

# Joshua—Joshua 5

## Manna Ceases

### I. Additional Scriptures/Notes...

1. 5:1... AMORITES—“Amorites Highlanders, or hillmen, the name given to the descendants of one of the sons of Canaan ([Gen 14:7](#)), called Amurra or Amurri in the Assyrian and Egyptian inscriptions. On the early Babylonian monuments all Syria, including Palestine, is known as “the land of the Amorites.” The southern slopes of the mountains of Judea are called the “mount of the Amorites” ([Deu 1:7](#), [19-20](#)). They seem to have originally occupied the land stretching from the heights west of the Dead Sea ([Gen 14:7](#)) to Hebron (Gen. 13. Compare [Gen 13:8](#); [Deu 3:8](#); [4:46-48](#)), embracing “all Gilead and all Bashan” ([Deu 3:10](#)), with the Jordan valley on the east of the river ([Deu 4:49](#)), the land of the “two kings of the Amorites,” Sihon and Og ([Deu 31:4](#); [Jos 2:10](#); [9:10](#)). The five kings of the Amorites were defeated with great slaughter by Joshua ([Jos 10:10](#)). They were again defeated at the waters of Merom by Joshua, who smote them till there were none remaining ([Jos 11:8](#)). It is mentioned as a surprising circumstance that in the days of Samuel there was peace between them and the Israelites ([1Sa 7:14](#)). The discrepancy supposed to exist between [Deu 1:44](#) and [Num 14:45](#) is explained by the circumstance that the terms “Amorites” and “Amalekites” are used synonymously for the “Canaanites.” ... The Amorites were warlike mountaineers. They are represented on the Egyptian monuments with fair skins, light hair, blue eyes, aquiline noses, and pointed beards. They are supposed to have been men of great stature; their king, Og, is described by Moses as the last “of the remnant of the giants” ([Deu 3:11](#)). Both Sihon and Og were independent kings. Only one word of the Amorite language survives, “Shenir,” the name they gave to Mount Hermon ([Deu 3:9](#))” [*Easton’s Bible Dictionary*].
2. 5:1... CANAANITES—“Canaanites, The Descended from Ham, [Gen 10:6](#); An accursed race, [Gen 9:25-26](#); Different families of, [Gen 10:15-18](#); Comprised seven distinct nations, [Deu 7:1](#); Possessions of, how bounded, [Gen 10:19](#); Country of, fertile, [Ex. 3:17](#); [Num 13:27](#); DESCRIBED AS: Great and mighty, [Num 13:28](#); [Deu 7:1](#); Idolatrous, [Deu 29:17](#); Superstitious, [Deu 18:9-11](#); Profane and wicked, [Lev 18:27](#); Extremely numerous, [Deu 7:17](#); Had many strong cities, [Num 13:28](#); [Deu 1:28](#); Expelled for wickedness, [Deu 9:4](#); [18:12](#); ABRAHAM: Called to dwell amongst, [Gen 12:1-5](#); Was promised the country of, of inheritance, [Gen 13:14-17](#); [15:18](#); [17:8](#); Had his faith tried by dwelling amongst, [Gen 12:6](#); [13:7](#); Kind to the patriarchs, [Gen 14:13](#); [23:6](#); ISRAEL COMMANDED: To make no league with, [Deu 7:2](#); [Jdg 2:2](#); Not to intermarry with, [Deu 7:3](#); [Jos 23:12](#); Not to follow idols of, [Ex 23:24](#); [Deu 7:25](#); Not to follow customs of, [Lev 18:26](#); [18:27](#); To destroy, without mercy, [Deu 7:2](#), [24](#); To destroy all vestiges of their idolatry, [Ex 23:24](#); [Deu 7:5](#), [25](#); Not to fear, [Deu 7:17-18](#); [31:7](#); Terrified at the approach of Israel, [Ex 15:15-16](#); [Jos 2:9-11](#); [5:1](#); Partially subdued by Israel, [Jos. 10:1-11:23](#); [Jdg. 1:1-36](#); PART OF LEFT: To try Israel, [Jdg 2:21-22](#); [3:1-4](#); To chastise Israel, [Num 33:55](#); [Jdg 2:3](#); [4:2](#); Israel ensnared by, [Jdg 2:3](#), [19](#); [Psa 106:36-38](#); Some descendants of, in our Lord’s time, [Mat 15:22](#); [Mar 7:26](#);” [*R. A. Torrey’s New Topical Textbook*].
3. Verse 2... THE SECOND TIME—This would be a reference to the people as a whole; they were once a circumcised people, but those born in the 40-years wandering period had not been circumcised and were to be so now. It is not stated the reason why this part of the covenant had been neglected, simply that it had not been done. Since the people of Canaan are described in verse 1 as having great fear at this time, this would be an occasion when this operation and recovery from it could be accomplished without fear of being attacked.
4. Verse 7... CHILDREN—[Num 14:31](#); [Deut 1:39](#).
5. Verse 9... ROLLED AWAY—There is a play on words here in that the Hebrew word GILGAL means, “a wheel, rolling” [*Brown, Driver & Briggs*]. The Lord says that He has now, at this place, rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off of the people.

