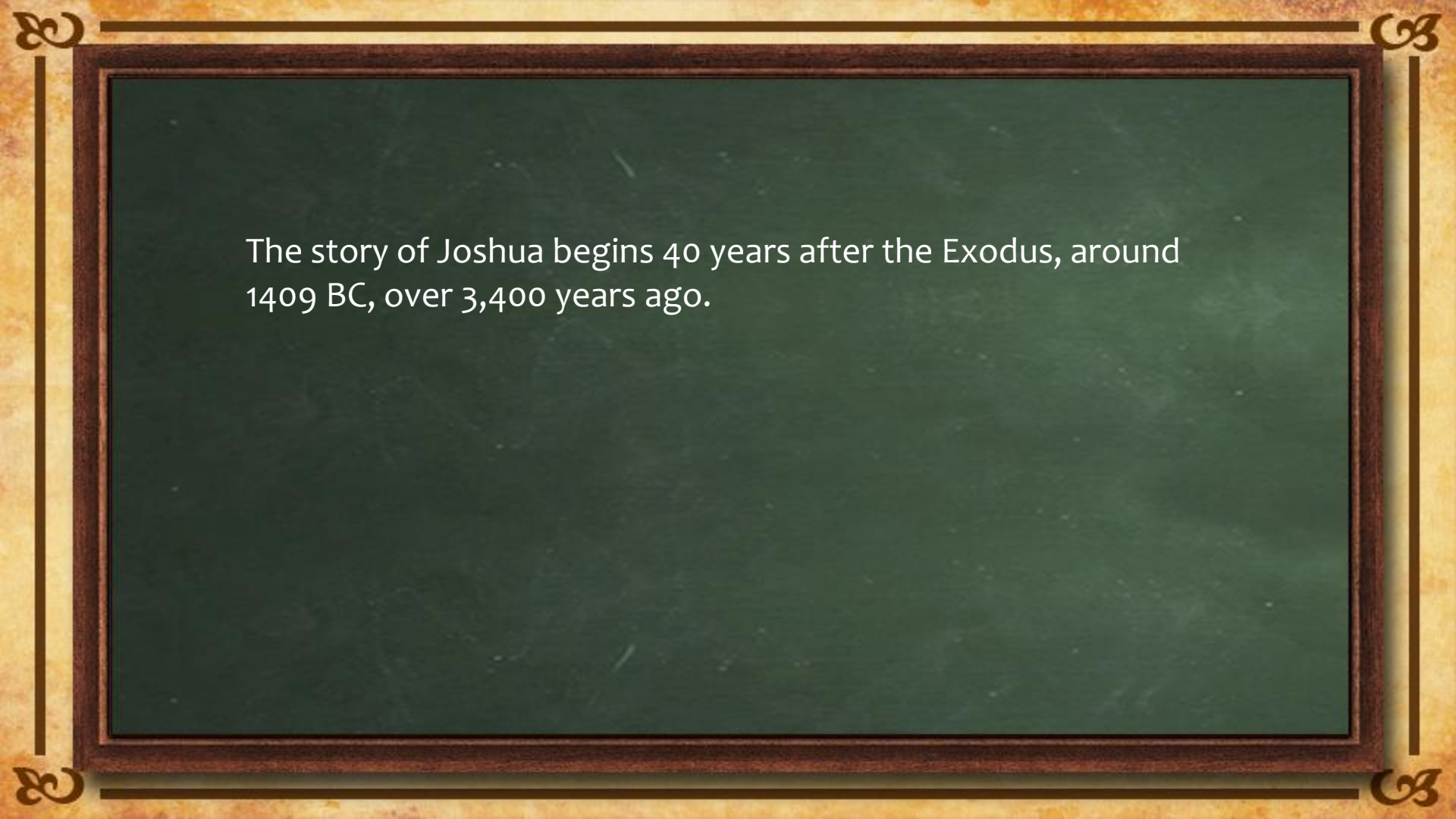


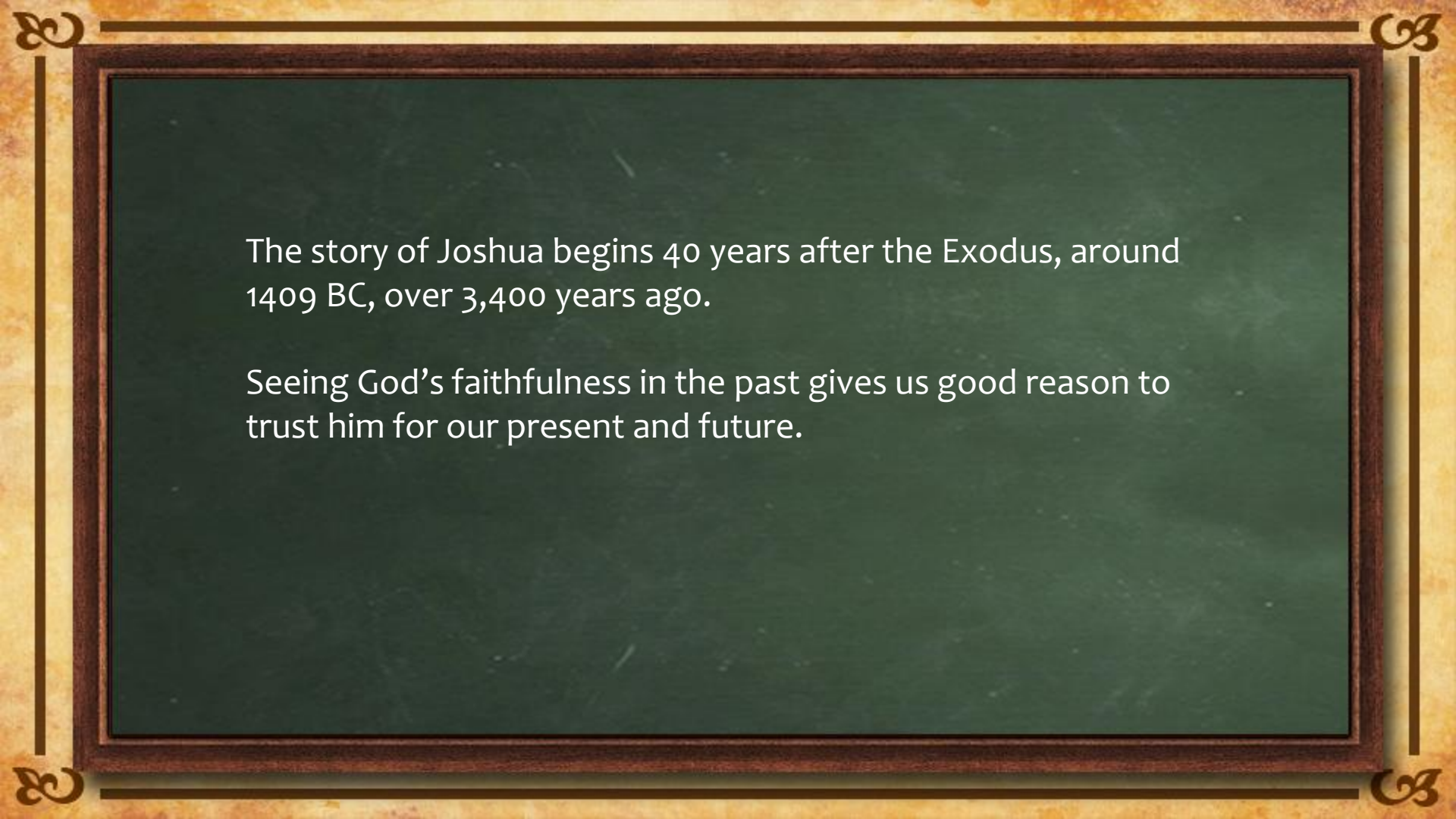
The Book Of

יִסְחָא

Lesson 1. Chapters 1 to 3



The story of Joshua begins 40 years after the Exodus, around 1409 BC, over 3,400 years ago.



