manna to the children of Israel, and they ate of the produce of the land of Canaan that year.

13 And it was, when Joshua was beside Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and saw, and behold, a man stood opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand; and Joshua walked to him, and said to him, You! *Are you* for us, or our oppressors?

14 And he said, No, because I am the Chief Ruler<sup>14</sup> of the host of Jehovah. Now I have come!

<sup>14</sup> **5:13-15 Chief Ruler**, *sar*, meaning the head person over any rank or class. It is our word Czar, or Caesar. Jehovah is the Chief Ruler over the host of Jehovah. This man who appeared to Joshua is Jehovah God Himself, not an angel messenger. This Man is the head over the army of Jehovah. As you read through the Bible you find that no one is at the head of or the Chief Ruler of the armies of Jehovah but Jehovah Himself. Beginning with 1 Sam 1:3 He is forever thereafter called Jehovah of host. When the Son of God descends from heaven to earth in Revelation 19:11-21, He is the Chief Ruler of those armies. Therefore this man who appeared to Joshua is none other than Jehovah God Himself. If this had been an angel messenger, when Joshua fell on his

**JOSHUA 6** *Jehovah commands them to circle Jericho six days, seven times on the seventh day*

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and prostrated himself to him, and said to him, What does my Lord say to his servant?

15 And the Commander of Jehovah's host said to Joshua, Pull off your shoe from your foot, because the place on which you stand is holy. And Joshua did so.

**CHAPTER 6**

1 And Jericho being shut up, was shut up before the face of the children of Israel; nothing going out, and nothing coming in.

2 And Jehovah said to Joshua, See, I have given into your hand Jericho and its king - mighty men of resources.

3 And you shall circle the city, all the men of war, going around the city one stroke. You shall do like this six days.

4 And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of jubilee before the face of the ark, and on the seventh day you shall circle the city seven strokes, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

5 And it shall be, when they sound with the horn of jubilee, when you attentively hear the voice of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend, every man straight before him.

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face to prostrate himself to him, the angel messenger would have stopped him as the angel messenger stopped John in Revelation 19:10 and 22:9. Also Jehovah God spoke to Joshua the same words as He spoke to Moses out of the burning bush. This glorious person is Jehovah God in the form of a man. Also see Gen 18:1-2.

6 And Joshua, the son of Nun, called the priests, and said to them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of the jubilee before the face of the ark of Jehovah.

7 And he said to the people, Cross over, and circle the city, and let him who is equipped with arms cross over before the face of the ark of Jehovah.

8 And it was, when Joshua spoke to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of the jubilee crossed over before the face of Jehovah, and blew with the trumpets, and the ark of the covenant of Jehovah walked behind them.

9 And the men equipped with arms walked before the face of the priests blowing the trumpets, and those gathering behind walked after the ark, walking on, and blowing the trumpets.

10 And Joshua commanded the people, saying, You shall not shout, and not cause your voice to be heard, and not a word shall go out of your mouth until the day I say to you, Shout! Then you shall shout.

11 So the ark of Jehovah circled the city, going around it one stroke, and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

12 And Joshua loaded up early in the dawn, and the priests took up the ark of Jehovah.

13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of the jubilee before the face of the ark of Jehovah walked on walking, and blowing with the trumpets; and those

equipped with arms walked before their face; and those gathering behind walked after the ark of Jehovah, walking on, and blowing with the trumpets.

14 And they circled the city the second day one stroke, and returned to the camp; so they did six days.

15 And it was on the seventh day, that they loaded up early about the dawning of the dawn, and circled the city according to that judged decree seven strokes; only on that day they circled the city seven strokes.

16 And it was at the seventh stroke, the priests blew with the trumpets, and Joshua said to the people, Shout, because Jehovah has given you the city!

17 And the city shall be devoted, it and all that are in it, to Jehovah; only Rahab, the harlot, shall live, she and all who are with her in the house, because she hid the messengers whom we sent.

18 And you, certainly hedge yourselves about from the devoted<sup>18</sup> thing, lest you be devoted by taking of the devoted thing, and put the camp of Israel to be devoted, and trouble it.

<sup>18</sup> **6:18 devoted, *cherem*.** The same word that is translated devoted in Jos 6:17-18; 7:1,11,13,15; 22:20. The verb form is *charam*. Because Achan stole what was devoted to God, he became devoted by God to destruction. All devoted things belong to God's ministers, Num 18:14. He devoted himself to his own will to take whatever he desired. Therefore, he was devoted to material things instead of God. Achan devoted himself to something that could not save him, but destroy him, just like the rich man who died and went to hell, Lk 12:16-21;16:19-31. When you are devoted to the wrong thing, God must devote you to destruction.

19 And all the silver, and gold, and utensils of bronze, and iron, are holy to Jehovah; they shall come into the treasury<sup>19</sup> of Jehovah.

20 And the people shouted, and blew with the trumpets; and it was, when the people attentively heard the voice of the trumpet, that the people shouted with a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city.

21 And they devoted all that was in the city, from man even to woman, from young even to aged, and bullock, and flock animal, and donkey, by the mouth of the sword.

22 And to the two men, they who walked to spy out the land, Joshua said, Go into the harlot woman's house, and bring the woman out of there, and all that is hers, as you swore to her.

<sup>19</sup> **6:19** Tithing is not mentioned in the book of Joshua, but the principle is clearly spelled out in God's instructions to them on the devoted things, *cherem*, Jos 6:18. The wealth of the first city they conquered, Jerecho, was devoted to God, 6:18-19. All the wealth of Jericho was to come into the treasury of Jehovah for the priests and Levites, 6:24, because all devoted things belong to God's ministers, Num 18:14. No such command was given concerning the other cities. Only the first belonged to God. The remainder belonged to the people. Achan was executed for taking devoted things from Jericho. God's instructions were that the people were to take the wealth to themselves in the remaining cities, Jos 8:2,27; 11:14. What Achan did is called stealing and lying, 7:11, the same sin that Malachi accused them of when they did not bring their tithes and offerings, Mal 3:7-9. God's law has always been the same, and always will be: the first of your increase belongs to God. If you take it for yourself, you are stealing. If you refuse to admit that it belongs to God, you are lying. The penalty for stealing from God, and lying about it, is severe. God's law has never been changed or repealed, fulfilled, but never done away with, Mt 5:17-20; Rom 7:12,14. 1 Cor 9:8-11.

**JOSHUA 7** *They brought out Rahab's family; burn Jericho; Achan's treachery; Ai*

23 And the young men who walked as spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brothers, and all that was hers; and they brought out all her family, and deposited them outside the camp of Israel.

24 And they burned the city with fire, and all that was in it; only the silver, and the gold, and the utensils of bronze and of iron, they gave to the treasury of the house of Jehovah.

25 And Rahab the harlot, and her father's household, and all that was hers, Joshua saved alive, and she dwells in the midst of Israel to this day,<sup>25</sup> because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to walk to spy out Jericho.

26 And Joshua bound them with an oath at that time, saying, Cursed is the man before the face of Jehovah, who rises up and builds this city Jericho; he shall lay its foundation in his firstborn, and he shall station its gates in his youngest. 1

Kngs 16:34

27 So Jehovah was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land.

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<sup>25</sup> 6:25 This statement is clear evidence that the book of Joshua was written by an eye witness, Joshua himself, or some scribe at the mouth of Joshua, because Rahab was still living among them in Canaan at the time the writer was recording these words. There are many references throughout the book showing that the writer was an eye witness to the events recorded. The local names that appear constantly in every section are additional proof. No one writing years later would have attempted to be so specific about every location. The description of the borders of each tribe in chapters 12 -24 are so detailed that they could have been written only by an eye witness.

**CHAPTER 7**

1 And the children of Israel tried to cover up a treachery in the devoted thing, and Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the devoted thing, and the nostrils of Jehovah burned against the children of Israel. See Note 6:18

2 And Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Beth Aven, toward the sunrise from Bethel, and said to them, saying, Go up and walk to spy the land. And the men went up, and walked to spy out Ai.

3 And they turned back to Joshua, and said to him, Do not let all the people go up; let about two thousand men or three thousand men go up, and strike Ai; do not cause all the people to labor there, because they are few.

4 And there went up of the people about three thousand men, and they fled before the face of the men of Ai.

5 And the men of Ai struck of them about thirty-six men, and chased them from before the face of the gate to Shebarim, and struck them in the steep declines; and the hearts of the people melted, and became as water.

6 And Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the face of the ark of Jehovah until the dusk, he and the elders of Israel, and raised up dust upon their heads.

7 And Joshua said, Alas, Oh Lord Jehovah! Crossing over, have you crossed this people over Jordan to give us into the hand of the

Amorites, to cause us to be lost? Oh, I would that we had yielded, and dwelt on the other side of Jordan!

8 Oh Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turns their backs before the face of them who hate us!

9 And the Canaanites, and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear of it, and shall surround against us, and cut off our name from the earth; and what will you do to your great name?

10 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Get yourself up! Why have you fallen on your face like this?

11 Israel has sinned, and also they have crossed over my covenant which I commanded them; they have even taken of the devoted thing, and also have stolen, and also lied, and they have even put it among their implements.

12 And the children of Israel were not able to stand before the face of those hating them, but turned their backs before the face of those hating them, because they have become devoted, neither will I be with you any more, unless you desolate the devoted things from among you.

13 Rise up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says Jehovah God of Israel, There is a devoted thing in your midst, Oh Israel; you are not able to stand before the face of those who hate you, until you take away the devoted thing from among you.

14 And you shall be brought near in the dawn by your tribes; and it shall be, the tribe which Jehovah

takes shall be brought near by families; and the family which Jehovah captures shall be brought near by households; and the household which Jehovah captures shall be brought near by mighty men.

15 And it shall be, that he who is captured with the devoted thing shall be burned with fire, he and all that is his, because he has crossed over the covenant of Jehovah, and because he has done foolishness in Israel.

