Joshua—Joshua 1

Joshua Follows Moses as Leader

I. Additional Scriptures…

1. Verse 2… Num 27:16-21; Deut 3:28; 31:7
2. Verse 3… Josh 14:9; Deut 11:24
3. Verse 5… Deut 7:24; 20:4; Ps 46:11; Rom 8:31, 37
4. Verse 7… TURN NOT—Deut 5:32; 12:32; 28:14; Prov 4:27; 8:20
5. Verse 8… SHALL NOT DEPART—Ps 1:2-3; 19:14; 119:11,15,97,99; Prov 2:1-5; 3:1; Col 3:16; 1 Tim 4:14-16
6. Verse 11… VICTUALS (food—pronounced vit´ˈlz)—Same Hebrew word is used in: Gen 42:25; 45:21; Ex 12:39; Josh 9:11; Judges 7:8; 20:10; 1 Sam 22:10; Ps 78:25—translated as PROVISION or MEAT in some of these references.
7. Verse 16… Cf., Josh 24:31
8. Verse 18… Joshua is given authority over this people by the Lord. They were to submit to the authority in much the same way as Christians are taught to submit to civil authority today (Rom 13:1-5).

II. Chronology.

BIBLE PERIOD: **Period of the Conquest.**

"Although the Book of Joshua tells of Israel's conquest of Canaan, it is not a typical war story: little space is given to accounts of actual fighting. Indeed, almost half of the book (chs. 13-21), details how the land would be divided between Israel's twelve tribes. Clearly the focus is God's fulfillment of His promise of land instead of on tests of arms." [*The Life and Times Historical Reference Bible*, p. 266].

III. Summary.

The final chapter of Deuteronomy tells of the death of the great servant of the Lord and leader of the people of Israel, Moses. He was allowed to go up on Mount Nebo and get a view of the Promised Land (Deut 33:1-4), but was not allowed to lead the people into the land. This was because of the fact that Moses had not sanctified the Lord before the people in the matter of the waters of Meribah (Num 20:12). Now God had selected a replacement leader to see to the conquest of the land and the dividing of it between the tribes. That replacement leader was Joshua.

The comforting promise from the Lord was that just as He had been with Moses, He would also be with Joshua (v. 5). Joshua is exhorted strongly by the Lord to observe carefully all of the Law and not to turn from it to the right or to the left. Joshua must be strong and courageous (qualities he had already demonstrated to possess in the matter of spying out the land 40 years earlier). Joshua is told the way to prosper and be successful in his leadership of the people and it involved meditating on the book of the Law day and night.

Joshua begins his leadership of the people by commanding them to prepare provisions and get ready to cross the Jordan River. He gives instructions to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half of Manasseh that they will need to fight with the rest of their brethren, even though their land is

on the east side of the river. Their families will be able to settle in to their allotment, but the men will have to wait until the conquest of the rest of the land to return to their new homes. The term REST is used to describe the place of dwelling in this Promised Land (vv. 13, 15). The men agree to obey the commands of Joshua and go wherever they are told to go.

IV. Outline.

1. The Lord gives a charge to Joshua (Josh 1:1-9).
2. Joshua gives the order to prepare to cross the Jordan to possess the land (Josh 1:10-11).
3. Joshua commands those who will dwell on the east of Jordan that their fighting men must go across to aid their brethren and after the conquest they can return to their new homes (Josh 1:12-15).
4. The Reubenites, et.al., agreed to do as Joshua commanded (Josh 1:16-18).

V. Questions.

True or False

01. _____ The Gadites agreed to go wherever Joshua would send them.
02. _____ The men of Reuben, Gad, and Asher would be armed as they crossed over the Jordan River.
03. _____ God told Joshua not to be dismayed.
04. _____ God gave Joshua instructions that would cause him to prosper wherever he went.
05. _____ The name of Joshua's father is not given in this chapter.

Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)

06. _____ Joshua is referred to in this chapter as Moses': (a) friend; (b) successor; (c) minister.
07. _____ God told Joshua that He would be with him in this way: (a) in the right way; (b) as He was with Moses; (c) for ever.
08. _____ Joshua would be the one to: (a) be the first Judge; (b) be the first king of Israel; (c) divide the land.
09. _____ (a) Within one month; (b) Within one week; (c) Within three days of the charge to Joshua from the Lord, the children of Israel would pass over Jordan to go into the Promised Land.
10. _____ Those of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh would remain in the land allotted to them on the east of the river except: (a) wives; (b) little ones; (c) cattle; (d) fighting men.

Fill in the Blanks

11. God told Joshua: "_____ my servant is _____."
12. "Pass through the _____, and _____ the people, saying, Prepare you _____; for within _____ days ye shall pass over this _____, to go in to _____ the land…"
13. How many tribes would take property on the eastern side of the Jordan River: _____.
14. The Reubenites would have to participate with their brethren in the conquest of the land until the Lord had given their brethren _____.
15. "All that thou _____ us we will _____..."

Each Question is worth 7 Points

My Score is: _____

Answers will be found on next week's handout

ANSWERS to Lesson 01-67 … [01—False, Ex 19:24; 02—True, Ex 19:18; 03—True, Ex 19:10; 04—True, Ex 19:8; 05—True, Ex 19:5; 06—Rephidim, Ex 19:2; 07—Of Priests, Ex 19:6; 08—All the people, Ex 19:11; 09—An hand, Ex 19:13; 10—Nether (lower), Ex 19:17; 11—Rephidim, Sinai, pitched, mount, Ex 19:2; 12—IF, Ex 19:5; 13—today, tomorrow, wash, clothes, Ex 19:10; 14—third, wives, Ex 19:15; 15—7, 6, holy, special.]

