

Overview of Joshua 11 & 12

Text	Summary
11:1-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Northern kings and peoples of Canaan rally in massive unified opposition to Israel
11:6-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God reassures Joshua and promises victory• God gives Israel victory• Joshua leads Israel in victory over Hazor
11:16-23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary of how Joshua and Israel take all the land
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• List of all the kings that Israel defeated

¹⁶ So Joshua took all that land, the hill country and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the lowland and the Arabah and the hill country of Israel and its lowland ¹⁷ from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, as far as Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. And he captured all their kings and struck them and put them to death. ¹⁸ Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. ¹⁹ There was not a city that made peace with the people of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon. They took them all in battle. ²⁰ For it was the LORD's doing to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, in order that they should be devoted to destruction and should receive no...

Joshua 11:16-23 (ESV)

JOSHUA \\ *COURAGEOUS FAITH IN
THE GOD OF PROMISE*

...mercy but be destroyed, just as the LORD commanded Moses.
²¹ And Joshua came at that time and cut off the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua devoted them to destruction with their cities. ²² There was none of the Anakim left in the land of the people of Israel. Only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod did some remain. ²³ So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war.

Joshua 11:16-23 (ESV)

How The Conquest Connects To Us Today

Joshua 11 & 12

- 1) Two Major Questions
- 2) We Are Like the People of Canaan
- 3) We Can Be Like the People of Israel

Question 1: How should we make sense out of the conquest of Canaan?

1. The Bible describes it as a unique act of God's just judgement

And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, *for the iniquity of the Amorites (Canaanites) is not yet complete.*

Genesis 15:16

Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, *but because of the wickedness of these nations* the LORD your God is driving them out from before you...

Deuteronomy 9:5

Question 1: How should we make sense out of the conquest of Canaan?

2. Complete Destruction Guarded Against Sinful Assimilation

But in the cities of these peoples that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes, but you shall devote them to complete destruction, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, as the LORD your God has commanded, *that they may not teach you to do according to all their abominable practices that they have done for their gods, and so you sin against the LORD your God.*

Deuteronomy 20:16-18

Question 1: How should we make sense out of the conquest of Canaan?

3. Inhabitants of the land could be spared if they turned to God

But Rahab the prostitute and her father's household and all who belonged to her, Joshua saved alive. And she has lived in Israel to this day...

Joshua 6:25

There was not a city that made peace with the people of Israel except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon.

Joshua 11:19

Question 1: How should we make sense out of the conquest of Canaan?

4. God's judgment is equitable and applies to Israel too

If you are not careful to do all the words of this law that are written in this book...then the LORD will bring on you and your offspring extraordinary afflictions...And *the LORD will scatter you among all peoples, from one end of the earth to the other*, and there you shall serve other gods of wood and stone, which neither you nor your fathers have known. *And among these nations you shall find no respite, and there shall be no resting place for the sole of your foot...*

Deuteronomy 28:58-59a, 64-65a

Question 1: How should we make sense out of the conquest of Canaan?

5. The conquest of Canaan is a preview of God's eternal judgment

And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Jesus in Matthew 10:28

he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night...

Revelation 14:10-11a

Question 2: Do the commands and promises of Joshua mean that modern Israel has a divine right to the same land?

1. The attack carried out by Hamas was an evil act of terrorism
2. It is right for the United States to stand by our allies in the pursuit of justice and peace

Question 2: Do the commands and promises of Joshua mean that modern Israel has a divine right to the same land?

1. All nations are chosen nations in the New Testament (Matthew 28:16-20)
2. Emphasis in the New Testament is on the multi-national church as the people of God – the true Israel (Romans 9-11)

Question 2: Do the commands and promises of Joshua mean that modern Israel has a divine right to the same land?

- “Ask Pastor John” Podcast – Episode 425, Sept 9, 2014
- *Israel, Palestine, and the Middle East* Sermon by John Piper from March 7, 2004



We Are Like the People of Canaan: Inclined to Rebel

And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots. And all *these kings joined their forces and came and encamped together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel.*

Joshua 11:4-5

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed...

Psalms 2:1-2

We Are Like the People of Canaan: Inclined to Rebel

For it was the LORD's doing to harden their hearts that they should come against Israel in battle, in order that they should be devoted to destruction and should receive no mercy but be destroyed, just as the LORD commanded Moses.

Joshua 11:20

We Are Like the People of Canaan: Inclined to Rebel

Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Psalm 2:10-12

We Can Be Like the People of Israel: Redeemed to Obey (Courageously)

- V.9 “Joshua did to them just as the Lord said to him...”
- V.12 Joshua struck down the cities “just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded”
- V. 15 “Just as the Lord commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses”
- V. 23 “So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses...”

We Can Be Like the People of Israel: Redeemed to Obey (Courageously)

And they came out with all their troops, a great horde, in number like the sand that is on the seashore, with very many horses and chariots... And Joshua did to them just as the LORD said to him: he hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots with fire.
Joshua 11:4, 9



We Can Be Like the People of Israel: Redeemed to Obey (Courageously)

Some trust in chariots
and some in horses, but
we trust in the name of
the LORD our God.
Psalm 20:7



Conclusion:

Through Faith God Gives Victory & Rest

- Chpt 11
 - Inheriting *the whole land*
 - Defeat of even the mighty Anakim
- Chpt 12: 33 kings defeated listed like a victory song

So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. *And the land had rest from war.*

Joshua 11:23

For as often as you eat this bread and
drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's
death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