16 And Joshua loaded up early in the dawn, and brought Israel near by their tribes; and the tribe of Judah was captured;

17 And he brought near the family of Judah, and he captured the family of the Zarhites; and he brought near the family of the Zarhites by mighty men, and Zabdi was captured;

18 And he brought his household by mighty men, and Achan was captured, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah.

19 And Joshua said to Achan, My son, I beg you, put heavy glory on Jehovah God of Israel, and give your extended hand to him, and cause to stand out boldly to me, please, what you have done; do not hide it from me.

20 And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against Jehovah God of Israel, and this and this I have done:

21 I saw among the spoil one good robe of Shinar<sup>21</sup>, and two hundred shekels of silver, and one

<sup>21</sup> 7:21 Shinar is Babylonia

## JOSHUA 8

*Achan stoned; Joshua sets an ambush for Ai*

bar of gold of fifty shekels weight, and I coveted them, and took them; and behold, they are hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.

22 And Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and behold, it was hidden in his tent, and the silver under it.

23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and came with them to Joshua, and to all the children of Israel, and poured them out before the face of Jehovah.

24 And Joshua took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the bar of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his donkeys, and his flock animals, and his tent, and all that was to him, and all Israel with him; and they brought them up to the Valley of Achor.

25 And Joshua said, Why have you troubled<sup>25</sup> us? Jehovah shall trouble you this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones; and they burned them with fire, and they stoned them with stones.

26 And they raised over him a great heap of stones to this day. And Jehovah turned back from the burning anger of his nostrils. Therefore the name of that place is called The Valley of Achor to this day.

### CHAPTER 8

1 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Do not fear, and do not break down; take with you all the people of war, and arise; go up to

<sup>25</sup> 7:25 troubled, trouble, *achor*, the same word as the name of the place. That is how Achor got its name. See next verse.

Ai. See, I have given the king of Ai, and his people, and his city, and his land into your hand;

2 And you shall do to Ai and her king as you did to Jericho and her king; only its spoil, and its animals, you shall plunder as spoil for yourselves; set yourself an ambush for the city behind it.

3 And Joshua arose, and all the people of war, to go up to Ai; and Joshua chose out thirty thousand mighty men of resources, and sent them away by night.

4 And he commanded them, saying, See, you shall set an ambush against the city, behind the city; do not be very widely distanced from the city, and all of you shall be set up;

5 And I, and all the people who are with me, will draw near to the city, and it shall be, when they come out to encounter us, as at the first, that we will flee before their face,

6 And they will come out after us until we have torn them from the city - because they will say, They flee before our face as at the first; so we will flee before their face.

7 And you shall rise up from the ambush, and occupy the city; and Jehovah, your God, will give it into your hand.

8 And it shall be, when you capture the city, you shall burn the city with fire; you shall do the word of Jehovah. See, I have commanded you.

9 And Joshua sent them away, and they walked to the ambush, and sat down between Bethel and Ai, toward the sea from Ai; and

Joshua lodged that night in the midst of the people.

10 And Joshua loaded up in the dawn, and visited the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the face of the people to Ai.

11 And all the people of war who were with him, ascended, and drew near, and came in front of the city, and pitched on the north side of Ai; and a gorge was between him and Ai.

12 And he took about five thousand men, and set them to lie in ambush between Bethel and Ai, toward the sea from the city.

13 And they placed the people, all the camp that was on the north of the city, and their rear toward the sea from the city; Joshua walked that night into the midst of the valley.

14 And it was, when the king of Ai saw, they flowed like liquid, and loaded up early, and the men of the city went out to encounter Israel in battle, he and all his people, at an appointed meeting, before the face of the desert; and he knew not by seeing that there was an ambush against him behind the city.

15 And Joshua and all Israel made contact before their face, and fled by the way of the desert.

16 And all the people who were in Ai were called to convene to run after them, and they ran after Joshua, and were torn away from the city.

17 And there was not a man left in Ai or Bethel, who did not go out after Israel, and they left the city open, and ran after Israel.

18 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Stretch out the spear that is in your hand toward Ai, because I will give it into your hand. And Joshua stretched out the spear that was in his hand toward the city.

19 And they in ambush rose, flowing out of their place like liquid, and they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand, and entered into the city, and captured it, and hurried, and set the city on fire.

20 And when the men of Ai turned to face behind them, they saw, and behold, the smoke of the city ascended up to the heavens, and there was no hand<sup>20</sup> to them to flee here or there; and the people who fled to the desert turned back upon the pursuers.

21 And Joshua and all Israel saw that those in ambush had captured the city, and that the smoke of the city ascended, and they turned back, and struck the men of Ai.

22 And these came forth out of the city to meet them; so they were in the midst of Israel, these on this side, and those on that side; and they struck them, so that there was not left to them a survivor or escapee.

23 And they seized the king of Ai alive, and brought him near to Joshua.

24 And it was, when Israel had ended striking fatally all of the inhabitants of Ai, in the field, in the desert where they ran after them,

<sup>20</sup> **8:20 there was no hand to them**, meaning that they could not flee to the right hand nor the left hand, no direction for them to flee here or there.

**JOSHUA 9** *Joshua and Israel take the spoil of Ai; they write the law on Mt Ebal*

and they were all fallen by the mouth of the sword, until they were completed, that all Israel turned back to Ai, and struck it with the mouth of the sword.

25 And all who fell that day, from men even to women, were twelve thousand, all the men of Ai.

26 And Joshua did not turn back his hand, in which he stretched out the spear, until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai.

27 Only the animals and the spoil of that city Israel took for a spoil to themselves, according to the word of Jehovah which he commanded Joshua. Note 6:18-19.

28 And Joshua burnt Ai, and put it a mound forever, a desolation to this day.

29 And he hanged the king of Ai on a tree until the time of dusk; and at the going down of the sun, Joshua commanded that they take down his carcass from the tree, and throw it out into the opening of the gate of the city, and raised over it a great heap of stones until this day.

30 Then Joshua built an altar to Jehovah God of Israel in Mount Ebal,

31 As Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded the children of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of whole stones, upon which no man has caused any iron to move back and forth; and they offered up on it burnt offerings to Jehovah, and sacrificed thank offerings. Exo 20:25

32 And he wrote there on the stones the copy of the law of Moses, which he had written be-

fore the face of the children of Israel.

33 And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and those who judge, standing on this side and on that side of the ark, and in front of the priests, the Levites bearing the ark of the covenant of Jehovah, the stranger, and the native born alike, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim, and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded to bless the people of Israel at the first.

34 And right after, he called out all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua did not call out in front of the whole congregation of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the strangers who walked in their midst.

**CHAPTER 9**

1 And it was, when all the kings which were across Jordan, in the hills, and in the coastal slopes, and in all the coves of the great sea near the front of Lebanon, the Hittite, and the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, attentively heard,

2 They gathered themselves together to devour Joshua and Israel as one mouth.

3 And the inhabitants of Gibeon attentively heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai,

4 And made craftiness, and walked and made themselves ambassadors, and took worn out sacks on their donkeys, and wine bags, worn out and torn and bound up,

5 And worn out shoes and pieced together on their feet, and worn out garments on them; and all the bread of their food was dry; it was crumbs.

6 And they walked to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal, and said to him, and to the men of Israel, We have come from a distant land, and now cut a covenant with us.

7 And the men of Israel said to the Hivites, Perhaps you do settle in our midst, and how shall we cut a covenant with you?

8 And they said to Joshua, We are your servants. And Joshua said to them, Who are you, and from where do you come?

9 And they said to him, Your servants have come from a land very distant because of the name of Jehovah, your God, for we have attentively heard his fame, namely all that he did in Egypt,

10 And all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, who were beyond Jordan, to Sihon, king of Heshbon, and to Og, king of Bashan, who was in Ashtaroth.

11 And our elders and all the inhabitants of our land said to us, saying, Take in your hand food for the way, and walk to meet them, and say to them, We are your servants; and now cut a covenant with us.

12 We took this our food from our hunt hot out of our houses on the day we came out to walk to you, and now, lo, it is dry and it is crumbs;

13 And these bags of wine, which we filled, were new, and lo, they are torn; and these our garments and our shoes are worn out from the very long way.

14 And the mortal men took<sup>14</sup> of their hunted *game*, and did not inquire at the mouth of Jehovah.

15 And Joshua made peace with them, and cut a covenant with them, to let them live, and the princes of the congregation swore to them.

16 And it was at the end of three days after that they had cut a covenant with them, that they heard that they were their neighbors, and that they dwelt among them.

17 And the children of Israel pulled up, and came to their cities on the third day. And their cities were Gibeon, and Chephirah, and Beeroth, and Kirjath Je'arim.

18 And the children of Israel did not strike them because the princes of the congregation had sworn to them by Jehovah God of Israel. And all the congregation murmured obstinately against the princes.

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<sup>14</sup> **9:14** The meaning of this verse is that the men of Israel took or tasted of their food, and checked their wine bags, clothes, and shoes, and believed them, and did not ask Jehovah for His leadership. In other words, they took samples of their provisions, and bought their story upon sight evidence, and did not ask for unseen guidance from God. How often we have made the same mistake.

**JOSHUA 10** *Gibeonites deceive Israel and become servants of Israel; Amorites attack Gibeon*

19 And all the princes said to all the congregation, We have sworn to them by Jehovah God of Israel, and now we cannot touch them.

20 We will do this to them; we will let them live, and wrath will not be on us, because of the oath which we swore to them.

21 And the princes said to them, They shall live, and they shall be hewers of wood and drawers of water to all the congregation, what the princes had spoken to them.

22 And Joshua called for them, and he spoke to them, saying, Why have you deceived us, saying, We are very far from you; yet you dwell in our midst?

23 And now you are cursed, and none of you shall be cut off from being servants, and hewers of wood, and drawers of water for the house of my God.

24 And they answered Joshua, and said, Because it was certainly caused to stand out boldly to your servants, that Jehovah, your God, commanded his servant, Moses, to give before your face all the land, and to desolate all the inhabitants of the land from before your face, and we were exceedingly afraid for our souls before your face, and have done this word.

