

The Book Of

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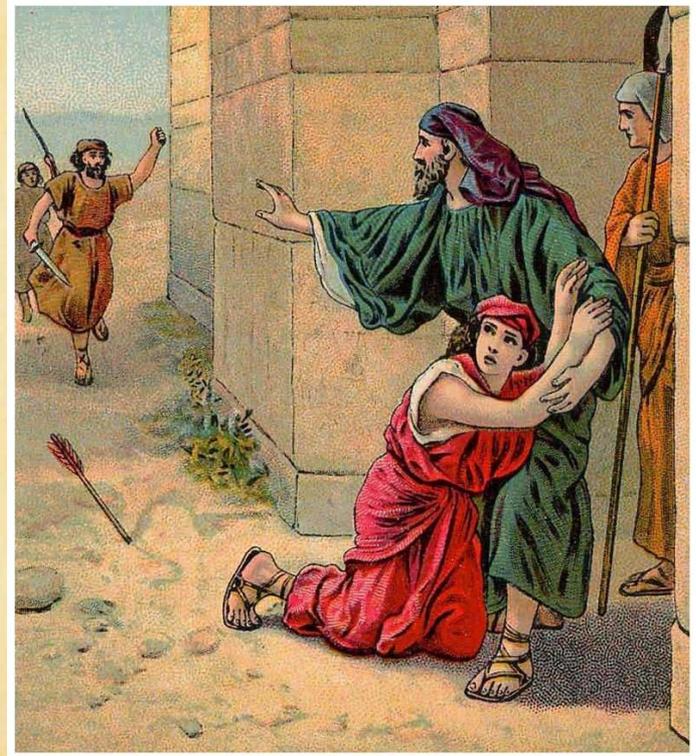
Lesson 6. Chapters 20 to 24

The Book of Joshua:

1. Preparation for war (ch 1-5)
2. Conquest of the Promised Land (ch 6-12)
3. The Settlement of the Promised Land (ch 13-21)
 - a) The unpossessed land (ch 13)
 - b) The 2 ½ tribes that settled on the east of Jordan
 - c) The 9 ½ tribes that settled in Canaan (ch 14-19)
 - d) The cities of refuge (ch 20)

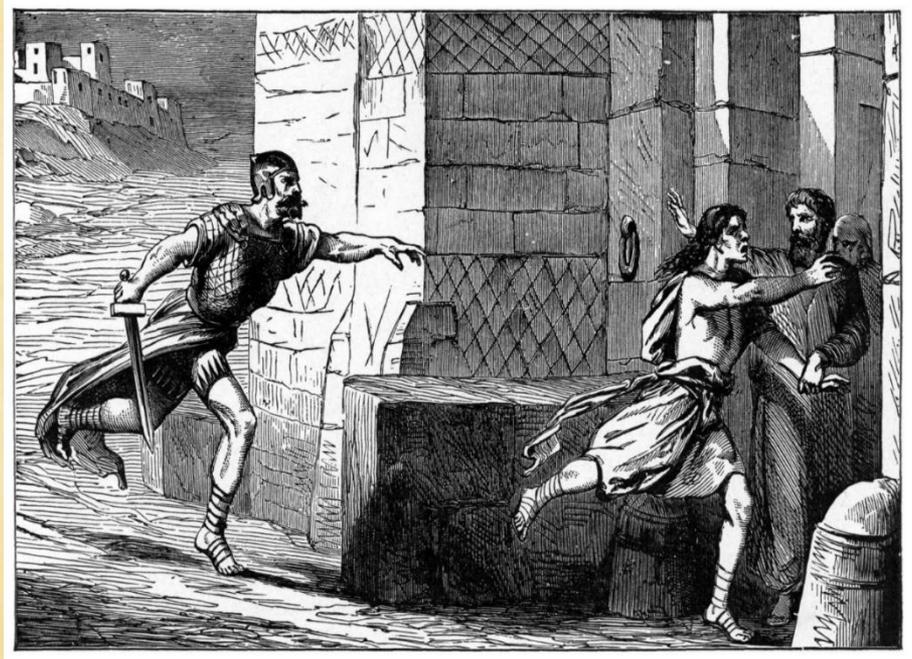
Joshua 20:1-4

- 1 The LORD also spake unto Joshua, saying,
- 2 Speak to the children of Israel, saying, Appoint out for you cities of refuge, whereof I spake unto you by the hand of Moses:
- 3 That the slayer that killeth *any* person unawares *and* unwittingly may flee thither: and they shall be your refuge from the avenger of blood.
- 4 And when he that doth flee unto one of those cities shall stand at the entering of the gate of the city, and shall declare his cause in the ears of the elders of that city, they shall take him into the city unto them, and give him a place, that he may dwell among them.



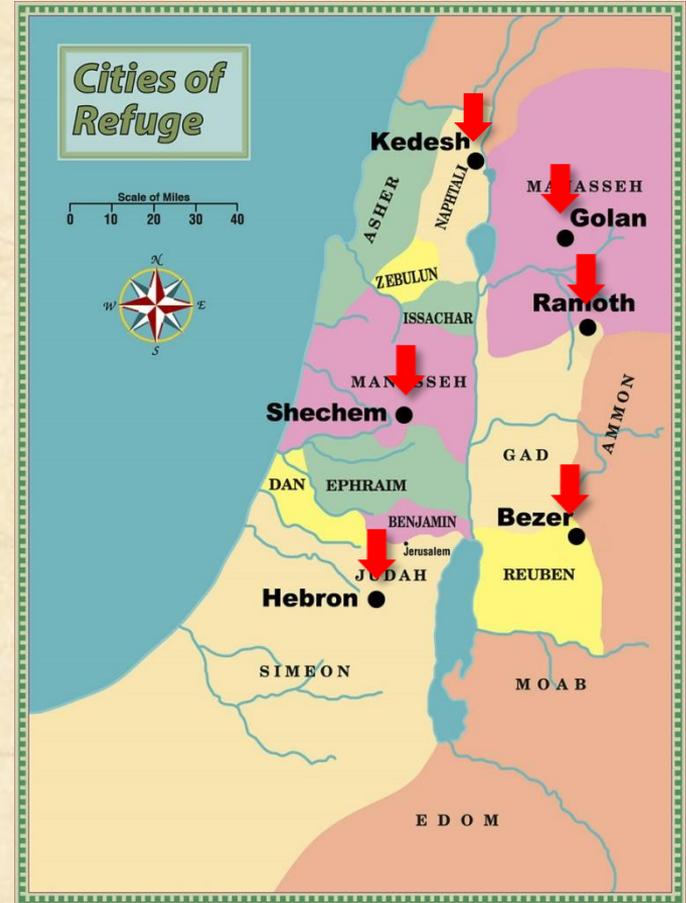
Joshua 20:5-6

- 5 And if the avenger of blood pursue after him, then they shall not deliver the slayer up into his hand; because he smote his neighbour unwittingly, and hated him not beforetime.
- 6 And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, *and* until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days: then shall the slayer return, and come unto his own city, and unto his own house, unto the city from whence he fled.



