

Arlington Church of Christ

Wednesday Bible Study

7 PM

**Lessons from
Joshua**

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

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2 Corinthians 5:17

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1 John 2:3-6

We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. ⁴ Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. ⁵ But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: ⁶ Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

2 Corinthians 5:1-9

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶ Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ For we live by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.

Arlington Church of Christ

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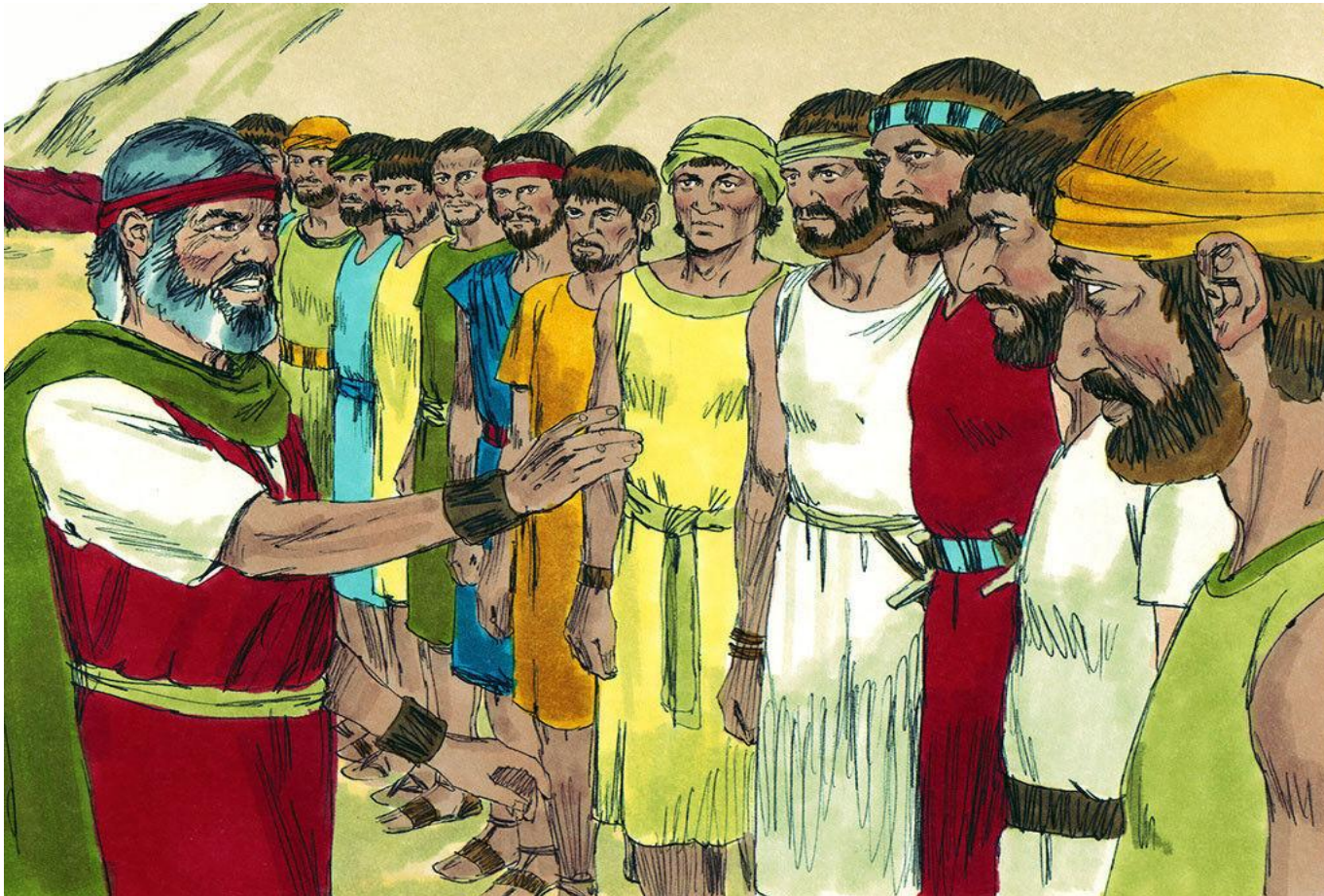
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Numbers 13:8, 16

from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun; ...

¹⁶ These are the names of the men Moses sent to explore the land. (Moses gave Hoshea son of Nun the name Joshua.)



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Numbers 11:28

Joshua son of Nun, **who had been Moses' aide since youth,** spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"

**Hoshea =>
Salvation**

**Joshua =>
God is Salvation**





Exodus 17:9

Moses said to Joshua, “Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands.”

Exodus 17:10-14

So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. ¹¹ As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ¹² When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. ¹³ So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.



¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, **“Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the name of Amalek from under heaven.”**



Moses' staff represented the power of God. When it was held up, it gave honor and glory to God, but if lowered, the people were acting on their own strength.

Upon reaching Sinai, the Lord calls Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and seventy of Israel's elders to worship Him at the foot of the mountain. Moses is then called to go on up the mountain and meet with God. Why was Moses called up the mountain and who went with him?

Exodus 24:12-13

The LORD said to Moses, “**Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”**

¹³ Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God.



Exodus 32:15-17

Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. ¹⁶ The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

¹⁷ **When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, “There is the sound of war in the camp.”**



Moses set up a special tent where he would meet with God (called the 'tent of meeting')

Exodus 33:11

The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.