The story of Joshua begins 40 years after the Exodus, around 1409 BC, over 3,400 years ago.

Seeing God's faithfulness in the past gives us good reason to trust him for our present and future.

The Book of Joshua:

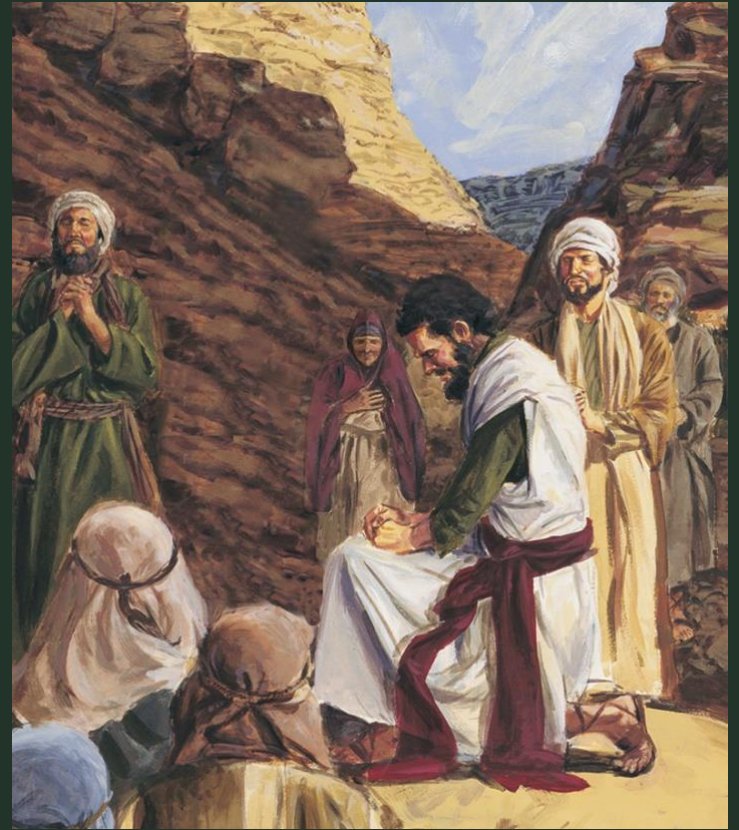
1. Preparation for war (chapters 1-5)
2. Conquest of the Promised Land (6-12)
3. Settlement of the Promised Land (13-24)

The Book of Joshua:

1. Preparation for war (chapters 1-5)
 - a) Joshua takes command (ch 1)

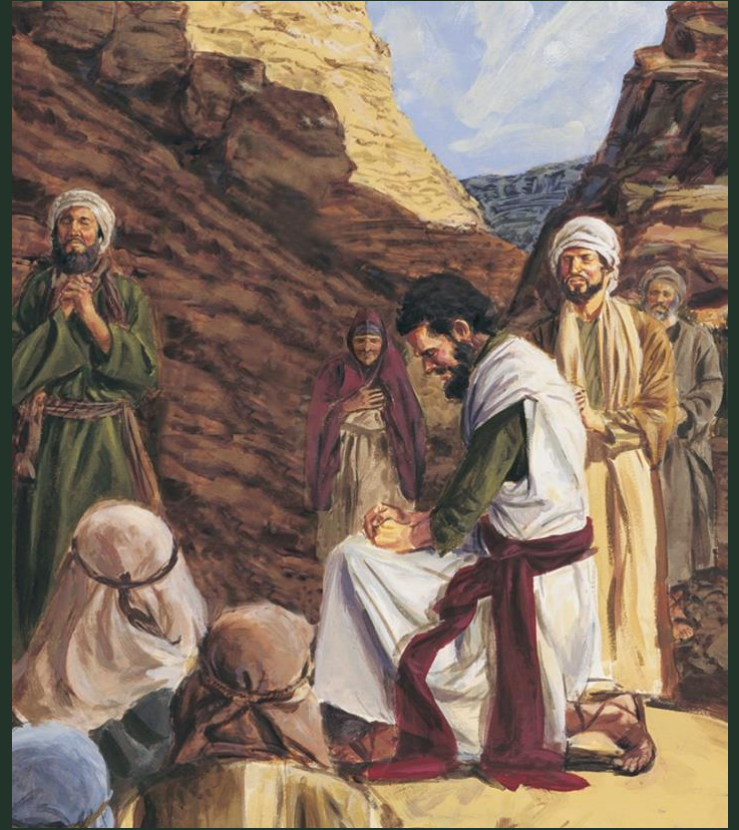
Joshua 1:1-2

- 1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,
- 2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.



Joshua 1:3-4

- 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.
- 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.



Joshua 1:3-4

- 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, **as I said unto Moses.**
- 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

The words God spoke to Moses are recorded in Deuteronomy 11:



Joshua 1:3-4

- ³ Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, **as I said unto Moses.**
- ⁴ From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

Deuteronomy 11:24-25

- ²⁴ Every place whereon the soles of your feet shall tread shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.
- ²⁵ There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.



Joshua 1:3-4

- 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, **as I said unto Moses.**
- 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

400 years before that, God promised this same land to Abraham:



Joshua 1:3-4

- 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, **as I said unto Moses.**
- 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

400 years before that, God promised this same land to Abraham:

Genesis 15:18

In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:



Joshua 1:3-4

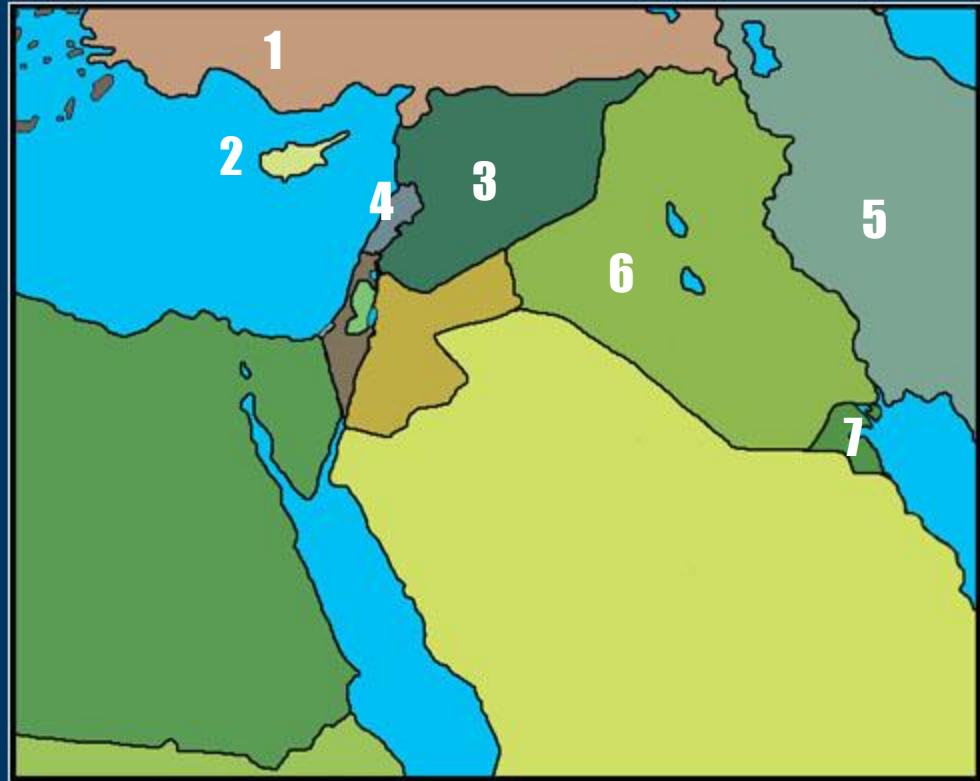
- 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, **as I said unto Moses.**
- 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

