

JOSHUA

Conversational Version

The LORD's Charge to Joshua

1:¹After Moses died, God said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant,
²*"Moses has died. You and the people, cross the Jordan to the land I'm giving you. ³Like I promised Moses, everywhere you go I'll deliver it to you. ⁴Your territory will be from the desert and Lebanon to the big Euphrates River, the land of the Hittites to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵Nobody will be able to stand up to you all your life. I'll be with you like I was with Moses; I won't fail you or abandon you. ⁶Be strong and courageous. You'll enable my people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors I'd give them. ⁷Make sure you do everything in the Law that Moses commanded you. ⁸Think about it day and night. You'll prosper and succeed. ⁹Haven't I commanded you? Don't be afraid or intimidated. The LORD your God is with you."*

Josh 1:1-9

¹⁰Joshua told the officers of the people,
¹¹*"Go through the camp and tell the people to get the baggage ready. Three days from now, you're going to cross the Jordan to take the land the LORD your God is giving you."*
¹²Joshua told Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe,
¹³*"Remember what Moses told you, the LORD your God is providing you this land as a place to rest. ¹⁴Your wives, little ones, and livestock will stay beyond the Jordan; but your fighting men will cross over armed to help your fellow Jews ¹⁵till they have their land, and the LORD gives them peace. Then you can go back east of the Jordan."*
¹⁶They answered,
"We'll do everything you've said and go wherever you go. ¹⁷We'll obey you like we did Moses. The LORD be with you like he was with him! ¹⁸We'll execute whoever disobeys you. Be strong and courageous."

Josh 1:10-18

Rahab and the Spies

2:¹Joshua sent two men secretly from Shittim to check out the land, Jericho in particular. They went to the house of a harlot named Rahab to lodge. ²The king of Jericho heard about it, *"Some men from Israel have come here tonight to spy out the land."* ³He sent to Rahab, *"Bring the men that have come to your house. They're spies."* ⁴But the woman had hidden them, *"Men*

did come, but I didn't know where they came from. ⁵They left when the gate closed at dark. I don't know where they went. Follow them right away so you can catch up with them." ⁶But she'd taken them up to the roof and hidden them under stalks of flax. ⁷The men pursued them toward the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as they left, the gate was shut. **Josh 2:1-7**

⁸Before they lay down, she came up to the roof ⁹and said,

"I know the LORD is going to deliver the land to you. We're all afraid; the people are melting away on account of you. ¹⁰We've heard how he dried up the Red Sea for you when you left Egypt, and how you destroyed Sihon and Og beyond the Jordan. ¹¹As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted. Nobody had any courage left. The LORD your God is God in heaven above and on earth below. ¹²Now, swear by him that as I've dealt graciously with you, you'll deal graciously with my father's family. Give me a guarantee ¹³that you'll save my parents, brothers and sisters, and their relatives."

¹⁴They said, "Our life for yours! If you don't tell why we're here, you can trust us to deal graciously with you when the LORD gives us the land."

¹⁵Her house was built against the city wall. She let them down by a rope through the window and ¹⁶told them, "Go up into the hills so you won't run into the ones that are searching for you. Hide there three days till they get back. Then you'll be able to go." **Josh 2:8-16**

¹⁷They said, "We won't be guilty of the oath you had us swear. ¹⁸When we come, tie this scarlet cord in the window you let us down through. Get your parents, brothers, and father's family into the house. ¹⁹If any of them goes out into the street, their blood's on themselves. But if a hand is laid on anybody that's in the house with you, that person's blood's on us. ²⁰If you tell why we're here, we won't be obligated by the oath."

²¹"All right."

She sent them away and tied the scarlet cord in the window.

²²They went into the hills for three days till the ones that were looking for them got back. They'd looked all along the road and didn't find anything. ²³Then the two men came back down from the hills and crossed over to Joshua. They told him what all had happened, ²⁴"The LORD has for sure delivered the land to us. The inhabitants have lost heart over us." **Josh 2:17-24**

Crossing the Jordan

3:¹Joshua got up early and set out from Shittim with the people. They got to the Jordan and stayed there before they crossed. ²After three days the officers went through the camp ³and told the people,

“When you see the priests pick up the Ark of the Covenant, follow it so you’ll know where to go. You haven’t gone this way before. ⁴Don’t get near it. Stay back about 3,000ft.”

⁵Joshua told the people, *“Sanctify yourselves; tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”*

⁶He told the priests to pick up the Ark and go out ahead of the people.

Josh 3:1-6

⁷The LORD told Joshua,

“Today I’ll start elevating you in Israel so they’ll know I’m with you like I was with Moses. ⁸Tell the priests that carry the Ark, when they come to the edge of the Jordan, to stand still in it.”

⁹Joshua said,

“Come and listen to a message from your God. ¹⁰This is how you’ll know the living God is among you and will drive out the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites. ¹¹The Ark will cross the Jordan first. ¹²Select a man from each of the 12 tribes. ¹³When the priests’ feet rest in the water, the Jordan will stop flowing. The water coming downstream will pile up.”

¹⁴The people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan ¹⁵When the priests waded into the water (The Jordan floods during harvest.), ¹⁶the water coming downstream piled up all the way back to Adam, a town beside Zarethan. What was flowing toward the Sea of Arabah (the Dead Sea) held back while the people crossed near Jericho. ¹⁷The priests stood on dry riverbed till the whole nation finished crossing.

Josh 3:7-17

Memorial to the Jordan Crossing

^{4:1}When they’d crossed, the LORD told Joshua,

²*“Appoint a man from each tribe ³to take a rock from the Jordan, carry it over, and lay it down where they’ll spend the night.”*

⁴Joshua called the twelve men,

⁵*“Go on past the Ark to the middle of the Jordan and pick up a rock onto your shoulder. ⁶They’ll be a sign when your children ask what these rocks mean. ⁷Tell them the Jordan River held back ahead of the Ark as it crossed. These rocks serve as a permanent memorial for Israelites.”*

⁸They picked up 12 rocks out of the Jordan, carried them over to where they would spend the night, and laid them down. ⁹Then Joshua set up 12 rocks in the Jordan where the priests had stood. They’re still there. ¹⁰The priests stood in the Jordan till everything happened that the LORD had Joshua tell the people.

Josh 4:1-10a

The people crossed in a hurry. ¹¹Then the priests and the Ark went on over. ¹²Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe *also* went over to the plains by Jericho—¹³about 40,000. ¹⁴That day the LORD elevated Joshua in Israel. They stood in awe of him all his life.

¹⁵The LORD said to Joshua, ¹⁶*“Tell the priests that are carrying the Ark to come up out of the Jordan.”* [¹⁷] ¹⁸When they’d come up, the water went back to overflowing its banks.

¹⁹The people came up out of the Jordan on **the tenth day, first month**, and camped at Gilgal east of Jericho. ²⁰Joshua set up the 12 stones from the Jordan at Gilgal ²¹and told the people,

“When your descendants ask what these stones mean, ²²tell them, ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry riverbed. ²³The LORD our God dried up the water till we crossed it like he did at the Red Sea.’ ²⁴Everybody in the world will know the LORD is powerful, and you’ll respect him forever.”

Josh 4:10b-24

Circumcision at Gilgal

^{5:1}The Amorite kings west of the Jordan and the Canaanite kings by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the Jordan for the Israelites to cross. Their hearts melted; there was no spirit in them.

²At that time, the LORD told Joshua to make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites this second time. ³He did that at Gibeath-haaraloth. ⁴The fighting men who came out of Egypt ⁵had been circumcised, but the ones born in the desert hadn’t. ⁶The Israelites lived there 40 years till those fighting men died. The LORD swore they wouldn’t see the land flowing with milk and honey that he’d promised their ancestors. ⁷So Joshua circumcised the offspring the LORD raised up to replace them.