Joshua 20:7-9

- 7 And they appointed Kedesh in Galilee in mount Naphtali, and Shechem in mount Ephraim, and Kirjatharba, which is Hebron, in the mountain of Judah.
- 8 And on the other side Jordan by Jericho eastward, they assigned Bezer in the wilderness upon the plain out of the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead out of the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan out of the tribe of Manasseh.
- 9 These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them, that whosoever killeth *any* person at unawares might flee thither, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood, until he stood before the congregation.



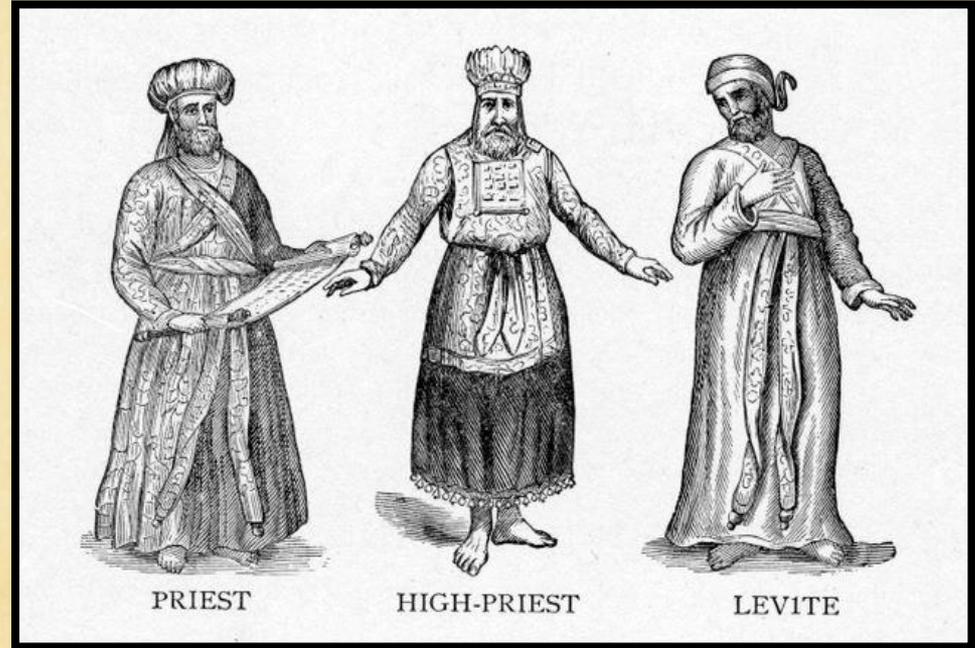
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 - e) The Levite cities (ch 21)

The Cities of the Levites

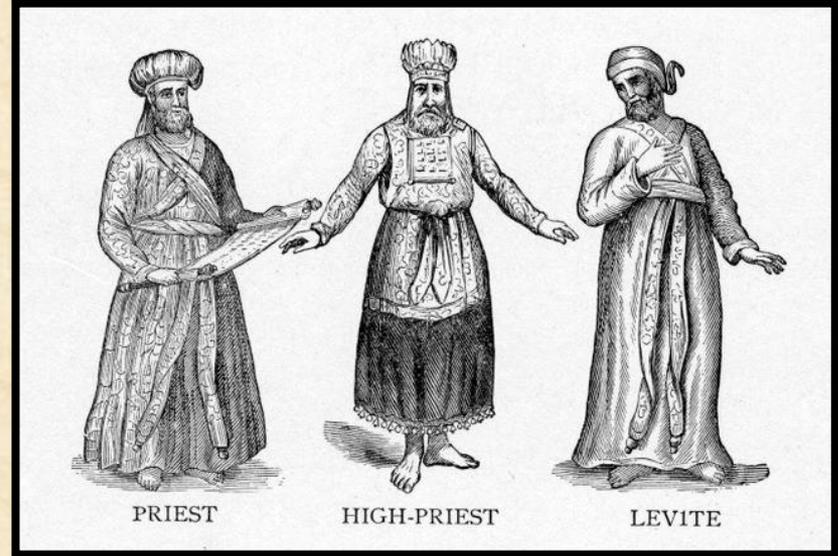
By the mouth of Moses and throughout the dividing of the land, the LORD made it very clear that the Levites would not receive their own portion of land.

The LORD made provision for the priests with the establishment of 48 Levitical cities throughout Canaan.



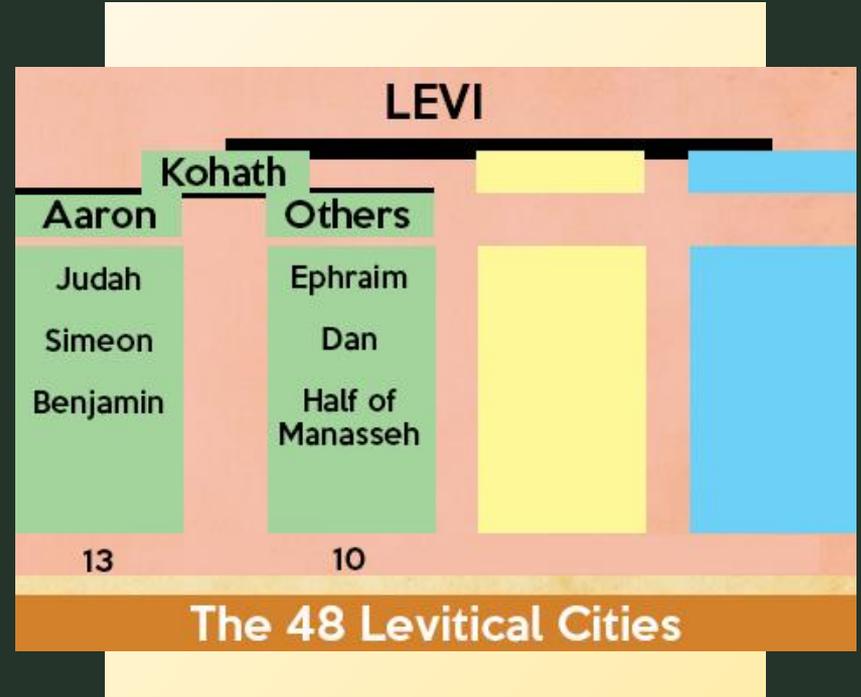
Joshua 21:1-3

- 1 Then came near the heads of the fathers of the Levites unto Eleazar the priest, and unto Joshua the son of Nun, and unto the heads of the fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel;
- 2 And they spake unto them at Shiloh in the land of Canaan, saying,
The LORD commanded by the hand of Moses to give us cities to dwell in, with the suburbs thereof for our cattle.
- 3 And the children of Israel gave unto the Levites out of their inheritance, at the commandment of the LORD, these cities and their suburbs.