The following maps compare the borders of modern-day Israel with the expanse promised by God.

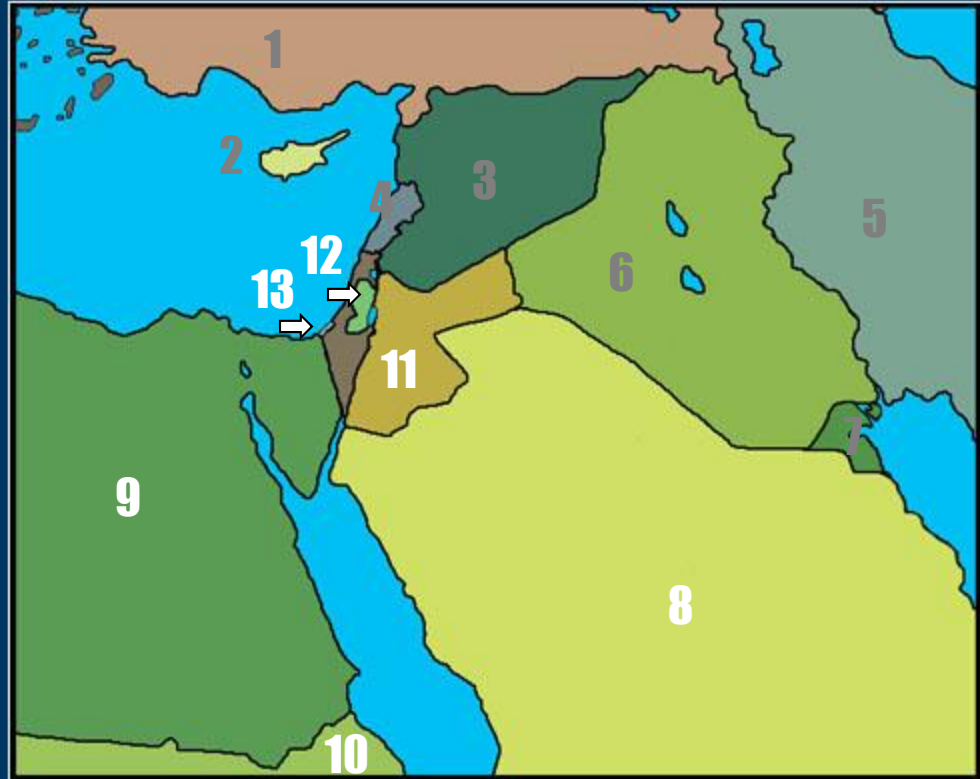
First, the Middle East today:



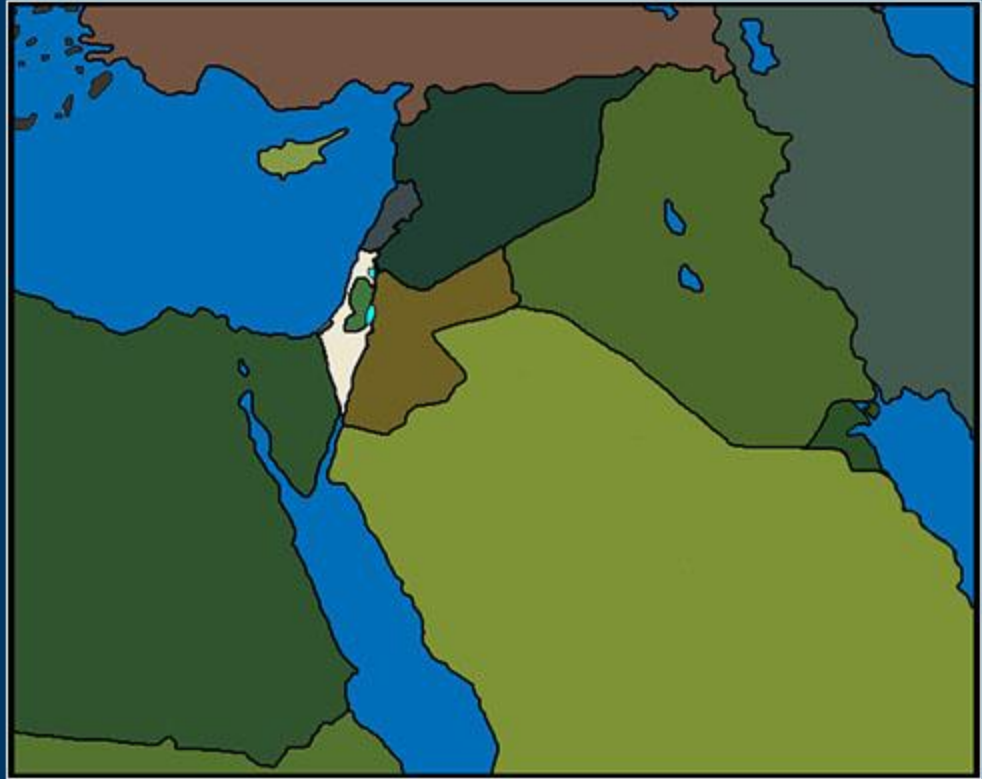
1. Turkey
2. Cyprus
3. Syria
4. Lebanon
5. Iraq
6. Iran
7. Kuwait