25 And now, behold, we are in your hand; as is good and right in your eyes to do to us, do.

26 And so he did to them, and snatched them out of the hand of the children of Israel, and they did not strike them fatally.

27 And Joshua gave them that day to be hewers of wood, and drawers of water for the congregation, and for the altar of Jehovah, to this day, in the place where he chose.

**CHAPTER 10**

1 And it was, when Adonizedek, king of Jerusalem, attentively heard that Joshua had captured Ai, and had devoted it, 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 completed peace with Israel, and were in their midst,

2 That they feared exceedingly, because Gibeon was a great city, as one of the kingdom cities, and because it was greater than Ai, and all its men were mighty.

3 And Adonizedek, king of Jerusalem, sent to Hoham, king of Hebron, and to Piram, king of Jarmuth, and to Japhia, king of Lachish, and to Debir, king of Eglon, saying,

4 Ascend to me, and surround me with help, and we shall strike Gibeon, because it has completed peace with Joshua and with the children of Israel.

5 And they ascended, the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, the king of Eglon; they and all their camp gathered themselves together, and camped above Gibeon, and began to devour it.

6 And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua to the camp at Gilgal, saying, Do not slack your

*Joshua defeats the Amorites; the sun and moon stood still; five kings fled to a cave* **JOSHUA 10**

hand from your servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and surround us with help, because all the kings of the Amorites who dwell in the mountains are collected against us.

7 So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of resources.

8 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Do not fear them, because I have given them into your hand; there shall not a man of them stand before your face.

9 And Joshua came to them suddenly - all the night he had gone up from Gilgal -

10 And Jehovah drove them in commotion before the face of Israel, and struck them with a great blow at Gibeon, and ran after them along the way going up to Beth Horon, and struck them to Azekah, and to Makkedah.

11 And it was, as they fled from before the face of Israel in the descent to Beth Horon, that Jehovah threw down great stones from the heavens on them to Azekah, and they died; the many who died by the hailstones were more than the children of Israel struck fatally with the sword.

12 Then Joshua spoke to Jehovah in the day when Jehovah gave up the Amorites before the face of the children of Israel, and he said in the eyes of Israel, Sun, be still<sup>1 2</sup> upon Gibeon, and Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.

<sup>12</sup> 10:12-13 be still and was still is *damam*, to be astonished, stop, unable to speak, unable to move. stood is *amad*, to stand as at attention before a king.

13 And the sun was still, and the moon stood, until the people had avenged themselves upon those who hated them. Is not this written in the Book of The Upright? And the sun stood in the midst of the heavens, and did not press on to go for an entire day.

14 And there has not been a day like that, facing back or after it, that Jehovah heard attentively the voice of a man, so that Jehovah devoured for Israel.

15 And Joshua turned back, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal.

16 And these five kings fled, and hid themselves in a cave at Makkedah.

17 And it was caused to stand out boldly to Joshua, saying, The five kings are found hidden in a cave at Makkedah.

18 And Joshua said, Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave, and visit men by it to hedge them about;

19 And you, do not stand here! Run after those who hate you, and cut off their rear; do not give them opportunity to go into their cities, because Jehovah, your God, has given them into your hand.

20 And it was, when Joshua and the children of Israel had finished striking them with a very great blow, until they were finished, and the survivors escaping from them went into fortified cities,

21 That all the people turned back to the camp to Joshua at Makkedah in peace; none pointed his tongue against any of the children of Israel.

## JOSHUA 10

*Joshua executes the five kings in the cave; cities Joshua conquered*

22 And Joshua said, Open the mouth of the cave, and bring out to me those five kings out of the cave.

23 And they did so, and brought out to him those five kings from the cave: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon.

24 And it was, when they brought out those kings to Joshua, that Joshua called to all the men of Israel, and said to the magistrates of the men of war which had gone with him, Come near; put your feet on the necks of these kings. And they came near, and put their feet upon their necks.

25 And Joshua said to them, Do not fear; do not break down; be strong and powerfully alert, because just so Jehovah shall do to all those who hate you, whom you are devouring.

26 And afterward Joshua struck them, and put them to death, and hanged them on five trees; and they were hanging on the trees until dusk.

27 And it was at the time of the going *down* of the sun, Joshua commanded, and they took them down off the trees, and threw them into the cave where they had been hidden, and put great stones in the cave's mouth, which remain until this selfsame day.

28 And that day Joshua captured Makkedah, and struck it with the mouth of the sword and its king; he devoted them and all the souls who were in it; he left not a survivor; and he did to the king of Makkedah as he did to the king of

Jericho.

29 And Joshua crossed over from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, to Libnah, and devoured Libnah;

30 And Jehovah also gave it and its king into the hand of Israel; and he struck it with the mouth of the sword, and all the souls who were in it; he did not leave a survivor in it, but did to its king as he did to the king of Jericho.

31 And Joshua crossed over from Libnah to Lachish, and all Israel with him, and pitched against it, and devoured it;

32 And Jehovah gave Lachish into the hand of Israel, who captured it on the second day, and struck it with the mouth of the sword, and all the souls who were in it, according to all that he had done to Libnah.

33 Then Horam, king of Gezer, came up to surround Lachish with help; and Joshua struck him and his people until he had left him without survivor.

34 And from Lachish Joshua crossed over to Eglon, and all Israel with him; and they pitched against it, and devoured it;

35 And they captured it on that day, and struck it with the mouth of the sword, and all the souls who were in it he devoted that day, according to all that he had done to Lachish.

36 And Joshua ascended from Eglon, and all Israel with him, to Hebron; and they devoured it;

37 And they captured it, and struck it with the mouth of the sword, and its king, and all its cit-

ies, and all the souls who were in it; he did not leave a survivor, according to all that he had done to Eglon; and devoted it, and all the souls who were in it.

38 And Joshua and all Israel with him turned back to Debir, and devoured it;

39 And he captured it, and its king, and all its cities; and they struck them with the mouth of the sword, and devoted all the souls who were in it; he did not leave a survivor; as he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir, and to its king; as he had done also to Libnah, and to her king.

40 And Joshua struck all the land, the hills, and the Negev, and the coastal slopes, and the springs, and all their kings; he did not leave a survivor, but devoted all that breathed, what Jehovah God of Israel commanded.

41 And Joshua struck them from Kadesh Barnea even to Gaza, and all the land of Goshen, even to Gibeon.

42 And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one stroke, because Jehovah God of Israel devoured for Israel.

43 And Joshua and all Israel with him turned back to the camp at Gilgal.

### **CHAPTER 11**

1 And it was, when Jabin, king of Hazor, attentively heard, that he sent to Jobab, king of Madon, and to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph,

2 And to the kings who were on the north of the mountains, and in the desert south of Chinneroth, and in the coastal slopes, and the elevations of Dor toward the sea,

3 The Canaanite toward the sunrise, and toward the sea, and to the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Jebusite in the mountains, and to the Hivite below Hermon in the land of Mizpeh,

4 And they went out, they and all their camp with them, abundant people, as the sand that is upon the lip of the sea for abundance, with very many horses and chariots.

5 And all these kings met by appointment, and they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom to devour Israel.

6 And Jehovah said to Joshua, Do not be afraid before their face, because tomorrow about this time I will give them all up polluted before the face of Israel; you shall hamstring their horses, and burn their chariots with fire.

7 So Joshua came, and all the people of war with him, against them suddenly by the waters of Merom, and they fell upon them.

8 And Jehovah gave them into the hand of Israel, who struck them, and ran after them to Great Zidon, and to Misrephothmaim, and to the valley of Mizpeh toward the sunrise; and they struck them until they left them without a survivor.

9 And Joshua did to them as Jehovah said to him: he hamstrung their horses, and burnt their chariots with fire.

## **JOSHUA 12**

*Cities and regions Joshua and Israel devoted to destruction*

10 And Joshua at that time turned back and captured Hazor, and struck its king with the sword, because Hazor before was the head of all those kingdoms.

11 And they struck all the souls who were in it with the mouth of the sword, devoting them; there was not any left to breathe, and he burnt Hazor with fire.

12 And Joshua captured all the cities of these kings, and all their kings, and struck them with the mouth of the sword, and he devoted them, what Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded.

13 But all the cities which stood next to their mounds, Israel did not burn them, except Joshua burned Hazor separately.

14 And all the spoil of these cities, and the mute animals, the children of Israel took for a spoil to themselves; but they struck every man with the mouth of the sword, until they had desolated them, and they did not leave any to breathe. See Note on 6:18-19.

15 As Jehovah commanded Moses, his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did; he did not turn aside from a word of all that Jehovah commanded Moses.

16 And Joshua took all this land, the hills, and all the Negev, and all the land of Goshen, and the coastal slopes, and the desert, and the mountain of Israel, and its coastal slopes;

17 And from Mount Halak, that goes up to Seir, as far as Baal Gad in the valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon, and he cap-

tured all their kings, and struck them, and put them to death.

18 Joshua made war many days with all those kings.

19 There was not a city that completed peace with the children of Israel, except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon; they devoured all others in battle,

20 Because it was of Jehovah to seize their hearts so that they came against Israel in battle, that he might devote them, that there would be no grace to them, but that he might desolate them, what Jehovah commanded Moses.

21 And Joshua came at that time, and cut off the Anakims out of the mountains, out of Hebron, out of Debir, out of Anab, and out of all the mountains of Judah, and out of all the mountains of Israel; Joshua devoted them with their cities.