6. Verse 12... AND THE MANNA CEASED—“ **And the manna ceased - after they had eaten of the old corn** - This miraculous supply continued with them as long as they needed it. While they were in the wilderness they required such a provision; nor could such a multitude, in such a place, be supported without a miracle. Now they are got into the promised land, the anathematized inhabitants of which either fall or flee before them, they find an old stock, and they are brought in just at the commencement of the harvest; hence, as there is an ample provision made in the ordinary way of Providence, there is no longer any need of a miraculous supply; therefore the manna ceased which they had enjoyed for forty years ” [*Clarke’s Commentary*].
7. Verses 13-15... Many claim this appearance of “the captain of the host of the Lord” is a Pre-Incarnate appearance of Christ. I do not know that this is the case, but it certainly is a most unusual happening. The nearest thing to this would be the appearance earlier to Moses at Mt. Sinai (Ex 3:1ff).

**II. Chronology.**

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

“Long before humans learned how to write or even make cooking vessels from clay, they discovered that flint, a kind of stone, could be split into smaller sharp and, thus, more useable pieces. Often large stones, called cores, were struck with other stones, or sometimes short sticks were placed on the worker’s chest and pressed onto the core. Eventually, small pieces were split off of the larger cores.

“A variety of tools were created with this method. The most common creation were long narrow blades used for knives. Other tools created were scrapers used to remove the flesh from hides, drills for poking holes, and knives. One of the most unusual designs was special crafted blades that were fitted on a curved wooden base, used as a sickle.

“After the smaller pieces were forced from the core, they were sharpened by striking the edges with other flints. Flints can be sharper than scalpels. Modern surgeons have been known to use them in surgery.” [*The Life and Times Historical Reference Bible*, p. 270].

The Peoples Around the Promised Land (cf., Ex 34:10-17; Deut 20:17; Josh 3:10; 9:1; 24:11)		
01	<b>AMALEKITES</b>	The descendants of Amalek, the firstborn of Esau (Gen 36:12), who dwelt South of Palestine in the Negev.
02	<b>AMMONITES</b>	The descendants of Ammon, the grandson of Lot by his youngest daughter (Gen 19:38), who lived East of the Jordan River and North of Moab.
03	<b>AMORITES</b>	A general term for the inhabitants of the Land, but especially for the descendants of Canaan who inhabited the hill country on both sides of the Jordan.
04	<b>CANAANITES</b>	Broadly speaking, these are the descendants of Canaan, son of Ham, son of Noah (cf., Gen 10:15-18), and included many of the other groups named in this chart.
05	<b>EDOMITES</b>	The descendants of Esau who settled Southeast of Palestine (cf., Gen 25:30) in the land of Seir.
06	<b>GEBALITES</b>	People of the ancient seaport later known as Byblos, about 20 miles North of modern Beirut (Josh 13:5).

