

Christ School of Ministry
Old Testament Survey
Lesson Seven
Joshua, Judges and Ruth
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Theocracy

Joshua

Emerging From the Shadows

Joshua Main Character

Shares the name with the Messiah:

Yeshua (Hebrew-The Lord Saves)

Hebrew to English = Joshua

Hebrew to Greek to English = Jesus

Joshua was Moses Lieutenant, Successor and Disciple.

There is nothing negative reported in the scriptures about Joshua the entire 110 years of his life.

Main Concept-Theocracy

Conquest of the land of Canaan

The Lord Saves from Slavery

Provides a Home - Foundation for Family.

Fulfills Part of the Abrahamic Covenant

Gen 12:1-3

12 Now the Lord had said to Abram: "Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. 2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." NKJV

Gen 15:2-16:4

4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." 5 Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

6 And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

7 Then He said to him, "I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it."

8 And he said, "Lord God, how shall I know that I will inherit it?"

9 So He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10 Then he brought all these to Him and cut them in two, down the middle, and placed each piece opposite the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. 11 And when the vultures came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12 Now when the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. **13 Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your**

descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

17 And it came to pass, when the sun went down and it was dark, that behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those pieces. 18 On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying:

"To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates — 19 the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, 20 the Hittites, the Perizzites, the

Important Dates

1. 1445 BC -- Exodus
2. 1405-1400 Conquest (Focus of the Book)
3. 1406-1390 Events Covered
4. 1390 Book Penned

Authorship

Jewish Tradition: Joshua

Hints to Authorship

Joshua 24:26 Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. NKJV

Key Chapter

Chapter 6 -- Battle of Jericho

Key People

Joshua --

Bible References: Joshua is mentioned in the Bible in Exodus 17, 24, 32, 33; Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges 1:1-2:23; 1 Samuel 6:14-18; 1 Chronicles 7:27; Nehemiah 8:17; Acts 7:45; Hebrews 4:7-9.

Hometown: Joshua was born in Egypt, probably in the area named Goshen, in the northeast Nile delta. He was born a slave, like his fellow Hebrews.

Occupation: Egyptian slave, personal assistant of Moses, military commander, leader of Israel.

Father: Joshua's father was Nun from the tribe of Ephraim.

Spouse: The Bible makes no mention of Joshua having a wife or family.

There is not one negative thing recorded of Joshua. True man of God and he wrote the book of Joshua! :>)

Key People

Caleb

caleb Was From The Tribe Of Judah.

Caleb Was Born A Slave In The Land Of Egypt.

Caleb Was 40 Years Old At Time Of Exodus.

caleb Gives A Speech Reminding Joshua Of Moses
Promise To Caleb Of His Inheritance In The Land Of
Canaan. Ch. 14

caleb Receives The City Of Hebron And The Area Around
It At Age 85. Formerly The City Of The Anaks (giants)

Caleb Wholeheartedly Followed The Lord, The God Of
Israel.

Theocracy

Joshua

Outline

1. Invading the land (1-5)

2. Conquering the land (6-12)

Central campaign (6-8)

Jericho and Ai-no plunder, first fruits to God
Joshua's prayer-God, get up Joshua. Quit
crying there is sin in the camp.

Southern campaign (9-10)

Northern campaign (11-12)

3. Settling of the land (13-24)

Theocracy

So what's with all the killing and dying??

17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it':

"Cursed is the ground for your sake;
In toil you shall eat of it
All the days of your life.

18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you,
And you shall eat the herb of the field.

19 *In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread
Till you return to the ground,
For out of it you were taken;
For dust you are,*

And to dust you shall return." Gen 3:17-19 NKJV

Theocracy

Why would God not only allow this genocide but demand that it be carried out?

God has a different concept of death than we do.

Genesis 6: God Himself sent the flood upon all of mankind. He killed all of them with the exception of Noah and his family.

Genesis 19 God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah

2 Peter 3 Fire from heaven.

Promise from the beginning. Planet is cursed and all men die.

Sin brought consequences including and especially death.

Jeremiah 34:18 Broken Covenant cutting of calves in two.

What is theodicy? (Paper on Website)

The term "theodicy" refers to vindicating the divine attributes of God, particularly holiness and justice, while acknowledging the true existence of physical and moral evil.

Skeptical philosopher J. S. Mill framed the following argument in an attempt to show that, because evil exists, the God of the Bible could not exist:

- If God were all powerful, He could destroy evil
- If God were all good, He would want to destroy evil
- But evil is not destroyed
- Therefore, an all-powerful and all-good God does not exist

If the premises of Mill's argument are true, the conclusion naturally follows. But the question is, are they true?

First, it must be acknowledged that evil exists. Unlike some faiths such as Hinduism and Christian Science that deny the actual reality of evil, Christianity never does. Christianity confirms the existence of evil, and classifies it into (1) natural evil such as disease and physical catastrophes; (2) moral evil, which can be summed up as "man's inhumanity to man"; (3) supernatural evil, such as Satan and demons.

1. Is the result of a fallen world. It rains on the just and the unjust alike.
2. and 3. may have a different explanation.

Defination of Evil

Cold absence of Heat -460F

Dark absence of Light

Evil absense of God

Satan or Lucifer is the embodiment of evil. He has given himself over to evil.

Sin seperates us from God God removes Himself! Ezekiel cloud moving from the temple out of Jerusalem.