⁸After the circumcising, they stayed in the camp till they healed up. ⁹The LORD told Joshua, *“I’ve ‘rolled away’ from you the disgrace of Egypt today”*; so the place has been called Gilgal ever since.

¹⁰While the people camped in Gilgal, they kept Passover on the fourteenth of the month in the evening in the plains by Jericho. ¹¹The next day, they began eating the produce in the land—parched grain and cakes without yeast in them. ¹²The manna stopped permanently the next day; they ate the produce in Canaan that year.

Josh 5:1-12

¹³When Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man with his sword drawn. He went to him and asked, *“Are you for us or our enemies?”*

¹⁴*“I’ve come to command the LORD’s army.”*

Joshua fell on his face in homage, *“What do you want me to do?”*

¹⁵*“Take your shoes off. Where you’re standing is holy.”* Joshua obeyed. **Josh 5:13-15**

The Fall of Jericho

^{6:1}Jericho was shut up; nobody was coming out or going in. ²The LORD told Joshua,

"I'll deliver Jericho to you, its king and strong fighting men. ³Have Israel's fighting men march around the city once a day for a week. ⁴Have seven priests each carry a ram's horn ahead of the Ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times while the priests blow their rams' horns. ⁵As soon as you hear a long blast on the rams' horns, raise the battle cry as loud as you can, and the city wall will fall down flat. Every man, go straight in."

⁶Joshua called the priests and told them to take the Ark and have seven priests each carry a ram's horn ahead of it.

⁷He told the people to start marching around the city with the armed men ahead of the Ark.

Josh 6:1-7

⁸The seven priests went forward blowing rams' horns in front of the LORD with the Ark behind them. ⁹The armed men went first ahead of the priests, and the rear guard came last after the Ark. The rams' horns blew continually.

¹⁰Joshua told the people, *"Don't raise the battle cry till the day I tell you."* ¹¹He sent the Ark around the city once. Then they spent the night in camp

¹²Joshua got up early, and the priests took the Ark, ¹³and the seven priests went along, blowing the horns continually. The armed men went first ahead of them, and the rear guard came last after the Ark. ¹⁴The second day they marched around the city once and went back to camp. They did that for six days.

Josh 6:8-14

¹⁵The seventh day, they got up at dawn and marched around the city the same way seven times. ¹⁶The seventh time, when the priests blew the rams' horns, Joshua told the people,

"Raise the battle cry! The LORD is delivering the city to you. ¹⁷The city and everything in it will be devoted to him for destruction. Only Rahab the harlot and her household will live; she hid the messengers we sent. ¹⁸Make sure you keep away from the things devoted to destruction. If you take any devoted thing, you'll bring trouble on Israel's camp and get it destroyed. ¹⁹All the silver and gold, the bronze and iron items, are set aside to the LORD. They'll go into his treasury."

²⁰The priests blew the rams' horns. As soon as the people heard them, they raised the battle cry as loud as they could, and the wall down fell flat. Every man went straight ahead up into the city and took it. ²¹With swords they destroyed men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep, and donkeys.

Josh 6:15-21

²²Joshua told the two men that had spied out the land to go to the harlot's house and bring her and her relatives out like they'd promised.

²³They went in and brought out her, her parents, brothers, and relatives; and put them outside the camp. ²⁴They burned the city and everything in it, but put in the LORD's treasury the silver and gold, the bronze and iron items. ²⁵Rahab and her father's family still live in Israel because she hid the spies.

²⁶Joshua bound an oath on them,
*“Cursed by the LORD is anyone that rebuilds this city.
 he’ll lay its foundation at the cost of his firstborn
 and set up its gates at the cost of his youngest son.”*

²⁷The LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread all over the territory.

Josh 6:22-27

Achan’s Sin

^{7:1}But the people violated the instructions about the things set apart *to the LORD*. Achan son of Carmi son of Zabdi son of Zerah from the tribe of Judah, took some devoted things, and the LORD’s anger burned against Israel.

²Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai near Beth-aven, east of Bethel to spy out the area. They spied it out, ³came back and said, *“Just have 2,000 or 3,000 go up to attack Ai. There aren’t many of them.”* ⁴About 3,000 went up but fled. ⁵The men from Ai killed about 36. They chased them from the gate as far as Shebarim and killed them at the descent. The people’s hearts melted and became like water.

Josh 7:1-5

⁶Joshua tore his clothes. He and the elders fell on their faces by the Ark of the LORD till evening and put dust on their heads. ⁷Joshua said,

“Lord GOD, why bring us across the Jordan and turn us over to the Amorites? If only we’d been content to live beyond the Jordan! ⁸What can I say when Israel has turned its back on its enemies? ⁹The Canaanites and the people in the land will hear about it and surround us. They’ll remove our name from the earth, and what will you do for your great name?”

¹⁰The LORD told Joshua,

“Why fall on your face? Get up. ¹¹Israel has broken my covenant and taken some devoted things. They’ve stolen and lied about it and put them among their own things. ¹²So Israel can’t stand up to its enemies. They turn their backs on them because now they’re something to be destroyed. ¹³Get up. Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow. You can’t stand up to your enemies till you get rid of the devoted things. ¹⁴In the morning, come forward by tribes. The tribe the LORD takes will come forward by families. The family he takes will come by households. The household he takes will come one at a time. ¹⁵The one that took the devoted things and everything he has will be burned. He’s sinned against the LORD’s covenant by doing something horrible.”

Josh 7:6-15

¹⁶Joshua got up early and brought Israel forward tribe by tribe; *the LORD* took Judah. ¹⁷He brought the clans of Judah forward; *the LORD* took the family of Zerah. He brought the family Zerah forward one household at a time; *the LORD* took the household of Zabdi. ¹⁸He brought Zabdi’s household forward one man at a time; *the LORD* took Achan son of (Carmi son of Zabdi son

of) Zerah. ¹⁹Joshua told Achan, “Son, honor the LORD God of Israel and praise him. What have you done?”

²⁰Achan answered,

“Truthfully, I did sin against the LORD God of Israel. ²¹I saw among the spoils a beautiful mantle from Shinar, 5 lbs ^{200 shekels} of silver, and a gold bar weighing 20 oz ^{50 shekels}. I wanted them and took them and hid them in the ground inside my tent with the silver underneath.”

²²Joshua sent messengers to the tent. *The devoted things* were there with the silver under them. ²³They brought them out to Joshua and put them down in front of the LORD. ²⁴Joshua and all Israel took Achan, the silver, the mantle, the gold bar, his children, cattle, donkeys, and sheep, his tent and everything he had, and went up to the Valley of Achor. ²⁵Joshua said, “*Why bring trouble on us? The LORD is bringing trouble on you now.*” Israel stoned *them* and burned them, ²⁶and piled a big mound of rocks over him that’s still there. Then the LORD turned away his burning anger.

Josh 7:16-26

Israel Destroys Ai

^{8:1}The LORD told Joshua,

“Don’t be afraid or intimidated. Take the fighting men up to Ai. I’ll deliver the king, his people, his city, and his land to you. ²Do to Ai and its king what you did to Jericho and its king. Just take its spoil and livestock for yourselves. Ambush the city from behind.”

³Joshua and the fighting men got up to go to Ai. Joshua chose 30,000 trained men and sent them out at night. ⁴He told them,

“Lie in ambush behind the city. Stay fairly close to it and be ready. ⁵The people and I will approach the city. When they come out against us, we’ll flee. ⁶They’ll chase us till we’ve drawn them away from the city; they’ll think we’re running from them like the last time. ⁷Then rise up from the ambush and seize the city; the LORD your God will give it to you. ⁸When you’ve taken it, set it on fire like he said.”

⁹Joshua sent them out to the place for the ambush between Bethel and Ai, west of Ai. He spent that night with the people.