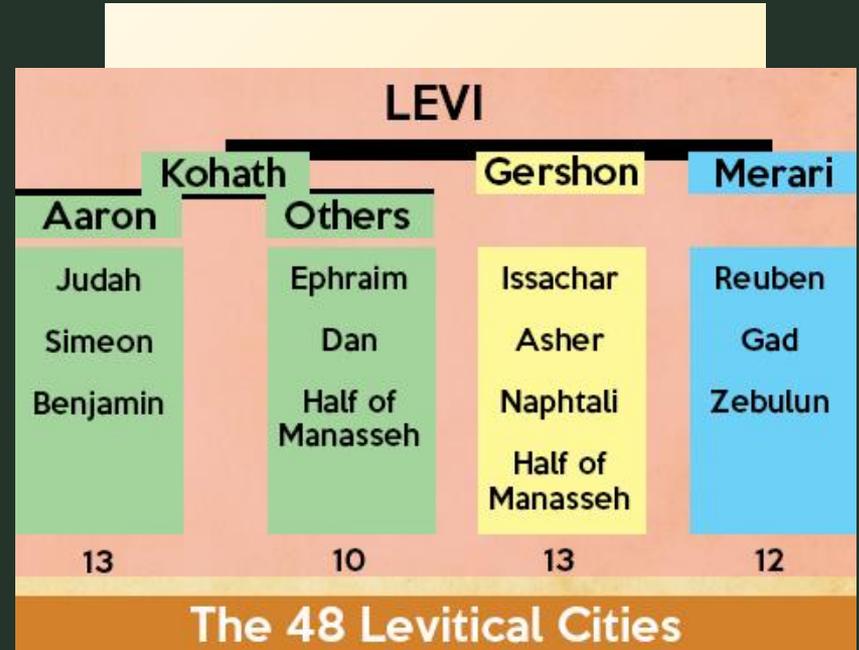
Joshua 21:4-5

- 4 And the lot came out for the families of the Kohathites: and the children of Aaron the priest, *which were* of the Levites, had by lot out of the tribe of Judah, and out of the tribe of Simeon, and out of the tribe of Benjamin, thirteen cities.
- 5 And the rest of the children of Kohath *had* by lot out of the families of the tribe of Ephraim, and out of the tribe of Dan, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh, ten cities.



Joshua 21:6-7

- 6 And the children of Gershon *had* by lot out of the families of the tribe of Issachar, and out of the tribe of Asher, and out of the tribe of Naphtali, and out of the half tribe of Manasseh in Bashan, thirteen cities.
- 7 The children of Merari by their families *had* out of the tribe of Reuben, and out of the tribe of Gad, and out of the tribe of Zebulun, twelve cities.



Joshua 21:41-42

41 All the cities of the Levites within the possession of the children of Israel were forty and eight cities with their suburbs.

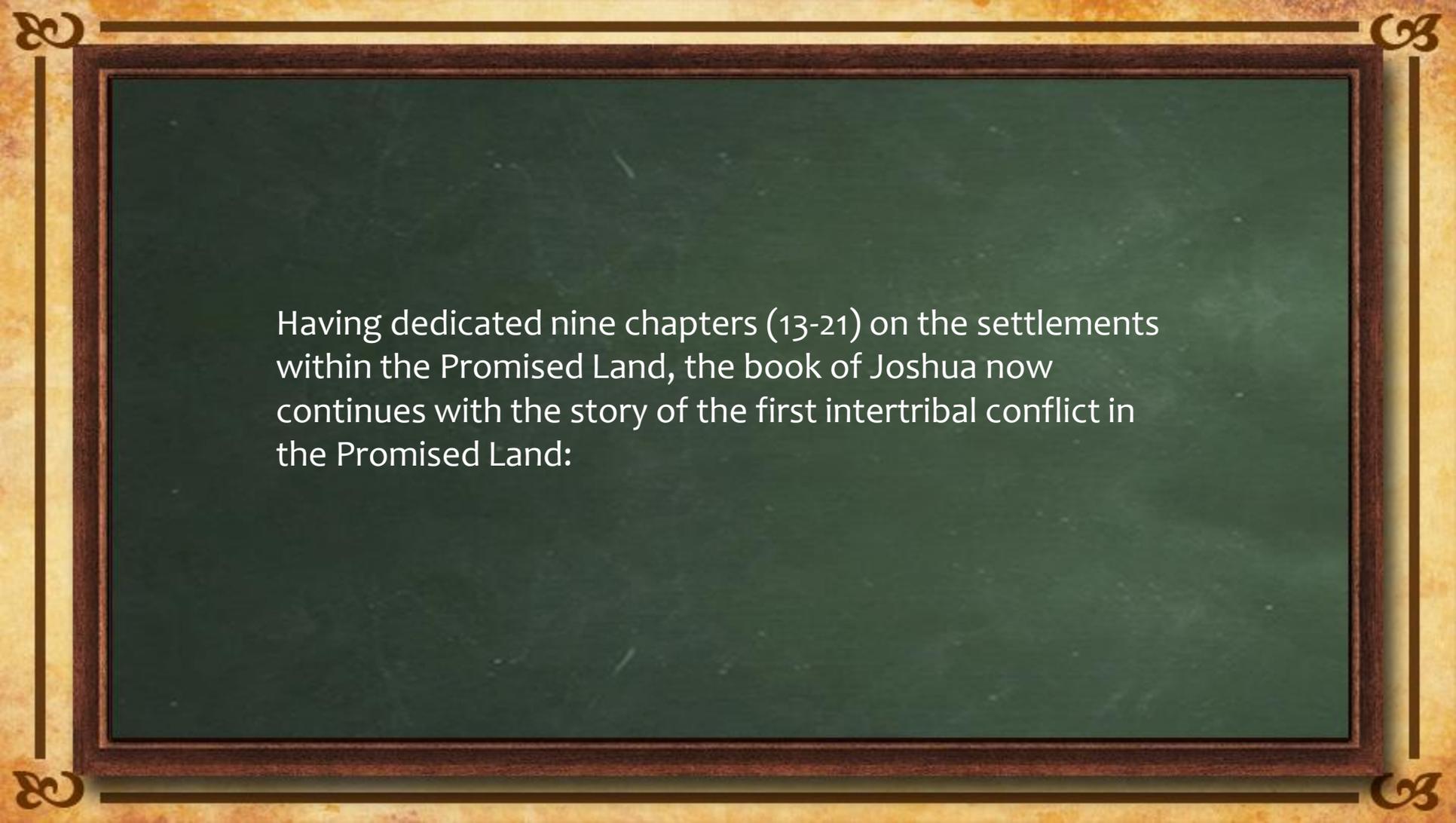
42 These cities were every one with their suburbs round about them: thus were all these cities.



