

- I) V1-9 INTRO: After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord it came to pass that the LORD spoke
 - a) Conservative scholars believe Joshua wrote this book (24:26) between 1405 BC-1390 BC
 - 1) The book itself covers Israel's taking and settling Canaan, and the dividing of the land into tribes
- II) JOSHUA: Was Moses' assistant who ultimately succeeded Moses as the second leader of Israel
 - a) Ex 24:13 So Moses arose *with his assistant Joshua*, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.
 - 1) REMEMBER: Moses had misrepresented the Lord before the people of Israel
- III) KEY: They had complained that they were thirsty, and Moses became angry with their murmuring
 - a) God told Moses to *speak* to a rock and it would provide water: instead, he struck it twice
 - 1) Nu 20:12 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them
 - 2) Because of this, Joshua was given the blessing of bringing the children in to the promised land
- IV) OBVIOUSLY: The title of this book is taken from its main character, Joshua
 - a) He was called Hoshea in Nu 13:8, but according to Nu 13:16 Moses changed his name to *Joshua*
 - 1) *Hoshea* means Salvation but *Joshua* means *the Lord is Salvation*, and is translated Jesus
- V) FACT: His name change *is significant* as related to Israel entering the promised land
 - a) KEY: Though Joshua may lead the nation in the conquest, the LORD is the conqueror
 - 1) This is something that Moses had made clear to the people of Israel before they went in
 - 2) Dt 20:2-4 So it shall be, when you are on the verge of battle, that the priest shall approach and speak to the people. And he shall say to them, 'Hear, O Israel: Today you are on the verge of battle with your enemies. Do not let your heart faint, *do not be afraid*, and do not tremble or be terrified because of them; for the LORD your God is He who goes with you, *to fight for you* against your enemies, *to save you.*'
- VI) KEY: In Joshua's role of leading Israel triumphantly into possessing the land he foreshadows Jesus
 - a) Joshua brings them into the promised land, which is a picture of Jesus bringing us into glory
 - 1) Heb 2:10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom *are* all things and by whom *are* all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
 - 2) Ro 8:37 Yet in all these things we are *more than conquerors* through Him who loved us.
 - 3) *More than conquerors*: not one enemy, be it sin, death, hell, or Satan remains subdued
- VII) V1-2 AFTER: The death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass that the LORD spoke to
 - a) Deuteronomy ends with the death of Moses, so Joshua is intended to be a continuation of the story
- VIII) AS A PICTURE: Joshua is going to win the victory that Moses (the Law) was unable to achieve
 - a) This reveals that Jesus (Joshua) wins the victory unreachable by the Mosaic Law
 - 1) Ro 8:3-4 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
- IX) FACT: Moses has died, but just because a leader dies does not mean that God ceases working
 - a) No human being, however great he may be, is ever irreplaceable
 - 1) When Moses is gone, there will always be a Joshua waiting in the wings
- I) V3-4 EVERY: Place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you as I said to Moses

a) Dt 11:24 Every place on which the sole of your foot treads shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the River Euphrates, even to the Western Sea, shall be your territory.

1) Geographically: The western border is the Mediterranean Sea, the eastern border is the Euphrates River (runs from central Turkey, through Syria, Iraq, and empties in the Persian gulf), the northern would be in Lebanon, and the southern runs all the way to the Nile in Egypt)

2) The Hittites is an inclusive term referring to the then present inhabitants of the land

II) YEARS EARLIER: God had allowed twelve spies to enter in to the land to survey the land

a) Ten of the spies returned with a report that brought discouragement to the people of Israel

1) Nu 13:33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.

2) Nu 14:1 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night.

III) GOD BECAME ANGRY: With the people for their unbelief

a) Nu 14:28-32 Say to them, 'As I live,' says the LORD, 'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, *you shall by no means enter the land* which I swore I would make you dwell in. But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. But *as for you*, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness.

IV) THE PEOPLE: That had caused such fear to rise in the hearts of the spies were still living there

a) Challenges don't just go away because you ignore them: sometimes over time they even grow

V) V5 NO: Man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as *I was with Moses* so I will be

a) My work did not end with Moses: it is continuing through you

VI) THE FACT IS: Though men may die, His works goes on

a) John Wesley (1703-1791), George Whitefield (1714-1770), D. L. Moody (1837-1899), Spurgeon (1834-1892), R. A. Torrey (1856-1928), William Booth (1829-1912), Billy Sunday (1862-1935), Billy Graham (1918-)

VII) V5 NOTICE: I will not leave you nor forsake you

a) I will not abandon you (leave you on your own)

1) God's promise remains the same: I will be with you! His power and presence remains, *with us*

2) Heb 13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said I will never leave you nor forsake you

VIII) V6 BE STRONG: And of good courage for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land

a) Be a man of action: alert and ready to act when the occasion arises

IX) INTERESTINGLY: This is what Moses had said to the nation of Israel made personal to Joshua

a) Dt 31:6-8 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He *is* the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you." Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. And the LORD, He *is* the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."

I) V7-9 ONLY BE STRONG: And very courageous that you may observe to do according to all the Law

a) Here we see how we can become strong and live victoriously

- 1) God has guaranteed *His presence*, power, and He has supplied His promises through His word
 - 2) QUESTION: What will make Joshua a powerful, victorious leader in Israel
- II) V8 THIS BOOK: Of the Law shall not depart from your mouth but you shall meditate in it day
- a) This specifically refers to the Books they have: Genesis to Deuteronomy
 - 1) Within God's word are His blessings and warnings, and he must abide by these things
 - 2) Dt 7:11-12 Therefore you shall keep the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments which I command you today, to observe them. Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers
- III) MEDITATE IN IT: Mentally go over it, thoroughly and habitually
- a) Pay careful and thoughtful attention to the word of God
- IV) V8 THAT YOU: May *observe to do* according to all that is written
- a) Be a doer of God's word, and not a forgetful hearer
 - 1) We decide to do what God has commanded:
- V) V8 FOR THEN: You will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success
- a) Hunger for God's word knowing we do not live by bread alone
 - b) Deeply consider, and then Practice what God's word teaches
 - 1) Then, you will prosper and will have success (skilled and wise living habits)
- VI) V9 HAVE I NOT: Commanded you Be strong and of good courage do not be afraid nor be dismayed
- a) I am with you, I have commanded you, I have promised you, I will bless you so trust Me
 - 1) You have done so when you were Moses' *assistant*, you must do so as the new leader
 - 2) People follow leaders who are confident in their leading, so fellowship deeply with God
- VII) V10-11 THEN: Joshua commanded the officers of the people saying Pass through the camp and
- a) The officers were similar to administrators who were to get the people prepared to march
 - 1) This must have caused a wave of emotion to pass through the people: we are entering in!
- VIII) V12-15 AND: To the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke
- a) These tribes had asked permission to remain east of the Jordan (Nu 32:20-28)
 - 1) Though they received their portion of land, they would go and secure portions for others
- IX) V16 AND: They answered Joshua saying All that you command us we will do and wherever you
- a) Their initial response is filled with hope and eagerness: yes, we are ready to go
 - 1) After years of waiting for the entrance to the land, they are ready and willing to go
- X) V17-18 JUST AS: We heeded Moses in all things so we will heed you Only the Lord your God
- a) Though the previous generation was marked by rebellion, these were saying they would be loyal
 - 1) The one thing they required from him was conduct marked by courageous confidence