Josh 8:1-9

¹⁰He got up early, mustered the people, and went up with the elders to Ai. ¹¹The fighting men that were with him came close to the city and camped north of it with a ravine between them and Ai. ¹²He set about 5,000 men in ambush between Bethel and Ai, west of the city. ¹³So they stationed the main camp north of the city and its rear guard west of it. Joshua spent that night in the valley. ¹⁴When the king of Ai saw it, the men in the city hurried out early to the descent toward the Arabah to meet Israel in battle. But he didn’t know about the ambush behind the city. ¹⁵Joshua

and the Israelites pretended to be beaten and retreated toward open country. ¹⁶The people in the city were called together to chase them and drew away from it. ¹⁷Every man in Ai and Bethel went out after Israel and left the city wide open. **Josh 8:10-17**

¹⁸The LORD told Joshua, “*Hold out your javelin.*” He held it out toward the city, ¹⁹and the ambush got up at once, went in, and took it. They hurried and set it on fire. ²⁰When the men from Ai looked back, they saw the smoke going up from the city. They couldn’t escape because the ones that ran toward open country turned back on them. ²¹When Joshua and the Israelites saw that the ambush had taken the city and its smoke was going up, they turned around and attacked. ²²The others came out of the city, and the Israelites trapped them between their two companies. They killed till no one survived or escaped. ²³They captured the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.

²⁴When Israel had finished killing the people of Ai in the open country, they went back and struck the city with the sword. ²⁵All its people fell that day: 12,000 men and women. ²⁶Joshua didn’t draw back his javelin till he’d destroyed everybody. ²⁷Israel just took the livestock and spoils—like the LORD said. ²⁸Joshua burned the city and made it a pile of ruins till now. ²⁹He hanged the king on a tree till sundown. Then he had *them* take his body down and throw it at the entrance to the city gate. They piled stones over it, which are still there. **Josh 8:18-29**

³⁰Joshua built an altar to the LORD on Mount Ebal ³¹the way Moses commanded in the Law—with uncut stones nobody has used an iron tool on. They offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. ³²There in the presence of the people, he wrote on the stones a copy of Moses’ Law. ³³All Israel, foreigner and home born, elders, officers, and judges stood on opposite sides of the Ark in front of the Levitical priests who carried it. Half were in front of Mount Gerizim and half in front of Mount Ebal—like Moses had commanded them to bless Israel. ³⁴Afterward he read the whole Law, the blessing, and the curse. ³⁵He read it to Israel, the women, children, and foreigners among them. **Josh 8:30-35**

9:¹The kings heard about it in the hill country and the western foothills along the Mediterranean Sea up to Lebanon—the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. ²They formed an alliance against Israel.

The Gibeonites Deceive Israel

³But when the people in Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, ⁴they resorted to trickery. They made *fake* preparations: worn-out sacks on their donkeys; worn-out, torn, and mended wineskins; ⁵worn-out and patched sandals, and worn-out clothes. Their provisions were dry and moldy. ⁶They went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal, and told him and Israel, “*We’ve come from a distant country. Make a treaty with us.*” **Josh 9:1-6**

⁷But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, “*Maybe you’re living among us. How could we make a treaty with you?*”

⁸They said to Joshua, *“We’re your servants.”*

“Who are you? Where did you come from?”

⁹*“We’ve come a long way because of the LORD your God. We’ve heard what all he did in Egypt, ¹⁰and to the Amorite kings beyond the Jordan—Sihon and Og, who lived in Ashtaroth. ¹¹Our elders and the people in our country told us to take provisions for the journey, go meet you, and say, ‘We’re your servants. Make a treaty with us.’ ¹²Our bread was still warm when we took it from our houses for the trip. Now it’s dry and moldy. ¹³These wineskins were new when we filled them; now they’ve burst. These clothes and shoes are worn out from the trip.”*

¹⁴The men took some of their provisions and didn’t ask for direction from the LORD. ¹⁵Joshua made peace with them and let them live. The leaders of the community swore to them. **Josh 9:7-15**

¹⁶Three days later, they found out they were neighbors. ¹⁷Israel set out and reached their towns on the third day: Gibeon, Cherphirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. ¹⁸But they didn’t kill them, because their leaders had sworn by the LORD God of Israel. The community murmured against the leaders, ¹⁹*“We’ve sworn to them by the LORD God of Israel. We can’t touch them. ²⁰We’ll let them live so wrath won’t come on us.”* ²¹They cut wood and drew water for the community—like the leaders told them.

²²Joshua sent for them and said,

“Why lie to us and say you were from a distant country when you were living among us? ²³Now you’re cursed. Some of you will always be slaves, cutting wood and drawing water for my God’s house.”

²⁴They answered Joshua,

“We heard that the LORD your God had commanded Moses to give you the land and destroy its people. We were afraid we’d be killed. ²⁵We’re at your mercy. Do to us what you think’s right.”

²⁶That’s what he did and rescued them from the people. ²⁷He made them cut wood and draw water for the community and the LORD’s altar where he chose. They still do that. **Josh 9:16-27**

The Sun Stands Still

10:¹Adonizedek, king of Jerusalem, heard how Joshua had taken Ai and destroyed it like Jericho and its king. *He heard* how Gibeon had made peace with Israel and was among them. ²He was really afraid because Gibeon was a big city, like a royal city. It was bigger than Ai and its men were strong. ³So he sent to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish, and Debir king of Eglon, ⁴*“Help me attack Gibeon; it has made peace with Israel.”* ⁵Those five allied forces camped against Gibeon and attacked it.

⁶The men in Gibeon sent to Joshua at camp in Gilgal, *“Don’t relax your grip on us. Come quick and save us! The Amorite kings from the hill country have formed an alliance against us.”*

⁷So Joshua and the fighting men went up from Gilgal. ⁸The LORD told Joshua, *“Don’t be afraid of them. I’ll deliver them to you. Not a man will stand against you.”*

⁹He marched up all night and attacked them by surprise. ¹⁰The LORD threw them into panic, and Israel killed them with a great slaughter. They chased them by the way of the ascent of Beth-horon and struck them all the way to Azekah and Makkedah. ¹¹As they fled down the ascent of Beth-horon, the LORD sent big hailstones on them all the way to Azekah. More died from hailstones than Israel killed with the sword. **Josh 10:1-11**

¹²Then in front of Israel, Joshua spoke to the LORD the day he gave the Amorites to Israel, *“Have the sun stand still at Gibeon and the moon over the Valley of Aijalon.”*

¹³So the sun stood still, and the moon stayed till the nation took revenge on its enemies. It’s recorded in *The Book of Jashar*. The sun stood still at midday and didn’t go down for about a day.

¹⁴There wasn’t a day like it before or since when the LORD listened to *such an extreme request* by someone, because he fought for Israel.

¹⁵Joshua and Israel came back to camp at Gilgal.

Five Amorite Kings Executed

¹⁶The five kings fled and hid in the cave at Makkedah. ¹⁷People told Joshua where they were hiding.

¹⁸He said,

“Roll large rocks against the mouth of the cave and post a guard. ¹⁹Don’t stay there. Chase your enemies and fall on them. Don’t let them get into their towns. The LORD your God will deliver them to you.”

²⁰Joshua and the Israelites killed them with a great slaughter till they wiped them out, but some stragglers got back into the fortified towns. ²¹The people came back safe to Joshua at Makkedah. Nobody said a word against Israel. **Josh 10:12-21**

²²Then Joshua told them to open the cave and bring out the five kings. [²³]

²⁴He told the commanders and fighting men, *“Put your feet on their necks. ²⁵Don’t be afraid or intimidated; be strong and courageous. This is what the LORD will do to all the enemies you fight.”*

²⁶He struck them and put them to death and hung them on five trees. ²⁷At sundown he had *the men* take them down, throw them back into the cave, and put large rocks against its mouth. They’re still there.