Numbers 13:17-20

When Moses sent them to explore Canaan, he said, “Go up through the Negev and on into the hill country. ¹⁸ See what the land is like and whether the people who live there are strong or weak, few or many. ¹⁹ What kind of land do they live in? Is it good or bad? What kind of towns do they live in? Are they unwalled or fortified? ²⁰ How is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are there trees in it or not? Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land.” (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)



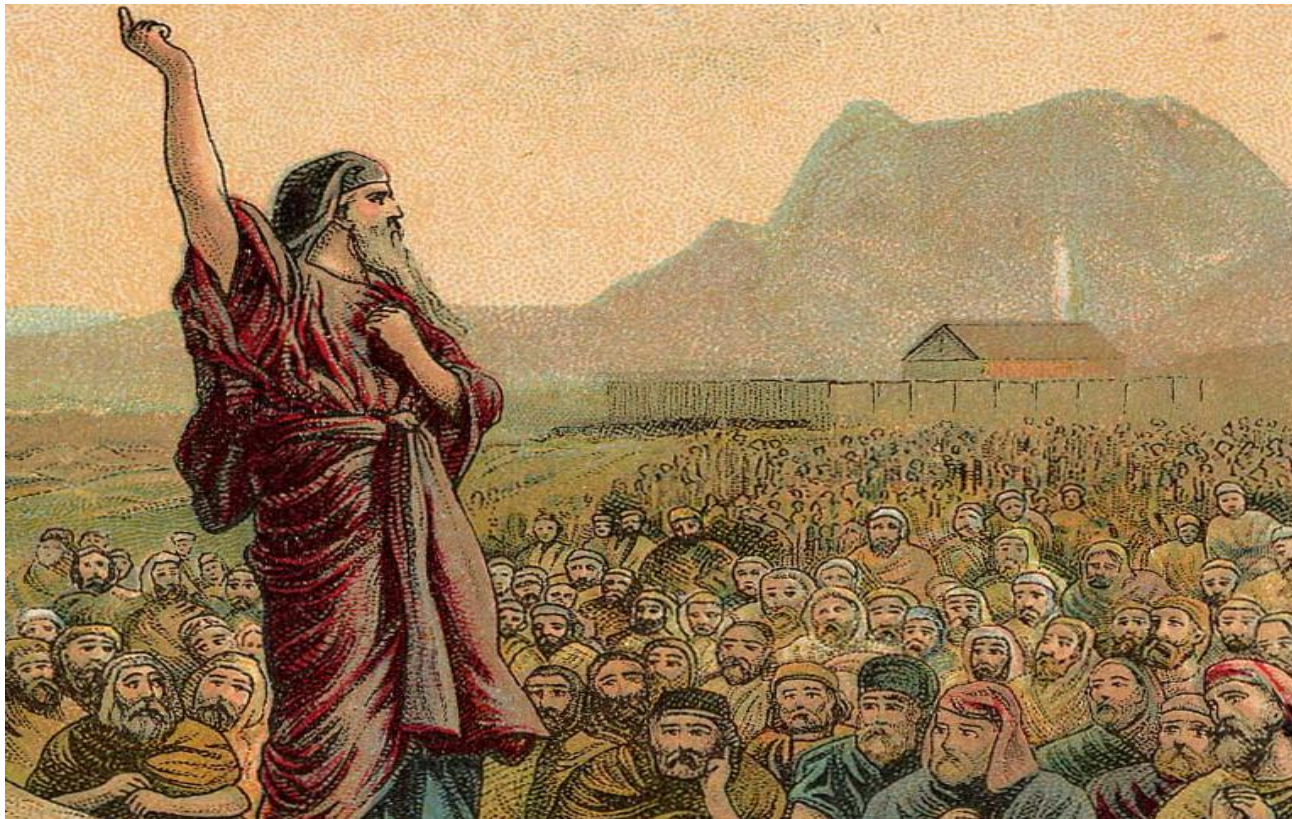
Numbers 14:6-9

Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes ⁷ and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. ⁸ If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. ⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”



Numbers 14:29-30

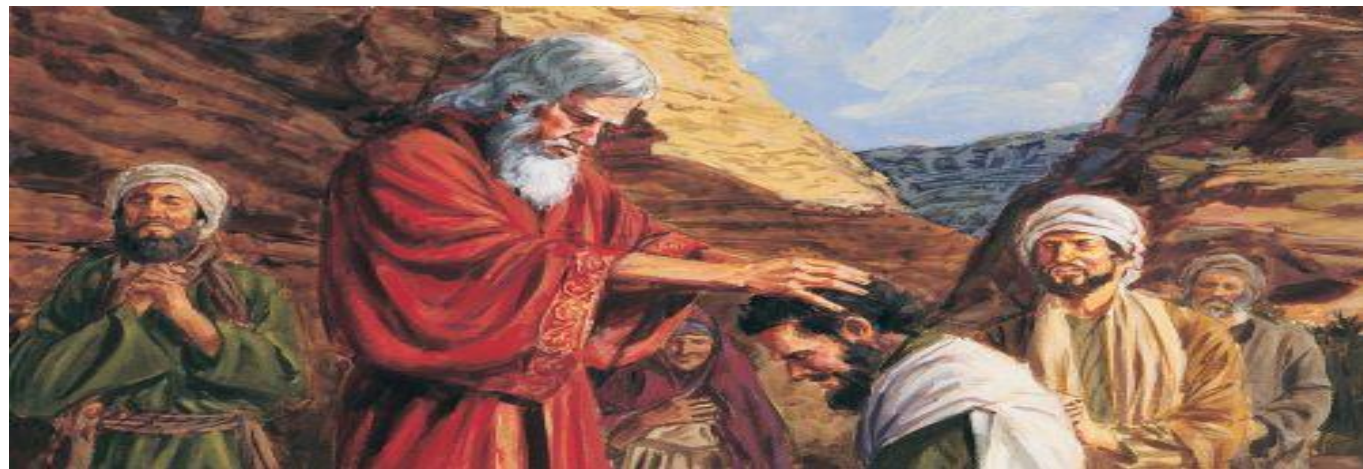
In this wilderness your bodies will fall—every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. ³⁰ **Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.**



Numbers 27:18-23

So the LORD said to Moses, **“Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit of leadership, and lay your hand on him. ¹⁹ Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence. ²⁰ Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him. ²¹ He is to stand before Eleazar the priest, who will obtain decisions for him by inquiring of the Urim before the LORD. At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in.”**

²² Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole assembly. ²³ Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, as the LORD instructed through Moses.



