

Joshua

“Yahweh Is Salvation”

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Title of the Book

- Hebrew: יהושֻעַ (Yěhōshúa‘); Greek: Ἰησοῦς (Jesus); In the Septuagint, all instances of the word "Yehoshua" are rendered as Ἰησοῦς (Iēsoūs), the closest Greek pronunciation of the Aramaic "Yeshua"
- The English "Joshua" is a rendering of the Hebrew "Yehoshua," meaning "Yahweh is salvation" (see Mt. 1:21)

Message of Joshua

- God's faithfulness in keeping his promises
 - 1:6; 21:43-45
- God fulfills the promise to Abraham:
“To your descendants I will give this land”
(Gen. 12:7)

Message of Joshua

- God's delight in those who do his will
 - 1:7
- Constant continuance in God's Word
 - 1:8
- The basis of true courage
 - 1:9

Time & Scope of Events

- Written ~1400 B.C.
- It is a record of the conquest and division of Canaan, covering a period of about 50 years
- It records military campaigns in which God fought for his people

Scope of Joshua

- Joshua picks up where Deuteronomy leaves off
- Joshua completes what Moses began
- Just as Moses crossed the Red Sea so Joshua crossed the Jordan River
- What Moses could not do Joshua did

Key Words

- “possess”/“possession” (~23 times)
- “covenant” (~22 times)
- “divide”/“divided” (9 times)

Outline

- (Outline of the book: 1:2-7)
- 1:1-5:12—Entering the Land
- 5:13-12:24—Taking the Land
- 13:1-21:45—Dividing the Land
- 22:1-24:33—Living in the Land

Major Events

- The spies sent to Jericho, received by Rahab (ch. 2)
- Crossing the Jordan, invading the land, fall of Jericho (chs. 3-6)
- Defeat at Ai & sin of Achan (ch. 7)
- Fall of Ai (ch. 8)

Major Events

- Covenant with the Gibeonites (ch. 9)
- Defeat of the Southern Alliance & the day the sun stood still (ch. 10)
- Defeat of the Northern Alliance (ch. 11)
- Subduing the whole land (ch. 12)

Major Events

- Dividing the land (chs. 13-21)
 - The Cities of Refuge (ch. 20)
 - The Cities of the Levites (ch. 21)
- The Altar by the Jordan (ch. 22)
- Joshua's Farewell Address (chs. 23-24)

Verses to Remember

- 11:23—“So Joshua took the whole land”
- 14:12—“Give me this mountain” (vv. 6-15)
- 22:5—Serve God with all your heart and with all your soul
- 23:10-11—the Lord your God fights for you; love the Lord your God

Chapters to Remember

- Chs. 1, 6, 7, 22-24
- Ch. 6—Archaeological Note in Halley's Bible Handbook, 159-161
- Ch. 22—Stage for a great battle between God's people; humbling realization & tragedy averted

Trivia

Which verses in the New Testament mention Joshua?

(Acts 7:45; Heb. 4:8)