22 There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel; only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

23 And Joshua took the whole land, according to all that Jehovah spoke to Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

## **CHAPTER 12**

1 And these are the kings of the land, whom the children of Israel struck, and possessed their land across Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the stream Arnon to Mount Hermon, and all the desert toward the sunrise:

2 Sihon, king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, which is upon the lip of the stream Arnon, and from the middle of the stream, and from half of Gilead, to the stream Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon;

3 And from the desert to the sea of Chinneroth toward the sunrise, and to the sea of the desert, the salt sea toward the sunrise, the way to Beth Jeshimoth; and from the south, below Ashdoth Pisgah;

4 And the border of Og, king of Bashan, who was of what was left of the giants, who dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

5 And reigned in Mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, to the border of the Geshurites, and the Maachathites, and half of Gilead, the border of Sihon, king of Heshbon.

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

7 And these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the children of Israel struck across Jordan toward the sea from Baal Gad in the valley of Lebanon as far as Mount Halak, that goes up to Seir, which Joshua gave to the tribes of Israel for a possession according to their divisions,

8 In the mountains, and in the coastal slopes, and in the desert, and in the springs, and in the desert, and in the Negev: the Hittites, the

Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

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 Hopher, one;

18 The king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

19 The king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

20 The king of Shimronmeron, 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 of Carmel, one;

23 The king of Dor in the height of Dor, one; the king of the nations of Gilgal, one;

24 The king of Tirzah, one; all the kings, thirty-one.

**CHAPTER 13**

1 And Joshua was old, going on in days, and Jehovah said to him, You are old, going on in days, and the land remains very much to

**JOSHUA 13** *The land that remained to be taken; the land apportioned to Reuben and Gad*  
be possessed.

2 This is the land that still remains: all the region of the Palestinians, and all Geshuri,

3 From Sihor, which is before the face of Egypt, as far as the borders of Ekron to the north, which is calculated to the Canaanite; five leaders of the Palestinians; the Gazathites, and the Ashdothites, the Eshkalonites, the Gittites, and the Ekronites; also the Avites;

4 From the south, all the land of the Canaanites, and Mearah that is beside the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the borders of the Amorites;

5 And the land of the Giblites, and all Lebanon, toward the sunrise, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon to the entering into Hamath.

6 All the inhabitants of the mountains from Lebanon to Misrephothmaim, and all the Sidonians, I will drive them out from before the face of the children of Israel; only you let it fall to the Israelites for an inheritance as I commanded you.

7 Now then apportion by lot this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes, and the half tribe of Manasseh;

8 With him the Reubenites and the Gadites took their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond Jordan toward the sunrise, as Moses, the servant of Jehovah, gave them;

9 From Aroer, that is upon the lip of the stream Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the stream, and all the plain of Medeba to

Dibon;

10 And all the cities of Sihon, king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, to the border of the children of Ammon;

11 And Gilead, and the border of the Geshurites, and Maachathites, and all of Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salcah;

12 All the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth, and in Edrei, who remained of what was left of the giants, because these Moses struck, and drove them out.

13 And the children of Israel did not drive out the Geshurites nor the Maachathites, but the Geshurites and the Maachathites dwell in the midst of the Israelis until this day.

14 Only he did not give an inheritance to the tribe of Levi; the sacrifices of Jehovah God of Israel made by fire are their inheritance, what he spoke to them.

15 And Moses gave to the tribe of the children of Reuben inheritance according to their families.

16 And their border was from Aroer, that is on the lip of the stream Arnon, and the city that is in the midst of the stream, and all the desert by Medeba;

17 Heshbon, and all her cities that are in the desert; Dibon, and Bamoth Baal, and Beth Baal Meon,

18 And Jahazah, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath,

19 And Kirjathaim, and Sibmah, and Zareth Shahaar in the mount of the valley,

20 And Beth Peor, and Ashdoth Pisgah, and Beth Jeshimoth,

21 And all the cities of the plain, and all the kingdom of Sihon, king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses struck with the princes of Midian, Evi, and Rekem, and Zur, and Hur, and Reba, who were dukes of Sihon, dwelling in the land.

22 Balaam also, the son of Beor, who sought to determine the future with magic,<sup>22</sup> the children of Israel struck fatally with the sword among them who were polluted by them.

23 And the border of the children of Reuben was Jordan and its border. This was the inheritance of the children of Reuben after their families, the cities and their villages.

24 And Moses gave to the tribe of Gad, to the children of Gad according to their families.

25 And their border was Jazer, and all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the children of Ammon, to Aroer that is before the face of Rabbah;

26 And from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpeh and Betonim; and from Mahanaim to the border of Debir;

27 And in the valley, Betharam, and Beth Nimrah, and Succoth, and Zaphon, what is left of the kingdom of Sihon, king of Heshbon, Jordan and his border, to the edge of the sea of Chinnereth

<sup>22</sup> 13:22 sought to determine the future with magic, *qacam*, the word that is always used to designate false prophets. It is the pagan attempt to do what God's prophets do by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

across Jordan toward the sunrise.

28 This is the inheritance of the children of Gad after their families, the cities, and their villages.

29 And Moses gave to the half tribe of Manasseh, and this was to the half tribe of the children of Manasseh by their families.

30 And their border was from Mahanaim, all of Bashan, all the kingdom of Og, king of Bashan, and all the towns of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty cities;

31 And half of Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan, to the children of Machir, the son of Manasseh, to the one half of the children of Machir by their families.

32 These are the lands which Moses caused to inherit in the desert of Moab, beyond Jordan, by Jericho, toward the sunrise.

33 And Moses did not give inheritance to the tribe of Levi; Jehovah God of Israel was their inheritance, what he spoke to them.

#### **CHAPTER 14**

1 And the children of Israel inherited these in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar, the priest, and Joshua, the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, caused them to inherit.

2 Their inheritance was by lot, as Jehovah commanded by the hand of Moses, for the nine tribes and a half,

## JOSHUA 14

*Caleb asks for the mountain previously promised to him*

3 Because Moses had given the inheritance to two tribes and a half across Jordan; but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them,

4 Because the children of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim, and they gave no part to the Levites in the land, except cities to dwell in, with their open lands for their livestock and for their acquisitions.

5 As Jehovah commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did, and they apportioned the land.

6 And the children of Judah came near to Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, the Kenezite, said to him, You know by seeing the word that Jehovah spoke to Moses, the man of God, over me and you in Kadesh Barnea.

7 I was a son of forty years when Moses, the servant of Jehovah, sent me from Kadesh Barnea to walk in spying out the land, and I turned back to him word that was with my heart.

8 And my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, and I fully followed Jehovah my God.

9 And Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land on which your feet have trod shall be your inheritance, and your children's forever, because you have fully followed Jehovah, my God.

10 And now, behold, Jehovah has kept me alive, as he said, these forty-five years, since Jehovah spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the desert; and

now, lo, I am this day a son of eighty-five years.

11 Yet I am today as strong as the day that Moses sent me; as my power was then, so is my power now, for war, both to go out and to come in.

12 And now give<sup>1 2</sup> me this mountain, of which Jehovah spoke in that day, because you heard attentively in that day, because the Anakims were there, and the great walled cities; if so be Jehovah will be with me, then I shall drive them out, what Jehovah spoke.

13 And Joshua bowed down with goodness to him, and gave Hebron to Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, for an inheritance.

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<sup>1 2</sup> **14:12 now give me this mountain, of which Jehovah spoke in that day.** Caleb here states a holy principle that is evident throughout the Word of God: Even though God has promised something in the Bible, for you to have it, you must first ask for it, then you must take it. God does not automatically give us anything, and He does not drop it into your lap without your asking, and taking it in faith. God had promised Caleb this mountain, Num 14:24; Deu 1:36, but Caleb had to ask for it at the right time and place. Not only did he have to ask for it, Jos 14:12, he had to form strategies, and go take it, Jos 15:13-17. Because the children of Israel were slack in taking the land which God promised them, Jos 18:3, Joshua prodded them into a committee to map out and put in writing the inheritance they were to take, and commanded them to go take it. Even Joshua had to receive his city by asking for it, Jos 19:50, which he had already taken. Even Jehovah God had to command Joshua to provide the cities of refuge, Jos 20:1-2, which God himself had already arranged for in commands he gave Moses, Num 35:6. And the priests and Levites had to ask for their cities, Jos 21:1-3, which God had promised them, Num 35:7. We have not because we ask not, James 4:2. We must ask, seek, and knock, Mt 7:7-8. You have often heard that you must put feet to your prayers. Joshua 1:3 and this entire book teaches this great, holy principle of putting feet to your prayers.

14 Therefore Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite to this day, because he fully followed Jehovah God of Israel.

15 And the name of Hebron before was Kirjath Arba; a great man among the Anakims was Arba. And the land rested from war.

### **CHAPTER 15**

1 And the lot of the tribe of the children of Judah by their families was to the border of Edom, the desert of Zin southward to the extremity of the Negev.

2 And their border of the Negev was from the end of the salt sea, from the tongue that faces the Negev,

3 And it went out to the Negev to the Steep of Scorpions, and crossed over to Zin, and ascended the Negev to Kadesh Barnea, and crossed over to Hezron, and ascended to Adar, and circled to Karkaa;

4 It crossed over to Azmon, and went out to the stream of Egypt; and the exits of that border were at the sea; this shall be your border of the Negev.

5 And the east border was the salt sea, to the end of Jordan. And their border in the north mouth was from the tongue of the sea at the end of Jordan;

6 And the border went up to Beth Hogla, and crossed over by the north of Beth Arabah; and the border ascended to the stone of Bohan, the son of Reuben;

7 And the border ascended toward Debir from the valley of Achor, and facing northward, toward Gilgal, that in front of the ascents to Adummim, which is on the Negev side of the stream; and the border crossed over toward the waters of Enshemesh, and its exits were at Enrogel;

8 And the border ascended by the valley of the son of Hinnom to the south side of the Jebusite; it is Jerusalem; and the border ascended to the head of the mountain that is over the face of the valley of Hinnom toward the sea, which is at the end of the valley of the giants to the north;

9 And the border was drawn from the head of the mountain to the fountain of the water of Nephtoah, and went out to the cities of Mount Ephron; and the border was drawn to Baalah, which is Kirjath Jearim;

10 And the border circled from Baalah toward the sea to Mount Seir, and crossed over to the side of Mount Jearim, which is Chesalon, to the north, and descended to Beth Shemesh, and crossed over to Timnah;

11 And the border went out to the side of Ekron to the north; and the border was drawn to Shicron, and crossed over to Mount Baalah, and went out to Jabneel; and the exits of the border were at the sea.

