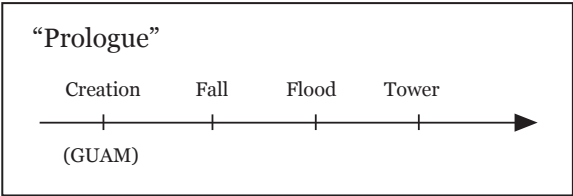


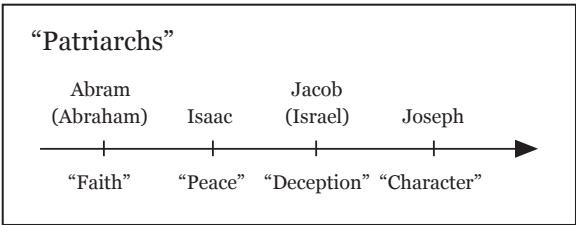
Session 4

I. PRAYER/REVIEW

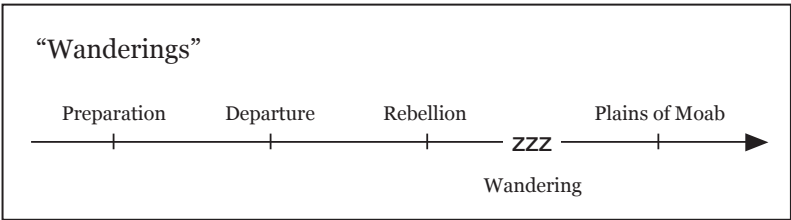
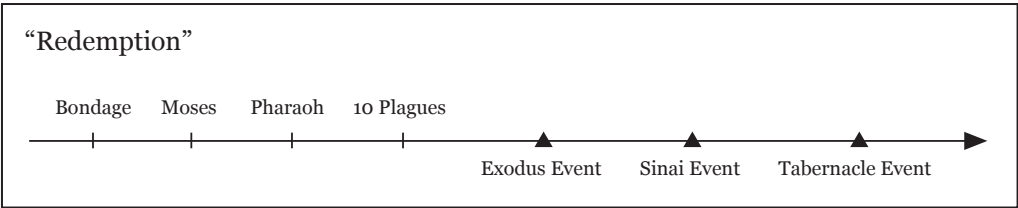
A. Movement #1



B. Movement #2

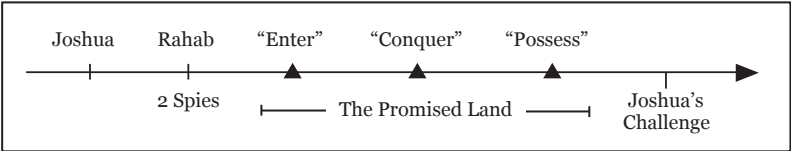


C. Movement #3



II. MOVEMENT #4 (of 12): “CONQUEST”

“Conquest”



III. OVERVIEW OF THE “BOOK OF JOSHUA”

A. Charted

BOOK OF JOSHUA					
“Entering the Land”		“Conquering the Land”		“Possessing the Land”	
1	5	5	12	13	24
Joshua: New Leader		Commander: Lord’s Army		Division of the Land	
1		5		13	19
Rahab: 2 Spies		“Central Campaign”		Cities of Refuge	
2		6	8	20	
Crossing the Jordan: Gilgal		Gibeonite Deception		Levitical Cities	
3	4	9		21	
Circumcision + Passover		“Southern Campaign”		Release: Eastern Tribes	
		10		22	
		“Northern Campaign”		Joshua’s Farewell	
		11			
		Defeated Kings			
5		12		23	24

B. Purposes of Joshua

(adapted from N. Geisler, Popular Survey of the OT)

1. Historical purpose:

To show God's fulfillment of the covenantal promise of "the land" to the Israelites (Abrahamic Covenant).

2. Doctrinal purpose:

To illustrate God's character, fulfillment of His promises, the victorious result of trusting and obeying, and the necessity of full, complete obedience.

3. Christological purpose:

Joshua's encounter with the Commander of the Lord's Army may be a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ. If so, Christ is our "Commander" (Lord) and leads us to victory in life.

C. Typological Significance of the Book of Joshua

1. Definition of "type"

A type is a person, thing, or an event that foreshadows/points forward (or correlates) to a future, deeper, significant fulfillment.

2. Typology and the Book of Joshua

- a. Is the crossing of the Jordan River to enter the Promised Land a type (picture) of heaven?
- b. Is the crossing and subsequent conquest a type (picture) of the abundant life (Jn. 10:10^b)?

D. Key Theological Themes: Book of Joshua

1. God is faithful to His word (promises).

Joshua 6:1-2

*Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. ² And the Lord said to Joshua, “See, **I have given** Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor.”*

Joshua 8:1

*And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take all the fighting men with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, **I have given** into your hand the king of Ai, and his people, his city, and his land.”*

Joshua 10:5, 8

*Then the five kings of the Amorites, the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon, gathered their forces and went up with all their armies and encamped against Gibeon and made war against it. ⁸ And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not fear them, for **I have given** them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you.”*

2. Obedience to the Word of God is critical to the success of Joshua and the Israelites.

Joshua 1:7-8

Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.... ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Joshua 8:32-25 (after victory at Ai)

And there, in the presence of the people of Israel, he wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written. ³³ And all Israel, sojourner as well as native born, with their elders and officers and their judges, stood on opposite sides of the ark before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded at the first, to bless the people of Israel. ³⁴ And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. ³⁵ There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.

