

RABS

Unit 12

Joshua

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Joshua

- Successor to Moses
- Stopping the Jordan River
- The sun stands still
- The tent of Achan

Stop the Jordan river

Joshua 3 : 14-16

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

The sun stands still

Joshua 10 : 12-13

12 On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel:

“Sun, stand still over Gibeon,
and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.”

13 So the sun stood still,
and the moon stopped,
till the nation avenged itself on^[b] its enemies,

as it is written in the Book of Jashar.

The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day.

14 There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!



Tent of Achan

Joshua 7 : 20-23

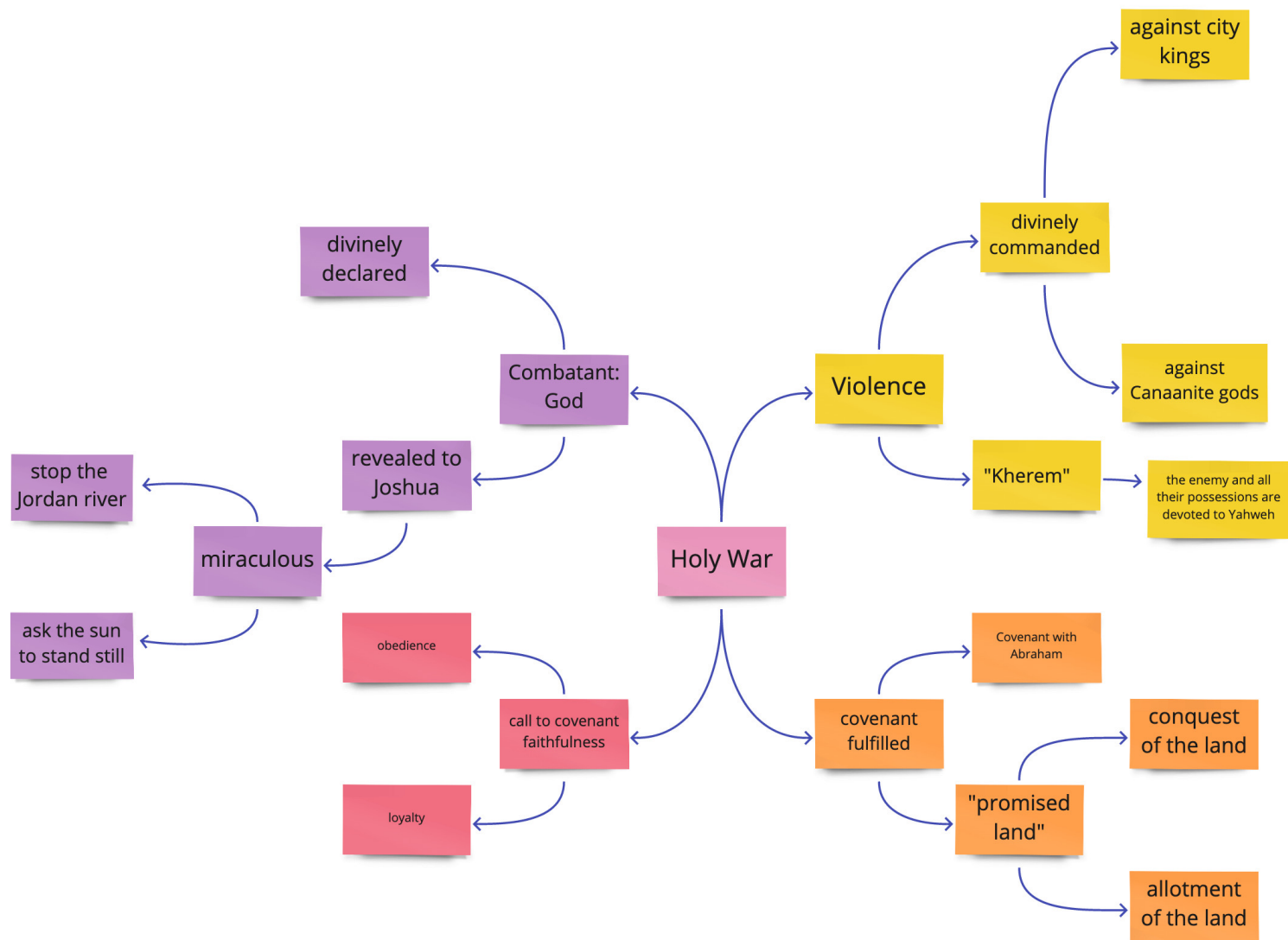
20 Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: **21** When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, ^[c] two hundred shekels^[d] of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels,^[e] I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath. **23** They took the things from the tent, brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and spread them out before the LORD.