12 And the border toward the sea was to the great sea and its border. This is the border of the children of Judah all around according to their families.

**JOSHUA 15** *Caleb drives out sons of Anak; his daughter asks for springs; the land to Judah*

13 And to Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, gave an allotment in the midst of the children of Judah, according to the commandment of Jehovah to Joshua, the city of Arba, the father of Anak, which is Hebron.

14 And Caleb drove out from there the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak.

15 And he ascended there to the inhabitants of Debir; and the name of Debir before was Kirjath Sepher.

16 And Caleb said, He who strikes Kirjath Sepher and captures it, I will give to him Achsah, my daughter, as wife.

17 And Othniel, the son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, captured it, and he gave him Achsah, his daughter, as wife.

18 And it was, as she came to him, that she prodded him to ask a field of her father, and she dismounted from her donkey; and Caleb said to her, What do you want?

19 She said, Give me a blessing; since you have given me land of the Negev, give me also springs of water. And he gave her the upper springs, and the lower springs.

20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah according to their families.

21 And the cities of the tribe of the children of Judah at the border of Edom in the Negev were Kabzeel, and Eder, and Jagur,

22 And Kinah, and Dimonah, and Adadah,

23 And Kedesh, and Hazor, and Ithnan,

24 Ziph, and Telem, and Bealoth,

25 And Hazor, Hadattah, and Kerioth, and Hezron, which is Hazor,

26 Amam, and Shema, and Moladah,

27 And Hazar Gaddah, and Heshmon, and Beth Palet,

28 And Hazar Shual, and Beer Sheba, and Bizjothjah,

29 Baalah, and Iim, and Azem,

30 And Eltolad, and Chesil, and Hormah,

31 And Ziklag, and Madmannah, and Sansannah,

32 And Lebaoth, and Shilhim, and Ain, and Rimmon: all the cities are twenty-nine, with their villages:

33 And in the coastal slopes, Eshtaol, and Zoreah, and Ashnah,

34 And Zanoah, and Engannim, Tappuah, and Enam,

35 Jarmuth, and Adullam, Socoh, and Azekah,

36 And Sharaim, and Adithaim, and Gederah, and Gederothaim; fourteen cities with their villages;

37 Zenan, and Hadashah, and Migdal Gad,

38 And Dilean, and Mizpeh, and Joktheel,

39 Lachish, and Bozkath, and Eglon,

40 And Cabbon, and Lahmam, and Kithlish,

41 And Gederoth, Beth Dagon, and Naamah, and Makkedah; sixteen cities with their

villages:

42 Libnah, and Ether, and Ashan,

43 And Jiphtah, and Ashnah, and Nezib,

44 And Keilah, and Achzib, and Mareshah; nine cities with their villages;

45 Ekron, with its daughters<sup>4,5</sup> and its villages:

46 From Ekron even to the sea, all that were near at hand to Ashdod, with their villages:

47 Ashdod with its daughters and its villages, Gaza with its daughters and its villages, to the stream of Egypt, and the great sea, and its border;

48 And in the mountains, Shamir, and Jattir, and Socoh,

49 And Dannah, and Kirjath-sannah, which is Debir,

50 And Anab, and Eshtemoh, and Anim,

51 And Goshen, and Holon, and Giloh; eleven cities with their villages:

52 Arab, and Dumah, and Eshean,

53 And Janum, and Bethtappuah, and Aphekah,

54 And Humtah, and Kirjath-arba, which is Hebron, and Zior; nine cities with their villages;

55 Maon, Carmel, and Ziph, and Juttah,

56 And Jezreel, and Jokdeam, and Zanoah,

57 Cain, Gibeah, and Timnah; ten cities with their villages:

58 Halhul, Bethzur, and Gedor,

<sup>45</sup> 15:45, 47 daughters, *bath*. It is the word daughters but its meaning here is smaller towns, as being daughters of the main city.

59 And Maarath, and Bethanoh, and Eltekon; six cities with their villages:

60 Kirjath Baal, which is Kirjath Jearim, and Rabbah; two cities with their villages;

61 In the desert, Beth Arabah, Middin, and Secacah,

62 And Nibshan, and the city of Salt, and Engedi; six cities with their villages.

63 As for the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the children of Judah were not able to drive them out, but the Jebusites dwell with the children of Judah at Jerusalem to this day.

#### **CHAPTER 16**

1 And the lot of the children of Joseph went out from Jordan by Jericho, to the water of Jericho toward the sunrise, to the desert that ascends from Jericho to hills of Bethel,

2 And goes out from Bethel to Luz, and crosses over to the borders of Archi to Ataroth,

3 And descends toward the sea to the border of Japhleti, to the border of Beth Horon the lower, and to Gezer, and its exits are at the sea.

4 So the children of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, took their inheritance.

5 And the border of the children of Ephraim by their families was thus: the border of their inheritance toward the sunrise was Ataroth Addar, to Beth Horon the height;

## JOSHUA 17

*The land apportioned Ephraim and Manasseh*

6 And the border went out toward the sea to Michmethah to the north; and the border circled toward the sunrise to Taanath Shiloh, and crossed over by it toward the sunrise to Janohah;

7 And it descended from Janohah to Ataroth, and to Naarath, and impinged upon Jericho, and went out at Jordan.

8 The border went out from Tappuah toward the sea to the stream Kanah; and its exits were at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Ephraim by their families.

9 And the separate cities for the children of Ephraim were in the midst of the inheritance of the children of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages.

10 And they did not drive out the Canaanites that dwelt in Gezer, but the Canaanites dwell among the Ephraimites to this day, and serve under tribute.

### CHAPTER 17

1 There was also a lot for the tribe of Manasseh, because he was the firstborn of Joseph, for Machir, the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of Gilead, because he was a man of war, to him was Gilead and Bashan.

2 And there was for the children of Manasseh an inheritance, for their remaining families: for the children of Abiezer, and for the children of Helek, and for the children of Asriel, and for the children of Shechem, and for the children of Hephher, and for the children of Shemida; these were the male chil-

dren of Manasseh, the son of Joseph, by their families.

3 But Zelophehad, the son of Hephher, 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, and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah.

4 And they came near before the face of Eleazar, the priest, and before the face of Joshua, the son of Nun, and before the face of the princes, saying, Jehovah commanded Moses to give us an inheritance in the midst of our brothers. And he gave them by the mouth of Jehovah an inheritance in the midst of the brothers of their father.

Num 26:33;27:1-11;36:1-13. 1 Chr 7:15.

5 And there fell ten portions to Manasseh, separate from the land of Gilead and Bashan, which were across Jordan,

6 Because the daughters of Manasseh inherited an inheritance in the midst of his sons, and to the rest of Manasseh's sons was the land of Gilead.

7 And the border of Manasseh was from Asher to Michmethah, that was above the face of Shechem; and the border walked along on the right hand to the inhabitants of Entappuah.

8 To Manasseh was the land of Tappuah, but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh was to the children of Ephraim;

9 And the border descended to the stream Kanah, south of the stream; these cities of Ephraim are among the cities of Manasseh; and the border of Manasseh was on the

north of the stream, and its exits were at the sea;

10 Toward the Negev was to Ephraim, and to the north was to Manasseh, and the sea is its border; and they impinged upon the north in Asher, and in Issachar toward the sunrise.

11 And to Manasseh in Issachar, and in Asher, was Bethshean, and its daughters, and Ibleam, and its daughters, and the inhabitants of Dor, and its daughters, and the inhabitants of Endor, and its daughters, and the inhabitants of Taanach, and its daughters, and the inhabitants of Megiddo, and its daughters, three heights. See 15:45

12 And the children of Manasseh were not able to drive out the inhabitants of those cities; and the Canaanites yielded to dwell in that land.

13 And it was, since the children of Israel were strong, that they gave the Canaanites under tribute, but driving out, did not drive them out.

14 And the children of Joseph spoke to Joshua, saying, Why have you given to me for an inheritance one lot and one portion, since I am a numerous people, for until now Jehovah has bowed down with goodness to me?

15 And Joshua said to them, If you are a numerous people, then you ascend to the forest, and create for yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the giants, since Mount Ephraim is too narrow for you.

16 And the children of Joseph said, The mountain is not enough for us, and all the Canaanites who dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, they who are of Beth Shean, and its daughters, and they who are of the valley of Jezreel.

17 And Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, You are a numerous people, and to you is great power; to you shall not be one lot,

18 Because the mountain is yours, because it is a forest, and you shall create *for yourself there*, and its exits shall be yours, because you shall drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, and though they are strong.

### CHAPTER 18

1 And the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled together at Shiloh, and set up the tent of appointed meeting there. And the land was trodden down before their face.

2 And there remained among the children of Israel, who were not yet apportioned their inheritance, seven tribes.

3 And Joshua said to the children of Israel, How long will you be slack to go to possess the land, which Jehovah God of your fathers has given you?

4 Give from among you three men for each tribe, and I will send them, and they shall rise, and walk through the land, and inscribe<sup>4</sup> by

<sup>4</sup> 18:4 inscribe, *kathab*, inscribe, write. Joshua commands them to map the remainder of the land in writing, and bring back their report to settle all future disputes. **By the**

**JOSHUA 18** *The remainder of the land is inscribed or mapped and allotted by tribe*

the mouth of their inheritance; and they shall come to me.

5 And they shall apportion it into seven allotments; Judah shall stand in their border on the south, and the house of Joseph shall stand in their borders on the north.

6 And you shall inscribe the land into seven allotments, and come here to me, that I may cause lots to flow to you here before the face of Jehovah our God.