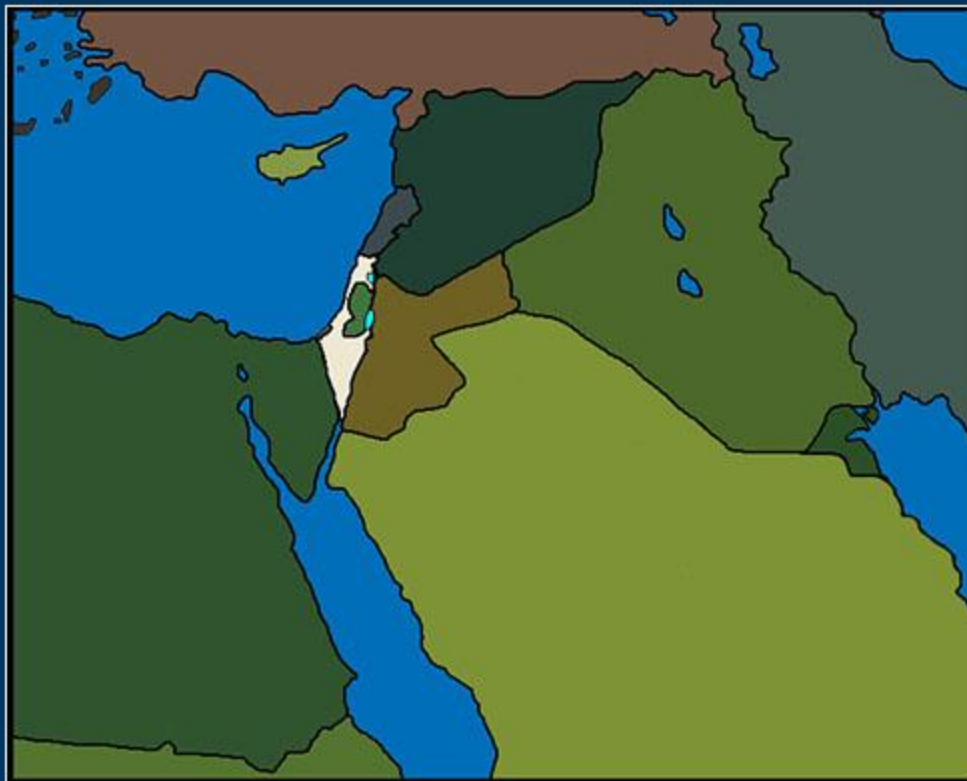
1. Turkey
2. Cyprus
3. Syria
4. Lebanon
5. Iraq
6. Iran
7. Kuwait
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Egypt
10. Sudan
11. Jordan
12. West Bank
13. The Gaza Strip



1. Turkey
2. Cyprus
3. Syria
4. Lebanon
5. Iraq
6. Iran
7. Kuwait
8. Saudi Arabia
9. Egypt
10. Sudan
11. Jordan
12. West Bank
13. The Gaza Strip
14. Israel

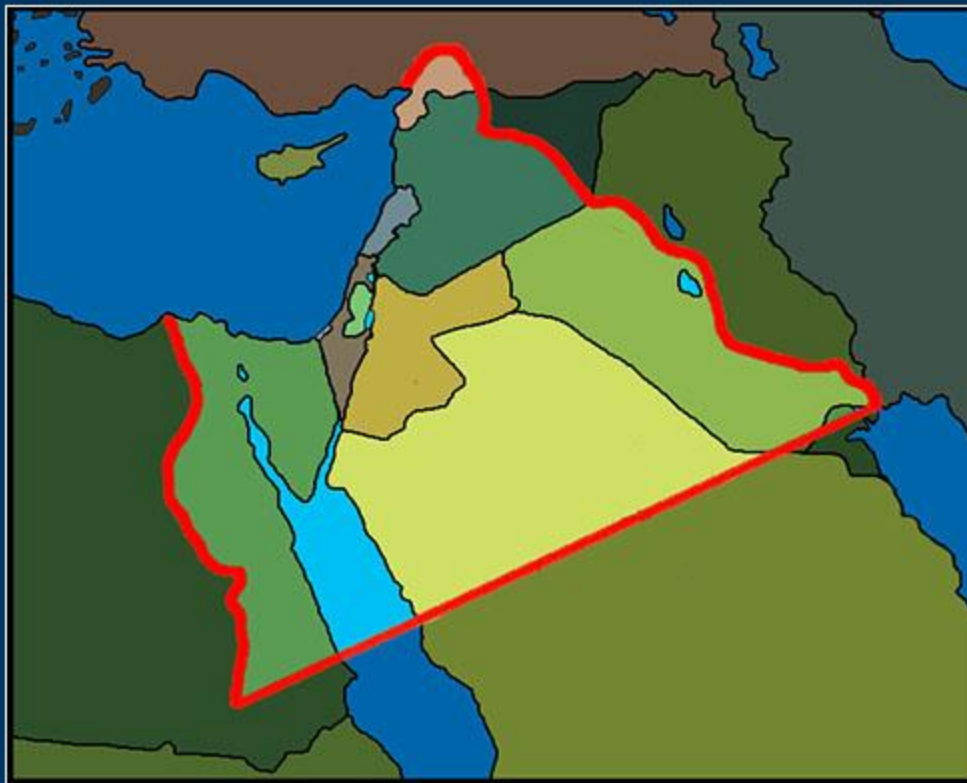


These are the borders of
Israel today:



The is the land promised
to Moses:

“From the wilderness and
this Lebanon even unto
the great river, the river
Euphrates, all the land of
the Hittites, and unto the
great sea toward the
going down of the sun,
shall be your coast.”





The Lord made a conditional promise of victory to Joshua:



Joshua 1:5-7

- 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 not fail thee, nor forsake thee.
- ⁶ Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.
- ⁷ Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.



Joshua 1:8-9

- ⁸ This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein:
for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.
- ⁹ Have not I commanded thee?
Be strong and of a good courage;
be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed:
for the LORD thy God *is* with thee
whithersoever thou goest.

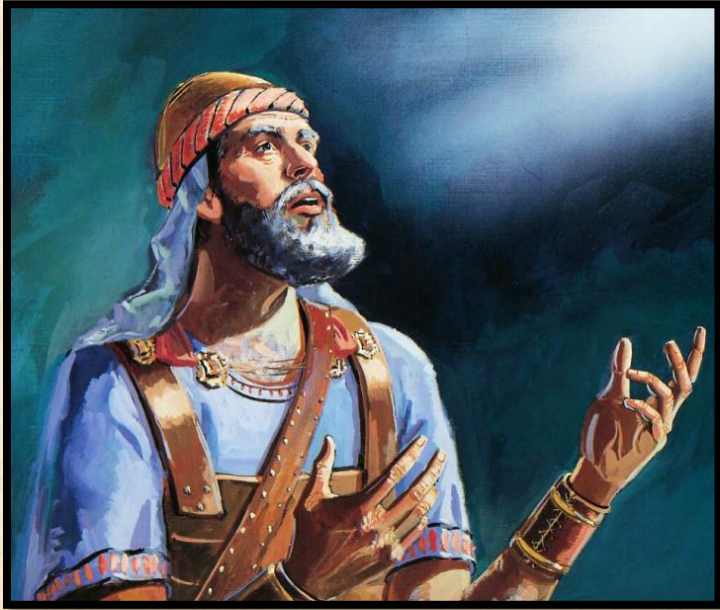


But would this new generation of Israelites succeed where the previous generation had failed? The promise was not new!