²⁸That day Joshua struck down everybody in Makkedah with the sword and did to its king what he’d done to Jericho’s king. **Josh 10:22-28**

Southern Towns Conquered

²⁹He and Israel passed on from Makkedah and attacked Libnah. ³⁰The LORD gave it and its king to Israel. He struck everybody in it with the sword.

³¹Next, Joshua lay siege to Lachish, ³²and the LORD gave it to Israel. He took it on the second day and struck everybody in it with the sword.

³³Then Horam, king of Gezer, came to help Lachish, and Joshua struck him and his people till there weren't any left.

³⁴He passed on from Lachish, laid siege to Eglon, and attacked it. ³⁵They took it that day, struck it with the sword, and destroyed everyone in it.

³⁶Joshua went up from Eglon to attack Hebron. ³⁷He struck it, its king, and surrounding villages with the sword and destroyed everybody in them.

³⁸Then he turned back and attacked Debir. ³⁹He struck it, its king, and surrounding villages with the sword and destroyed everybody in them. So he did to Debir what he'd done to Hebron, Libnah, and their kings.

⁴⁰Joshua defeated the hill country, the Negev, the western foothills, the slopes, and their kings. He destroyed everybody that breathed—like the LORD commanded. ⁴¹He defeated them from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza, the whole country of Goshen as far as Gibeon. ⁴²He took those kings and their land in one campaign because the LORD God of Israel fought for them. ⁴³Then he and Israel went back to camp at Gilgal.

Josh 10:29-43

Northern Kings Defeated

11:¹When Jabin, king of Hazor, heard about it, he sent

to Jobab, king of Madon,

to the king of Shimron

to the king of Achshaph,

²to the kings in the northern hill country,

the Arabah south of Chinneroth,

the western foothills,

Naphothdor on the west,

³to the Canaanites in the east and west,

the Amorites,

Hittites,

Perizzites,

Jebusites in the hill country, and

Hivites on the slopes of *Mount Hermon* in the land of Mizpah.

⁴They came out with their troops, a large army like sand on the shore, with very many horses and chariots. ⁵All those kings joined forces, and came and camped together at the water by Merom.

⁶The LORD told Joshua, “*Don’t be afraid of them. At this time tomorrow, I’ll deliver them to Israel. Hamstring their horses and burn their chariots.*” ⁷He came suddenly on them with all his fighting men. ⁸The LORD gave them to Israel, who struck them and chased them to Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim and eastward to the Valley of Mizpah. There weren’t any left. ⁹Joshua hamstringed their horses and burned their chariots. **Josh 11:1-9**

¹⁰Joshua turned back and took Hazor and struck its king with the sword. Hazor was formerly the head of those kingdoms. ¹¹The Israelites put to the sword everything in it that breathed, and Joshua burned Hazor. ¹²He took the kings and their towns and destroyed them—like Moses the LORD’s servant commanded. ¹³Israel didn’t burn towns that stood on mounds, but Joshua did burn Hazor. ¹⁴The people took the spoil in those towns and the livestock for plunder. They struck every man with the sword till they’d destroyed them. ¹⁵What the LORD told Moses, Moses told Joshua, and he did it.

¹⁶Joshua conquered the hill country, the Negev, Goshen, the lowland, the Arabah, the hill country of Israel and its lowland ¹⁷from Mount Halak that rises toward Seir, all the way to Baalgad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He put their kings to death. ¹⁸Joshua fought those kings for a long time. ¹⁹No city made peace with Israel except the Hivites in Gibeon. ²⁰The LORD hardened their hearts to come out against Israel so they’d be destroyed without mercy.

²¹At that time, Joshua completely wiped out the Anakim and their towns in the hill country—Hebron, Debir, Anab, *and the towns in the territory of Judah and Israel.* ²²The only Anakim left were a few in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod. ²³He took the whole land the way the LORD had told Moses. He gave it to Israel by tribal allotments. The land rested from war. **Josh 11:10-23**

List of Defeated Kings

12:¹These are the kings the Israelites defeated and whose land they took **east of the Jordan**—from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon with all the eastern Arabah:

²Sihon, king of the Amorites. He lived in Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, on the edge of the valley of Arnon—from the middle of the valley to the river Jabbok, which is the boundary with the Ammonites, that is, half of Gilead ³and the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth east, and in the direction of Beth-jeshimoth to the Sea of Arabah (the Dead Sea), south to the foot of Pisgah.

⁴Og, king of Bashan, one of the remaining Rephaim that lived at Ashtaroth and Edrei ⁵and ruled Mount Hermon, Salecah, all Bashan to the boundary of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and half of Gilead to the boundary of Sihon, king of Heshbon.

⁶Moses and Israel gave their land to Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh *half-tribe*. **Josh 12:1-6**

⁷These are the kings Joshua and Israel defeated **west of the Jordan**, from Baalgad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir: (Joshua gave their land to the tribes

by allotments, ⁸in the hill country, the lowland, the Arabah, the mountain slopes, the open country, the Negev, the land of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites.)

⁹one king each in Jericho; Ai, next to Bethel; ¹⁰Jerusalem, Hebron, ¹¹Jarmuth, Lachish, ¹²Eglon, Gezer, ¹³Debir, Geder, ¹⁴Hormah, Arad, ¹⁵Libnah, Adullam, ¹⁶Makkedah, Bethel, ¹⁷Tappuah, Hepher, ¹⁸Aphek, Lasharon, ¹⁹Madon, Hazor, ²⁰Shimron-meron, Achshaph, ²¹Taanach, Megiddo, ²²Kedesh, Jokneam in Carmel, ²³Dor in Naphath-dor, Goiim in Galilee, ²⁴and Tirzah (31 kings). **Josh 12:7-24**

Land Still to Be Taken

13:¹When Joshua was getting along I years, the LORD told him,

“You’re getting old, and there’s still a lot of land to take:

²the territory of the Philistines,

Geshurites (³From the Shihor east of Egypt, north to the boundary of Ekron, is considered Canaanite. The Philistines have five rulers: in Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, and Ekron.) and

the Avvim, ⁴in the south;

the land of the Canaanites, and

Mearah, which belongs to the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the boundary of the Amorites,

⁵the Gebalites, and

all of Lebanon, toward the east,

from Baal-gad at the foot of Mount Hermon to Lebo-hamath,

⁶⁻⁷the people in the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, that is, the Sidonians.

I’ll drive them out in front of Israel. Allot the land to the nine tribes and the Manasseh half-tribe.”

Josh 13:1-7

Land East of the Jordan Divided

⁸The other Manasseh half-tribe together with Reuben and Gad had received their inheritance from Moses east of the Jordan: ⁹from Aroer, on the edge of the Arnon valley, the city in the middle of the valley, the whole tableland of Medeba as far as Dibon; ¹⁰the towns of Sihon, king of the Amorites; ¹¹Gilead, the region of the Geshurites and Maacathites; all of Mount Hermon, the whole of Bashan to Salecah; ¹²the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who ruled in Ashtaroth and Edrei. (He was the only Rephaim left.) Moses had defeated them and driven them out. ¹³Yet the people of Israel didn’t drive out the Geshurites or Maacathites. They still live among the Israelites.