Deuteronomy 1:38

But your assistant, **Joshua son of Nun**, will enter it.

Encourage him, because **he will lead Israel to inherit it.**

Deuteronomy 3:28

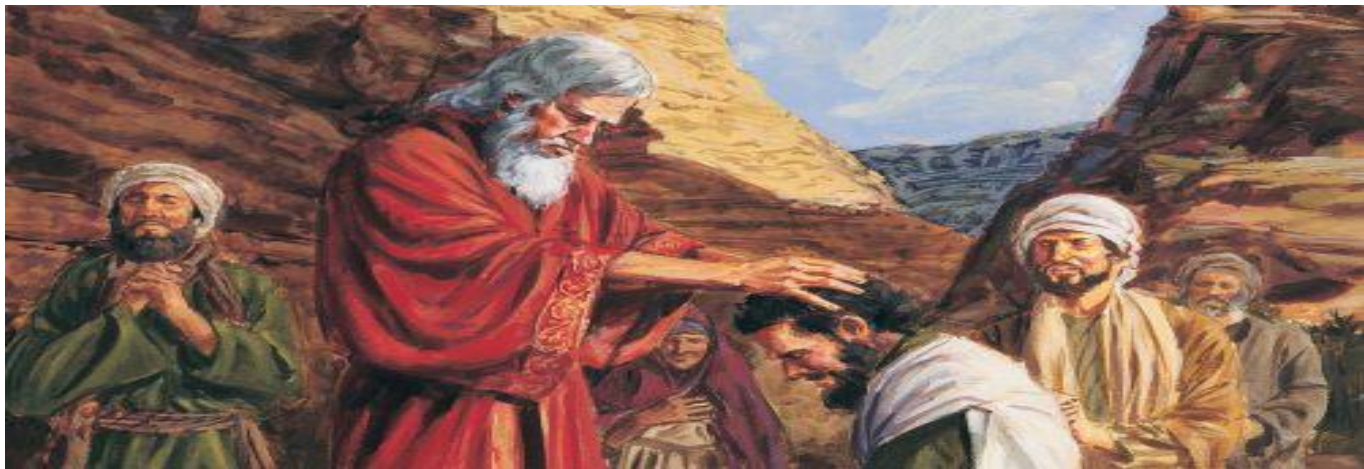
But **commission Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, for he will lead this people across and will cause them to inherit the land that you will see.**”

Deuteronomy 31:3

The LORD your God himself will cross over ahead of you. He will destroy these nations before you, and you will take possession of their land. **Joshua also will cross over ahead of you, as the LORD said.**

Deuteronomy 34:9

Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses



Joshua 1:13-16

“Remember the command that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you after he said, ‘The LORD your God will give you rest by giving you this land.’ ¹⁴ Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, ready for battle, must cross over ahead of your fellow Israelites. You are to help them ¹⁵ until the LORD gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land the LORD your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise.” ¹⁶ Then they answered Joshua, “Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.

DIVISION OF THE PROMISED LAND TO THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL

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Joshua 3:13-17

And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ **Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off.** So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.



**Jordan
river died
up for 30
miles !**



Joshua 4:6-7

to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

Joshua 5:3-5

So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth.

⁴ Now this is why he did so: All those who came out of Egypt—all the men of military age—died in the wilderness on the way after leaving Egypt. ⁵ All the people that came out had been circumcised, **but all the people born in the wilderness during the journey from Egypt had not.** (during the 40 years of wandering because of their refusal to enter the promised land the first time)

Why had they not been circumcised while in the desert?

-Some have suggested that it was because they were traveling for 40 years and it would have been difficult to heal while traveling. But the Israelites did stop for long periods in different places and Moses' son was circumcised while he was on the way to Egypt originally – so this is not a good explanation.

-Others have said that the 'golden calf' incident broke the covenant with God and the suspension of circumcision as a sign of the covenant was one result. But now a new generation is preparing to enter the promised land and the covenant is renewed with them. This seems to be the better explanation.

Joshua 5:13-15

Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?”

¹⁴ “Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant?”¹⁵ The commander of the LORD’s army replied, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.



Why was Joshua told to take off his sandals?

- Removing sandals was a sign of respect – sandals were often removed when entering a house (remember Jesus washing the disciples feet in the upper room – they had removed their sandals)**
- Sandals were made of animals skins, and got dirty and dusty and so were considered impure – God demands purity in his presence**
- Walking in sandals indicates ownership – Abraham was told to walk over the land of Canaan (Gen 13:17) – as a sign that it would be his inheritance from God. Joshua was being reminded that this was “God’s land”.**



Joshua 6:3-5

March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."

