

Deuteronomy Book Formation

Moses' Speeches

Ch 1-11

- -Reminders of past unfaithfulness
- -Encouragement to the NEW generation to be faithful
- -Obey the Shema out of devotion and love.
- -Reminder to be set apart

Laws

Ch 12-16a

-Instruction on Worship

Ch 16b-18

-Setting Leaders apart

Ch 19-26

-Civil laws about marriage, family and business and about their social justice system

Moses' Speeches

Ch 27-34

-Reminders that if Israel will Listen and Obey, then everything is going to be great and they will be blessed!

If they do not Listen and Obey and rebel, they will see plagues, devastation and EXILE from the Promised Land.

Chapter 29 – The renewal of the covenant

 v1-2 Renewal of the Covenant made 40 years earlier 	on Mt Sinai or "at Horeb (Exodus 24:7-8)
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- v2-4 Israel saw signs and wonders, but they couldn't understand them.
- v5-9
 Really cool perspective that Moses opens their minds to.
- v10-15 Moses identifies the people that are entering into the covenant
- v16-20 Moses warns against self delusion
- v21-28 The purpose for judgement
- v29 The secret things belong to the Lord

Chapter 30 – Israel being restored to the Land

This is a future promise, not referring to entering the Promised Land at that moment.

This chapter promises that God will "turn the captivity" of Israel and restore the nation to the land, if they will return to the Lord and obey His voice

Moses is here predicting the *final* return of the Jews to their land. When they return to the land, it is a land of unbelief



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The importance of sharing truth from generation to generation

The grand conclusion of this speech is a reminder that the Nation of Israel needs to choose between life and death, blessing and curses.

CHOOSE LIFE

Chapter 31 – Joshua to succeed Moses

- v1-2 Moses explains that he would not be able to lead them any longer
- v3 God himself is going with them
- v6-8 Be Strong and Courageous
- v9-13 Moses writes the law
- v14 Retirement ceremony and in a way a Pre-memorial ceremony

Chapter 32 – Moses' song

- Song Verse 1 Declaration of who God is
- Song Verse 2 Remembering how faithful God has been and how Israel abandoned His kindness
- Song Verse 3 God is withdrawing and punishing Israel
- Song Verse 4 God states His case and asks Israel to consider all of these things

Chapter 33 – The new blessing

As Moses looked at Israel with a shepherd's heart, he could not leave them without blessing them. It must be this way. Moses could not leave this earth without a final blessing of the people he has loved and served in the LORD for these 40 years.

This chapter is similar in its effect to the blessing of Israel (Jacob) upon his twelve sons as recorded in Genesis 49. Since Moses was the one who recorded the blessing of Israel in Genesis 49, it is not a stretch to think he consciously modeled his blessing on Jacob's previous one.



Who is Joshua?

- -Born in Egyptian slavery. His father was Nun, of the tribe of Ephraim (1Ch 7:26); we know nothing about his mother.
- -Original was Oshea or Hoshea, which means "salvation," but Moses changed it to Jehoshua (or Joshua), which means "Jehovah is salvation" (Num 13:16).
- -He was a slave in Egypt and served as Moses' minister during the journeys of the nation (Ex 24:13).
- -He led the army in the battle against Amalek (Exo 17:1-16), and was one of the two spies who had the faith to enter Canaan when the nation rebelled in unbelief (Num 14:6). As a result of his faith, he (with Caleb) was permitted to enter the Promised Land.
- -Jewish tradition says that Joshua was eighty-five years old when he took Moses' place at the head of the nation.
- -Joshua 1-12 (the conquest of the land) covers roughly the next seven years.
- -Joshua then spent the remainder of his life dividing up the inheritance and ruling the nation. He died at 110 (Jos 24:29).

Who is Joshua continued..

- -The NT makes it clear that Joshua is a type of Christ
 - -Just as Joshua conquered earthly foes, so Christ has defeated every enemy through His death and resurrection.
 - -It was Joshua, not Moses (representing Law), who brought Israel into Canaan, and it is Jesus who leads us into spiritual rest and victory.
 - -As Joshua assigned the tribes their inheritance so Christ has given us our inheritance Whatever Israel received in the Promised Land, they received through the hand of Joshua; whatever we receive from God we receive through Jesus Christ, our Joshua

The formation of the book of Joshua

Movement 1: Joshua first leads Israel into the promised land Ch 1-5

- a. Here Joshua is taking over for Moses and he is considered a New Moses
- b. He commands Israel to obey the Torah, the covenant
- c. He sends spies into the land, just as Moses did (Numbers 13&14)
 - i. It goes way better this time and even some Caananites turn and follow God
- d. He takes Israel over the Jordan river into the promised land
 - i. Just like the sea parted for Moses, the river parts for Joshua
- e. In Chapter 5 the book shows that Israel looks back on God's covenant
 - i. New generation is circumcised and they celebrate Passover
- f. Then Joshua has a strange encounter with a warrior, the angelic commander of God's army.
 - i. Joshua asks the angel if he is for Israel or for the Caananites.
 - ii. The angel says neither. This shows that all of these battles are God's battles, not Joshua's.

