

JOSHUA: “INVASION OF THE PROMISED LAND” STUDY QUESTIONS (52 pts.)

REVIEW

EXODUS

In the book of Exodus:

- We studied the life of Moses and his calling by Yahweh to be a prophet who would lead the nation of Israel out of bondage.
- We also examined the ten plagues that Yahweh inflicted upon the nation of Egypt and the Passover that God said should be observed throughout their generations.
- We then studied the Mosaic Covenant that the nation of Israel made with Yahweh at Mt. Sinai in Exodus 19 and the Ten Commandments he gave them in Exodus 20.
- Finally, we examined the seven trips that Moses made up Mt. Sinai to obtain the 613 laws of Moses, the calling of Aaron in Exodus 28 and building the tabernacle in Chapters 25 to 31.

NUMBERS

In Numbers 13, Yahweh told Moses to send men from every tribe to search the entire land of Canaan and report back what they found. The search party spent 40 days surveying the land. When they reported back, Joshua and Caleb said they should “go up at once and possess” the land.

But the men that went with them said, “No, they are stronger than we, and they brought up an evil report of the land . . . all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants, and we were . . . as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.”

As a result of this Numbers 14:1-5 says “And all the congregation lifted up their voice and cried, and the people wept that night And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron . . .”

DEUTERONOMY

In approximately 1406 BC, **Deuteronomy 34** tells us that Moses left the plains of Moab and ascended what some call the Pisgah range of peaks that overlook Jericho, 5700 feet high to the summit of the highest mountain in that range, Mount Nebo. There the Lord showed him the land of Gilead that had been given to the tribe of Dan, the land of Naphtali, Ephraim, Manasseh and Judah, unto the “utmost sea” (I assume that would be the Mediterranean Sea.)

The book of Deuteronomy closes with a final conversation between Yahweh and Moses on Mt. Nebo and then a short summation by the author in Deuteronomy 34:4-11:

And the Lord said unto him [Moses], “This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, Isaac and Jacob saying, ‘I will give it unto your seed. I have caused you to see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over thither.’” So **Moses**, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord . . . No man knows his sepulcher unto this day. And Moses was a hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated. And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days . . . And **Joshua** the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands upon him; and the children of Israel hearkened unto him and did as the Lord commanded Moses. And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew *face to face*, in all the signs and wonders which the Lord sent him to do . . .

INVASION OF THE PROMISED LAND

Joshua 1: Be Courageous & Obey the Law of Moses

In Joshua 1:1-3, after 40 years of wandering in the desert, Yahweh spoke to Joshua and instructed him to cross the Jordan into the promised land.

Then in verse 4 Yahweh described a very large section of land that he had given the Israelites: From the wilderness of Lebanon to the Euphrates river (including all the land of the Hittites) to the Mediterranean Sea.

In verses 5-7, Yahweh instructed Joshua:

“There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with thee; I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee . . . Be thou strong and very courageous.”

In verses 7-8, Yahweh gave Joshua the key to “prosperity” and “success” in this life, a key that we could follow as well:

“Observe to do according to all the law which Moses my servant commanded thee . . . that you may prosper wherever you go . . . This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but you shall meditate therein day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written therein, for then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall have good success.”

Note: The fact that Joshua 1:8 refers to a “book” suggests that there were books and writing in the time of Moses. It would imply that these laws were not just oral traditions that weren’t written down until centuries later, as some liberal scholars claim.

Then in verse 9, the Lord returned once again to the commandment he had given earlier:

“Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage. Be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee wherever you go.”

Joshua commanded all of Israel to prepare food for three days in anticipation of the invasion. He then had a serious talk with the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh, reminding them that, even though their inheritance was east of the Jordan river, they had a moral responsibility to support the other tribes in obtaining their inheritances that were west of the Jordan.

Joshua 2: Two Spies and the Harlot Rahab in Jericho

In the second chapter, Joshua sent two spies to the city-state of Jericho. These two spies ended up in the house of a prostitute named Rahab and lodged there. The people of the city told their king, and the king sent men to Rahab’s house to search for these two spies. Rahab hid the spies on her roof, lied to the king’s men and said the spies had visited but left.

Everyone in Jericho was terrified by Israel, and Rahab knew that the Lord had given Israel the land. Rahab told the two spies, “Save my family and I will save you.” It so happened that her house was on the town wall, and Rahab let the two spies down by a rope. The two spies hid in the mountains for three days and then returned to Israel’s camp. Rahab tied a scarlet thread to her window to indicate where her family would be that should be protected by Israel.

Joshua 3: Crossing the Jordan River - Yahweh Divides the Water

Joshua sent the officers of the host of Israel to instruct the people to sanctify themselves for the next day, that when they saw the ark of the covenant being borne by the priests to the Jordan river you will follow no closer than 2,000 cubits behind (about 1,000 yards).

In Joshua 3:7, Yahweh told Joshua: "This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee . . . When you are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, you shall stand still in Jordan." Then Joshua prophesied to all of Israel what would happen the next day, that the waters of the Jordan would stand up in "a heap."