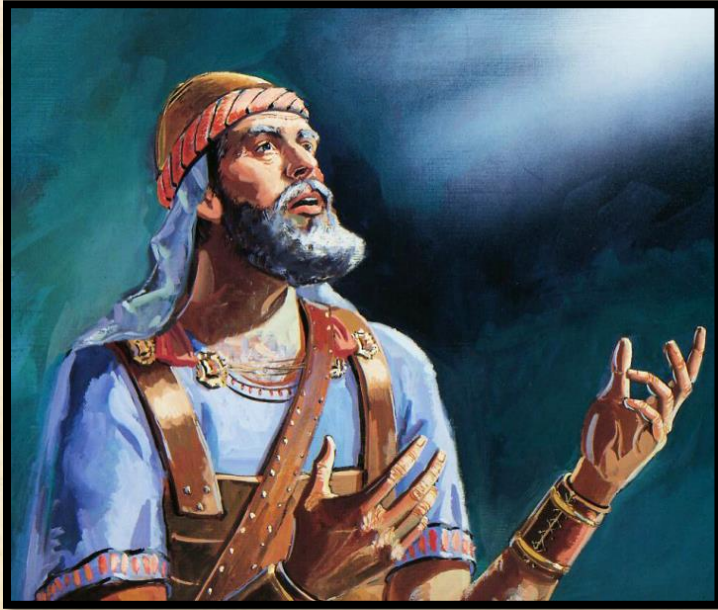
God's promises must be met with faith.

Hebrews 4:2

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard *it*.



Joshua prepared his people to do what the generation before them had failed to do – to cross the Jordan river into the Promised Land.



Joshua 1:10-11

- ¹⁰ Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,
- ¹¹ Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals [food, provisions]; 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.



Two of the tribes – the Reubenites, the Gadites, plus half the tribe of Manasseh – had received permission from Moses to settle on the *east* side of the Jordan.



Numbers 32: 1-5

- 1 Now the children of Reuben and the children of Gad had a very great multitude of cattle: and when they saw the land of Jazer, and the land of Gilead, that, behold, the place *was* a place for cattle;
- 2 The children of Gad and the children of Reuben came and spake unto Moses, and to Eleazar the priest, and unto the princes of the congregation, saying,
- 3 Ataroth, and Dibon, and Jazer, and Nimrah, and Heshbon, and Elealeh, and Shebam, and Nebo, and Beon,
- 4 *Even* the country which the LORD smote before the congregation of Israel, *is* a land for cattle, and thy servants have cattle:
- 5 Wherefore, said they, if we have found grace in thy sight, let this land be given unto thy servants for a possession, *and* bring us not over Jordan.



They vowed to fight alongside their brethren until the land across the Jordan was conquered.



Numbers 32:16-18

- ¹⁶ And they came near unto him, and said,
We will build sheepfolds here for our cattle, and cities for
our little ones:
- ¹⁷ But we ourselves will go ready armed before the
children of Israel, until we have brought them unto their
place: and our little ones shall dwell in the fenced cities
because of the inhabitants of the land.
- ¹⁸ We will not return unto our houses, until the children of
Israel have inherited every man his inheritance.



Now it was Joshua's turn to spoke to these tribes:



Joshua 1:12-15

- ¹² And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying,
- ¹³ Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, The LORD your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land.
- ¹⁴ Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them;
- ¹⁵ Until the LORD have given your brethren rest, as *he hath given you*, and they also have possessed the land which the LORD your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the LORD'S servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising.



They pledged themselves to Joshua as well:



Joshua 1:16-18

- ¹⁶ And they answered Joshua, saying,
All that thou commandest us we will do, and
whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.
- ¹⁷ According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things,
so will we hearken unto thee:
only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with
Moses.
- ¹⁸ Whosoever *he be* that doth rebel against thy
commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all
that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only
be strong and of a good courage.



Joshua 1:16-18

- ¹⁶ And they answered Joshua, saying,
All that thou commandest us we will do, and
whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.
- ¹⁷ According as we hearkened unto Moses in all things,
so will we hearken unto thee:
only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with
Moses.
- ¹⁸ Whosoever *he be* that doth rebel against thy
commandment, and will not hearken unto thy words in all
that thou commandest him, he shall be put to death: only
be strong and of a good courage.

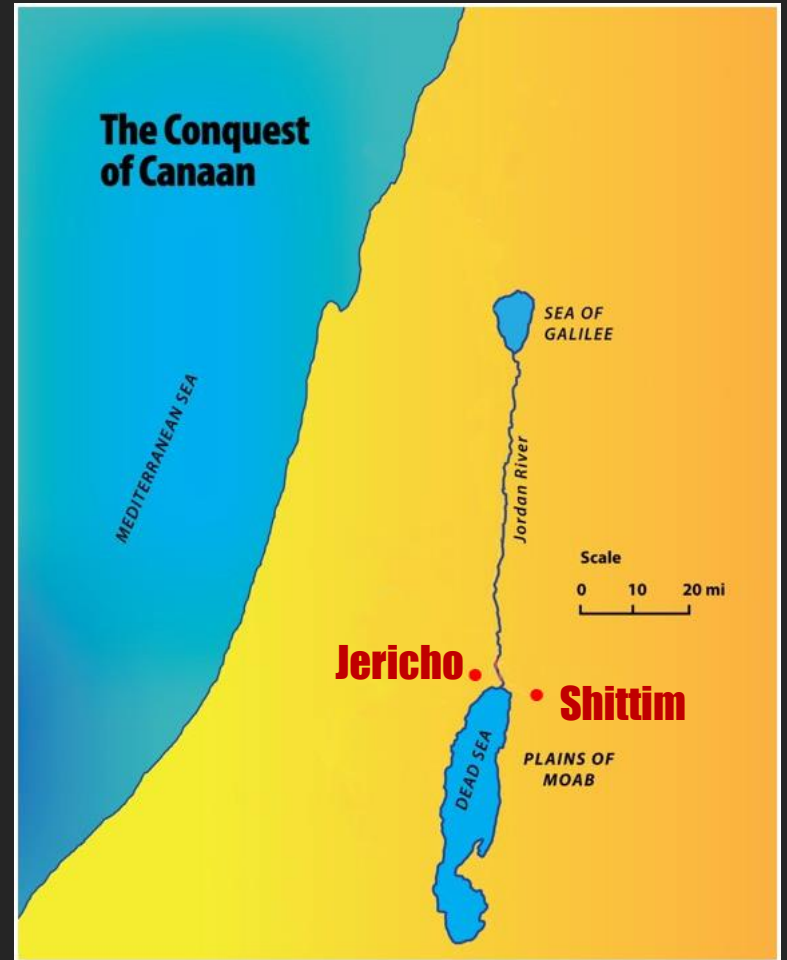
End of Chapter One

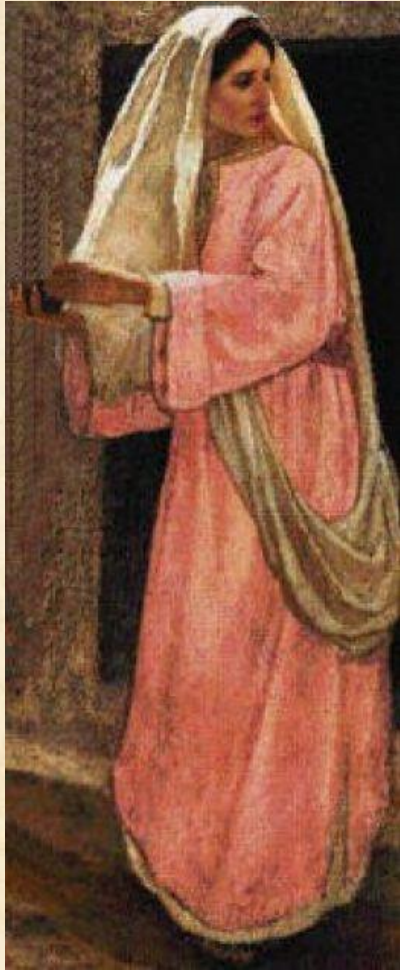
The Book of Joshua:

1. Preparation for war (chapters 1-5)
 - a) Joshua takes command (ch 1)
 - b) Rahab hides the spies (ch 2)

In Chapter 2, the two places of note are Shittim, on the east side of the Jordan, and Jericho on the west.