Joshua 21:43-45

- 43 And the LORD gave unto Israel all the land which he sware to give unto their fathers; and they possessed it, and dwelt therein.
- 44 And the LORD gave them rest round about, according to all that he sware unto their fathers: and there stood not a man of all their enemies before them; the LORD delivered all their enemies into their hand.
- 45 There failed not ought of any good thing which the LORD had spoken unto the house of Israel; all came to pass.





Having dedicated nine chapters (13-21) on the settlements within the Promised Land, the book of Joshua now continues with the story of the first intertribal conflict in the Promised Land:

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With the fighting now over, Joshua gave permission to the men who left their families on the east side of the Jordan to return to them.

Joshua 22:1-4

- 1 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh,
- 2 And said unto them, Ye have kept all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed my voice in all that I commanded you:
- 3 Ye have not left your brethren these many days unto this day, but have kept the charge of the commandment of the LORD your God.
- 4 And now the LORD your God hath given rest unto your brethren, as he promised them:
therefore now return ye, and get you unto your tents, *and* unto the land of your possession, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side Jordan.

Joshua 22:5-6

- 5 But take diligent heed to do the commandment and the law, which Moses the servant of the LORD charged you, to love the LORD your God, and to walk in all his ways, and to keep his commandments, and to cleave unto him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.
- 6 So Joshua blessed them, and sent them away: and they went unto their tents.

Joshua 22:7-8

- 7 Now to the *one* half of the tribe of Manasse Moses had given *possession* in Bashan: but unto the *other* half thereof gave Joshua among their brethren on this side Jordan westward.
And when Joshua sent them away also unto their tents, then he blessed them,
- 8 And he spake unto them, saying, Return with much riches unto your tents, and with very much cattle, with silver, and with gold, and with brass, and with iron, and with very much raiment: divide the spoil of your enemies with your brethren.

But in a case of good intentions gone wrong, the eastern tribes decided to build an altar on their side of the Jordan.

Joshua 22:9-10

- ⁹ And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh returned, and departed from the children of Israel out of Shiloh, which *is* in the land of Canaan, to go unto the country of Gilead, to the land of their possession, whereof they were possessed, according to the word of the LORD by the hand of Moses.
- ¹⁰ And when they came unto the borders of Jordan, that *are* in the land of Canaan, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by Jordan, a great altar to see to.



Joshua 22:11-12

- ¹¹ And the children of Israel heard say, Behold, the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh have built an altar over against the land of Canaan, in the borders of Jordan, at the passage of the children of Israel.
- ¹² And when the children of Israel heard of it, the whole congregation of the children of Israel gathered themselves together at Shiloh, to go up to war against them.

Joshua 22:13-14

- ¹³ And the children of Israel sent unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, into the land of Gilead, Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest,
- ¹⁴ And with him ten princes, of each chief house a prince throughout all the tribes of Israel; and each one was an head of the house of their fathers among the thousands of Israel.



Joshua 22:13-14

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Phinehas was highly respected – and feared – after the terrible incident at Baalpeor:

Numbers 25:1-5:

- 1 And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab.
- 2 And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.
- 3 And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.
- 4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.
- 5 And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.

Numbers 25:6-9

- ⁶ And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who *were weeping before* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.
- ⁷ And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw *it*, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand;
- ⁸ And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly.
So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.
- ⁹ And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.

NUM. XXV.
Phineas zelò comotus, occidit Zambri et Cozbi.



IV. Buch Mos. XXV. 8. 9.
Phineas eiferte um Gottes Ehre und durchstach
den israelitischen Mann mit dem Weib beide
durch ihren Sauch in den Hurenwinkel.

Numbers 25:10-13

- ¹⁰ And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- ¹¹ Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.
- ¹² Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace:
- ¹³ And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel.

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Back to Joshua 22:



Joshua 22:15-16

- ¹⁵ And they came unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the half tribe of Manasseh, unto the land of Gilead, and they spake with them, saying,
- ¹⁶ Thus saith the whole congregation of the LORD, What trespass *is* this that ye have committed against the God of Israel, to turn away this day from following the LORD, in that ye have builded you an altar, that ye might rebel this day against the LORD?



Joshua 22:17-18

- ¹⁷ *Is the iniquity of Peor too little for us, from which we are not cleansed until this day, although there was a plague in the congregation of the LORD,*
- ¹⁸ *But that ye must turn away this day from following the LORD? and it will be, seeing ye rebel to day against the LORD, that to morrow he will be wroth with the whole congregation of Israel.*



Joshua 22:19-20

- ¹⁹ Notwithstanding, if the land of your possession *be* unclean, then pass ye over unto the land of the possession of the LORD, wherein the LORD'S tabernacle dwelleth, and take possession among us: but rebel not against the LORD, nor rebel against us, in building you an altar beside the altar of the LORD our God.
- ²⁰ Did not Achan the son of Zerah commit a trespass in the accursed thing, and wrath fell on all the congregation of Israel? and that man perished not alone in his iniquity.

Joshua 22:21-25

- ²¹ Then the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh answered, and said unto the heads of the thousands of Israel,
- ²² The LORD God of gods, the LORD God of gods, he knoweth, and Israel he shall know; if *it be* in rebellion, or if in transgression against the LORD, (save us not this day,)
- ²³ That we have built us an altar to turn from following the LORD, or if to offer thereon burnt offering or meat offering, or if to offer peace offerings thereon, let the LORD himself require *it*;

- ²⁴ And if we have not *rather* done it for fear of *this* thing, saying, In time to come your children might speak unto our children, saying, What have ye to do with the LORD God of Israel?
- ²⁵ For the LORD hath made Jordan a border between us and you, ye children of Reuben and children of Gad; ye have no part in the LORD: so shall your children make our children cease from fearing the LORD.



