

Introduction

“Picking up directly after the death of Moses, [Joshua] seamlessly continues the national history recorded in the Pentateuch and serves a bridge to the record of Israel’s subsequent, extended tenure in the Promised Land. The book affirms Joshua as Moses’ successor, views the conquest as fulfillment of the divine promises given to the patriarchs, and portrays the conquest as a turn away from the rebellion and punishment in the wilderness to a renewed covenant commitment to Yahweh. The book also stresses the foundational place of the ‘Book of the Law’ of Moses for Israel’s future success and existence.”

Jason DeRouchie, *What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared About* (pp.173–174)

This semester we are memorizing Isaiah 40. This week’s verse is Isaiah 40:15...

“Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales;
Behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust.”

Day One

Read *Deuteronomy 31:1–8* and *Joshua 1–2*; ***Israel’s Preparation to Enter the Land***

1. From your study of Deuteronomy, identify one or two principles about God’s faithfulness or man’s faithlessness that were important reminders for Israel before they went in to conquer the Promised Land.
2. According to Joshua 1:2–5, what instructions and promises did the Lord give Joshua?
 - a. From verses 7–9, what contingencies were given for success in the conquest and possession of the land?
3. From Joshua 2:1–13, who assisted the Israelites when they spied out Jericho, and why?
4. In Joshua 2:23–24, what report did the two spies give Joshua? Why do you think that differed from the report of the ten spies in Numbers 13?

Day Two

Read *Joshua 3–6*; ***Inheritance and Conquest, Part 1***

1. In Joshua 3, who was to carry the Ark of the Covenant and lead the people of Israel? Why was that significant?
2. Joshua 3–4 recounts Israel’s miraculous crossing of the Jordan River and entrance into the Promised Land. What aspects of God’s mighty power and His protection of His people do you see in this story?
3. In Joshua 4:5–7 and 20–24, what did Joshua instruct the people to do, and why?
 - a. What might the principle of remembering God’s work look like in the lives of believers today? Share with your group one way that God has shown His goodness to you this week.
4. In Joshua 5:1–9, what did God command Israel to do, and why? (See also Genesis 17:1–14.)
5. From Joshua 6:1–21, briefly describe the plan to defeat the city of Jericho. How did that strategy glorify God?

6. What promise was fulfilled in Joshua 6:22–25?
 - a. How does the salvation of this Gentile family accomplish the purposes of both the Abrahamic and Mosaic Covenants?

Day Three

Read Joshua 7–10; ***Inheritance and Conquest, Part 2***

1. According to Joshua 7:1–5, what happened during Israel’s first battle at Ai?
 - a. In verses 10–15, what instructions did God give Joshua to deal with sin in the camp?
2. How does Achan’s story deepen your understanding of sin and its consequences?
 - a. How seriously do you take sin in your own life? How can you practically guard against sin in your thoughts and actions?
3. From Joshua 8, what was the outcome of Israel’s second battle at Ai? What was the reason for the different outcomes of the two battles?
4. In Joshua 8:30–35, what did Joshua do, and why is that significant?
 - a. How should this be an example for how you live?
5. After the defeat of Jericho and Ai, the name of Yahweh became even more famous in Canaan and the people’s fear brought them together to fight against Joshua and Israel. According to Joshua 9:3–17, what did the Gibeonites do because of their fear of Israel?
6. In verses 18–21, how did Israel respond, and why? (See also Deuteronomy 7:1–2.)
 - a. How does that deepen your understanding of the importance of the biblical covenants? How might that relate today to the importance of being true to one’s word?

Day Four

Selected Scriptures; ***Allotment and Possession of the Land***

1. In Joshua 13:1–7, what did the Lord command Joshua to do, and what reassurance did He give the people?
2. Joshua 13–22 chronicles the allotments of land given by the Lord to each of the tribes of Israel. From the following texts, why were these specific allotments unique, and what does each teach about God and His plan?

- a. Joshua 13:14; 14:3–5; 18:7; and 21:1–42
 - b. Joshua 14:6–15
 - c. Joshua 19:49–50
3. According to Joshua 13:1–7, what did God command Israel to do about the people in the land, and why? (See also Joshua 23:4–13.)
- a. In Joshua 15:63; 16:10; and 17:11–12, which tribes disobeyed and did not follow God’s instruction?
4. In Joshua 21:43–45, the author reiterates the fulfillment of God’s original covenant promise to Abraham recorded in Genesis. From this text, identify specific elements of God’s faithfulness to His promises and His people.
- a. How has God shown Himself to be faithful in your life this week? Take a moment to write a short prayer of thanks to God for His work in your life.

Day Five

Read Joshua 23–24 ; Joshua’s Farewell

1. From Joshua 23:1–16 summarize Joshua’s commands to the people of Israel, specifically noting the blessings of obedience and the consequences of disobedience.
2. In Joshua 24:1–15, Joshua summarized Israel’s history between Genesis 11 and Joshua 22. What purpose did this serve, and how did the Israelites respond?
3. How does Joshua’s example in verses 14–15 encourage you to grow in your leadership of others, whether in your home, ministry, or job? Be specific.
4. Why do you think Joshua responded the way he did to the Israelites declaration of obedience in Joshua 24:16–27? What do you learn from their exchange?
5. In Joshua 24:32–33, how does the book of Joshua end? (See also Genesis 50:22–26.)
6. Under Joshua’s leadership, this first generation in Israel lived as Yahweh’s people and were obedient to His covenant commands to occupy and subdue the land, and they enjoyed His presence and His blessing. Through your study of the book of Joshua, what have you learned about God’s character and your own responsibility as a believer?
 - a. How does that motivate you to greater worship?



Women of Grace

• Lesson 11 • Joshua •

Sanders

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