- nor do I mean to torment you with the hideous associations and recollections of Thornfield Hall--this accursed place--this tent of Achan--this insolent vault, offering the ghastliness of living death to the light of the open sky--this narrow stone hell, with its one real fiend, worse than a legion of such as we imagine.
- --Charlotte Bronte, *Jane Eyre* Chapter XXVII
- 我也无意拿桑菲尔德府可怕的联想和回忆来折磨你—这是个可诅咒的地方—这个亚干的营帐—这个傲慢的墓穴，想着明亮开阔的天空，显现出生不如死的鬼相—这个狭窄的石头地狱，一个真正的魔鬼，抵得上我们想象中的一大批。

Violence in Joshua

- Violence against Canaanites
- Divinely commanded violence (genocide)
- “Holy War”: God himself is the main combatant
(Exodus 15: 3 Yhwh is a warrior)
- “Kherem”: the enemy and all their possessions are devoted to Yahweh



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Samson

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Recap : Allusion in Context

- O dark, dark, dark, amid the **blaze** of noon,
Irrecoverably dark, total **Eclipse**
Without all hope of day!
O first created **Beam**, and thou great Word,
Let there be light, and light was over all;
Why am I thus **bereav'd** thy **prime decree**?
The Sun to me is dark
And silent as the Moon,
When she **deserts** the night
Hid in her vacant **interlunar** cave.
- 黑暗、黑暗、黑暗啊，在正午的光焰中
- 万劫不复的黑暗，完全的光蚀
- 无望见天日！
- 最初造光時，禰那伟大的话语
- 要有光，光遂普照一切
- 为什么我却被剥夺了禰第一道天命
- 太阳于我是黑暗
- 沉寂如月
- 那时她离夜而去
- 躲进她空虚幽暗的洞穴。

- Since light so necessary is to life,
And almost life itself, if it be true
That light is in the Soul,
She all in every part; why was the
sight
To such a tender ball as th' eye
confin'd?
So obvious and so easie to be
quench't,
And not as feeling through all parts
diffus'd,
That she might look at will through
every pore?

- 既然光明对生命必不可少，
- 几乎是生命自身，要是果真
 - 光明就在灵魂中，
 - 她布满全身各处，为什么视觉
 - 只局限于眼睛这万分脆弱的眸子？
 - 那么晶莹又那么容易熄灭，
 - 为什么不像触觉布满全身，
 - 可以自每一个毛孔随意观看？

- Then had I not been thus **exil'd** from light;
- As in the land of darkness yet in light
- To live a life half dead, a **living death**,
And buried; but O yet more miserable!
My self, my **Sepulcher**, a **moving Grave**,
Buried, yet not exempt
By privilege of death and burial
From worst of other evils, pains and wrongs,
But made hereby **obnoxious** more
To all the miseries of life,
Life in captivity
Among inhuman **foes**.
- 那么， 我不会就这样给放逐出光明，
- 光天化日中似置身黑暗之境，
- 过半死不活的生活， 做个活死人，
- 被埋葬， 可是呀， 比埋葬更义愤填膺！
- 我自身是**墓穴**， 一座活的坟茔，
- 被埋葬， 可是却没有
- 死亡和掩埋的特权
- 豁免最大的灾祸、痛苦和虐待，
- 反而因此更容易感受
- 人生的一切灾难，
- 沦落成为阶下囚，
- 置身于残暴的敌人间。

- **shibboleth**
- [Judges 12:6](#)
- they said, “All right, say ‘**Shibboleth.**’” If he said, “Sibboleth,” because he could not pronounce the word correctly, they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan. Forty-two thousand Ephraimites were killed at that time.

- “If it works, then some of the old shibboleths about Saturday night being family entertainment night will be buried alongside Noel’s House Party” (*Guardian*, July 2, 2001).