Joshua 22:26-27

- ²⁶ Therefore we said, Let us now prepare to build us an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice:
- ²⁷ But *that* it may be a witness between us, and you, and our generations after us, that we might do the service of the LORD before him with our burnt offerings, and with our sacrifices, and with our peace offerings; that your children may not say to our children in time to come, Ye have no part in the LORD.



Joshua 22:28-29

- ²⁸ Therefore said we, that it shall be, when they should so say to us or to our generations in time to come, that we may say *again*, Behold the pattern of the altar of the LORD, which our fathers made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifices; but it is a witness between us and you.
- ²⁹ God forbid that we should rebel against the LORD, and turn this day from following the LORD, to build an altar for burnt offerings, for meat offerings, or for sacrifices, beside the altar of the LORD our God that is before his tabernacle.

Joshua 22:30-32

- ³⁰ And when Phinehas the priest, and the princes of the congregation and heads of the thousands of Israel which were with him, heard the words that the children of Reuben and the children of Gad and the children of Manasseh spake, it pleased them.
- ³¹ And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest said unto the children of Reuben, and to the children of Gad, and to the children of Manasseh, This day we perceive that the LORD *is* among us, because ye have not committed this trespass against the LORD: now ye have delivered the children of Israel out of the hand of the LORD.
- ³² And Phinehas the son of Eleazar the priest, and the princes, returned from the children of Reuben, and from the children of Gad, out of the land of Gilead, unto the land of Canaan, to the children of Israel, and brought them word again.

Joshua 22:33-34

³³ And the thing pleased the children of Israel; and the children of Israel blessed God, and did not intend to go up against them in battle, to destroy the land wherein the children of Reuben and Gad dwelt.

³⁴ And the children of Reuben and the children of Gad called the altar *Ed*: for it *shall be* a witness between us that the LORD is God.



Joshua 22:33-34

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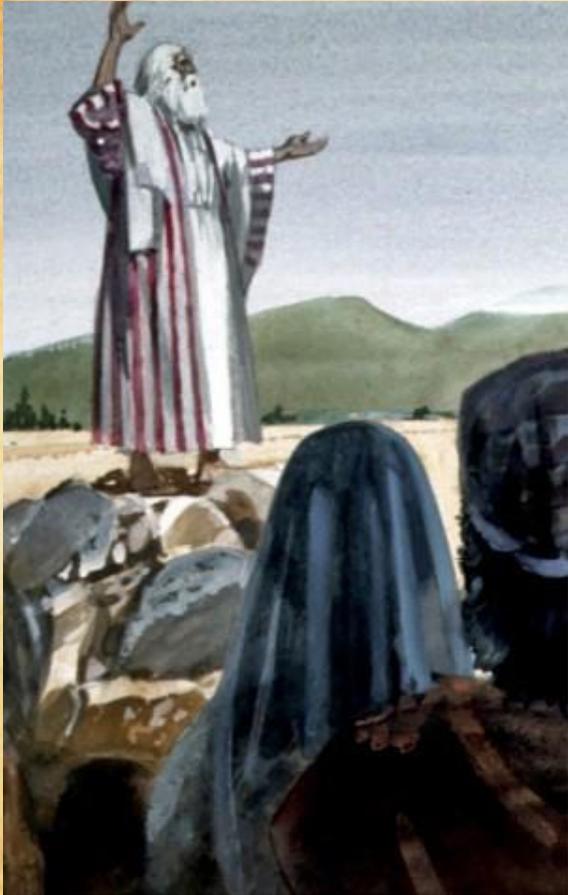
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(Ed means “a witness”)

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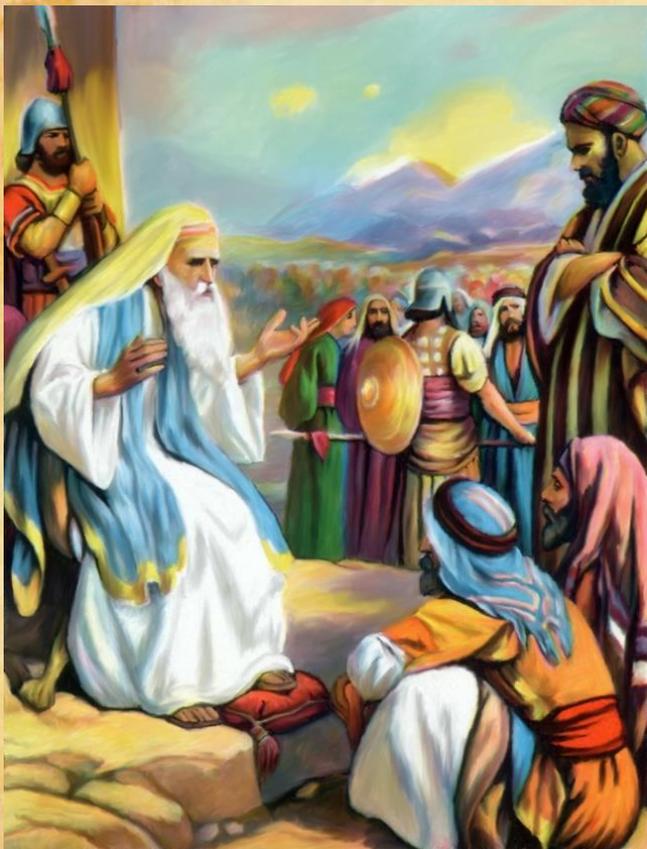


Joshua 23:1-3

- 1 And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old *and* stricken in age.
- 2 And Joshua called for all Israel, *and* for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them, I am old *and* stricken in age:
- 3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God *is* he that hath fought for you.