¹⁴Moses didn’t give an inheritance to the tribe of Levi. Their inheritance was the offerings by fire to the LORD. **Josh 13:8-14**

¹⁵Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of Reuben by clans. ¹⁶Their territory went from Aroer—on the edge of the Arnon valley, and the city that’s in the middle of the valley—the whole

tableland of Medeba; ¹⁷Heshbon and the other towns on the tableland: Dibon, Bamoth-baal, Beth-baalmeon, ¹⁸Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath, ¹⁹Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth-shahar on the hill of the valley, ²⁰Beth-peor and the slopes of Pisgah, Beth-jeshimoth. ²¹*Reuben's territory* included the whole kingdom of Sihon, king of the Amorites, who ruled in Heshbon, whom Moses defeated together with the leaders of Midian—Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba, allies of Sihon. ²²The people of Israel also killed with the sword Balaam son of Beor, the fortuneteller. ²³The Jordan was the boundary of Reuben. That was Reuben's inheritance by clans, towns, and villages. **Josh 13:15-23**

²⁴Moses gave an inheritance to Gad by clans. ²⁵Their territory was Jazer, the towns in Gilead, half the land of the Ammonites to Aroer, east of Rabbah; ²⁶from Heshbon to Ramath-mizpah and Betonim, from Mahanaim to the territory around Debir; ²⁷the valley Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of Sihon, king of Heshbon. The Jordan was its boundary to the lower end of the Sea of Chinnereth eastward from the Jordan. ²⁸That was Gad's inheritance by clans, towns, and villages. **Josh 13:24-28**

²⁹Moses gave an inheritance to the Manasseh half-tribe by clans. ³⁰Their territory extended from Mahanaim through Bashan—the whole kingdom of Og, king of Bashan—all the towns of Jair in Bashan (60 towns), ³¹half of Gilead, Ashtaroth, and Edrei, towns in Og's kingdom in Bashan. Those were allotted to the people of Machir son of Manasseh for half of the Machirites by clans.

³²Those inheritances Moses had distributed by God's command in the plains of Moab beyond the Jordan east of Jericho. ³³He didn't give an inheritance to Levi; the LORD is their inheritance. **Josh 13:29-33**

Land West of the Jordan Divided

14:¹These are the territories the Israelites inherited in Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of families distributed. ²Their inheritance came by lot for the 9½ tribes. ³⁴Joseph's people consisted of two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. Moses just gave the Levites towns to live in along with land for pasturing livestock and raising crops for them. ⁵The Israelites allotted the land like the LORD commanded. **Josh 14:1-5**

Jephunneh the Kenizzite, told him,

"You know what the LORD told Moses in Kadesh-barnea about you and me. ⁷I was 40 when Moses sent me to spy out the land. I brought back word to him as it was in my heart. ⁸But my brothers that went up with me made the people's heart melt. Yet I wholly followed the LORD. ⁹Moses swore that day, 'The land you've walked on will belong to you and your descendants permanently. You've followed the LORD my God.' ¹⁰He has kept me alive these 45 years since he said that to Moses in the desert. Today I'm 85. ¹¹I'm still as strong as I was when Moses sent me—strong for war and everyday life. ¹²Give me this hill

country the LORD spoke about that day. At that time, you heard that Anakim were there with big, fortified towns. the LORD maybe with me, and I can drive them out.”

¹³Joshua blessed him and gave him Hebron. ¹⁴It’s still his inheritance because he wholly followed the LORD. (¹⁵Hebron’s earlier name had been Kiriath-arba because Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim.) The land rested from war. **Josh 14:6-15**

Allotment to Judah

15:¹**Judah**’s allotment by clans reached the border of Edom, went south to the Wilderness of Zin at the farthest. ²Their south border went from the lower end of the Dead Sea, from the bay that turns south. ³It went on south to the ascent of Akrabbim and continued to Zin, then went up south of Kadesh-barnea, continued to Hezron, up to Addar, and turned to Karka. ⁴It went on to Azmon and the River of Egypt and ended at the Mediterranean Sea. That was their south border.

⁵The east border was the Dead Sea to the mouth of the Jordan. **Josh 15:1-5a**

The north border went from the mouth of the Jordan, ⁶ up to Beth-hoglah, continued on the north of Beth-arabah, and up to the stone of Bohan son of Reuben. ⁷The border went up to Debir from the Valley of Achor, turned north toward Gilgal, which is across from the ascent of Adummim, on the south of the valley. It continued to En-shemesh and ended at En-rogel. ⁸Then the border went up the Valley of (Ben)Hinnom to the slope of the Jebusite on the south (Jerusalem). It went on up to the top of the mountain that lies across from the Valley of Hinnom to the west, at the northern end of the Valley Rephaim. ⁹From the top of the mountain, the border curved to the spring of Nephtoah, went on to the towns of Mount Ephron, and curved to Baalah (Kiriath-jearim). ¹⁰It turned west from Baalah to Mount Seir, continued to the slope of Mount Jearim on the north (Chesalon), went down to Beth-shemesh, and continued through Timnah. ¹¹The border proceeded to the north side of Ekron, curved to Shikkeron and to Mount Baalah and Jabneel, and ended at the Mediterranean Sea.

¹²The west border was the coastline of the Mediterranean Sea. **Josh 15:5b-12**

¹³By the LORD’s command, Joshua gave Caleb a territory among the descendants of Judah: Kiriath-arba (Hebron). ¹⁴Caleb drove out Anak’s three sons: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmi. ¹⁵He went up from there against Debir (formerly Kiriath-sepher). ¹⁶Caleb said, “*Whoever takes Kiriath-sepher, I’ll give Achsah my daughter as a wife.*” ¹⁷Othniel, son of Caleb’s brother Kenaz, took it; so Caleb gave her to *him* as a wife. ¹⁸When she came to him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. She got down from her donkey, and Caleb asked her what she wanted.

¹⁹“*Give me another endowment. Since you’ve put me in the Negev, give me springs too.*” He gave her the upper and lower springs. **Josh 15:13-19**

²⁰This is Judah’s inheritance by clans—²¹the towns belonging to Judah in the south toward the boundary with Edom:

Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur,

²²Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah,

²³Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan,

²⁴Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,

²⁵Hazor-hadattah, Kerioth-hezron (Hazor),

²⁶Amam, Shema, Moladah,

²⁷Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet,

²⁸Hazar-shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah,

²⁹Baalath, Iim, Ezem,

³⁰Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah,

³¹Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah,

³²Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon—29 towns with their villages. **Josh 15:20-32**

³³In the western foothills:

Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,

³⁴Zanoah, En-gannim, Tappuah, Enam,

³⁵Jarmuth, Adullam, Socob, Azekah,

³⁶Shaaraim, Adithaim, Gederah, Gederothaim—14 towns with their villages.

³⁷Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad,

³⁸Dilean, Mizpah, Jokthe-el,

³⁹Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon,

⁴⁰Cabbon, Lahmas, Chitlish,

⁴¹Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and Makkedah—16 towns with their villages.

Josh 15:33-41

⁴²Libnah, Ether, Ashan,

⁴³Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib,

⁴⁴Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah—9 towns with their villages.

⁴⁵Ekron with its towns and villages,

⁴⁶from Ekron to the Sea, everything beside Ashdod with their villages,

⁴⁷Ashdod with its towns and villages,

Gaza with its towns and villages; to the River of Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea with its coastline.

Josh 15:42-47

⁴⁸In the hill country,

Shamir, Jattir, Socoh,

- ⁴⁹Dannah, Kiriath-sannah (Debir),
⁵⁰Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim,
⁵¹Goshen, Holon, and Gioloh—11 towns with their villages.
⁵²Arab, Dumah, Eshan,
⁵³Janum, Beth-tappuah, Aphekah,
⁵⁴Humtah, Kiriath-arba (Hebron), and Zior—9 towns with their villages.
⁵⁵Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah,
⁵⁶Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah,
⁵⁷Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah—10 towns with their villages.
⁵⁸Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor,
⁵⁹Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon—6 towns with their villages.
⁶⁰Kiriath-baal (Kiriath-jearim) and Rabbah—2 towns with their villages. **Josh 15:48-60**
⁶¹In the open country, Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah,
⁶²Nibshan, the City of Salt, and En-gedi—6 towns with their villages.
⁶³But Judah couldn't drive the Jebusites out of Jerusalem. They still live there
 with the people of Judah. **Josh 15:61-63**

Allotment to Ephraim and Manasseh

16:¹The allotment for Joseph's descendants goes from the Jordan by Jericho to the open country to the hill country of Bethel. ²Then it goes from Bethel to Luz and passes along to Ataroth, the territory of the Archites. ³Then it runs west to the territory of the Japhletites as far as the area around Lower Beth-horon, then to Gezer, and ends at the Mediterranean Sea. ⁴Joseph's people—**Manasseh** and **Ephraim**—received their inheritance.