- ...because they did this evil the Lord gave Eglon king of **Moab** power over Israel. Judges 3: 12
- After Ehud died, the Israelites once again did evil in the eyes of the Lord. So the Lord sold them into the hands of **Jabin**...Judges 4: 1-2
- Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the **Midianites**. Judges 6:1
- Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord...He sold them into the hands of the Philistines and the **Ammonites**...Judges 10:6
- Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, so the Lord delivered them into the hands of the **Philistines** for 40 years...Judges:13:1

Other Nations

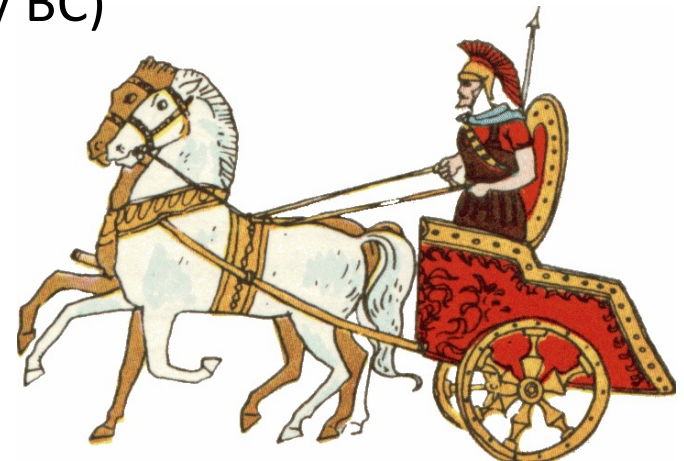
- Canaanites
- Hittites
- Philistines
- Phoenicians
- Moabites
- Ammonites
- Edomites
- Midianites



Philistines

Philistines—Ancient

- Philistine—originated in Greece, settled in Palestine (12th century BC)
- pagan, neighbor, enemy
- conflict with the Israelites, represented by Samson (Judges 13–16)
- The Philistines' local monopoly on smithing iron (I Samuel 13:19)
- finally defeated by the king David (10th century BC)



I Samuel 17

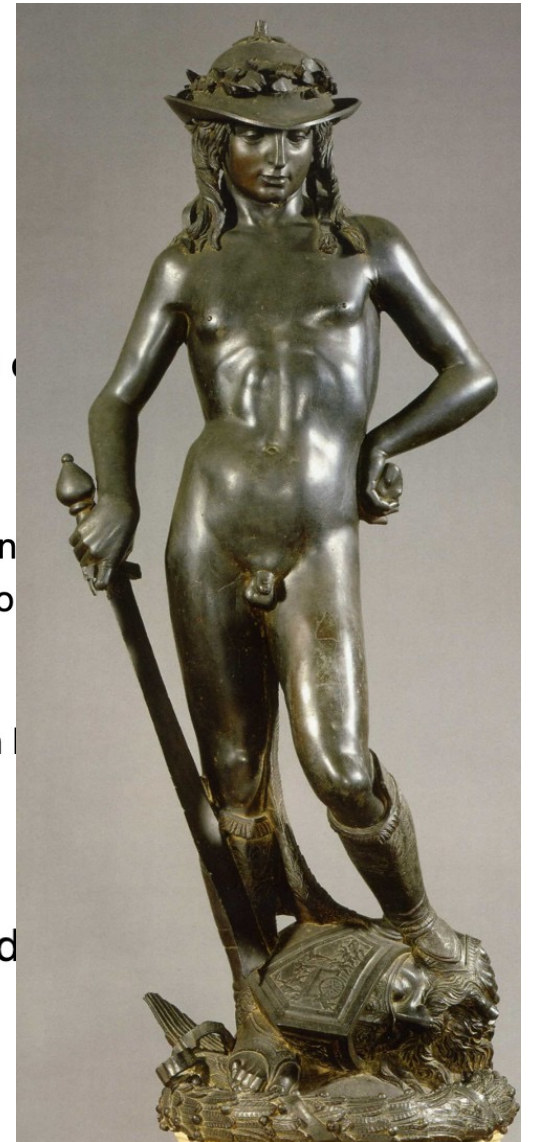
David and Goliath

4 A champion named Goliath, who was from Gath, came out of the Philistine camp.
...

48 As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line
49 Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead.
The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

50 So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand
he came down the Philistine and killed him.

51 David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and put it
on the ground. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.



Philistines—Modern

- Materialistic
- Despise art, beauty, intellectual, spiritual value

a violent town-gown conflict in the German university town of Jena in the 17th century prompted a local clergyman to address the events in a sermon in which he alluded to the Biblical Philistines. This caused the university students to apply the German word *Philister* (equivalent to English *Philistine*) to the townspeople, whom they perceived as unenlightened and hostile to education.

- Greenfield's anti-hero, Larry Lazar, is not conventionally *philistine* tycoon, trampling on the souls of artists.—
William A. Henry

Stars in the course

- Judges 5:20

19 The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain of money.

20 They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.