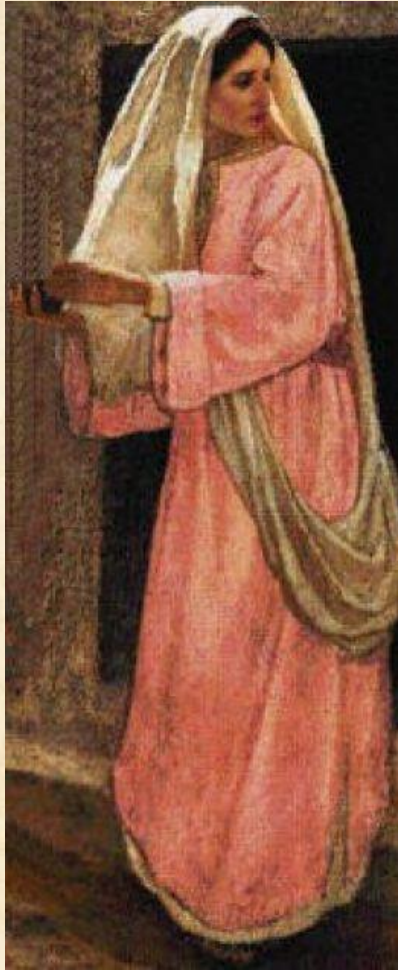
Joshua's base camp was in Shittim.





Joshua 2:1

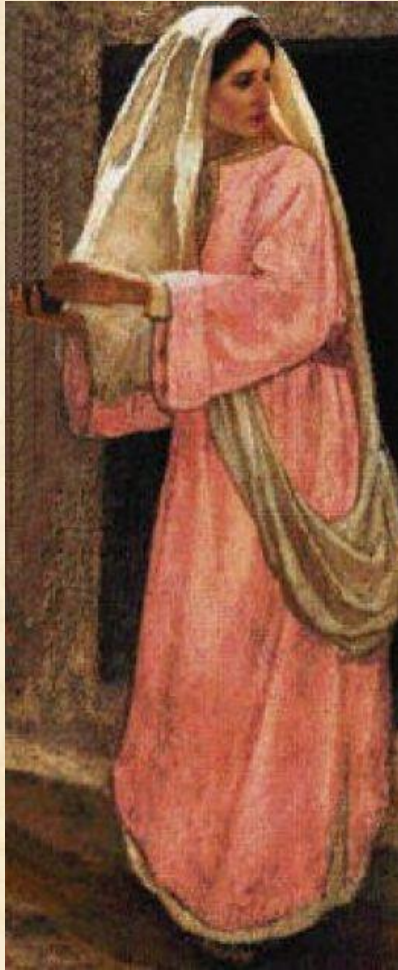
- ¹ And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.



Joshua 2:1

- ¹ And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

But someone saw them and reported it to the king of Jericho!



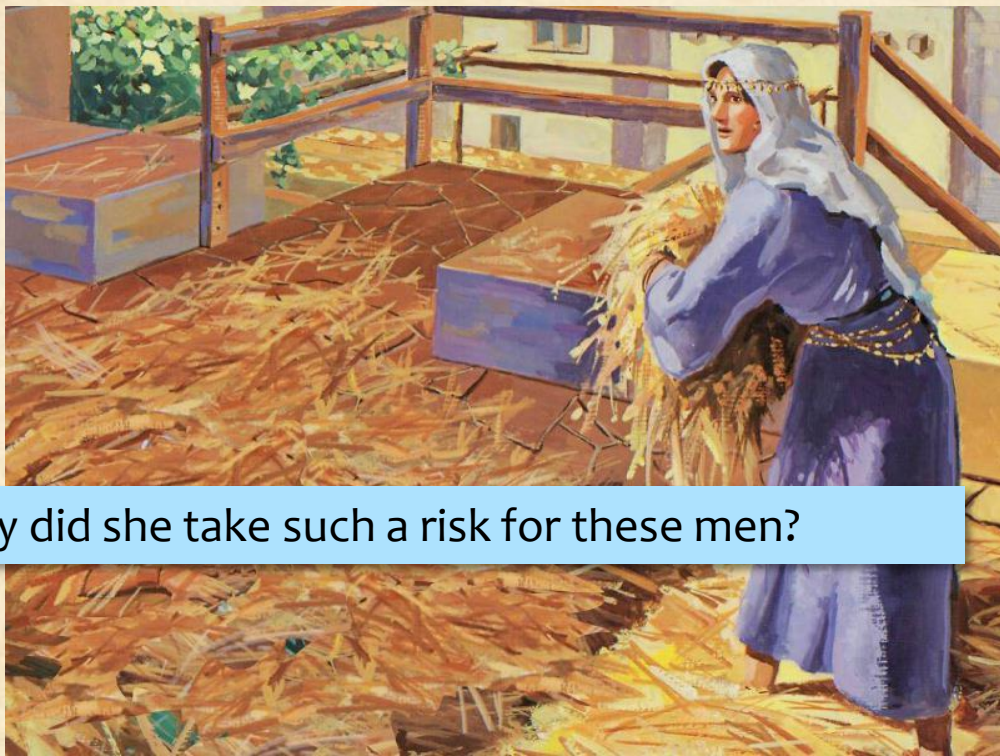
Joshua 2:2-5

- 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying,
Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of
Israel to search out the country.
- 3 And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying,
Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are
entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all
the country.
- 4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them,
and said thus,
There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were:
- 5 And it came to pass *about the time* of shutting of the gate,
when it was dark, that the men went out:
whither the men went I wot not:
pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them.



Joshua 2:6-8

- ⁶ But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.
- ⁷ And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.
- ⁸ And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;



Why did she take such a risk for these men?

Joshua 2:6-8

- ⁶ But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof.
- ⁷ And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate.
- ⁸ And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof;



Joshua 2:9-10

- ⁹ And she said unto the men,
I know that the LORD hath given you
the land, and that your terror is fallen
upon us, and that all the inhabitants
of the land faint because of you.
- ¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD
dried up the water of the Red sea for
you, when ye came out of Egypt;
and what ye did unto the two kings of
the Amorites, that were on the other
side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye
utterly destroyed.