⁵This is the territory of **Ephraim** by clans. The boundary on the east is Ataroth-addar as far as Upper Beth-horon ⁶and from there to the Mediterranean Sea. Michmethath is on the north. The boundary turns east toward Taanath-shiloh and continues east to Janoah. ⁷Then it goes down to Ataroth and Naarah, touches Jericho, and ends at the Jordan. ⁸From Tappuah the boundary goes west to Brook Kanah and ends at the Mediterranean Sea. That's the inheritance for the Ephraimites by clans, ⁹together with their towns and villages that were set apart for the Ephraimites within the inheritance of the Manassites. ¹⁰But they didn't drive out the Canaanites in Gezer. They still live among the Ephraimites, doing forced labor. **Josh 16:1-10**

17:¹**Manasseh**, Joseph's firstborn, received an allotment. Gilead and Bashan went to Machir, Manasseh's firstborn and father of Gilead, because he was a soldier. ²Allotment came to the rest of Manasseh's male descendants by clans: the sons of Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hepher, and Shemida. ³However, Zelophehad son of Hepher (son of Gilead son of Machir son of

Manasseh) only had daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. ⁴They approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and the elders, *“The LORD told Moses to give us an inheritance among our relatives.”* So he gave them an inheritance among their uncles. ⁵Ten sections fell to Manasseh besides Gilead and Bashan beyond the Jordan, ⁶because Manasseh’s daughters received an inheritance with his sons. Gilead belonged to the rest of Manasseh’s sons. **Josh 17:1-6**

⁷Manasseh’s territory reached from Asher to Michmethath, east of Shechem. Then the boundary went south to En-tappuah. ⁸The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, but the town of Tappuah on the boundary of Manasseh belonged to Ephraim. ⁹Then the boundary went down to Brook Kanah. The towns there, south of the stream, among the towns in Manasseh, belonged to Ephraim. Then Manasseh’s boundary went on the north side of the stream and ended at the Mediterranean Sea. ¹¹Also in Issachar and Asher, Manasseh had Beth-shean/*Beth-shan*, Ibleam, Dor, En-dor, Taanach, and Megiddo, each with their surrounding settlements. (The third was Naphath.) ¹²Yet Manasseh’s descendants couldn’t conquer those towns, so the Canaanites kept living there. ¹³When Israel grew stronger, they put them to forced labor, but didn’t completely drive them out. **Josh 17:7-13**

¹⁴The tribe of Joseph asked Joshua, *“Why have you given us only one territory though we’re numerous because the LORD has blessed us?”*

¹⁵*“If the hill country of Ephraim is not big enough, go up into the wooded land and clear ground in the territory of the Perizzites and Rephaim.”*

¹⁶*“The hill country’s still not big enough. The Canaanites that still live in the lowlands have iron chariots, those in Beth-shean/Beth-shan and its settlements and those in the Valley of Jezreel.”*

¹⁷Then Joshua told the House of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh,

“You’re numerous and strong. You won’t just have one lot ¹⁸but the hill country too. Though it’s wooded land, clear it and take possession of it to its full extent. You’ll drive out the Canaanites too though they’re strong and have iron chariots.” **Josh 17:14-18**

Allotment of Remaining Land

18:¹The whole community of Israel gathered at Shiloh and set up the Tent of Meeting. The land had been conquered, ²but seven tribes hadn’t yet received their inheritance. ³Joshua said,

“How long will you put off taking possession of what the LORD has given you? ⁴Select three men from each tribe that I can send through the land to write a description of their inheritance. ⁵⁻⁶Divide it into seven territories and describe them. Judah will stay in its territory on the south. Joseph will stay in its territory on the north. I’ll cast lots for you here in front of the LORD. ⁷The Levites don’t have

any territory; the priesthood is their inheritance. Moses has given Gad, Reuben, and the Manasseh half-tribe their inheritance east of the Jordan.”

⁸Joshua told the men, “Go through the land, describe it, and come back. I’ll cast lots for you here in front of the LORD in Shiloh.” ⁹They went through the land and described it by cities in seven divisions in a scroll. They came back to him at Shiloh. ¹⁰He cast lots for them and divided the land according to their divisions. Josh 18:1-10

Allotment to Benjamin

¹¹The lot for **Benjamin** came out by clans. Their territory lay between Judah and Joseph. ¹²The north border ran from the Jordan up past Jericho through the hill country west, ending at the Wilderness of Beth-aven.

¹³From there it went south toward Luz (Bethel), and down to Ataroth-addar, near the hill south of Lower Beth-horon. ¹⁴The border extended around on the west side southward from the hill facing Beth-horon and ended at Kiriath-baal (Kiriath-jearim), a city of Judah. That was the west border.

¹⁵The south side began at the outskirts of Kiriath-jearim and ran to Ephron to the Spring of Nephtoah. ¹⁶Then it went down south to the edge of the mountain that’s in the Valley of (Ben)Hinnom, at the north end of the Valley of Rephaim. From there it extended down to the Valley of Hinnom, south to the slope of the Jebusites down to En-rogel. ¹⁷It curved around north to En-shemesh and then to Geliloth, across from the ascent of Adummim. Then it went down to the stone of Bohan son of Reuben. ¹⁸It passed on to the north of Beth-arabah and went down to the Arabah. ¹⁹It passed north of Beth-hoglah and ended at the northern bay of the Dead Sea, the south end of the Jordan. That was the south border.

²⁰The Jordan was its east border. Josh 18:11-20

²¹The towns in Benjamin by clans were Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz, ²²Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel, ²³Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, ²⁴Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba—12 towns with their villages;

²⁵Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, ²⁶Mizpah, Chephirah, Mozah, ²⁷Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, ²⁸Zelah, Haeleph, Jebus (Jerusalem), Gibeah, and Kiriath-jearim—14 towns with their villages.

That was Benjamin’s inheritance by clans.

Josh 18:21-28

Allotment to Simeon

^{19:1}The second lot came out for **Simeon** by clans. Its inheritance was inside Judah. ²It had Beer-sheba, Sheba, Moladah, ³Hazarshual, Balah, Ezem, ⁴Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, ⁵Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah, ⁶Beth-lebaoth, Sharuhem—13 towns with their villages.

⁷Ain, Rimmon, Ether, Ashan—4 towns with their villages,
⁸and the villages around those towns as far as Baalath-beer, Ramah in the Negev. That was Simeon's inheritance by clans. ⁹They took his territory out of Judah's because Judah's share was too big. **Josh 19:1-9**

Allotment to Zebulun

¹⁰The third lot came out for **Zebulun** by clans. The territory went as far as Sarid. ¹¹Then their border passed up to the west to Maralah, touched Dabbesheth, and reached the stream east of Jokneam. ¹²It turned from Sarid east as far as the border of Chisloth-tabor, proceeded to Daberath and up to Japhia. ¹³It continued east to Gath-hepher, to Eth-kazin, and on to Rimmon that stretches to Neah. ¹⁴The border on the north turned to Hannathon and ended at the Valley of Iphtahel. ¹⁵It included Kattah, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah, Bethlehem—12 towns with their villages. ¹⁶That was Zebulun's inheritance by clans.