Israel is a spectator to what God is doing or participants in God's plan

The formation of the book of Joshua continued

Movement 2: Battles and Hostility from the Caananites 6-12

- -We see two specific battles
- -Then we see short stories that condense years of battles in a few brief summaries
 - Battle 1 is against Jericho which portrays God's Faithfullness
 - Battle 2 is against Ai which portrays Israel's Failure

Battles

Battle of Jericho

- -Israel is passive.
- -They take God's presence in the form of the ark and they walk around the city to music for 6 days. Just like Rahab turned to the God of Israel, maybe this Canaanite city would turn to God. They don't.
- -On the 7th day after walking around the city, the priests blow the trumpets and the walls tumble down.
- -The point of this story is that God is leading them to victory. He is in charge and Israel needs to trust and wait.

Battle of Ai

- -This story shows Israel's failure.
- -During the battle of Jericho, Achan steals treasure from the city, against command and he hides it. They were goods that were to be devoted to God alone. He lies about it which is pretty lame considering all that God had done for Israel.
- -So when Israel goes up against Ai, they are totally defeated.
- -Once there is repentance and Achan is severely punished for his sin which we see in <u>Chapter 7</u> Israel starts winning again which we see in <u>Chapter 8</u>

These two stories remind Israel that if they are going to inherit this land, they

MUST be obedient and trust in God's commands.

The formation of the book of Joshua continued

Movement 3 – Dividing up the land.

-After their victories Joshua divides up the promise land 13-22 as the inheritance for the 12 tribes of Judah.

-Joshua is getting older.

-Most of the reading is lists of boundary lines.

-While the list is like reading a map without pictures and is not exciting. To Israel this was the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham (Gen 12:6-7) and God's promise to divide up the land.

The formation of the book of Joshua continued

Movement 4 - Final speeches of Joshua to the people 23-24.

- -They are very similar to the final speeches of Moses.
- -Reminds Israel of God's generosity, how He brought them into the land and gave them victory over the Caananites.
- -Joshua tells them to turn away from the Caananite gods and to be faithful to the Torah/the covenant they made.

If they do, it will lead to life and blessing. If they do not, they will experience the same judgement that the Caananites faced and be kicked out of the land in exile (which we WILL see later)

-He gives Israel a choice. What will they do?

Which is where the story ends....

Chapter 1 - Speaking

V1-10 God speaks to Joshua

V11-15Joshua speaks to the people

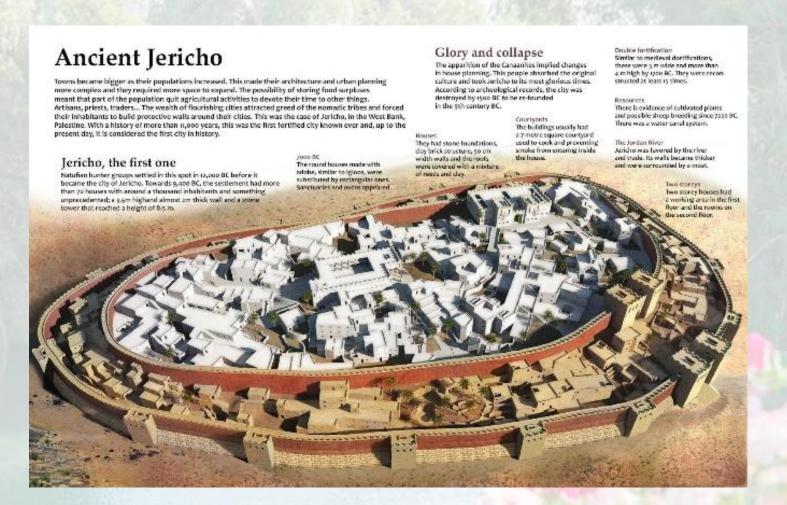
V16-18The people speak to Joshua

<u>Big Takeaway – God sets up leaders and leaders need to develop confident leaders!</u>

Chapter 2 – The Spies

During the 3 days of preparation:

- -Joshua sends spies ahead, in preparation of their takeover.
- -During the spying, they got in, likely by climbing up the wall into the room that was within the wall.