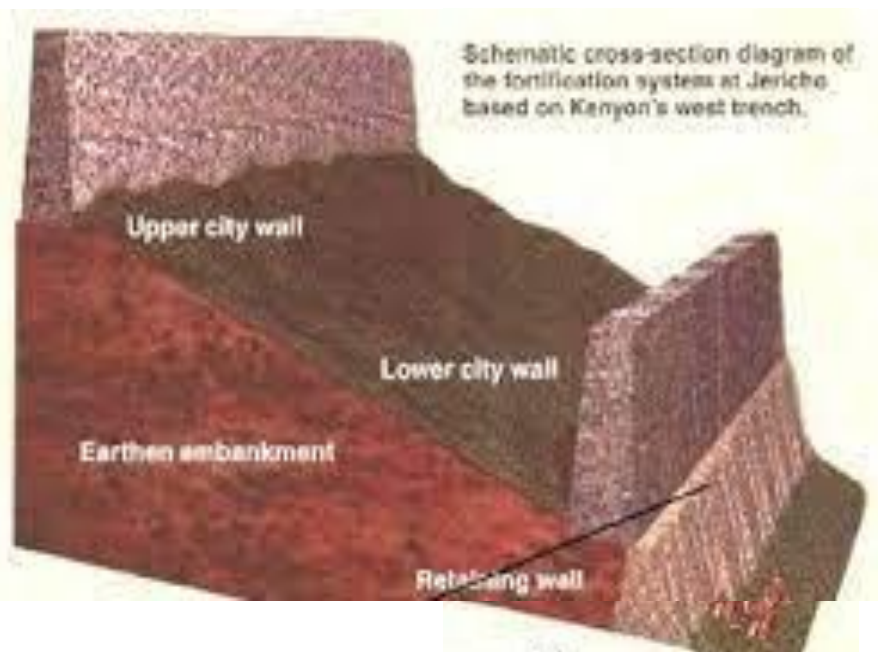
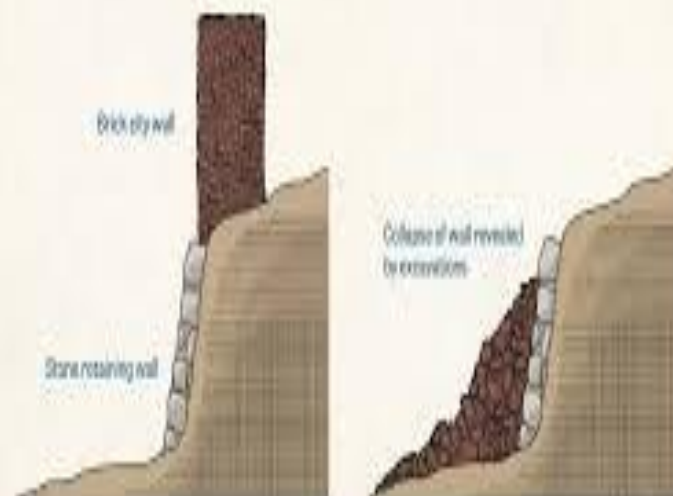


Diagram of Jericho's Walls



Special instructions concerning Jericho as the 'firstfruits' of the conquest of Canaan – the firstfruits always belonged to God.

Joshua 6:17-19

The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the LORD. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent. ¹⁸ **But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it. ¹⁹ All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the LORD and must go into his treasury."**

So under the command of Joshua, the army does as God commanded – march silently around the city of Jericho once a day for six days, then on the seventh day, march seven times around blowing the rams horns and finally giving a loud shout – and the walls of the city fell outward forming a ramp for the encircling army to enter the city from all sides at the same time. The city is taken, apparently with no Israelite casualties, it is burned, and the army prepares to move on to the next small town called Ai.

⁴ So about three thousand went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai, ⁵ who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted in fear and became like water.



⁶ Then **Joshua tore his clothes and fell facedown to the ground before the ark of the LORD, remaining there till evening.** The elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads. ⁷ And Joshua said, “**Alas, Sovereign LORD, why did you ever bring this people across the Jordan to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us? If only we had been content to stay on the other side of the Jordan!**” ⁸ Pardon your servant, Lord. What can I say, now that Israel has been routed by its enemies? ⁹ The Canaanites and the other people of the country will hear about this and they will surround us and wipe out our name from the earth. What then will you do for your own great name?”



¹⁰ The LORD said to Joshua, “**Stand up! What are you doing down on your face?** ¹¹ Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions. ¹² That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.”



God says – I will not be with you until you do the things I told you to do.

⁶ Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was chosen. ¹⁷ The clans of Judah came forward, and the Zerahites were chosen. He had the clan of the Zerahites come forward by families, and Zimri was chosen. ¹⁸ Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was chosen.

¹⁹ Then Joshua said to Achan, “My son, give glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and honor him. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me.”

²⁰ Achan replied, “It is true! I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: ²¹ When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”



²⁵ Joshua said, “Why have you brought this trouble on us? The LORD will bring trouble on you today.”
Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest,(his family and all he had) they burned them. **²⁶ Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his fierce anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of Achor ever since.**



Note that the sin on one person had the following effects:

- Cost him his life**
- Cost his family their lives (they knew what he did , but failed to do anything about it)**
- Cost the lives of 36 fellow Israelites and the effect that had on their families.**
- One person's sin can have far reaching effects that they never considered – and they will be held responsible for those effects.**

Joshua 8:30-32

Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, ³¹ as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses—an altar of uncut stones, on which no iron tool had been used. On it they offered to the LORD burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings. ³² There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua wrote on stones a copy of the law of Moses.