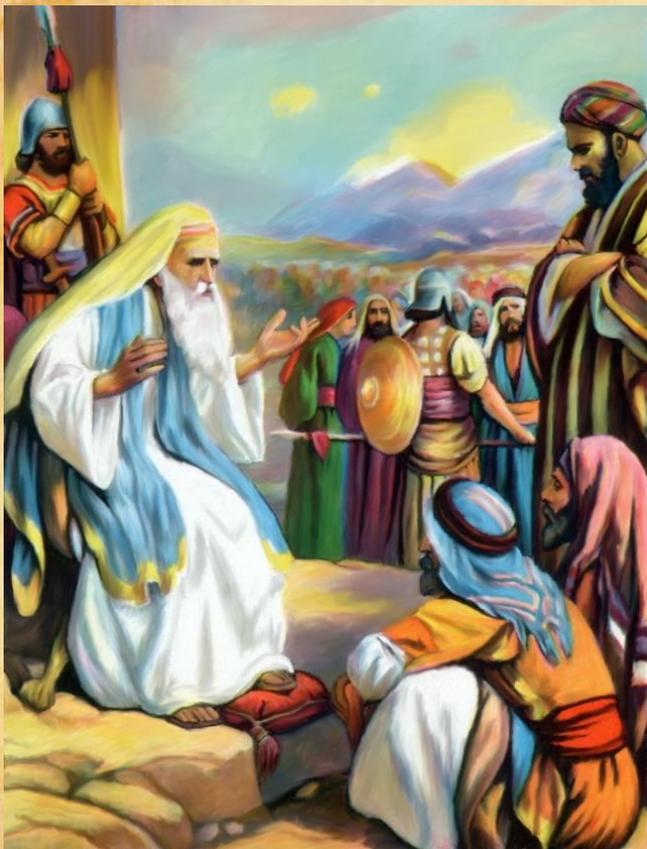
Joshua 23:4-8

- 4 Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.
- 5 And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.
- 6 Be ye therefore very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, that ye turn not aside therefrom to the right hand or to the left;
- 7 That ye come not among these nations, these that remain among you; neither make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause to swear *by them*, neither serve them, nor bow yourselves unto them:
- 8 But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day.



Joshua 23:9-10

- ⁹ For the LORD hath driven out from before you great nations and strong: but *as for you*, no man hath been able to stand before you unto this day.
- ¹⁰ One man of you shall chase a thousand: for the LORD your God, he *it is* that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you.



Joshua 23:11-13

- ¹¹ Take good heed therefore unto yourselves, that ye love the LORD your God.
- ¹² Else if ye do in any wise go back, and cleave unto the remnant of these nations, even these that remain among you, and shall make marriages with them, and go in unto them, and they to you:
- ¹³ Know for a certainty that the LORD your God will no more drive out *any* of these nations from before you; but they shall be snares and traps unto you, and scourges in your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until ye perish from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.

Joshua 23:14-16

- ¹⁴ And, behold, this day I *am* going the way of all the earth: and ye know in all your hearts and in all your souls, that not one thing hath failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spake concerning you; all are come to pass unto you, *and* not one thing hath failed thereof.
- ¹⁵ Therefore it shall come to pass, *that* as all good things are come upon you, which the LORD your God promised you; so shall the LORD bring upon you all evil things, until he have destroyed you from off this good land which the LORD your God hath given you.
- ¹⁶ When ye have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed yourselves to them; then shall the anger of the LORD be kindled against you, and ye shall perish quickly from off the good land which he hath given unto you.

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6. The Lord recalls the history of the Israelites (ch 24)



Joshua 24:1

And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God.



Joshua 24:2-4

- ² And Joshua said unto all the people,
Thus saith the LORD God of Israel,
Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in
old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and
the father of Nachor: and they served other gods.
- ³ And I took your father Abraham from the other side
of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of
Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac.
- ⁴ And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave
unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and
his children went down into Egypt.



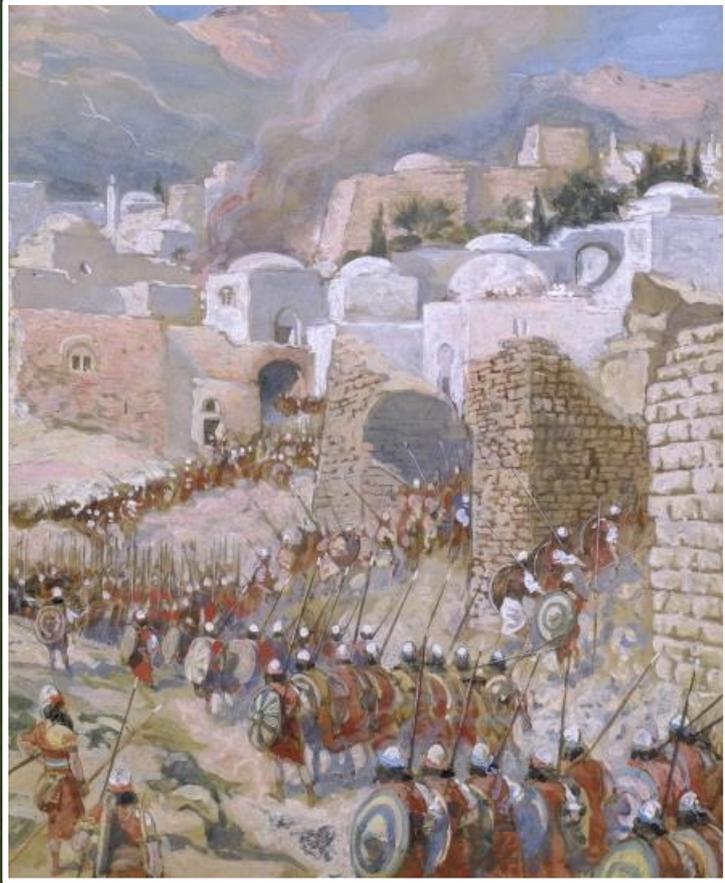
Joshua 24:5-7

- ⁵ I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.
- ⁶ And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.
- ⁷ And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.



Joshua 24:8-10

- ⁸ And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you.
- ⁹ Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you:
- ¹⁰ But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand.

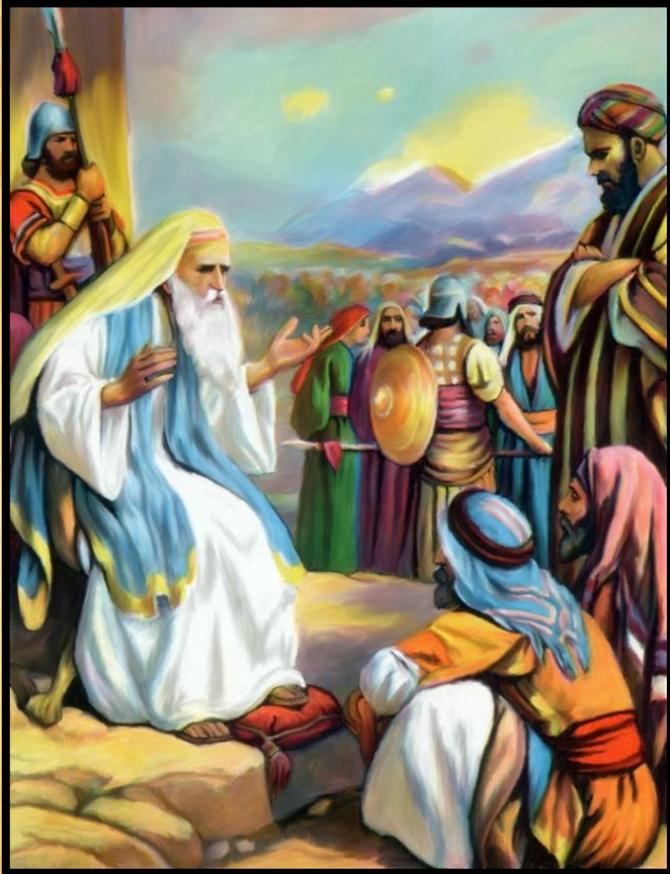


Joshua 24:11-13

- ¹¹ And ye went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand.
- ¹² And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; *but* not with thy sword, nor with thy bow.
- ¹³ And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat.