The next day, as soon as the priests' feet touched the water of the Jordan, the water flow stopped and they stood on dry ground. All of the Israelites passed over the Jordan on that dry ground.

Joshua 6: The Walls of Jericho Fall Flat

In Joshua 6:1-5, Yahweh instructed Joshua that Israel's army should silently walk in a circle around the city of Jericho once a day for six days. Then on the seventh day, they would circle seven times, seven priests would blow on seven rams' horns and all the people of Israel would then shout, at which point the walls of the city of Jericho would fall to the ground! At that point, Israel would invade, sparing only Rahab's family.

Joshua 6:20 says "the wall fell down flat" and Israel "utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword." Verse 24 says, "They burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein." Verse 25: "And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel even unto this day." Verse 27: "So the Lord was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country."

Joshua 10: The Sun & Moon Stand Still to Destroy the Amorite Alliance

At this point, Joshua had conquered the city-states of Jericho and Ai and forced the king of Gibeon to simply surrender. In response to this, the Amorite king of Jerusalem formed an alliance with the Amorite kings of four other city-states to fight against Gibeon.

Gibeon sent an urgent request to Joshua at his camp in Gilgal to come quickly to their aid to defend them against the Amorites. And in fighting the Amorites, Joshua 10:11-14 says:

- The Lord slew many Amorites with "great hailstones from heaven."

- And in Joshua 10:12, Joshua commanded, “Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.”
- Joshua 10:13 confirms, “And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven and hasted not to go down about a whole day. And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord hearkened unto the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel.

Then Joshua 10:15-28 tells us:

And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal. But these five kings fled and hid themselves in a cave . . . And Joshua said, Roll great stones upon the mouth of the cave . . . pursue after your enemies, and smite the hindmost of them; suffer them not to enter into their cities; for the Lord your God has delivered them into your hand . . . they brought out those five kings unto Joshua . . . Joshua smote them, and slew them and hanged them on five trees . . . at the time of the going down of the sun . . . they took them down off the trees, and cast them into the cave wherein they had been hid, and laid great stones in the cave’s mouth, which remain until this very day . . . and he utterly destroyed them . . . he let none remain . . .”

Joshua 10-12: “Utter Destruction” in Every City-State of the Promised Land

This kind of “utter destruction” continued in the city-states of Libnah, Lachish, Eglon, Hebron and Debir. In fact, Joshua 10:41 says he “utterly destroyed” every city-state (city that had a king and independent government) “from Kadesh-barnea even unto Gaza, and all the country of Goshen, even unto Gibeon. And all these kings and their land did Joshua take at one time, because the Lord God of Israel fought for Israel. And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him unto the camp to Gilgal.”

Joshua 11:11 says that in all of these cities, according to the Lord’s commandment, Joshua did not leave one man alive. Joshua 12 tells us that he conquered **31 separate kings and city-states** in this manner, and it lists their names.

Joshua 24: Joshua’s Farewell Address at Schechem

Joshua 13:1 tells us, “Now Joshua was old and stricken in years. And the Lord said unto him, ‘Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remains yet very much land to be possessed.’”

Chapters 13 to 23 describe which lands were given to which tribes as an inheritance according to revelation given by Moses years earlier.

Then in Joshua 24, Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Schechem to give his final address before he passed away. In verses 1-13, Joshua recalled their history and all the blessings they had received over the years. In verse 14, he begins to admonish them to always serve Yahweh and no other god:

Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in truth. And put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood and in Egypt. And serve ye the Lord.

And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

And the people answered and said,

God forbid that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods. For the Lord our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed.

In Joshua 24:29: “. . . **Joshua** the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, **died, being a hundred and ten years old.**”

QUESTIONS

NOTE: If a question is worth two points, you need to give me two answers. If it's worth three points, I'm looking for three answers, etc. So always pay attention to the number of points!

Joshua 1: Be Courageous & Obey the Law of Moses

1. In Joshua 1:5, what does this verse indicate regarding how successful Joshua will be in war against his enemies? (1pt.)
2. In Joshua 1:6, whose responsibility will it be to divide the promised land between the various tribes? (1 pt.)

3. In Joshua 1:8, what “book of the law” is that verse referring to? (1 pt.)
4. According to verse 8, what is a primary key to “prosperity” and “success” for all people in this life? (1 pt.)
5. Some tribes had inherited land east of the Jordan river, but now it was time to invade city-states west of the Jordan river. In Joshua 1:12-16, what did Joshua command the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh about helping the other tribes obtain their inheritances? (1 pt.)

Joshua 2: Two Spies and the Harlot Rahab in Jericho

6. In Joshua 2:1, what city did Joshua send two men to spy on and whose home did the two men end up staying in? (1 pt.)
7. In Joshua 2:2, some men of Jericho told the king of Jericho that the two spies were staying there. In verse 3 what did the king order the harlot of Jericho to do? (1 pt.)
8. In Joshua 2:4-6, what did the harlot of Jericho actually do the men, and what did she tell the king’s men the spies had done? (2 pts.)
9. In Joshua 2:9-11, why was Rahab so convinced that the nation of Israel was destined to take the land of Canaan? (1 pt.)
10. In Joshua 2:12-13, what did Rahab want the two men to promise her if she helped them escape? (1 pt.)