Chapter 2 continued

Who's house did they climb into?

What was she known for?

News gets to the King who sends soldiers to search for the spies

She hides them on the roof under stalks of flax



Big Takeaway

God is in the business of saving and anyone, even the worst person can be saved.

Chapter 3 – The Miracle of the Crossing

Day 3 has come - It is time to cross the Jordan river with all of Israel and their possessions.

- -It wasn't up to Joshua to invent some way of crossing the river. Israel had seen this before.
- -The key word in this chapter is "Ark." The Ark represent God's presence (mentioned 17x)
- -The river was at flood stage.



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Big Takeaway

We can always look to Jesus for direction. We need to keep our eyes on him. As we do, and step out in faith, rivers of impossibilities will dry up before us.

Chapter 3 – The memorials of the crossing

We've crossed the river. We're in the Promised land. Now what?

Time to Party?
Time to Conquer cities?
Does it feel different on this side of the river?

What does Joshua have them do?

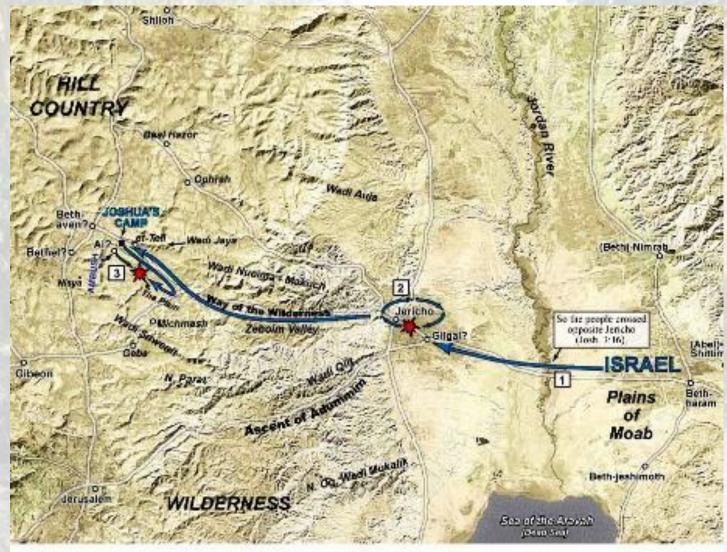
They remember.

As we've seen many times before, they build monuments.

12 Stones representing the 12 tribes

- 1 Monument where the Priests stand In the middle of the River
- 1 Monument would be set up later when they get to Gilgal

Chapter 3 – The memorials of the crossing



Big Takeaway

Don't forget to remember.

Write down what God has done, so that it can be remembered for generations.

Israel Crossed the Jordan River Opposite Jericho

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Chapter 5 – The mark of the covenant

The cities that Israel was going to take over totally lost heart.

God asksJoshua to circumcise all of Israel. Why now?

Cool Observations

-Israel crossed at the most inopportune time, during flood season
In front of the most fortified Canaanite military outpost in Jericho
And disables their army
IN enemy territory.

Joshua trusted God in the hardest times and places. He had to trust God despite these obstacles.

As a result of their obedience, God rolls back their sin

Israel practices Passover using ingredients from the land

Manna no longer showed up once they ate from their new land.

Big Idea

Do we trust God in the easy times but lose hope in the hard times?

By building memorials, practicing gratitude, we will be able to trust in all seasons, in all places.

End of Chapter 5 into 6 – Who is in charge here?

- -Joshua is in route to Jericho for their first conquest.
 - -Joshua meets a soldier. Not just any soldier. The Lord of Hosts
 - -The man tells Joshua to take off his sandals for this is Holy Ground (burning bush)
 - -Joshua falls face down
 - -The commander of the Lord's army. Who is the commander of the Lord's army?
 - -Joshua becomes a follower or participant in God's battle plan.

The Battle Plan: Circle the City, Sing, Shout
Joshua submits to leadership
Israel follows orders and trusts the plan
They exercise patience and faith, even when the plan is illogical
They obeyed in every detail

The Walls Crumble and Israel takes the City

V18 – Stay away from the devoted things. They are the First Fruits of the First Battle after entering the Promised Land