7 But to the Levites is no allotment among you, because the priesthood of Jehovah is their inheritance; and Gad, and Reuben, and the half tribe of Manasseh took their inheritance across Jordan toward the sunrise, which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, gave them.

8 And the men arose, and walked, and Joshua commanded them who walked to inscribe the land, saying, Walk up and walk down through the land, and inscribe it, and turn back to me, that I may in this place cast lots for you before the face of Jehovah in Shiloh.

9 And the men went and passed through the land, and inscribed it by cities into seven allotments in a book, and came to Joshua to the camp at Shiloh.

10 And Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the face of Jehovah, and there Joshua allotted the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions.

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**mouth of their inheritance** may mean by the number of mouths in each tribe, or by what is spoken by the mouth of those who do the mapping. The word *peh*, mouth, is often translated by the words when the word mouth does not seem to give good sense.

11 And the lot of the tribe of the children of Benjamin came up according to their families; and the border of their lot came out between the children of Judah and the children of Joseph.

12 And their border on the north mouth was from Jordan; and the border ascended to the side of Jericho on the north, and ascended through the mountains toward the sea; and its exits were at the desert of Beth Aven.

13 And the border crossed over from there toward Luz, to the side of Luz, which is Bethel, toward the Negev; and the border descended to Atarothadar, near the hill that is south of Beth Horon the lower.

14 And the border was drawn there, and circled the mouth of the sea to the south, from the hill that is before the face of Beth Horon to the south; and its exits were at Kirjath Baal, which is Kirjath Jearim, a city of the children of Judah; this was the mouth toward the sea.

15 And the mouth toward the Negev *is* from the end of Kirjath Jearim, and the border went out toward the sea, and went out to the fountain of waters of Nephtoah;

16 And the border went down to the end of the mountain that is over the face of the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is in the valley of the giants to the north, and descended the valley of Hinnom, to the side of Jebusi toward the Negev, and descended to Enrogel,

17 And it was drawn from the north, and went out to Enshemesh, and went out toward Geliloth, which is in front of the ascent of Adummim, and descended to the stone of Bohan, the son of Reuben,

18 And crossed over toward the side in front of the desert to the north, and descended to the desert;

19 And the border crossed over to the side of Beth-hoglah to the north; and the exits of the border were at the north tongue of the salt sea at the south end of Jordan; this was the south border.

20 And the Jordan borders it on the east side. This was the inheritance of the children of Benjamin, by its borders all around, according to their families.

21 Now the cities of the tribe of the children of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, and Beth Hoglah, and the valley of Keziz,

22 And Beth Arabah, and Zemaraim, and Bethel,

23 And Avim, and Parah, and Ophrah,

24 And Chephar Haammonai, and Ophni, and Gaba; twelve cities with their villages:

25 Gibeon, and Ramah, and Beeroth,

26 And Mizpeh, and Chephirah, and Mozah,

27 And Rekem, and Irpeel, and Taralah,

28 And Zelah, Eleph, and Jebusi, which is Jerusalem, Gibeath, and Kirjath; fourteen cities with their villages. This is the inheritance of the children of Benjamin according to their families.

## **CHAPTER 19**

1 And the second lot came out to Simeon for the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families, and their inheritance was inside the inheritance of the children of Judah.

2 And to them for their inheritance was Beer Sheba, or Sheba, and Moladah,

3 And Hazar Shual, and Balah, and Azem,

4 And Eltolad, and Beth Ul, and Hormah,

5 And Ziklag, and Bethmarcaboth, and Hazar Susah,

6 And Beth Lebaoth, and Sharuhem; thirteen cities, and their villages;

7 Ain, Remmon, and Ether, and Ashan; four cities, and their villages:

8 And all the villages that were around these cities to Baal Athbeer, Ramath Negev. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families.

9 Out of the district of the children of Judah was the inheritance of the children of Simeon, because the allotment of the children of Judah was too much for them: and the children of Simeon inherited within the inheritance of them.

10 And the third lot came up for the children of Zebulun according to their families, and the border of their inheritance was to Sarid;

11 And their border ascended toward the sea, and Maralah, and impinged upon Dabbasheth, and

**JOSHUA 19** *The remainder of the land is inscribed or mapped and allotted by tribe*

impinged upon the stream that is before the face of Jokneam;

12 And turned back from Sarid eastward toward the sunrising to the border of Chislothtabor, and then goes out to Daberath, and ascends to Japhia,

13 And from there crosses over toward the sunrise to Gittahhepher, to Ittahkazin, and goes out to Remmonmethoar to Neah;

14 And the border circles it on the north to Hannathon; and its exits are the valley of Jiphthah-el;

15 And Kattath, and Nahallal, and Shimron, and Idalah, and Bethlehem; twelve cities with their villages.

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

17 And the fourth lot came out to Issachar, for the children of Issachar according to their families.

18 And their border was toward Jezreel, and Chesulloth, and Shunem,

19 And Hapharaim, and Shion, and Anaharath,

20 And Rabbith, and Kishion, and Abez,

21 And Remeth, and Engannim, and Enhaddah, and Bethpazzez;

22 And the border impinges upon Tabor, and Shahazimah, and Beth-she'mesh; and the exits of their border were at Jordan; sixteen cities with their villages.

23 This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Issachar according to their families, the cities

and their villages.

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

25 And their border was Helkath, and Hali, and Beten, and Achshaph,

26 And Alammelech, and Amad, and Misheal, and impinges upon Carmel toward the sea, and to Shihorlibnath;

27 And turns back toward the rising of the sun to Beth Dagon, and impinges upon Zebulun, and to the valley of Jiphthah El toward the north side of Beth Emek, and Neiel, and goes out to Cabul on the left hand,

28 And Hebron, and Rehob, and Hammon, and Kanah, to great Zidon;

29 And then the border turns back to Ramah, and to the fortified city of Tyre; and the border turns back to Hosah, and its exits are at the sea from the border to Achzib;

30 Also Ummah, and Aphek, and Rehob, twenty-two cities with their villages.

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

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

33 And their border was from Heleph, from Allon to Zaananim, and Adami, Nekeb, and Jabneel, to Lakum; and its exits were at Jordan;

34 And the border turns back toward the sea to Aznot Tabor, and goes out from there to Hukkok, and impinges upon Zebulun toward the Negev, and impinges upon Asher toward the sea, and to Judah at Jordan toward the rising of the sun.

35 And the fortified cities: Ziddim, Zer, and Hammath, Rakkath, and Chinnereth,

36 And Adamah, and Ramah, and Hazor,

37 And Kedesh, and Edrei, and Enhazor,

38 And Iron, and Migdal El, Horem, and Beth Anath, and Beth Shemesh, nineteen cities with their villages.

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

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

41 And the border of their inheritance was Zorah, and Eshtaol, and Irshemesh,

42 And Shaalabbin, and Ajalon, and Jethlah,

43 And Elon, and Thimnathah, and Ekron,

44 And Eltekeh, and Gibbethon, and Baalath,

45 And Jehud, and Beneberak, and Gathrimmon,

46 And Mejarkon, and Rakkon, with the border before Japho.

47 And the border of the children of Dan went out for them; and the children of Dan ascended to devour Leshem, and captured it, and struck it with the mouth of the

sword, and possessed it, and dwelt in it, and called Leshem, Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

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

49 And they finished inheriting the land for inheritance by their borders, and the children of Israel gave an inheritance to Joshua, the son of Nun, in their midst;

50 They gave him the city which he asked, Timnathserah in Mount Ephraim, according to the mouth of Jehovah, and he built the city, and dwelt there.

51 These are the inheritances, which Eleazar, the priest, and Joshua, the son of Nun, and the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel, divided for an inheritance by lot in Shiloh before the face of Jehovah, at the door of the tent of appointed meeting. And they finished apportioning the land.

## CHAPTER 20

1 And Jehovah spoke to Joshua, saying,

2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Give for cities of refuge, what I spoke to you by the hand of Moses,

3 That the killer who strikes any soul inadvertently and without knowledge may flee there, and they shall be your refuge from the kinsman redeemer<sup>3</sup> of blood.

<sup>3</sup> 20:3 kinsman redeemer, *gaal*. Because the word blood is with it, we know that he is the next of kin who is obligated to avenge or redeem the death of his family member by executing the soul who killed his kin. It is the law God instituted after the flood, Gen 9:5-6; Num 35:11-34.

**JOSHUA 21** *The cities of refuge and law of the kinsman redeemer; cities given to the Levites*

4 And he shall flee to one of those cities, and shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall speak his word in the ears of the elders of that city; and they shall gather him into the city to them, and give him a place, and he shall dwell with them.

5 And if the kinsman redeemer of blood runs after him, then they shall not surrender the killer into his hand, because he struck his neighbor without knowledge, and did not hate him beforehand.

6 And he shall dwell in that city until he stands before the face of the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the great priest who shall be in those days; then the killer shall return, and come to his own city, and to his own house, to the city from where he fled.

7 And they sanctified Kedesh in Galilee in Mount Naphtali, and Shechem in Mount Ephraim, and Kirjath Arba, which is Hebron, in the mountain of Judah.

8 And across Jordan by Jericho toward the sunrise, they gave Bezer in the desert upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.

9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger who lodges among them, that whoever kills any soul inadvertently might flee there, and not die by the hand of the kinsman redeemer of blood until he stood before the face of the congregation.

**CHAPTER 21**

1 Then the heads of the fathers of the Levites came near to Eleazar, the priest, and to Joshua, the son of Nun, and to the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel,

2 And they spoke to them in Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying, Jehovah commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with their open land<sup>2</sup> for our animals.

3 And the children of Israel gave to the Levites out of their inheritance, at the mouth of Jehovah, these cities and their open lands.

4 And the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites, and to the children of Aaron, the priest, which were of the Levites, by lot out of the tribe of Judah, and out of the tribe of Simeon, and out of the tribe of Benjamin, thirteen cities.