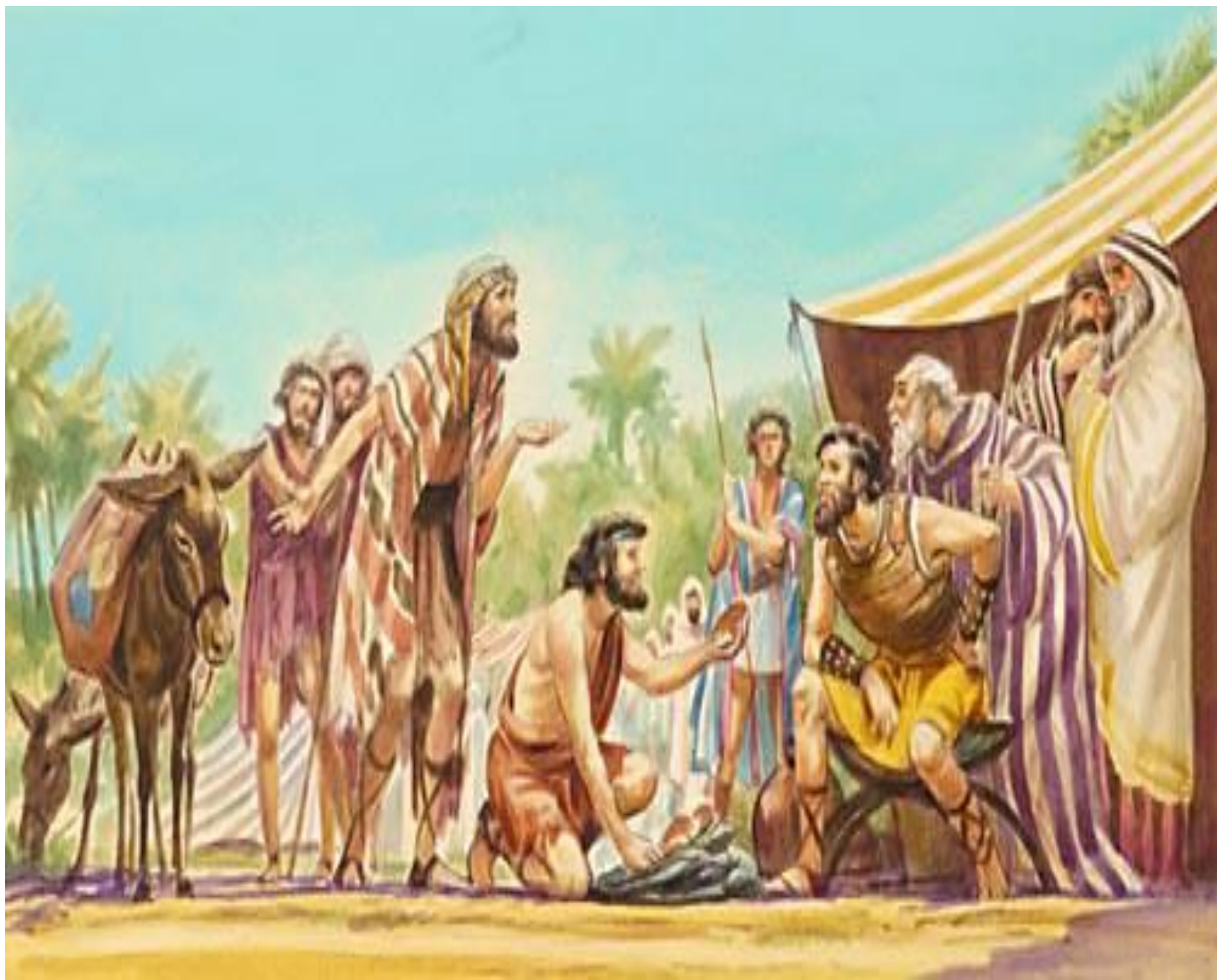


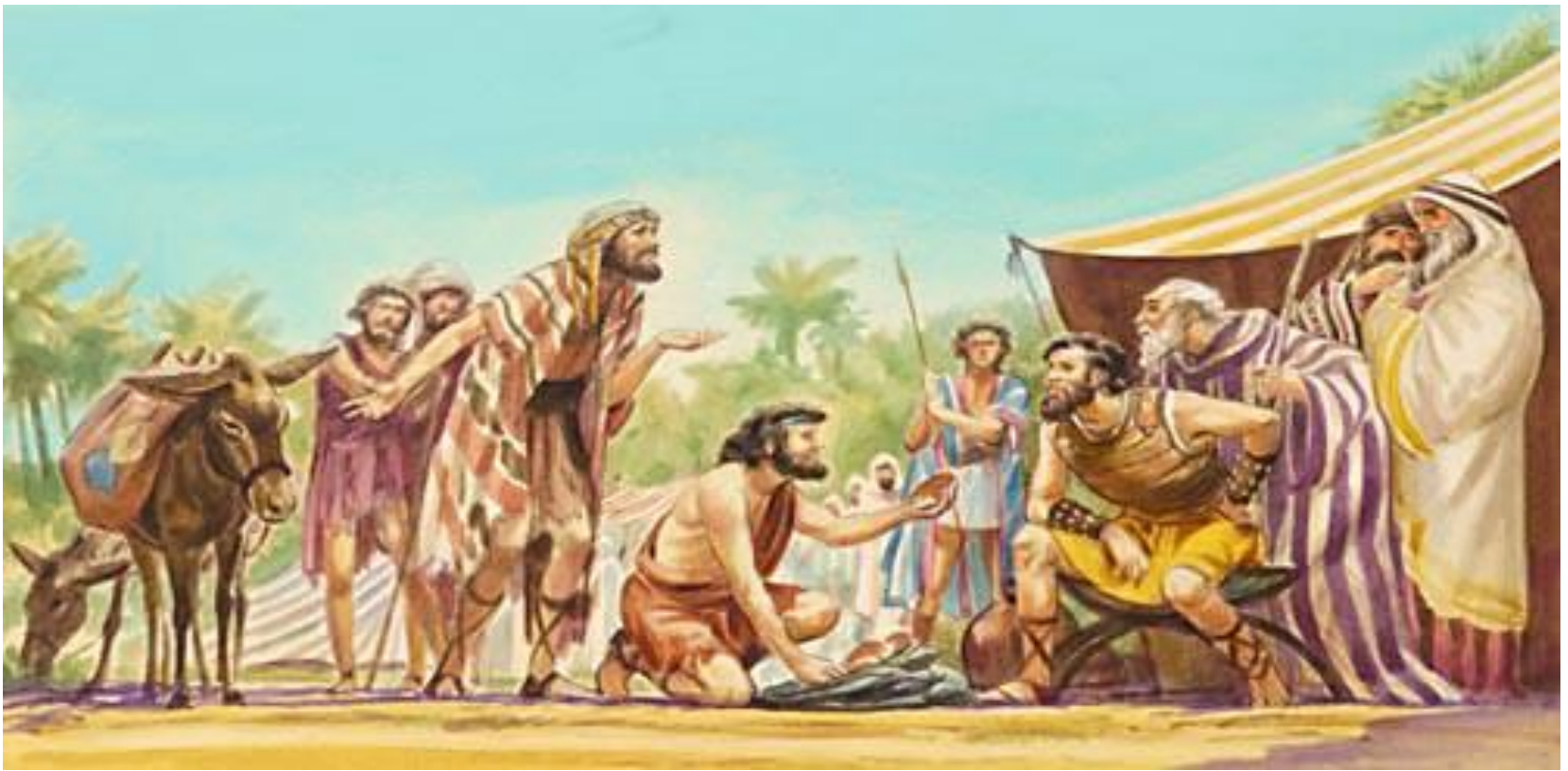
Joshua 8:34-35

Afterward, Joshua read all the words of the law—the blessings and the curses—just as it is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵ There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read to the whole assembly of Israel, including the women and children, and the foreigners who lived among them.









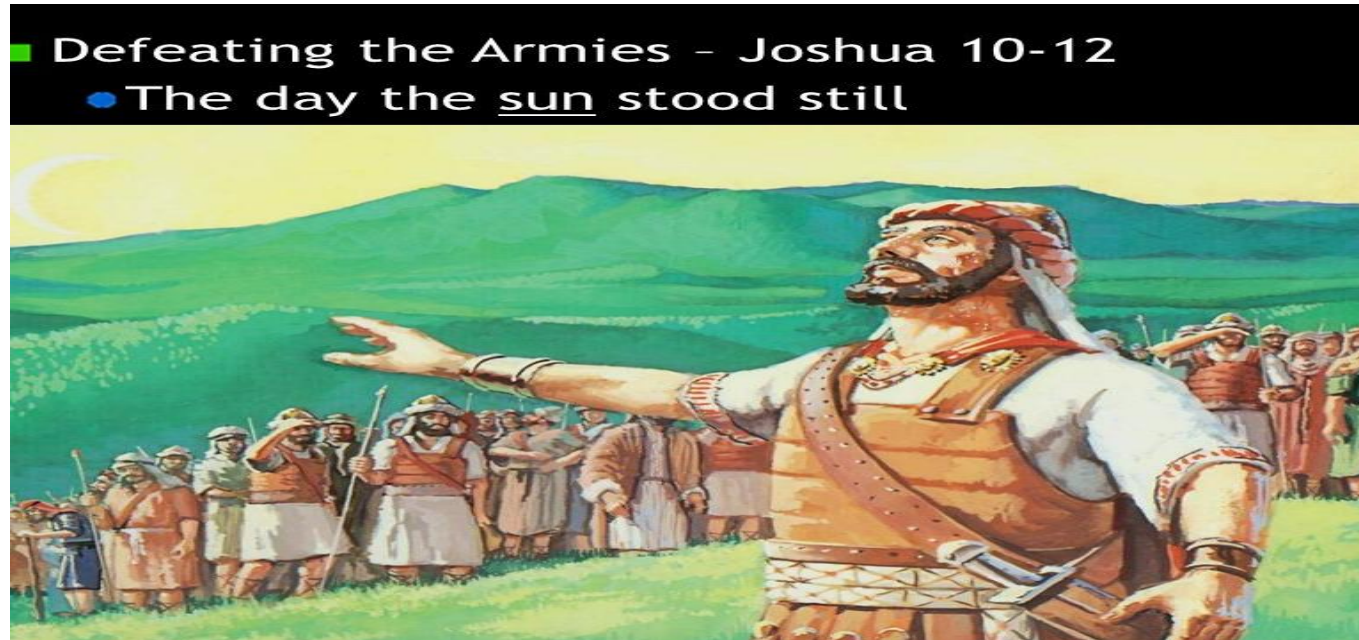
Joshua 9:22-23

Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, “Why did you deceive us by saying, ‘We live a long way from you,’ while actually you live near us? ²³ You are now under a curse: You will never be released from service as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God.”



Joshua 10:12-14

On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: “Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.” ¹³ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. ¹⁴ There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!