11. In Joshua 2:15-16, how did the two Israelite spies escape from the city of Jericho? (1 pt.)

Joshua 3: Crossing the Jordan River - Yahweh Divides the Water

12. In Joshua 3:6, what object led the way when the army of Israel marched into the promised land? (1 pt.)
13. In Joshua 3:13, what did Joshua prophesy would happen when the priests took the ark of the covenant to the waters of the Jordan? (1 pt.)
14. In Joshua 3:17, what actually happened when the army of Israel crossed the Jordan river? (1 pt.)
15. In Joshua 4:13, how many Israelite soldiers crossed over the Jordan that day? (1 pt.)
16. In Joshua 4:18, after everyone had passed over the river and the priests finally carried the ark of the covenant to the other side, what happened to the water of the Jordan river? (1 pt.)
17. In Joshua 4:24, why did Yahweh show them this miracle? (1 pt.)

Joshua 6: The Walls of Jericho Fall Flat

18. In Joshua 5:1, what was the reaction of all the kings of city-states in the land of Canaan (west of the Jordan river) when they heard the news that Yahweh had divided the waters of the Jordan river for the army of Israel? (1 pt.)

19. In Joshua 6:3-5:
 - a. What city would the army of Israel attack first? (1 pt.)
 - b. What was the army instructed to do? (1 pt)
 - c. How many days were they told to do this? (1 pt.)
 - d. On the final day, what does verse 5 say were the two things they were told to do? (2 pts.)
 - e. What did Yahweh promise would happen at that moment? (1 pt.)
20. In Joshua 6:20, what actually happened to the walls of Jericho? (1 pt.)
21. In Joshua 6:6:21, what did the army of Israel do to the people and property of Jericho that many people today find morally objectionable? (1 pt.)
22. In Joshua 6:23, did the two spies keep their promise to Rahab? (1 pt.)
23. In Joshua 6:24, what final thing did Israel do to Jericho to complete this "utter destruction"? (1 pt.)

Joshua 10: The Sun & Moon Stand Still to Destroy the Amorite Alliance

24. In Joshua 10:1, we're told that a king named "Adoni-zedek" reigned over Jerusalem. According to verse 3, he formed an alliance with how many other Amorite kings? (1 pt.)

25. In Joshua 10:5, this five-king alliance came to Gibeon to fight against whom? (1 pt.)

26. In Joshua 10:8, since Joshua had a treaty of protection with the city-state of Gibeon, what did the Lord tell Joshua to do? (1 pt.)

27. Who won this battle at Gibeon between the Israelites and the alliance of Amorite kings? (1 pt.)

28. It was one thing to win the battle, but what had the Lord commanded Joshua to do in the last sentence of verse 8? (1 pt.)

29. So even after the battle was won, Joshua 10:11 tells us that as the Amorites were running for their lives God did something to kill them and wipe them out. What was that, and how many did it kill? (1 pt.)

30. At this point Joshua had already won the battle against the Ammorite kings, but he still needed to make sure that every man was killed before they could retreat and hide in their cities. In Joshua 10:12-14, what weird thing did Joshua command to happen that had never occurred before or never occurred since in the history of the world? (2 pts.)

31. What task that was given him by God was Joshua trying to accomplish by getting this extra light? Hint: See verse 8. (1 pt.)

Joshua 10-12: “Utter Destruction” in Every City-State of the Promised Land

32. In Joshua 10:30, how many people did God command Joshua to kill in the city-state of Libnah? (1 pt.)
33. In Joshua 10:35, how many people did God command Joshua to kill in the city-state of Eglon? (1 pt.)
34. In Joshua 10:37, how many people did Joshua let live in the city-state of Hebron? (1 pt.)
35. In Joshua 10:39, how many people got to live in the city-state of Debir? (1 pt.)
36. In questions 32 to 35, each of the verses cited in those questions uses one phrase over and over again. It says about each city that they were “utterly _____.” (1 pt.)
37. In the introduction to Joshua 12, how many city-states did Joshua annihilate? (1 pt.)
38. According to Joshua 12:7, where were all of those city-state located in relation to the Jordan river? (1 pt.)

39. Joshua 13:1 tells us that Joshua was “old and stricken in years.” What was the unfinished task that had yet to be accomplished when Joshua was going to pass away? (1 pt.)

40. In Joshua 14:7, how old did Joshua say he was when he first went out to spy upon the land of Canaan for Moses? (1 pt.)

41. In Joshua 14:8, what did his fellow spies do to the people of Israel when they reported back at the end of their spy mission after 40 days? (1 pt.)

42. How many years does Joshua 10:14 say it has been since that original spy mission that Joshua went on when he was 40 years old? (1 pt.)

43. So Joshua is now how old? (1 pt.)

44. Then in Joshua 24, Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at Shechem to give them his final counsel or farewell address before he died. In Joshua 24:29, how old was Joshua when he finally passed away? (1 pt.)

45. In Joshua 24:31, what was Joshua’s most significant accomplishment? (1 pt.)