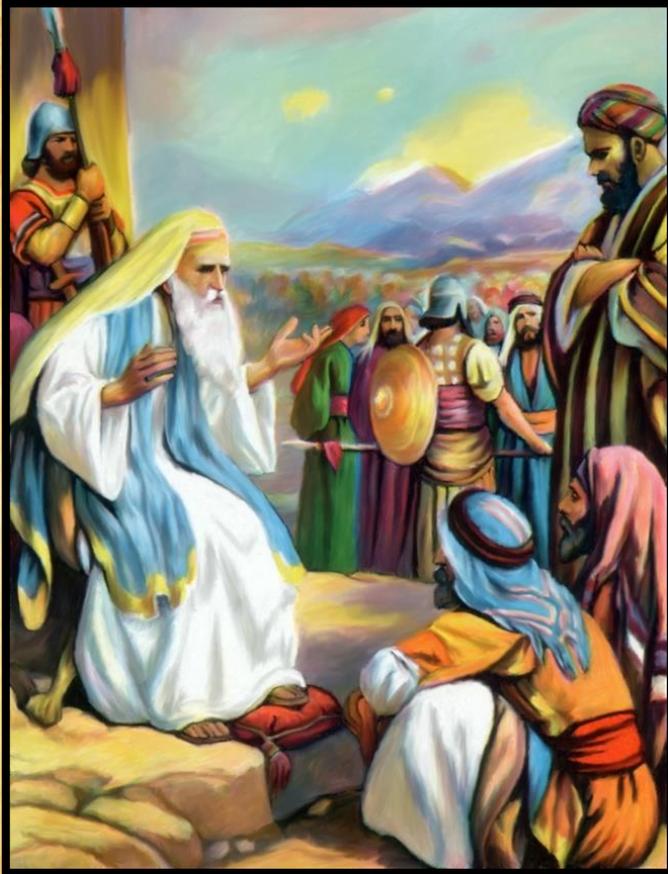
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7. Joshua makes a covenant with the people



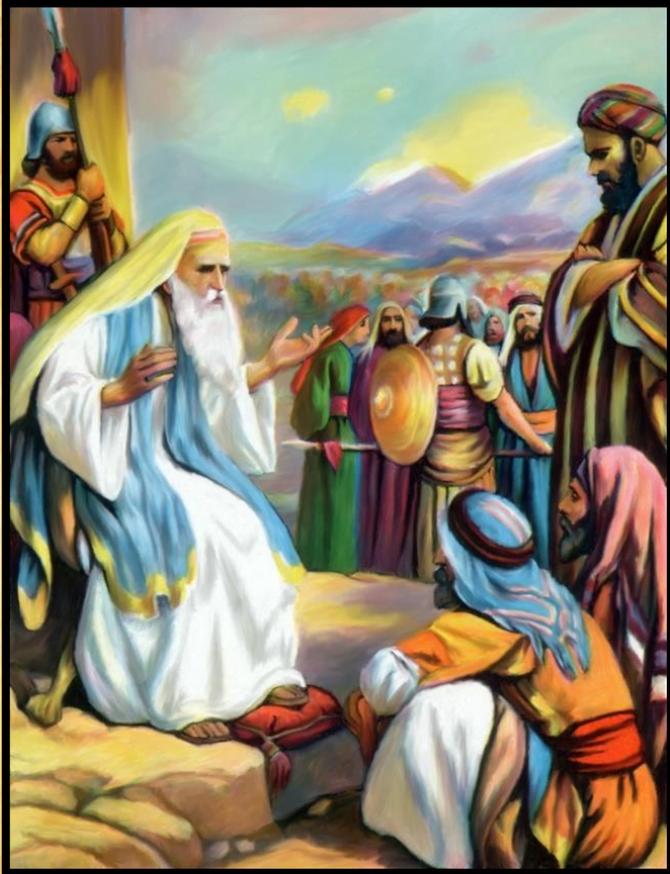
Joshua 24:14-15

- ¹⁴ Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.
- ¹⁵ And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell:
- but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.



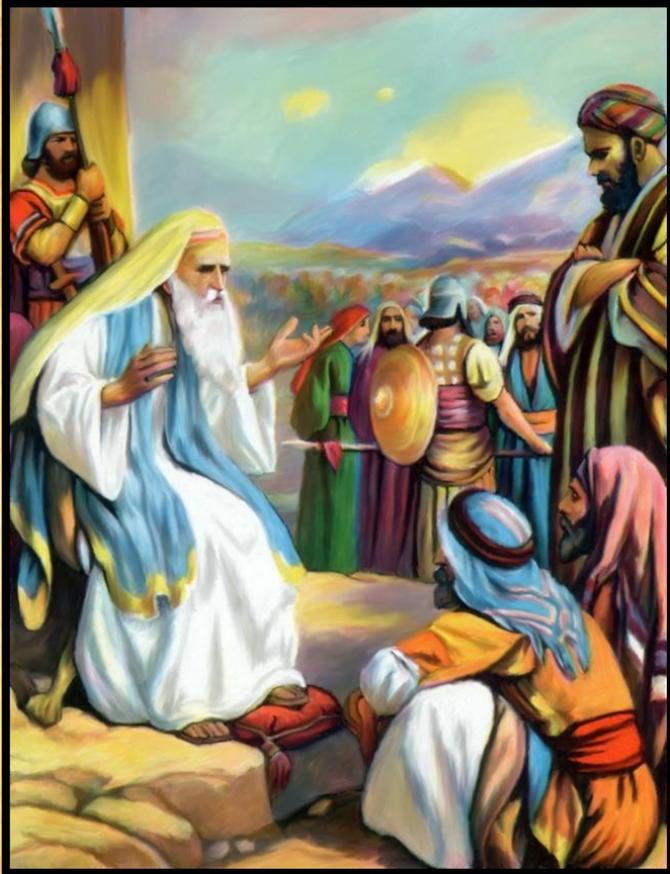
Joshua 24:16-18

- ¹⁶ And the people answered and said,
God forbid that we should forsake the LORD,
to serve other gods;
- ¹⁷ For the LORD our God, he *it is* that brought us
up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt,
from the house of bondage, and which did those
great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all
the way wherein we went, and among all the
people through whom we passed:
- ¹⁸ And the LORD drave out from before us all the
people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the
land:
therefore will we also serve the LORD;
for he is our God.