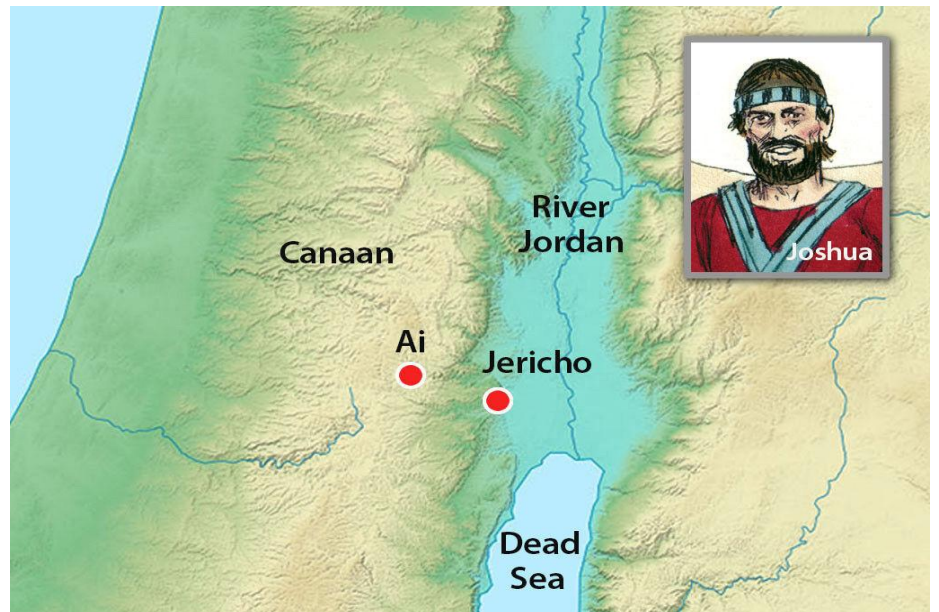
Joshua 11:13

Yet Israel did not burn any of the cities built on their mounds—except Hazor, which Joshua burned.

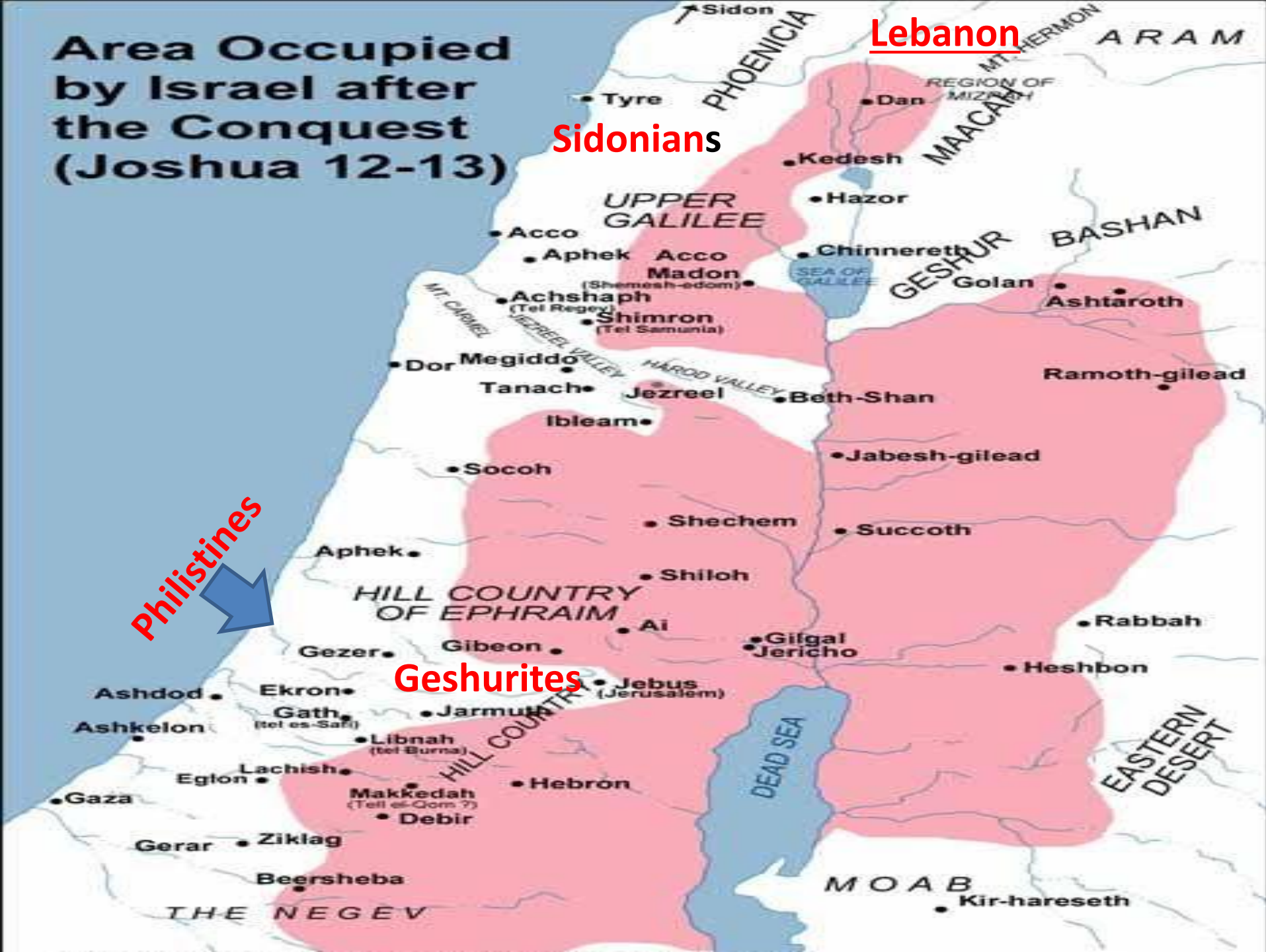


Joshua 11:16, 23

So Joshua took this entire land: the hill country, all the Negev, the whole region of Goshen, the western foothills, the Arabah and the mountains of Israel with their foothills,²³ So Joshua took the entire land, just as the LORD had directed Moses, and he gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal divisions. Then the land had rest from war.