07	<b>GESHURITES</b>	The inhabitants of Geshur, East of the Jordan and to the South of Syria (Josh 12:5).
08	<b>GIBEONITES</b>	The inhabitants of Gibeon and surround area (Josh 9:17).
09	<b>GIRGASHITES</b>	A tribe descended from Canaan, which was included among the general population of the Land without specific geographical identity.
10	<b>GIRZITES</b>	An obscure group which lived in the Northwest part of the Negev, before they were destroyed by David (1 Sam 27:8-9).
11	<b>HITTITES</b>	Immigrants from the Hittite Empire (in the region of Syria) to the central region of the Land (cf., Gen 23:10; 2 Sam 11:3).
12	<b>HIVITES</b>	Descendants of Canaan who lived in the Northern reaches of the Land.
13	<b>HORITES</b>	Ancient residents of Edom from an unknown origin who were destroyed by Esau’s descendants (Deut 2:22).
14	<b>JEBUSITES</b>	Descendants of Canaan who dwelt in the hill country around Jerusalem (cf., Gen 15:21; Ex 3:8).
15	<b>KENITES</b>	A Midianite tribe that originally dwelt in the Gulf of Aqabah region (1 Sam 27:10).
16	<b>MOABITES</b>	The descendants of Moab, the grandson of Lot by his eldest daughter (Gen 19:37), who lived East of the Dead Sea.
17	<b>PERIZZITES</b>	People included among the general population of the Land who do not trace their lineage to Canaan. Their exact identity is uncertain.

[Content of the chart is taken from *The MacArthur Study Bible*, p. 308]

**III. Summary.**

This chapter tells about the reaction of the people living in Canaan to the miraculous crossing of the Jordan at flood time. Naturally, they were FRIGHTENED! At this time when there was not much danger of any attack from the Canaanites, the Lord ordered through Joshua that the males be circumcised. This important matter, for some unknown reason, had not been attended to during the forty years of wilderness wandering. For a period of time, they remained in their places in the camp (v. 8), in order for healing to take place. The Lord tells Joshua that He has now rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off of the people and so the name of the place became GILGAL. The children of Israel observe the Passover at this place. We also read here about the change of diet from manna provided miraculously by the Lord to eating from the produce of the land provided by the providential care of the Lord. We can be reminded here of our Lord’s instruction for us to give thanks for our daily bread (Mt 6:11). This chapter also tells of an appearance of the “captain of the host of the Lord” (v. 14) to Joshua. Joshua bows before him and is told to remove his shoes because the place where he stands is holy, and Joshua did so.

**IV. Outline.**

1. All the kings of the land are fearful (Josh 5:1).
2. Joshua is instructed to circumcise the children of Israel (Josh 5:2-9).

3. The observance of the Passover (Josh 5:10).
4. The manna ceases (Josh 5:11-12).
5. The captain of the host of the Lord appears to Joshua (Josh 5:13-15).

**V. Questions.**

**True or False**

01. \_\_\_\_\_ The Canaanites were afraid of the children of Israel.
02. \_\_\_\_\_ Joshua fell on his face to worship the captain of the host of the Lord.
03. \_\_\_\_\_ The fighting men who came out of Egypt were all dead at the time of this reading.
04. \_\_\_\_\_ The manna ceased to come three days after the Israelites ate of the produce of the land.
05. \_\_\_\_\_ The children of Israel kept the Passover at Gilgal.

**Multiple Choice (Select the BEST Answer)**

06. \_\_\_\_\_ All the men who came out of Egypt were: (a) circumcised; (b) uncircumcised.
07. \_\_\_\_\_ Is “milk and honey” mentioned in this chapter: (a) YES; (b) NO.
08. \_\_\_\_\_ Is there any significance to the name GILGAL: (a) YES; (b) NO.
09. \_\_\_\_\_ Who appears in this chapter with sword drawn: (a) Moses; (b) Joshua; (c) the captain of the host of the Lord.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Gilgal was located where: (a) East of the Jordan River; (b) on the plains of Jericho; (c) in the area of Galilee.