5 And to the rest of the children of Kohath by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.

6 And to the children of Gershon out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, by lot thirteen cities.

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<sup>2</sup> 21:2 open land, *migrash*, desert where livestock pasture, the open area around the homes of the priests and Levites for their animals and produce that they received in tithes and offerings, which they multiplied for their income and wealth.

7 And to the children of Merari by their families out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.

8 And the children of Israel gave to the Levites these cities with their open land, what Jehovah commanded by the hand of Moses, by lot.

9 And they gave out of the tribe of the children of Judah, and out of the tribe of the children of Simeon, these cities which are here called by name,

10 Which were to the children of Aaron, of the families of the Kohathites, out of the children of Levi, because the first lot was to them.

11 And they gave them Kirjath Arba, the father of Anak, which is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with its open land around it.

12 And they gave the fields of the city and its villages to Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, for his possession.

13 And they gave Hebron with its open land to the children of Aaron, the priest, and Libnah with its open land for a city of refuge for the killer,

14 And Jattir with its open land, and Eshtemoa with its open land,

15 And Holon with its open land, and Debir with its open land,

16 And Ain with its open land, and Juttah with its open land, and Beth Shemesh with its open land, nine cities out of those two tribes.

17 And out of the tribe of Benjamin, Gibeon with its open land, Geba with its open land,

18 Anathoth with its open land, and Almon with its open land, four cities.

19 All the cities of the children of Aaron, the priests, thirteen cities with its open land.

20 And the families of the children of Kohath, the Levites who remained of the children of Kohath, even to them were the cities of their lot out of the tribe of Ephraim.

21 And they gave them Shechem with its open land in Mount Ephraim, to be a city of refuge for the killer, and Gezer with its open land,

22 And Kibzaim with its open land, and Beth Horon with its open land, four cities.

23 And out of the tribe of Dan, Eltekeh with its open land, Gibbethon with its open land,

24 Aijalon with its open land, Gath Rimmon with its open land, four cities.

25 And out of the half tribe of Manasseh, Tanach with its open land, and Gath Rimmon with its open land, two cities.

26 All the cities were ten with its open land for the families of the children of Kohath that remained.

27 And to the children of Gershon, of the families of the Levites, out of the other half tribe of Manasseh, they gave Golan in Bashan with its open land to be a city of refuge for the killer, and Beesh'terah with its open land, two cities.

## JOSHUA 22

28 And out of the tribe of Issachar, Kishon with its open land, Dabareh with its open land,

29 Jarmuth with its open land, Engannim with its open land, four cities.

30 And out of the tribe of Asher, Mishal with its open land, Abdon with its open land,

31 Helkath with its open land, and Rehob with its open land, four cities.

32 And out of the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee with its open land, to be a city of refuge for the killer; and Hammothdor with its open land, and Kartan with its open land, three cities.

33 All the cities of the Gershonites according to their families were thirteen cities with its open land.

34 And to the families of the children of Merari, the rest of the Levites, out of the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam with its open land, and Kartah with its open land,

35 Dimnah with its open land, Nahalal with its open land, four cities.

36 And out of the tribe of Reuben, Bezer with its open land, and Jahazah with its open land,

37 Kedemoth with its open land, and Mephaath with its open land, four cities.

38 And out of the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead with its open land, to be a city of refuge for the killer, and Mahanaim with its open land,

39 Heshbon with its open land, Jazer with its open land, four cities in all.

### *The cities given to the Levites*

40 So all the cities for the children of Merari by their families, which were remaining of the families of the Levites, were by their lot twelve cities.

41 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty-eight cities with its open land.

42 These cities were everyone with its open land around them; so were all these cities.

43 And Jehovah gave to Israel all the land which he swore to give to their fathers, and they possessed it, and dwelt in it.

44 And Jehovah gave them rest all around, according to all that he swore to their fathers; and there stood not a man of all those who hated them before their face; Jehovah gave all those who hated them into their hand.

45 Not a word fell of any good word which Jehovah had spoken to the house of Israel; all came.

## CHAPTER 22

1 And Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh,

2 And said to them, You have hedged about all that Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded you, and have attentively heard my voice in all that I commanded you.

3 You have not left your brothers these many days to this day, but have hedged about the guard duty of the commandment of Jehovah, your God.

4 And now Jehovah, your God, has given rest to your brothers, as he spoke to them; now face

about, and walk to your tents, and to the land of your possession, which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, gave you across Jordan.

5 Only hedge yourself about exceedingly to do the commandment and the law, which Moses, the servant of Jehovah, commanded you, to love Jehovah, your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to hedge about his commandments, and to cling to him, and to serve him with all your heart, and with all your soul.

6 And Joshua knelt down with goodness to them, and sent them away; and they walked to their tents.

7 And to the half tribe of Manasseh Moses had given possession in Bashan, and to their other half Joshua gave among their brothers across Jordan toward the sea. And so Joshua sent them away to their tents, and he knelt down with goodness to them,

8 And he said to them, saying, Turn back with abundant treasure to your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with bronze, and with iron, and with very much clothing; apportion the spoil of those who hated you with your brothers.

9 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh turned back, and walked from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to walk to the land of Gilead, to the land of their possession which they had seized, according to the mouth of Jehovah by the hand of Moses.

10 And when they came to the regions of Jordan, which are in the land of Canaan, then the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by Jordan, a great altar to view.

11 And the children of Israel attentively heard, saying, Behold, the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh have built an altar opposite the land of Canaan, in the regions of Jordan, at the crossing of the children of Israel.

12 And when the children of Israel attentively heard, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh to go up in the host against them.

13 And the children of Israel sent to the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the priest,

14 And with him ten princes, one prince for each of the house of a father for all the tribes of Israel, and each one a head of the house of their fathers for the thousands of Israel.

15 And they 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 Thus says the whole congregation of Jehovah, What treachery is this which you have covered against the God of Israel, to turn back this day from after Jehovah,

## JOSHUA 22

*Phinebas and princes contend with them about the altar at Jordan*

when you built for yourself an altar, so that you might rebel today against Jehovah?

17 Is the iniquity of Peor little for us, from which we have not been purified to this day (yes, there was a plague in the congregation of Jehovah) Num 16

18 That you turn away today from after Jehovah? And it shall be that you rebel today against Jehovah, and tomorrow he will be enraged with the whole congregation of Israel. Jos 7:1-26.

19 And surely, if the land of your possession is unclean, cross over to the land of the possession of Jehovah, where the tabernacle of Jehovah dwells, and take a possession in our midst, but do not rebel against Jehovah, and do not rebel against us by building for yourselves an altar besides the altar of Jehovah our God.

20 Did Achan, the son of Zerah, not cover up a treachery in the devoted thing, and wrath was against the whole congregation of Israel, and he was not the only man who expired in his iniquity. Jos 7:1-26.

21 And the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh, answered, and spoke to the heads of the thousands of Israel,

22 The God of gods, Jehovah, the God of gods, Jehovah, he knows by seeing, and as for Israel, he knows by seeing; if *we did this* in rebellion, and in treachery against Jehovah, you shall not save us this day!

23 If we built for ourselves an altar to turn back from after Jehovah, or to offer there burnt offering or food offering, or if to offer peace offerings there, let Jehovah himself search it out;

24 And if we have done this word out of anxiety, saying, In the future your children shall speak to our children, saying, What have you to do with Jehovah God of Israel?

25 And Jehovah has given between us and you a boundary, the Jordan, Oh you children of Reuben and children of Gad, there exists no allotment in Jehovah to you. So your children shall make our children cease from fearing Jehovah.

26 And we said, Let us now prepare for us to build an altar, not for burnt offering, and not for sacrifice,

27 But a witness between us and you, and between our generations after us, to do the service of Jehovah before his face with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings, that your children may not say to our children in time to come, There exists no allotment in Jehovah to you.

28 And we said, And it shall be, when they say to us, or to our generations in time to come, we shall say, See the pattern of the altar of Jehovah, which our fathers made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifices; but it is a witness between us and you.

29 Far be it from us to rebel against Jehovah, and turn back to-day from after Jehovah, to build an altar for burnt offerings, for food offerings, or for sacrifices, separate from the altar of Jehovah our God that is before the face of his tabernacle.

30 And Phinehas, the priest, and the princes of the congregation, and heads of the thousands of Israel who were with him, heard attentively the words that the children of Reuben, and the children of Gad, and the children of Manasseh had spoken, and it was good in their eyes.

31 And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the priest, said to the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, Today we know by seeing that Jehovah is in your midst, because you have not covered this treachery against Jehovah; now you have snatched the children of Israel out of the hand of Jehovah.

32 And Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the priest, and the princes, turned back from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, to the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and returned them word.

33 And the word was good in the eyes of the children of Israel; and the children of Israel knelt down with goodness to God, and no more said to go up against them in the host, to destroy the land where the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.

34 And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar that it is a witness between us that Jehovah is God.

### CHAPTER 23

1 And it was many days after Jehovah had given rest to Israel from all those who hated them all around, that Joshua was old, the days having come.

2 And Joshua called for all Israel, and for their elders, and for their heads, and for those who judge them, and for their officers, and said to them, I am old, the days having come;

3 And you have seen all that Jehovah, your God, has done to all these peoples before your face, because Jehovah, your God, is he who is fighting for you.

4 Behold, I have caused to fall to you by lot these peoples that remain to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the peoples that I have cut off, to the great sea toward the going *down* of the sun.

5 And Jehovah, your God, shall thrust them away from before your face, and drive them out from before your face; and you shall possess their land, what Jehovah, your God, has spoken to you.

6 And you shall be exceedingly strong to hedge about and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that you turn not aside from it to the right hand or to the left,

**JOSHUA 24** *Joshua encourages all to remain loyal to Jehovah; he assembles all at Shechem*

7 So that you do not go into these peoples, these that remain with you, and so that you do not remember the name of their gods, nor swear, nor serve them, nor prostrate yourselves to them;

8 But you shall cling to Jehovah, your God, as you have done until this day.

9 And Jehovah has driven out from before your face great peoples and strong; as for you, no man has been able to stand before your face to this day.