Area Occupied by Israel after the Conquest (Joshua 12-13)



Joshua 13:1-6

When Joshua had grown old, the LORD said to him, “You are now very old, and there are still very large areas of land to be taken over. ² **“This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines and Geshurites,** ³ from the Shihor River on the east of Egypt to the territory of Ekron on the north, all of it counted as Canaanite though held by the five Philistine rulers in Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath and Ekron; the territory of the Avvites ⁴ on the south; all the land of the Canaanites, from **Arah of the Sidonians as far as Aphek and the border of the Amorites;** ⁵ **the area of Byblos; and all Lebanon to the east, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo Hamath.** ⁶ “As for all the inhabitants of the mountain regions from Lebanon to Misrephoth Maim, that is, all the Sidonians, I myself will drive them out before the Israelites.

Joshua 20:1-3

Then the LORD said to Joshua: ² “Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses, ³ so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.



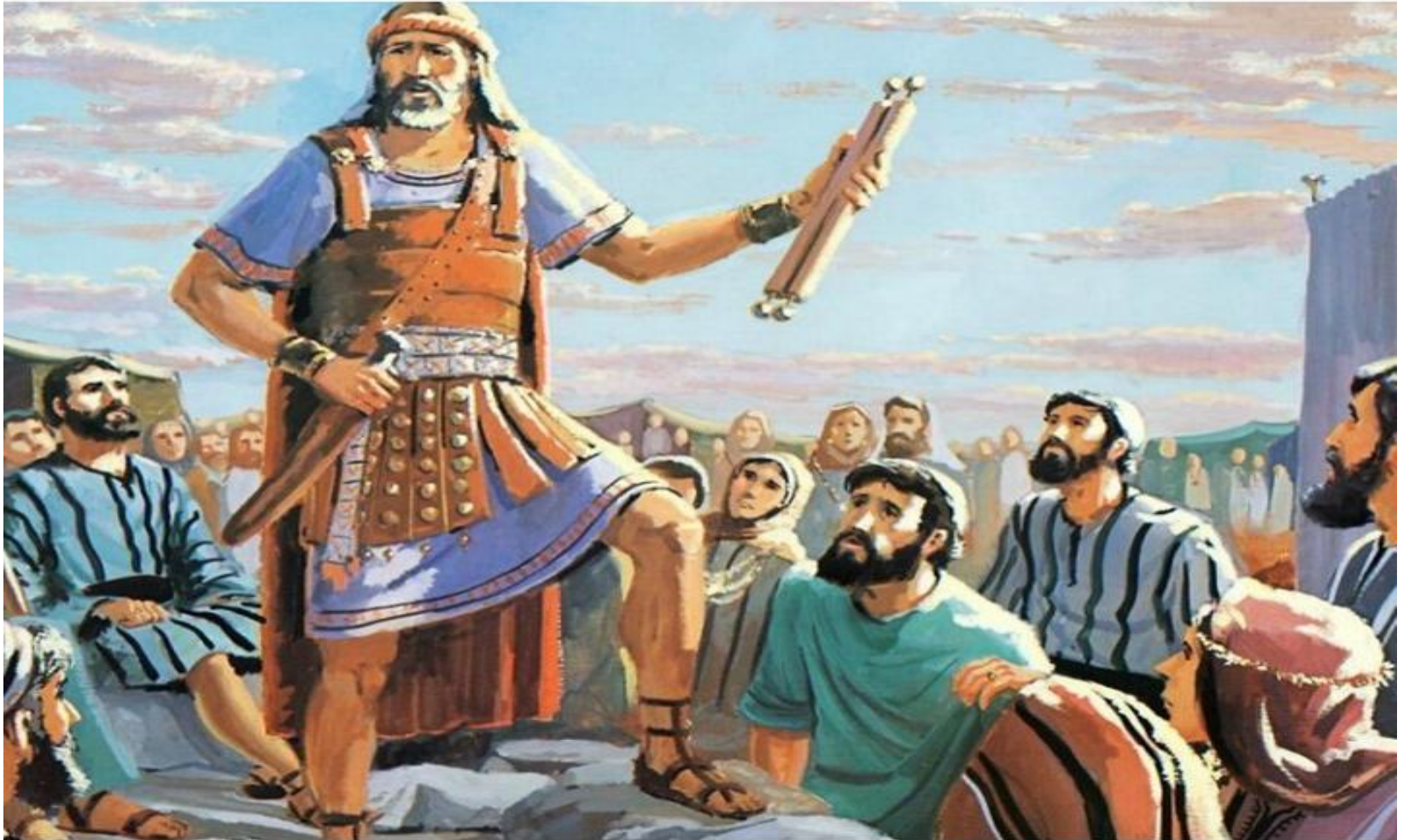
Joshua 23:6-8, 14-16

“Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left. ⁷ Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them. ⁸ But you are **to hold fast to the LORD your God,** as you have until now.....

¹⁴ “Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. **You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the LORD your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed.** ¹⁵ But just as all the good things the LORD your God has promised you have come to you, so he will bring on you all the evil things he has threatened, until the LORD your God has destroyed you from this good land he has given you. ¹⁶ **If you violate the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, the LORD’s anger will burn against you, and you will quickly perish from the good land he has given you.”**

Joshua 24:16-24

Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods!..... ²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, “**We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.**”



Joshua 24:29-30

After these things, **Joshua son of Nun**, the servant of the LORD, **died at the age of a hundred and ten.** ³⁰ And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.



Joshua 24:31

Israel served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and **who had experienced everything the LORD had done for Israel.**

People need leaders who will remain faithful to God and lead them in HIS ways ! Who have experienced His care and will tell others about it!

