

VIA EMMAUS: A CHRIST-CENTERED WALK THROUGH THE BIBLE

Joshua: Into the Land (9)

God's People

- Abraham, Isaac, Jacob (Genesis 12-36) + Joseph (Genesis 37-50)
- Moses & Israel (1st Generation – Exodus)
- Joshua & Israel (2nd Generation – Conquest)

God's Place

- Wandering in Canaan (Genesis) + Dwelling in Egypt 400 years (Genesis – Exodus)
- Wandering in the Wilderness 40 years (Exodus – Deuteronomy)

God's Promise

- **Joshua 1:1-9** – *YHWH promises to lead Joshua like Moses*
- **Joshua 21:43-45; 23:14-16** – *All the promises were fulfilled + The land is now theirs*

Outline

Joshua 1-5	<u>Go Into</u> the Land	Preparation
Joshua 6-12	<u>Take</u> the Land	Subjugation
Joshua 13-19	<u>Divide</u> the Land	Partition
Joshua 20-24	<u>Serve the Lord</u> in the Land	Consecration

Preparation: The Consecration of the People for Taking the Land

- 1:1-9** Transition of Leadership + Call to Courage + Centrality of God's Word
- 1:10-18** Joshua prepares the people for entry
- 2:1-24** God prepares Jericho + Rahab is spared (cf. Ex 12:38; Matt. 1:5)
- 3:1-17 Baptism – *Passing through the waters again*
- 4:1-24 Worship & Remembrance – *First of seven stone memorials*
- 5:1-12 Circumcision & Passover – *Covenantal Stipulations for Entrance*

Subjugation: The Taking of the Land

1. Military Victories
 - Jericho (6:1-27) – *Victory through the wisdom of YHWH*
 - Joshua was a warrior – yet God's strategy was entirely of God (cf. Ex 14)
 - The angel of the Lord (5:13-15) – The Angel of the Lord was leading
 - Hazor (11:10-15) -- *Obedience to the Lord*
 - Southern Conquest (10:29-43)
 - Northern Conquest (11:1-23) – *The goal was rest in the land (11:23)*
 - Defeated Kings (12:1-24) – *Thirty-one total (12:24)*
2. Military Defeats
 - Ai (7:1-8:29) – *Defeat due to sin*
 - No sin is individual + No sin goes unpunished
 - No sin overthrows the purposes of God (Josh 7:1ff; **cf. Hosea 2:15**)
 - Gibeon (9:1-27) – *Deception due to arrogance and failure to pray*
 - Covenant with Gibeon was done apart from the Lord's guidance (9:14)
 - Brings trouble to Israel – God's chastisement & warfare (10:1ff)
 - Brings salvation to Gibeon (**9:22-27**) – cf. Rahab, 2 Sam 21:1-9; 1 Ki 8:41-43

Partition: Dividing the Land

1. Tribal Dispossession
 - **Joshua 13:1-7** – “*There remains yet very much land to possess*” (13:7)
 - **Joshua 17:14-18** – The tribes were instructed to clear their land
 - **Joshua 18:1-8** – Remaining 7 tribes (18:1-21:45)
 - People’s Joy – *Eastern Tribes built an altar to not lose possession* (ch. 22)
 - God’s Faithfulness (**21:43-45**) – *Caleb* (14:6-15) & Joshua (19:49-51)
 - Did the people of Israel really possess all the land?
 - Subjugation vs. Possession – Joshua vs. Judges
 - ***It is the difference between D-Day & V-Day***
2. Failed Subjugation (16:10; 17:12-13) – *Glimpses of things to come*

Consecration: Dwelling in the Land

- **Joshua 20-21** – Cities of Refuge + Levites – *For instruction and protection*
- **Joshua 22** – Contentious Altar – *Shows how the Israelites treasured the land*
- **Joshua 23** – Final words
- **Joshua 24** – Covenant Renewal
 - *God’s Ability and Reliability* – **Joshua 24:1-18**
 - *Man’s Inability and Weakness* – **Joshua 24:19ff**

Problems

1. ***Does God commend Rahab for lying? Did Rahab lie?***
 - The Scripture doesn’t say
 - Commentary on Rahab is always positive – Matt 1:5; Heb 11:31; James 2:25
 - The Context is Warfare – *Does camouflage break the 9th commandment?*
 - Shows evidence of new birth – *Faith in the God of Israel*
 - Allegiance to the LORD (**2:1-7**) – “*False Witness*” (Exodus 20:16)
 - Fear of the God of Israel (**2:8-11**)
 - Faith in the promise (**2:12-14**) – *salvation is dependent on loyalty*
 - Gibeon uses the same kind of ruse and is also saved. (**Joshua 9:22-27**)
 - Final Thought: Descriptive, Not Prescriptive... Demonstrates Faith & Loyalty
2. ***What about the scarlet cord? Does it represent Christ’s blood?***
 - Picks up the idea of Passover – Salvation through Judgment
 - “Red” picks up the color of blood
 - “Window” picks up the idea of outside the doorpost
 - Her faith saves her. The scarlet cord is a symbol of her faith.
3. ***Why does God order Israel to destroy the nations in Canaan?***
 - Patience & Judgment (Gen 15:16; cf. Isaiah 10:5-11)
 - Holiness (cf. Exod 19:5-6; Lev. 19:2; Numbers 25:1-18)
 - Biblical-Theological
 - *God’s judgment is unswerving & gruesome* (cf. Ps 137:9; Rev. 19:15)
 - *Without the ‘ban’ there would be no Israel, no Messiah, and no salvation*
 - Typology
 - Salvation thru Judgment – God’s people are saved as enemies are crushed
 - Final Judgment – *Two great feasts* (cf. Revelation 18-20; esp. 19:11-21)
 - The Cross of Jesus Christ – *Jesus bore the full wrath of God*