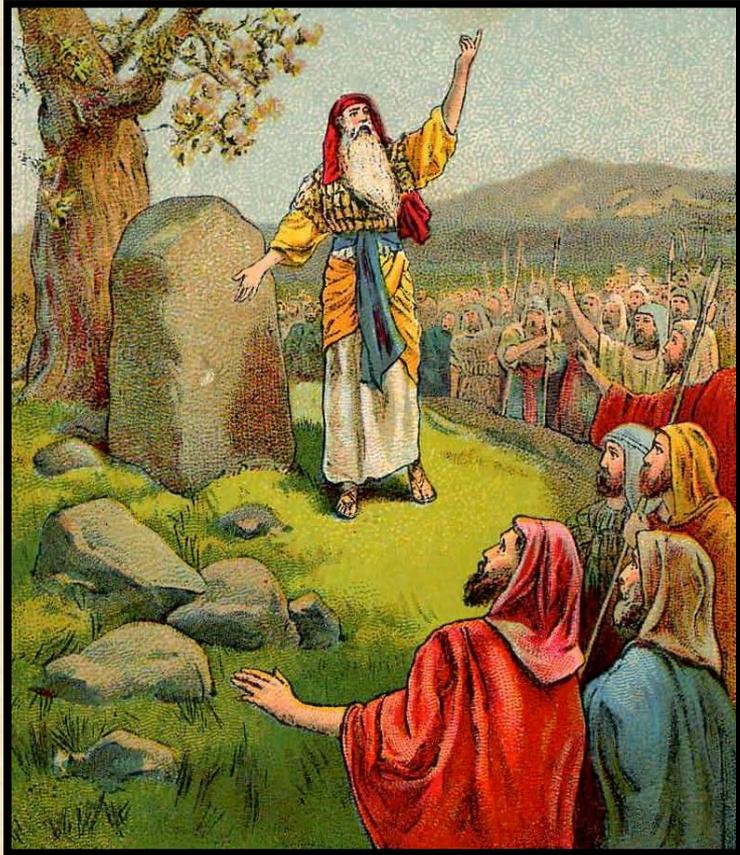
Joshua 24:19-21

- ¹⁹ And Joshua said unto the people,
Ye cannot serve the LORD:
for he *is* an holy God;
he *is* a jealous God;
he will not forgive your transgressions
nor your sins.
- ²⁰ If ye forsake the LORD, and serve strange gods,
then he will turn and do you hurt, and consume
you, after that he hath done you good.
- ²¹ And the people said unto Joshua,
Nay; but we will serve the LORD.



Joshua 24:22-24

- ²² And Joshua said unto the people,
Ye *are* witnesses against yourselves that ye
have chosen you the LORD, to serve him.
And they said, *We are* witnesses.
- ²³ Now therefore put away, *said he*, the strange
gods which *are* among you, and incline your
heart unto the LORD God of Israel.
- ²⁴ And the people said unto Joshua,
The LORD our God will we serve, and his
voice will we obey.



Joshua 24:25-28

- ²⁵ So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.
- ²⁶ And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.
- ²⁷ And Joshua said unto all the people, Behold, this stone shall be a witness unto us; **for it hath heard all the words of the LORD which he spake unto us:** it shall be therefore a witness unto you, lest ye deny your God.
- ²⁸ So Joshua let the people depart, every man unto his inheritance.

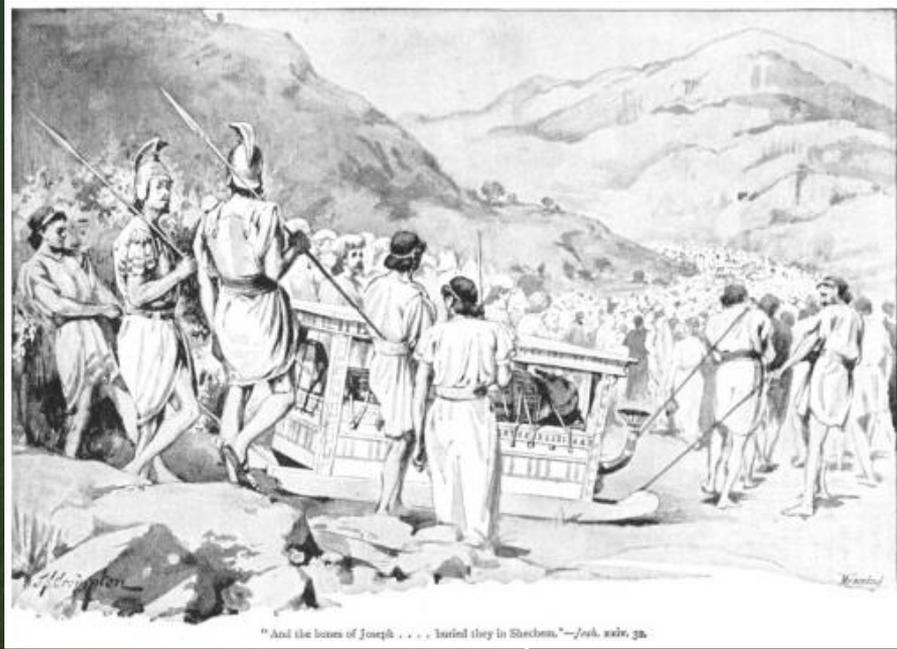
The Book of Joshua:

1. Preparation for war (ch 1-5)
2. Conquest of the Promised Land (ch 6-12)
3. The Settlement of the Promised Land (ch 13-21)
4. On the Brink of Civil War (ch 22)
5. Joshua's exhortation to spiritual fidelity (ch 23)
6. The Lord recalls the history of the Israelites (ch 24)
7. Joshua makes a covenant with the people
8. The death of Joshua



Joshua 24:29-31

- ²⁹ And it came to pass after these things, that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, *being* an hundred and ten years old.
- ³⁰ And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathserah, which *is* in mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash.
- ³¹ And Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the LORD, that he had done for Israel.



Joshua 24:32-33

- ³² And the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for an hundred pieces of silver: and it became the inheritance of the children of Joseph.
- ³³ And Eleazar the son of Aaron died; and they buried him in a hill *that pertained to Phinehas his son*, which was given him in mount Ephraim.



"And the bones of Joseph . . . buried they in Shechem."—/osk. xxiv, 32.

Joshua 24:32-33

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The End



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