Allotment to Issachar

¹⁷The fourth lot fell to **Issachar** by clans. ¹⁸Their territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, ¹⁹Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, ²⁰Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez, ²¹Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, Beth-pazzez. ²²The border reached Tabor, Shahazumah, Beth-shemesh, and ended at the Jordan—16 towns with their villages. ²³That was Issachar's inheritance by clans. **Josh 19:10-23**

²⁴The fifth lot fell to **Asher** by clans. ²⁵Their territory included Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph, ²⁶Allammelech, Amad, and Mishal. On the west it reached Carmel and Shihor-libnath. ²⁷It turned east to Beth-dagon and reached Zebulun and the Valley of Iphtahel north to Beth-emek and Neiel. Then it proceeded north to Cabul, ²⁸Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, Kanah, as far as Great Sihon. ²⁹The border turned to Ramah and the fortified city of Tyre, then turned to Hosah, and ended at the sea; Mehebel, Achzib, ³⁰Ummah, Aphek, Rehob—22 towns with their villages. ³¹That was Asher's inheritance by clans. **Josh 19:24-31**

Allotment to Naphtali

³²The sixth lot fell to **Naphtali** by clans. ³³Their border was from Heleph, from the oak tree in Zaanannim, Adami-nekeb, and Jabneel as far as Lakkum, and ended at the Jordan. ³⁴The border turned west to Aznoth-tabor, proceeded to Hukkok, and reached Zebulun on the south, Asher on the west, and Judah at the Jordan on the east. ³⁵The fortified towns were Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth, ³⁶Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, ³⁷Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor, ³⁸Yiron, Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath, and Beth-shemesh—19 towns with their villages. ³⁹That was Naphtali's inheritance by clans. **Josh 19:32-39**

Allotment to Dan

⁴⁰The seventh lot fell to **Dan** by clans. ⁴¹Their territory included Zorah, Eshtaol, Irshemesh, ⁴²Sha-alabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah, ⁴³Elon, Timnah, Ekron, ⁴⁴Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath, ⁴⁵Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon, ⁴⁶Me-jarkon, Rakkon, with the territory against Joppa. ⁴⁷When Dan's territory was lost to them, they went up and fought Leshem and captured it. They struck it with the sword, possessed it, and settled in it. They called it Dan after their ancestor. ⁴⁸That was Dan's inheritance by clans. **Josh 19:40-48**

Allotment to Joshua

⁴⁹When they finished dividing up the land, the Israelites gave Joshua an inheritance. ⁵⁰In accordance with the LORD's command, they gave him the city he asked for, Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim. He rebuilt the city and settled in it.

⁵¹Those are the inheritances that Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and the heads of households distributed by lot in Shiloh in front of the LORD, at the doorway of the Tent of Meeting. So they finished dividing up the land. **Josh 19:49-51**

Cities of Refuge

20:¹Then the LORD said to Joshua,

²*"Have the people establish the cities of refuge I spoke to you about through Moses, ³so anyone that kills somebody accidentally can flee there from an avenger.*

⁴Standing at the entrance to the city gate, the slayer will explain his case to the elders, and they'll provide a place to stay in the city. ⁵They won't betray the slayer to any avenger because the death was an accident, no previous animosity involved.

⁶The slayer will stay in that city for judgment till the death of the current high priest, and then go back home."

⁷They set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath-arba (Hebron) in the hill country of Judah. ⁸East of Jericho and the Jordan, they designated Bezer on the tableland in Reuben, Ramoth in Gilead in Gad, and Golan in Bashan in Manasseh. ⁹They designated those towns for Israelites and foreigners among them to flee to, so the avenger of blood couldn't take revenge before the slayer could stand in public trial.

Josh 20:1-9

Towns for the Levites

21:¹The heads of families among the Levites came to Eleazar the priest, Joshua, and the heads of families in Israel. ²They said, *"The LORD commanded Moses to give us towns to live in along with pastures for our livestock."* ³Israel gave the Levites those towns and their pastures out of their inheritance.

⁴The lot came out for the clans of Kohathites; the descendants of Aaron received 13 towns from Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin.

⁵The rest of the Kohathites received by lot 10 towns from Ephraim, Dan, and the Manasseh half-tribe.

⁶The Gershonites received by lot 13 towns from Issachar, Asher, and Naphtali, and the Manasseh half-tribe in Bashan.

⁷The Merarites by clans received 12 towns from Reuben, Gad, and Zebulun. [⁸] Josh 21:1-8

⁹From Judah and Simeon they gave the following towns. ¹⁰They went to Aaron's descendants, one clan of **Kohathites** among the Levites, since the lot fell to them first. ¹¹They gave them Kiriath-arba (Hebron; Arba was father of Anak.) in the hill country of Judah, along with its pastureland. ¹²But the city's fields and villages had been given to Caleb son of Jephunneh. ¹³They gave them Hebron, a city of refuge; Libnah, ¹⁴Jattir, Eshtemoa, ¹⁵Holon, Debir, ¹⁶Ain, Juttah, and Beth-shemesh—9 towns with their pastures. ¹⁷From Benjamin they gave Gibeon, Geba, ¹⁸Anathoth, and Almon—4 towns with their pastures. ¹⁹Aaron's descendants had 13 towns in all.

²⁰To the rest of the Kohathites the towns were allotted from Ephraim: ²¹Shechem, a city of refuge in the hill country of Ephraim; Gezer, ²²Kibzaim, and Beth-horon—4 towns with their pastures. ²³From Dan they gave Elteke, Gibbethon, ²⁴Aijalon, Gath-rimmon—4 towns with their pastures. ²⁵From the Manasseh half-tribe they gave Taanach and Gath-rimmon—2 towns with their pastures. ²⁶The rest of the Kohathites had 10 towns with their pastures. Josh 21:9-26

²⁷To the **Gershonites**—one clan of the Levites—from the Manasseh half-tribe they gave Golan in Bashan, a city of refuge; and Be-eshterah—2 towns with their pastures. ²⁸From Issachar they gave Kishion, Daberath, ²⁹Jarmuth, En-gannim—4 towns with their pastures. ³⁰From Asher they gave Mishal, Abdon, ³¹Helkath, and Rehob—4 towns with their pastures. ³²From Naphtali they gave Kedesh in Galilee, a city of refuge, Hammoth-dor, and Kartan—3 towns with their pastures. ³³The Gershonites had 13 towns with their pastures. Josh 21:27-33

³⁴To the rest of the Levites—the **Merarite** clan—from Zebulun they gave Jokneam, Kartah, ³⁵Dimnah, and Nahalal—4 towns with their pastures. ³⁶From Reuben they gave Bezer, Jahaz, ³⁷Kedemoth, and Mephaath—4 towns with their pastures. ³⁸From Gad they gave Ramoth in Gilead, a city of refuge; Mahanaim, ³⁹Heshbon, and Jazer—4 towns with their pastures. ⁴⁰The Merarite clan had 12 towns.

⁴¹⁻⁴²Throughout Israel the Levites had 48 towns with their pastures around them.

⁴³The LORD gave Israel all the land he swore to their ancestors. They took it and settled there. ⁴⁴He gave them peace from every direction. Not one of their enemies could stand against them. ⁴⁵None of his good promises failed. Josh 21:34-45

Eastern Tribes Return Home

22:¹Then Joshua called Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe,

²*“You’ve done everything Moses and I have commanded you. ³You haven’t abandoned your fellow Jews. You’ve kept the LORD’s charge, ⁴and he’s given them peace. Go to your possession beyond the Jordan. ⁵Observe the Law Moses commanded you: love the LORD your God, follow his ways, hold onto him, and serve him with all your heart and soul.”*

⁶Joshua blessed them and sent them home.

