



Book of Joshua

Old Testament Workshop

Morrison Heights Baptist Church

October 6, 2019

Background

1. Genesis 9:20-27

After the flood, Noah planted a vineyard to harvest the grapes for wine. One day, drinking too much, he passed out naked. Noah's son Ham saw him first but, doing nothing, disrespected him.

When Noah awakened, he cursed Ham's son, **Canaan**.

2. Genesis 15:12-16

"Then in the fourth generation [your descendants] will return here (i.e. Canaan), for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."
(Gen. 15:16)

3. Numbers 20:1-14

Moses and Aaron disrespected God at Meribah.
"You shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them." (Num. 20:12)

BackStory

Timeline



God judges Moses,
banning him from
the Promised Land.

Numbers
20:1-14

God appoints
Joshua to
succeed Moses.

Numbers
27:15-23

Moses dies in
Moab, east of the
Promised Land

Deuteronomy
34

Joshua succeeds
Moses as Israel's
national leader

Joshua
1

Joshua served as Moses' assistant, a protégé.

Exodus 17:8-13; 24:13; 33:11; Numbers 11:28; 13:1-14:10;
32:28-32; 34:17; Deuteronomy 1:34-40; 3:18-22; 31:1-23; 34:9

Entering the Land

FINALLY

“So when the people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant before the people, and when those who carried the ark came into the Jordan, and the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks all the days of the harvest), the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap.”

Joshua 3:14-16



The Conquest

Three Military Campaigns

CENTRAL

- a. Jericho
- b. Ai
- c. Gibeonites

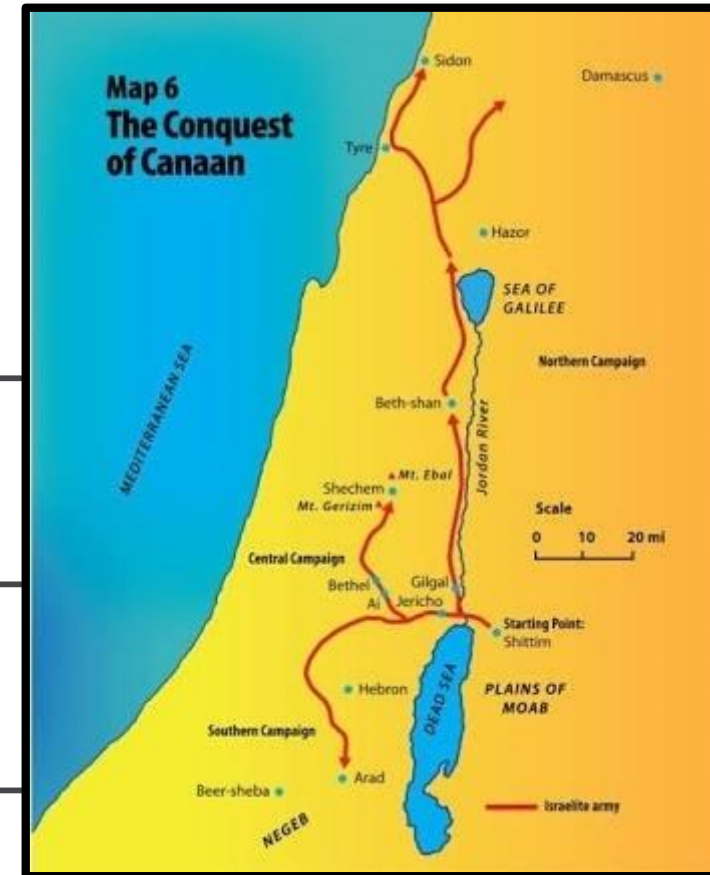
Joshua 6-8

SOUTHERN Makkedah

Joshua 10

NORTHERN Hazor

Joshua 11



Joshua ultimately defeated thirty-one kings. **SEE Joshua 12.**

Theological Dilemma

“And [the Israelites] utterly destroyed everything in the city, both man and WOMAN, YOUNG AND OLD, AND OX AND SHEEP AND DONKEY, with the edge of the sword.”

Joshua 6:21

Isn't God righteous?

Isn't God just?



Isn't God good?

Isn't God loving?

Theological Dilemma

- Israel was NOT fighting a CONVENTIONAL war.
In a conventional war, one distinguishes between military and civilian.
Harming *anything* civilian would be collateral damage.
- Israel was fighting a HOLY war.
In a holy war, any infidel, regardless of gender or age, is the enemy.

חרם

verb | to devote, ban, utterly destroy
noun | devotion, ban, utter destruction

**** Think *both* QUARANTINE
and CONTRABAND.**



Theological Dilemma

Why?



- ① Standard Practice in the Ancient Near East
“Everybody’s doing it!”
- ② Progressive Revelation
- ③ Judgment upon Sinners
[SEE Genesis 15:16; Deuteronomy 9:1-6.](#)
- ④ To Preserve the Purity of the Israelite Faith
[SEE Deuteronomy 7:1-6.](#)

Conquered?



Joshua 10:42-44; 11:16-23; 21:43-45



**Joshua 13:1-7, 13; 15:13-19, 63; 16:10; 17:12-18;
19:40-48; 23:1-13
Judges 1:16-36**

CONTRADICTION?

Purpose of the Book

To glorify God by giving selective examples of the marvelous ways that He led the people to the land He had promised to the patriarchs

READ Joshua 21:43-45

Conquered?

YES	GOD'S PERSPECTIVE The word "promised" is past tense.
NO	ISRAEL'S PERSPECTIVE They failed to enjoy what God had promised because they neither believed Him nor obeyed Him.