VI. Lessons & Applications.

1. ***Now after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord…*** (Josh 1:1). Moses was the servant of the Lord and another of the Lord's servants, Joshua, was Moses' MINISTER, or servant. If we all are servants of the Lord, we do well to serve one another as Joshua did Moses. Our Lord tells us that the one who is greatest in the kingdom is the one who is the servant (Mt 20:26-28).
2. ***…unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel*** (Josh 1:2). If the children of Israel would have accepted this GIFT of the Promised Land in faith, they could have saved themselves from 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. Because they accepted the evil report of the ten spies, lacking faith that they could receive the GIFT God had given them, they wasted those years. The land was a gift from God, and yet there was the condition attached to the gift—they had to go and drive out the inhabitants of the land. Many today seem to have a problem with salvation being a gift and yet there being conditions to meet before receiving the gift (Eph 2:8-10; Rom 15:4), but this is nothing new in God's dealings with His creation.
3. ***…as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee*** (Josh 1:5). Joshua was certainly a great leader for God and very successful in his efforts. There is a text in the final chapter of this book which indicates the measure of his success—Joshua 24:31. Surely, these wonderful words of encouragement from the Lord, given at the beginning of his time of service, must have had much to do with the faithful service of Joshua. Our Lord has given us similar words of encouragement in Matthew's account of the Great Commission (Mt 28:20).
4. ***This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night…*** (Josh 1:8). Another KEY to the successful leadership of Joshua is that he accepted these tremendously important words of exhortation from the Lord. In verse seven Joshua was told to do according to the law and that he was not to turn from it to the right or to the left. Jesus urges His disciples to walk down the narrow pathway that leads to life (Mt 7:13-14). The Hebrews writer urges Christians to run our race well, keeping our eyes focused on Jesus as we run (Heb 12:1-2).
5. ***…for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the Lord your God giveth you to possess it*** (Josh 1:10). Try to imagine what kind of emotions this announcement would have brought forth to this road-weary group of people! What a great God they had and we have!!!
6. ***…but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valor, and help them*** (Josh 1:14). The promotion of UNITY was clearly the point of this lesson. ALL of the children of Israel would work together in this matter of the conquest of the Promised Land. Though some would take their places on the eastern side of the Jordan, ALL would fight together across the Jordan. We are made to think of Psalm 133.
7. ***…All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go*** (Josh 1:16). Joshua is off to an excellent start in replacing Moses as the leader of God's people. Whenever there is this kind of commitment to doing God's will, MUCH can be accomplished in the work of the Lord.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

Q	A	Z	N	U	N	X	S	W	E	D	C	V	F	R	T	G	S	V	F
W	R	F	V	C	D	E	L	W	S	X	C	D	J	R	F	V	O	B	G
E	U	P	H	R	A	T	E	S	B	G	T	O	Y	H	N	M	L	U	J
T	G	B	V	F	R	E	B	D	C	X	R	W	S	X	D	A	E	R	T
Q	A	X	C	V	B	M	A	V	C	D	X	Z	S	W	E	D	C	V	R
A	U	H	S	O	J	F	N	V	A	B	G	P	T	Y	H	N	M	J	U
T	G	B	V	F	R	E	O	N	D	C	X	S	L	W	Q	A	Z	E	C
M	N	B	V	C	X	Z	N	K	J	G	H	S	F	A	D	S	A	S	O
I	U	Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	X	Z	S	E	W	S	C	X	C	I	E
S	E	T	I	T	T	I	H	D	C	V	S	S	R	T	G	E	C	R	Z
E	Q	A	Z	X	C	T	S	W	E	S	D	O	C	V	F	R	T	A	T
G	B	N	H	Y	N	U	J	M	E	R	F	M	D	V	C	D	E	W	S
S	X	Z	A	A	Q	W	S	N	X	C	N	D	E	E	V	I	G	E	R
U	R	F	V	V	V	C	R	E	D	V	F	O	A	T	G	B	N	E	H
N	R	R	C	V	B	E	N	B	V	C	X	Z	T	M	N	H	Y	K	R
F	E	V	B	F	D	R	T	G	B	N	H	Y	H	F	U	J	M	A	I
S	K	M	N	L	B	G	T	R	F	V	C	D	E	W	A	S	X	S	Z
A	W	S	I	X	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	C	V	B	I	J	R	T
R	F	W	V	C	D	E	W	S	X	C	D	E	R	F	V	D	L	O	Z
X	C	V	B	N	M	C	O	A	S	T	E	D	C	X	S	W	Q	F	Z

[*The highlighted words can be found above. They may be backwards, diagonal, upside down, etc. See if you can find them all. The more you* <u>*use*</u> *the words of the Bible, the greater blessed you will be! You might be surprised at how much this little exercise will help you retain important truths. THANK YOU for the good effort you are putting forth in Bible study. DRL*]

<u>Joshua 1:1-5</u>--[1]Now after the **<u>death</u>** of **<u>Moses</u>** the **<u>servant</u>** of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto **<u>Joshua</u>** the son of **<u>Nun</u>**, Moses' **<u>minister</u>**, saying, [2]Moses my servant is dead; now therefore **<u>arise</u>**, go over this **<u>Jordan</u>**, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do **<u>give</u>** to them, *even* to the children of Israel. [3]Every **<u>place</u>** that the **<u>sole</u>** of your foot shall **<u>tread</u>** upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. [4]From the **<u>wilderness</u>** and this **<u>Lebanon</u>** even unto the great river, the river **<u>Euphrates</u>**, all the land of the **<u>Hittites</u>**, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the **<u>sun</u>**, shall be your **<u>coast</u>**. [5]There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will **<u>not fail</u>** thee, nor **<u>forsake</u>** thee.