⁷To the one Manasseh half-tribe, Moses had given a possession in Bashan. To the other half, Joshua had given a possession beside them west of the Jordan. When Joshua sent them home, ⁸he said, *“Go with your considerable wealth in livestock, silver, gold, bronze, iron, and clothing. Divide the spoil from your enemies with your relatives.”* ⁹Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe separated from Israel at Shiloh in Canaan and went to Gilead. **Josh 22:1-9**

¹⁰When they came to the region around the Jordan (which lies in Canaan), Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe built a large altar by the Jordan. ¹¹People in Israel heard that Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe had built an altar at the frontier with Canaan near the Jordan on Israel’s side. ¹²When they heard about it, they gathered at Shiloh to fight them.

¹³Israel sent them Phinehas son of Eleazar the priest ¹⁴and one family head from each tribe. ¹⁵They said,

¹⁶*“The whole community says, ‘What’s this treachery you’ve committed against the LORD God of Israel by building yourselves an altar in rebellion against him? ¹⁷Didn’t we have enough sin at Peor that we haven’t yet cleansed ourselves from? Because of it a plague came on the community. ¹⁸If you rebel against him today, he’ll be angry with the whole community tomorrow. ¹⁹If your land is ceremonially unclean, pass over to where his Tabernacle stands. Take a possession among us. Just don’t rebel against the LORD or make us rebels by building yourselves an altar other than the altar of the LORD. ²⁰Didn’t Achan son of Zerah break faith with the devoted things, and wrath fell on the whole community? He didn’t perish alone in his sin.’* **Josh 22:10-20**

²¹Then Reuben, Gad, and the Manasseh half-tribe answered,

²²*“The Mighty One, God the LORD! The Mighty One, God the LORD! He knows, and let Israel know! If it’s rebellion or unfaithfulness toward him, don’t spare us. ²³If we did it to offer burnt offerings, grain offerings, or peace offerings, may he take revenge. ²⁴No! We did so that later on your descendants couldn’t say to ours, ‘What do you have to do with the LORD God of Israel? ²⁵He has made the Jordan a boundary between us. You don’t have any territory in him.’ Your*

descendants might make ours stop worshiping the LORD. ²⁶So we said we'd build an altar now, not for sacrifice, ²⁷but to testify that we and our descendants do serve the LORD with our burnt offerings, sacrifices, and peace offerings. We did it for fear that your descendants might tell ours they didn't have any territory in the LORD. ²⁸Then we could say, 'Look at the copy of his altar our ancestors built for a witness between us.' ²⁹We're certainly not rebelling against him by building an altar to replace the one in front of his Tabernacle!" **Josh 22:21-29**

³⁰Phinehas and the heads of the community liked what they heard. ³¹He told them, "Now we know the LORD is among us. You haven't committed treachery. You've saved Israel from the LORD." ³²They left and took word back to Israel in Canaan. ³³The report pleased them, and they blessed God and didn't say anything more about fighting. ³⁴Reuben and Gad called the altar Ed, a 'witness' that the LORD is God. **Josh 22:30-34**

Joshua's Farewell

23:¹A good while later, when Joshua was old, ²he called in Israel's elders, heads, judges, and officers, and told them,

"I'm getting old. ³You've seen everything the LORD your God has done to those nations for you. He fought for you. ⁴I've allotted to your tribes those nations that remain, along with the nations I've already removed, from the Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵The LORD will push them back. ⁶Keep doing everything in the Law of Moses. ⁷Don't mix with the nations left among you. Don't mention their gods, swear by them, serve them, bow down to them. ⁸Hold onto the LORD like you've done so far. ⁹He has driven out big, strong nations. Nobody has been able to resist you. ¹⁰One of you puts a thousand to flight, because he fights for you like he promised. ¹¹Give attention to loving him. ¹²If you join the remnants of nations left among you and intermarry with them, ¹³you can be sure he won't keep driving them out. They'll be a snare, a trap, a scourge in your sides, thorns in your eyes, till you perish from this good land he's given you.

¹⁴*"I'm going to die soon. You know in your hearts and souls that not one good thing has failed to happen that the LORD promised. ¹⁵Just as he has done all the good things he promised, he'll bring about all the bad things till he's destroyed you. ¹⁶If you sin against his covenant, serve other gods, and bow to them, his anger will flare at you, and you'll soon perish."* **Josh 23:1-16**

Covenant Renewed at Shechem

24:¹Then Joshua gathered the tribes to Shechem with their elders, heads, judges, and officers. They presented themselves to God. ²Joshua said,

“The LORD God of Israel, says, ‘Your ancestors lived beyond the Euphrates River. Nahor and Terah, Abraham’s father, served other gods. ³I led Abraham from there all over Canaan and multiplied his offspring. I gave him Isaac, ⁴and gave Isaac Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of Seir, but Jacob and his descendants went down to Egypt. ⁵I sent Moses and Aaron, and plagued Egypt in its own land. ⁶Afterwards I brought you out of there. You came to the Red Sea, and the Egyptians chased you with chariots and cavalry to the sea. ⁷When you cried out to me, I put darkness between you and them, and made the sea cover them. You saw that and lived a long time in the desert. ⁸Then I brought you to Amorite country east of the Jordan. They fought you, and I destroyed them in front of you. You took their land. ⁹Then Balak son of Zippor, king of Moab, rose up to oppose you. He sent for Balaam son of Beor and invited him to curse you. ¹⁰But I wouldn’t listen to Balaam. So he blessed you, and I delivered you from him. ¹¹You crossed the Jordan to Jericho, and the people in Jericho fought you as did the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites, and Jebusites. I gave them to you. ¹²I sent hornets to drive out the two Amorite kings. Your sword and bow didn’t do it. ¹³I gave you a land you hadn’t worked and towns you didn’t build, and you lived in them. You’re eating the fruit from vineyards and olive orchards you didn’t plant.’

Josh 24:1-13

¹⁴*“Now then, respect the LORD, serve him sincerely and faithfully. Put away the gods your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt. ¹⁵If you won’t serve him, choose today who you will serve: the gods of your ancestors beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites where you’re living. My house and I will serve the LORD.”*

¹⁶The people answered,

“We’ll never leave the LORD and serve other gods. ¹⁷He’s the one that brought us and our ancestors out of slavery in Egypt. He did those great signs for us and preserved us all the way among the nations we passed through. ¹⁸He drove the Amorites out of the land, so we’ll serve the LORD. He’s our God.”

¹⁹But Joshua told the people,

“You can’t serve the LORD, a holy, exclusive God that won’t forgive your sins. ²⁰If you serve foreign gods, he’ll consume you after doing you good.”

²¹*“No! We’ll serve the LORD.”*

²²*“You’re witnesses to yourselves that you’ve chosen to serve the LORD.”*

“We’re witnesses.”

²³*“Then put away your foreign gods. Incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel.”*

²⁴*“We’ll serve the LORD our God and obey him.”*

Josh 24:14-24

²⁵Joshua made a covenant with them that day at Shechem, with a statute and an ordinance ²⁶that he wrote in the Law of God. He set up a large stone there under the oak in the LORD's sanctuary. ²⁷He told the people,

"This stone will testify against us. It has heard everything the LORD told us.

It'll testify against you so you won't deal falsely with him."

²⁸Joshua sent everybody home to their inheritance.

Leaders Buried in the Promised Land

²⁹After that, Joshua died at 110. ³⁰They buried him in his inheritance at Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim north of Mount Gaash. ³¹Israel served the LORD all his life and the lives of the elders that outlived him and knew what the LORD had done for Israel.

³²The Israelites had brought up Joseph's bones from Egypt and buried them at Shechem in the piece of ground Jacob bought from the descendants of Hamor, Shechem's father, for 100 pieces of money. It became an inheritance for Joseph's descendants.

³³Eleazar, Aaron's son, died, and they buried him at Gibeah, the town of Phinehas his son, which had been given to him in the hill country of Ephraim.

Josh 24:25-33