Theocracy

Judges

Title: “judges” (hebrew -- “shaphat”)

One Who Governs Or Leads. Not A King.
They Had No Governmental Authority.
They Were Agents Of Gods Deliverence.
Temporary Leadership In Crisis.
Think Of Them As “deliverers”.

Author: Not Stated - Jewish Tradition: Samuel

Theocracy Judges

Time Frame:

1390 = Death Of Joshua (1:1)

1375 = Time Of First Apostasy (2:11)

332 Years 12 Judges/deliverers

Cycle - Obedience To Sin To Oppression To

Repentance To Judge To Deliverance To -

Eli Was Both A Judge And A Priest

1100 Birth Of Samuel-last True Judge

1043 Saul Becomes King-end Of Judges

(1 Samuel 8)

Theocracy

Judges

Main Concept: Failure

Failure To Destroy Canaanites (core problem)

Judges 2:1-4 You Shall Break Down Their Altars But You Have Not Obeyed My Voice.

Spiritual Failure (apostasy)

Apostate - Exposed To Truth, Knew The Truth, Were Told The Truth And Refused To Do What Was Right.

Judges 2:11-19 Pattern-cycle Of Failure.

Theocracy

Judges

Judge	Oppressor	Chapter	Years of oppress/peace
Othniel	Arameans	3	8/40
Ehud	Moabites	3	18/80
Shamgar	Philistines	3	?/?
Deb/Barak	Canaanites	4-5	20/40
Gideon/ _{Abimelech}	Midianites	6-8	7/40
Tolah/ _{West of Jordon}	?	10	?/23

Theocracy Judges

Judge	Oppressor	Chapter	Years of oppress/peace
Jair/ _{East of Jordon}	?	10	?/22
Jephthah/ _{vow}	Ammonites	10	18/6
Ibzan	? /con	12	?/7
Elon	? /temp	12	?/10
Abdon	? /ories	12	?/8
Samson	Philistines	13-16	40/20

Theocracy

Judges

Psalms 106:34-46 A divine commentary on Judges

Judges 17:6 In those days there was no king in Israel
This was not a lament because they had no king. It was a reflection of their relationship with the King of Kings.

Judges 21:25 Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.

Characteristics of Canaan

Now this is the experience to which Canaan and the book of Joshua point in a typical way. It is therefore of the highest interest to observe what we are told about Canaan; and there are three things which are outstandingly characteristic.

1. Canaan was a place of Rest
2. Canaan was a place of Bounty
3. Canaan was a place of Triumph

Credit - J. Sidlow Baxter - Explore the Book

First, Canaan was Israel's promised REST.

Itineracy was to give place to settled dwelling. Instead of the inhospitable wilderness there was to be a home where they should sit down, every man "under his vine and under his fig tree." The tired hands and blistered feet were to find refreshing contrast in the responsive yields of Canaan's fertile plains and valleys. The promised rest had been wonderfully prepared for their coming. They should not need even to build the cities and houses which they would need to live in, for they were to possess "great and goodly cities which thou buildest not, and houses full of all good things which thou filledst not, and wells digged which thou diggedst not, and vineyards and olive trees which thou plantedst not" (Deut 6:10-11) - and here they should lie down in safety, none making them afraid (Lev 26:6).

Second, Canaan was the place of BOUNTY.

This was the land "flowing with milk and honey," a "good land and a large" (Ex 3:8), a "land of corn and wine" and kissed with the dews of heaven (Deut 33:28), a land of olives and vines, of firs and cedars, of rich fruits and harvests where an obedient people should "eat to the full," where the threshing should reach unto the vintage and the vintage unto the sowing time (Lev 26:5); a place of which God had said: "the land whither thou goest in to possess it is not as the land of Egypt from whence ye came out, where thou sowedst thy seed and wateredst it with thy foot as a garden of herbs: but the land whither ye go to possess it is a land of hills and valleys, and drinketh water of the rain of heaven: land which the Lord thy God careth for; the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year" (Deut 11:10-12). Yes, Canaan was the place of bounty!

Third, Canaan was the place of TRIUMPH.

Were there enemies in Canaan? Yes: but they were a defeated foe before ever Israel struck the first blow, for God had said: "the Lord thy God shall ... cast out many nations before thee, the Hittites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and mightier than thou" (Deut 7:1). Israel was to remember what Jehovah had done "unto Pharaoh and unto all Egypt" and not be afraid. Five of them should chase a hundred, and none of their enemies should be able to stand before them. God was calling Israel not merely to conflict but to an assured victory. Yes, to a faithful Israel Canaan was to be the place of triumph.

We should mark well the principle which governed Israel's occupation of the land, because the same principle operates in our own appropriation of the inheritance in Christ. This principle is seen if we bring together two seemingly contradictory verses. In chapter 11:23 we read: "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord said unto Moses." Yet now in chapter 13:1, God says: "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed." These two statements in reality are not contradictory but complementary. They are two aspects of the one situation, and both are true. There was a real sense in which "the whole land" had been taken; and there was a real sense in which "very much land" yet - remained to be taken. The decisive blow had been struck. The key cities had been sacked. All opposing alliances had been crushed. Any remaining foes were well within the power of Israel's individual tribes to destroy. It only remained for them now to see to it that there was a pressing home of that initial victory to the last detail.

Has Christ brought you Rest, Bounty and Triumph. It is His will that you live the Blessed life.