**Fill in the Blanks**

11. “...Loose thy \_\_\_\_\_ from off thy \_\_\_\_\_; for the \_\_\_\_\_ whereon thou \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.”
12. \_\_\_\_\_ were used to circumcise again the children of Israel.
13. On the \_\_\_\_\_ day of the month, the children of Israel observed the Passover.
14. “This day have I \_\_\_\_\_ away the \_\_\_\_\_ of Egypt...”
15. It is said of the Amorite and Canaanite kings that their heart \_\_\_\_\_.

*Each Question is worth 7 Points*

**My Score is:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Answers will be found on next week’s handout*

**ANSWERS to Lesson 01-71 ...** [01—False, Josh 3:17; 02—True, Josh 3:4; 03—True, Josh 3:16; 04—True, Josh 3:10; 05—True, Josh 3:16; 06—a, Josh 3:3; 07—b, Josh 3:5; 08—c, Josh 3:11; 09—c, Josh 3:15; 10—a, Josh 3:17; 11—Shittim, Josh 3:1; 12—two, thousand, Josh 3:4; 13—magnify; 14—before, you, Josh 3:11; 15—ALL, Josh 3:17.]

**VI. Lessons & Applications.**

1. **...that their heart was melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel** (Josh 5:1). This statement is in such STRONG CONTRAST to the way the 10 spies reported that it would be if the children of Israel should go into this land. If we read Numbers 13:31-33, the very opposite is the report that they gave to their brethren and to Moses. The only thing that had changed about the situation is that no longer were the people faithless, but rather faithful. God had not changed. His ability to protect His people had not changed in the least bit. Now they did not consider themselves as GRASSHOPPERS as they compared themselves with the Canaanites. Rather because of the demonstration of the great power of their God, the people of the land were frightened, and the children of Israel felt confident to take their land.

2. ...circumcise again the children of Israel the second time (Josh 5:2). The idea is that when the children of Israel came out of Egypt, they were circumcised—it was done individually eight days from the time of birth. For some reason they had not attended to this important matter during the forty years of wilderness wandering. All of that generation of fighting men had vanished in the wilderness and now it was time for this part of the covenant between Israel and God to be completed. This action highlights again in the minds of the present generation the lack of faith and obedience of their fathers.
3. This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you (Josh 5:9). This seems to be an indicator of beginning again. These Israelites will have opportunity to demonstrate their faithfulness to the Lord. Their fathers had been a great disappointment, but perhaps the new generation will learn the lessons of history and not repeat the same mistakes. Keeping the Passover (v. 10) was one way to get off to the right kind of start in the new land.
4. ...neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year (Josh 5:12). Here there was no longer the need for the MIRACULOUS feeding by means of the manna, but nonetheless, God is still the Great Provider, though they were eating of that which required the labor and toil of human hands. God had been so good to His people (cf., Neh 9:19-25). Sometimes we might tend to forget that all good things come from God (James 1:17), even our daily bread, which we are urged by our Lord to express thanks for in our prayers (Mt 6:11). Such a prayer helps to remind us of our dependence upon God.
5. ...and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? (Josh 5:13). One of the exhortations of the Lord to Joshua in the first chapter involved COURAGE (1:6). Here is a very clear demonstration that Joshua listened to that exhortation. He is and will be a courageous leader.
6. ...as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come... (Josh 5:14). As stated above, many count this as a Pre-Incarnate appearance of Christ. I could not say that it is definitely that. All we have in the text is that all that we have. It evidently is some kind of manifestation of the Lord because of the command given to Joshua in the next verse. The similarity to the Exodus 3 appearance to Moses is very obvious.

VII. Seek-A-Word Puzzle.

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

[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 use 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]

**Joshua 5:10-12...** <sup>10</sup>And the children of Israel **encamped** in **Gilgal**, and kept the **passover** on the **fourteenth** day of the month at even in the **plains** of **Jericho**. <sup>11</sup>And they did eat of the **old corn** of the land on the morrow after the passover, **unleavened** cakes, and **parched** corn in the selfsame day. <sup>12</sup>And the **manna ceased** on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the **fruit** of the land of **Canaan** that year.