10 One man of you shall chase a thousand, because Jehovah, your God, is he who is devouring for you, what he has spoken to you.

11 Exceedingly hedge yourselves about to love Jehovah, your God,

12 Because if turning back, you turn back, and cling to what is left of these peoples, these who remain with you, and shall give in marriage to them, and go in to them, and they to you,

13 Knowing, know by seeing, that Jehovah, your God, will no more drive out these peoples from before your face, but they shall be snares and nooses to you, and piercings in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until you are lost from off this good soil which Jehovah, your God, has given you.

14 And behold, this day I walk the way of all the earth, and you know by seeing in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one word has fallen of all the good words which Jehovah, your God, spoke over you; all are come to you, and not one word has fallen

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of them.

15 And it shall be, as all good words are come upon you, which Jehovah, your God, spoke to you, so shall Jehovah cause to come upon you all evil words, until he has desolated you from off this good soil which Jehovah, your God, has given you.

16 When you have crossed over the covenant of Jehovah, your God, which he commanded you, and have walked, and served other gods, and prostrated yourselves to them, then the nostrils of Jehovah shall burn against you, and you shall be lost quickly from off the good earth which he has given to you.

**CHAPTER 24**

1 And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for those who judge them, and for their officers, and they placed themselves before the face of God.

2 And Joshua said to all the people, Thus says Jehovah God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt across the river in ancient times, Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nachor, and they served other gods.

3 And I took your father Abraham from across the river, and caused him to walk through all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.

4 And I gave to Isaac, Jacob and Esau; and I gave to Esau Mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt.

5 And I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, what I did in their midst, and afterward I caused you to come out.

6 And I caused your fathers to come out of Egypt, and you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea.

7 And when they cried to Jehovah, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and caused the sea to come upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt; and you dwelt in the desert many days.

8 And I caused you to come into the land of the Amorites, who dwelt across Jordan, and they devoured against you, and I gave them into your hand, and you possessed their land; and I desolated them from before your face.

9 And Balak, the son of Zippor, king of Moab, rose and devoured against Israel, and sent and called Balaam, the son of Beor, to make light of you; *Note Num 31:8*

10 And I would not breathe in agreement with Balaam; and blessing, he blessed you; so I snatched you out of his hand.

11 And you crossed over Jordan, and came to Jericho, and the men of Jericho devoured against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I gave them into your hand.

12 And I sent the one who strikes<sup>1 2</sup> before your face, who drove them out from before your face, the two kings of the Amorites, not with your sword, nor with your bow.

<sup>12</sup> 24:12 the one who strikes, *tsirah*.

*Tsirah*, Strong's number 6880, occurs in the Bible only three places. Each place, Ex 23:28, Deu 7:20, and Jos 24:12, say basically the same thing, that Jehovah God will send the *tsirah* before their face to drive out the wicked inhabitants of the land. It is a form of the word *tsara*, 6879, and 6883, which means to strike (with leprosy) or to strike (with destruction or uncleanness, etc.). The only reason that *tsirah* has been given the meaning of hornet or wasp is because ancient translators did not know what was meant by *tsirah*, and they gave it the meaning of hornet. Our principle of interpreting a word, when its meaning is not otherwise clear, is to go strictly by its use in the Bible, and by its context where it is used. Read Ex 23:27-31. In verse 27 God promises to send His fear before their face. Then in the remaining verses He promises, I will destroy your enemies. I will drive them out. Etc. If you read the entire passage carefully it is clear that God will drive out these evil people supernaturally. I realize that if God sent droves of hornets which made the inhabitants flee the country, this most likely would be supernatural. It would especially be supernatural if after the hornets drove out the Canaanites, they then disappeared, or at least did not bother Israel, but no account of such a thing exists anywhere in Scripture. If you simply forget that the word hornet was ever used, and leave *tsirah* untranslated, and read the whole passage, you would have to conclude that *tsirah* is something or someone supernatural which God sends. When you read Deu 7:18-21 and leave *tsirah* untranslated you get the same impression. In Deu 7:18-19 God mentions the signs and miracles they saw in Egypt. God did destroy Egypt with frogs, lice, flies, locusts, and other physical plagues, but all of these are clearly spelled out in the story, and we are not left without clear knowledge as to what these things were. But Moses in recounting this in Deu only mentions the signs and miracles God will do in Canaan by sending the *tsirah* before their face until all the inhabitants are destroyed. And when you read it in the third place in the Bible, Jos 24:12, after it has happened, Joshua gave an interpretation of its meaning: not with your sword, nor with your bow. If you turn to Numbers 21:24 the Word of God states clearly that Moses and Israel struck Sihon and his people with the mouth of the sword, and Joshua continued to strike every place and people with the sword,

## JOSHUA 24

*Joshua challenges the people to choose Jehovah and warns them*

13 And I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you are eating of the vineyards and oliveyards which you did not plant.

14 Now then fear Jehovah, and serve him in integrity and in truth, and turn away from the gods which your fathers served across the river and in Egypt, and serve Jehovah.

15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve Jehovah, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve, whether the gods whom your fathers served which were across the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell; but I and my house, we will serve Jehovah.

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even after the supernatural manifestations that clearly were God's doings and not man's. Now we know that the Bible does not contradict itself, so here is what we understand: Moses in Num 21:24 is stating the fact as it is from the human point of view - that Israel struck Sihon with the mouth of the sword; and Joshua is stating the truth in the unseen world, from God's viewpoint, that the real cause of the defeat of Sihon and his armies and all the Caanites was not the sword of Israel, but the supernatural Messenger of Jehovah who went before the face of Israel, and really gave the victory. Based upon all the foregoing explanation we have translated *tsirah* as the one who strikes, meaning the supernatural Messenger whom God invisibly sent before their face to guarantee their victory at every turn. In Judges 2:1 the Messenger of Jehovah Himself declares that He is the One Who brought them into Caanan, **And the Messenger of Jehovah came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I caused you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you to the land which I swore to your fathers.** The *tsirah* was the Messenger of Jehovah who struck the peoples of Caanan, Jos 5:13-15. He supernaturally consummated the victory in every place, as he made the walls of Jerecho fall, Jsh 6:20, and all the other miraculous events. See Note Gen 16:7.

16 And the people answered and said, Far be it from us that we would leave Jehovah to serve other gods,

17 Because Jehovah our God is he who brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and who did those great signs in our eyes, and hedged us about in all the way where we walked, and from all the people before whom we crossed over;

18 And Jehovah drove out from before our face all the people, even the Amorites who dwelt in the land; we also will serve Jehovah, because he is our God.

19 And Joshua said to the people, You are not able to serve Jehovah, because he is a holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not lift your transgressions nor your offenses.

20 If you leave Jehovah, and serve strange gods, then he will turn back, and do evil to you, and end you, after he has done good to you.

21 And the people said to Joshua, No, but we will serve Jehovah.

22 And Joshua said to the people, You are witnesses against yourselves because you have chosen for yourselves Jehovah to serve him. And they said, We are witnesses!

23 And now, stretch away from the strange gods which are in your midst, and incline your heart to Jehovah God of Israel.

*The people promise to serve Jehovah; Joshua cuts a covenant with them and dies* **JOSHUA 24**

24 And the people said to Joshua, We will serve Jehovah our God, and we will attentively hear his voice.

25 And Joshua cut a covenant with the people that day, and put for them an enactment and a judgment in Shechem.

26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law<sup>26</sup> of God, and took a great stone, and raised it up there under an oak that was by the sanctuary of Jehovah.

27 And Joshua said to all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness against us, because it has

<sup>26</sup> **24:26 law, *towrah***, the Torah. Genesis-Deuteronomy, the law that God gave Moses. God declares in this verse that Joshua wrote his book, Joshua, inspired by the Holy Spirit to be added to the sacred Scripture already in existence which was placed in the side of the ark of the covenant, Deu 31:26. This statement shows that each author of each book of the Bible knew he was writing Holy Scripture when he wrote it, and that it was kept in the ark of the covenant as a writing spoken directly by God, and written by the hand of a man under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. The books of the Bible were hedged about in the ark of the covenant until it was carried to Babylon, at which time the holy men of God took them, hid them, and guarded them with their very lives. They were returned to the temple when it was rebuilt after the return from Babylon in 536 BC by Zerubbabel. Copies were made and kept by the priests in the temple, and later in synagogues after the Babylonian Captivity. It was in the Synagogue at Nazareth that Jesus asked for the scroll of Isaiah and read from what we know as chapter 61, Luk 4:15-20. By the time the Romans destroyed the temple in 69-70 AD there were many copies of the Holy Scriptures in the hands of many faithful men in many synagogues and Christian churches throughout the world, especially Babylon (the church in Babylon, 1 Pet 5:13), Egypt, and throughout the Roman empire. Faithful priests took the Holy Scriptures out of the temple again before it was destroyed by the Roman armies, and again protected them with their lives. That is the reason that we have faithful copies today of God's Holy Word. Jesus promised in Matthew 5:18 that not one small horn or marking on a Hebrew or Greek letter would ever pass away, so this tells us we have faithful copies of God's Word.

heard attentively all the words of Jehovah which he spoke to us, and it shall be a witness against you, lest you be untrue to your God.

28 So Joshua sent away the people, every man to his inheritance.

29 And it was after these words, that Joshua, the son of Nun, the servant of Jehovah, died, a son of a hundred and ten years.

30 And they buried him within the boundary of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which is in Mount Ephraim on the north of the hill of Gaash.

31 And Israel served Jehovah all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders whose days extended beyond Joshua, and who had known by seeing all the works of Jehovah, which he had done for Israel.

32 And they buried the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, in Shechem, in an allotment of the field which Jacob set up of the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for an hundred ingots of silver; and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.

33 And Eleazar, the son of Aaron, died, and they buried him in a hill of Phinehas, his son, which was given him in Mount Ephraim.

## JOSHUA