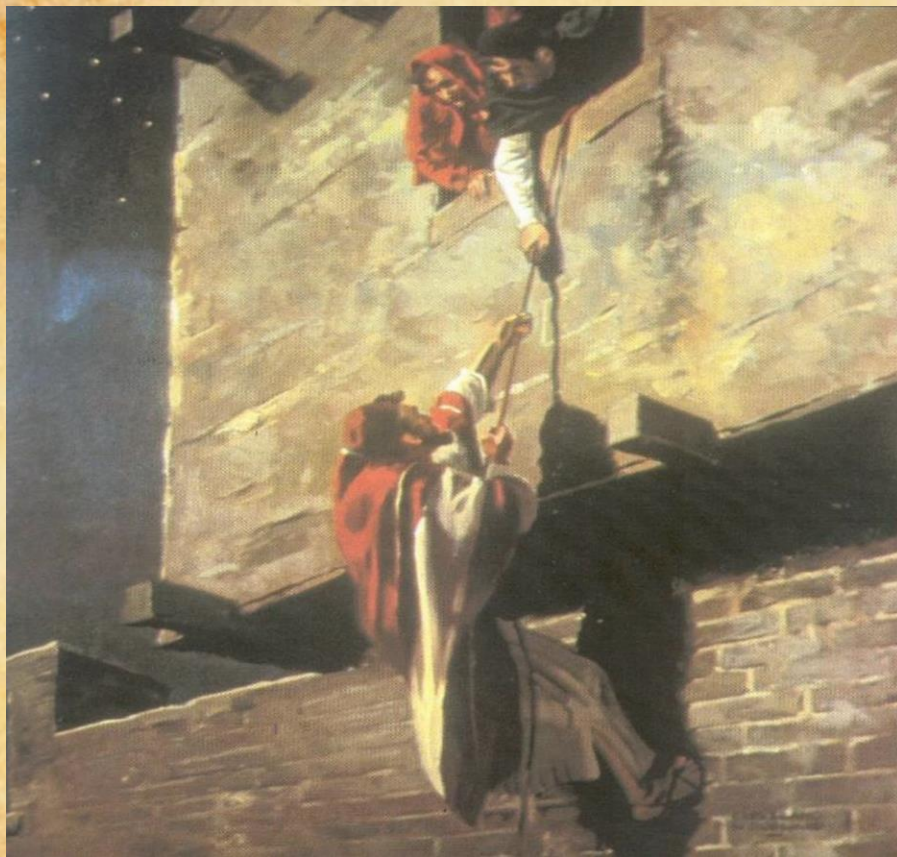
Joshua 2:11

¹¹ And as soon as we had heard *these things*, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.



Joshua 2:12-14

- ¹² Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token:
- ¹³ And *that* ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.
- ¹⁴ And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

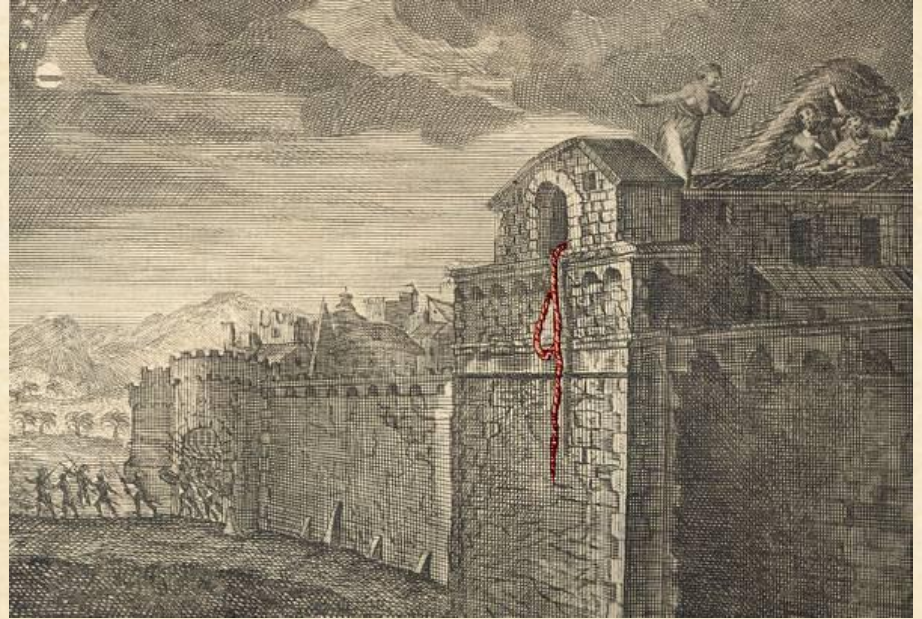


Joshua 2:15-17

- ¹⁵ Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall.
- ¹⁶ And she said unto them, Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; and hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.
- ¹⁷ And the men said unto her, We *will be* blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear.

Joshua 2:18-19

- ¹⁸ Behold, *when* we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by:
and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.
- ¹⁹ And it shall be, *that* whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood *shall be* upon his head, and we *will be* guiltless:
and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood *shall be* on our head, if *any* hand be upon him.



Joshua 2:20-21

- ²⁰ And if thou utter this our business, then we will be quit of thine oath which thou hast made us to swear.
- ²¹ And she said, According unto your words, so *be* it.

And she sent them away, and they departed: and she bound the scarlet line in the window.



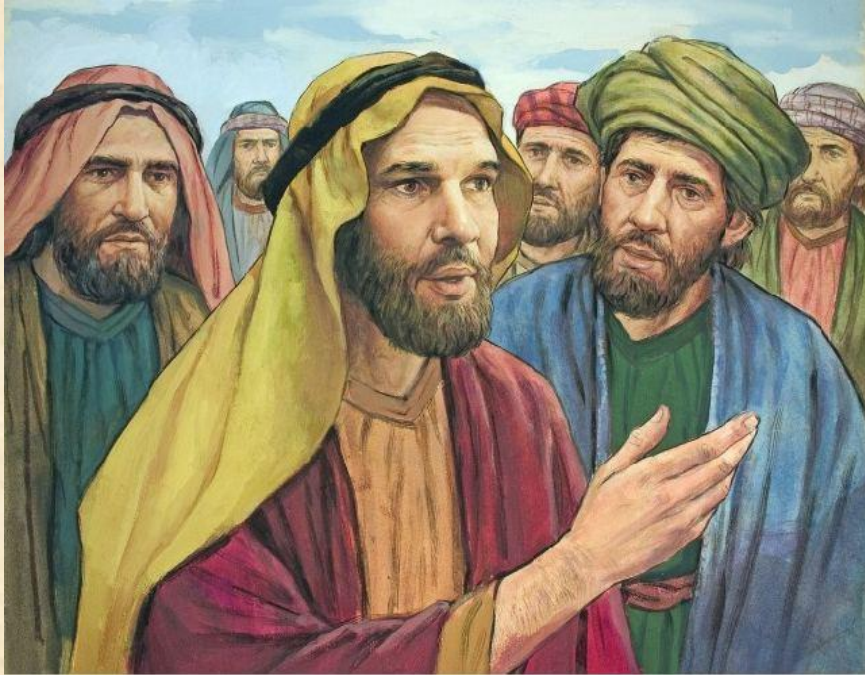


Joshua 2:22-24

- ²² And they went, and came unto the mountain, and abode there three days, until the pursuers were returned: and the pursuers sought *them* throughout all the way, but found *them* not.
- ²³ So the two men returned, and descended from the mountain, and passed over, and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all *things* that befell them:
- ²⁴ And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.

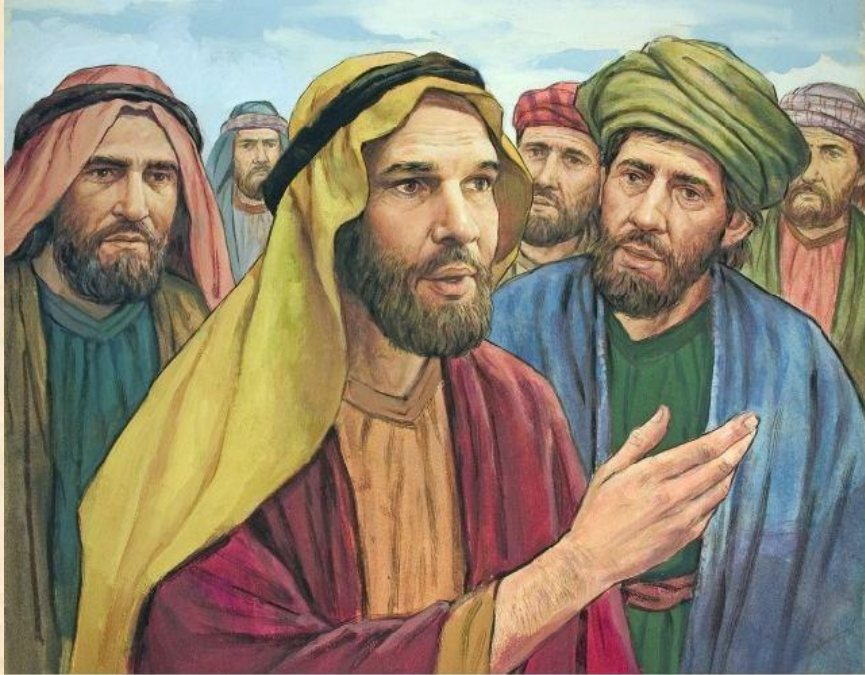


Remember the promise God made to
Moses:



Deuteronomy 11:25

There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.



Deuteronomy 11:25

There shall no man be able to stand before you: for the LORD your God shall lay the fear of you and the dread of you upon all the land that ye shall tread upon, as he hath said unto you.

And what had God said to Joshua?



Joshua 1:5b

... as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee...



Joshua 1:5b

... as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee...

End of Chapter 2

The Book of Joshua:

1. Preparation for war (chapters 1-5)
 - a) Joshua takes command (ch 1)
 - b) Rahab hides the spies (ch 2)
 - c) The miraculous crossing of the Jordan (ch 3)

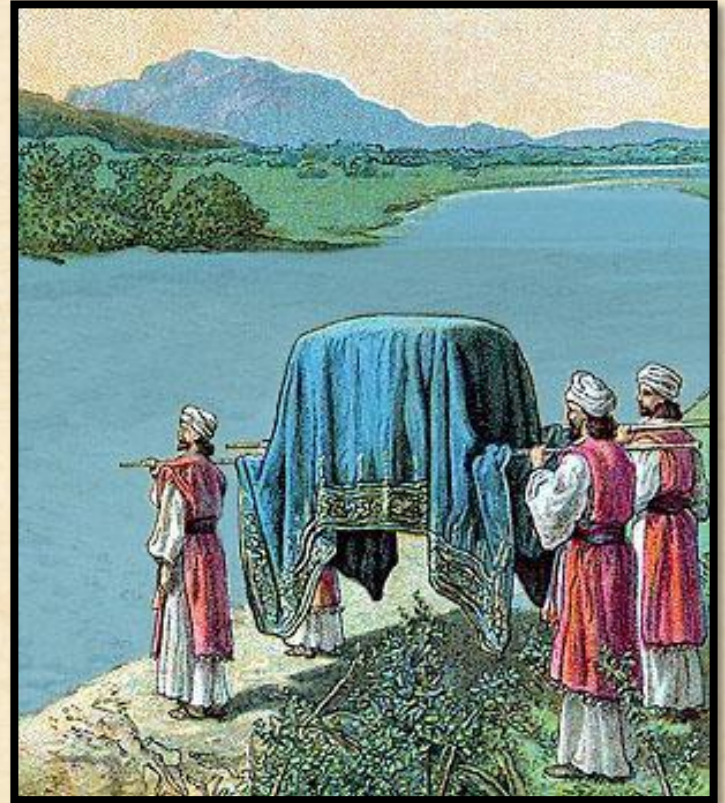


Joshua 3:1-4

- 1 And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.
- 2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;
- 3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.
- 4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.

Joshua 3:5-8

- 5 And Joshua said unto the people,
Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD
will do wonders among you.
- 6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying,
Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over
before the people. And they took up the ark of
the covenant, and went before the people.
- 7 And the LORD said unto Joshua,
This day will I begin to magnify thee in the
sight of all Israel, that they may know that,
as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.
- 8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear
the ark of the covenant, saying,
When ye are come to the brink of the water of
Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.



Joshua 3:9-10

- ⁹ And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.
- ¹⁰ And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you, and *that* he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.



Joshua 3:11-13

- ¹¹ Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.
- ¹² Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man.
- ¹³ And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, *that* the waters of Jordan shall be cut off *from* the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.



Joshua 3:14-16

- ¹⁴ And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;
- ¹⁵ And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)
- ¹⁶ That the waters which came down from above stood *and* rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that *is* beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea, failed, *and* were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.



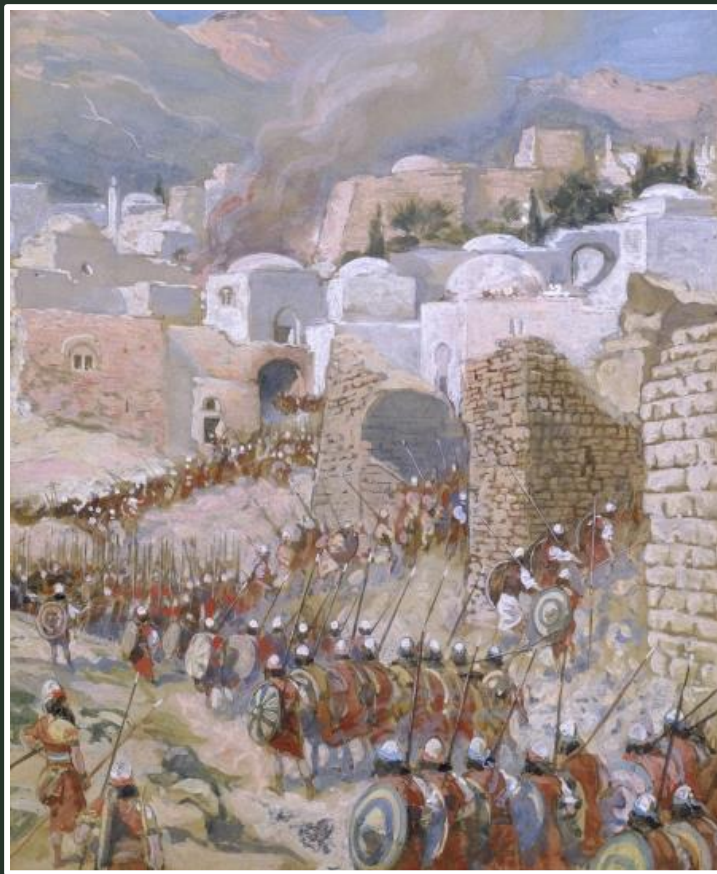
Joshua 3:17

And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.



End of Chapter 3





UP NEXT:
The Battle of Jericho



wtwh.org