3. Attributes of God are demonstrated in Joshua.

“God is shown to be holy, almighty, sovereign, just, full of mercy, a designer of order, worthy of worship, and a rewarder of those who fear and obey him.”

(I. Jensen, Joshua, EBC, 24)

4. The Biblical tension of “human effort” and “divine enablement” is demonstrated in the Book of Joshua.

Insight:

The Book of Joshua illustrates the compatible truths of “divine enablement” coupled with “human effort.” What God commands, He provides through His provision of whatever is needed. But God will not “divinely enable” apart from man’s “human effort.” God will always do His part; man must always do his part; thus, “trust and obey.”

IV. MOVEMENT #4: “CONQUEST” (BIBLICAL DEVELOPMENT)

A. Joshua the Man

1. Necessary leadership qualities

Moses speaks:

*Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it.*

⁸ It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.” (Deut. 31:7-8)

Lord speaks:

*“**Be strong and courageous**, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only **be strong and very courageous**, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.... ⁹ Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous**. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Josh. 1:6-7,9)*

People speak:

*“Whoever rebels against your commandment and disobeys your words, whatever you command him, shall be put to death. Only **be strong and courageous**.” (Josh. 1:18)*

Insight:

- “be strong” - strength in the hand for grasping (like a sword)
- “be courageous” - strength in the knees (to stand one’s ground)

2. Necessary focus: Joshua 1:3

*Remember the word that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, “The Lord your God is providing you a place of **rest** and will give you this **land**.”*

- a. “Rest” - entrance into inheritance or appropriation of promise (blessing); (cf. Heb. 3-4)
- b. “Land” - fulfillment of Abrahamic Covenant promise
(Gen. 12:1-7; 13:14-17; 15:7; 17:3-8)

3. Necessary conflict: Deuteronomy 7:1-6 NASB (Moses’ prophetic word)

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land where you are entering to possess it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, seven nations greater and stronger than you, ² and when the Lord your God delivers them before you and you defeat them, then you shall utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them and show no favor to them. ³ Furthermore, you shall not intermarry with them; you shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor shall you take their daughters for your sons. ⁴ For they will turn your sons away from following Me to serve other gods; then the anger of the Lord will be kindled against you and He will quickly destroy you. ⁵ But thus you shall do to them: you shall tear down their altars, and smash their sacred pillars, and hew down their Asherim, and burn their graven images with fire. ⁶ For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

4. Necessary perspective

“The record of Israel’s exodus from the land of Egypt and preservation in the barren wilderness of Sinai constitutes one of the most captivating stories in the Bible. Equally thrilling are the accounts of Israel’s conquest of the land of Canaan under the leadership of the man Joshua. The years spent in conquest and settlement were crucial ones in the history of Israel. A comprehensive record of these events is found in the first eight books of the Bible. The first five books, known as the Pentateuch, give us the history of the Hebrews up to their entrance into the land of Canaan, while the books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth continue that history by describing the conquest and settlement in the land of Canaan.”
(J. Davis, *History of Israel*, 17)

B. Rahab and the Spies

1. The plan of Joshua

Joshua 2:1

And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, “Go, view the land, especially Jericho.” And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there.

2. The reception by Rahab

Joshua 2:2-4

And it was told to the king of Jericho, “Behold, men of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land.”³ Then the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, “Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out all the land.”⁴ But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. And she said, “True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from.”

3. The proposal by Rahab

Joshua 2:8-9

Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof⁹ and said to the men, “I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you.”

Joshua 2:12-14

“Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father’s house, and give me a sure sign¹³ that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.”¹⁴ And the men said to her, “Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the Lord gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you.”

4. The promise of the spies

Joshua 2:18-20

“Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father’s household. ¹⁹ Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. ²⁰ But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear.”

Theological Insight:

Hebrews 11:31

By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Was Rahab wrong to lie to the officials of Jericho? Was she commended for this lie or for her protection of the spies? Is it even justifiable to lie to gain a greater or better outcome?

5. The future heritage of Rahab

Matthew 1:1-6^a

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

² *Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ³ and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram, ⁴ and Ram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, ⁵ and Salmon the father of Boaz by **Rahab**, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse the father of David the king...*

C. “Entering the Land”

1. Crossing the Jordan River

Joshua 3:7-8 | Joshua’s leadership validated

*The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so **I will be with you.**”⁸ And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, ‘When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.’”*

Joshua 3:11-13 | Ark of the Covenant

*“Behold, the **ark of the covenant of the Lord** of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan.”¹² Now therefore take twelve men from the tribes of Israel, from each tribe a man.¹³ And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap.”*

Joshua 3:17 | Jordan River and dry ground

*Now the priests bearing the **ark of the covenant of the Lord** stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.*

2. Setting up the memorial

Joshua 4:1-3 | Stones taken

When all the nation had finished passing over the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua,² “Take twelve men from the people, from each tribe a man,³ and command them, saying, ‘Take twelve stones from here out of the midst of the Jordan, from the very place where the priests’ feet stood firmly, and bring them over with you and lay them down in the place where you lodge tonight.’”

Joshua 4:6-7 | Significance given

*“...that this may be **a sign** among you. When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’⁷ then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a **memorial** forever.”*

3. Consecrating the people

Joshua 5:2-5 | Circumcision

At that time the Lord said to Joshua, “Make flint knives and circumcise the sons of Israel a second time.”³ So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at Gibeath-haaraloth.⁴ And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way after they had come out of Egypt.⁵ Though all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people who were born on the way in the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised.

Genesis 17:9-10 | Covenant requirement

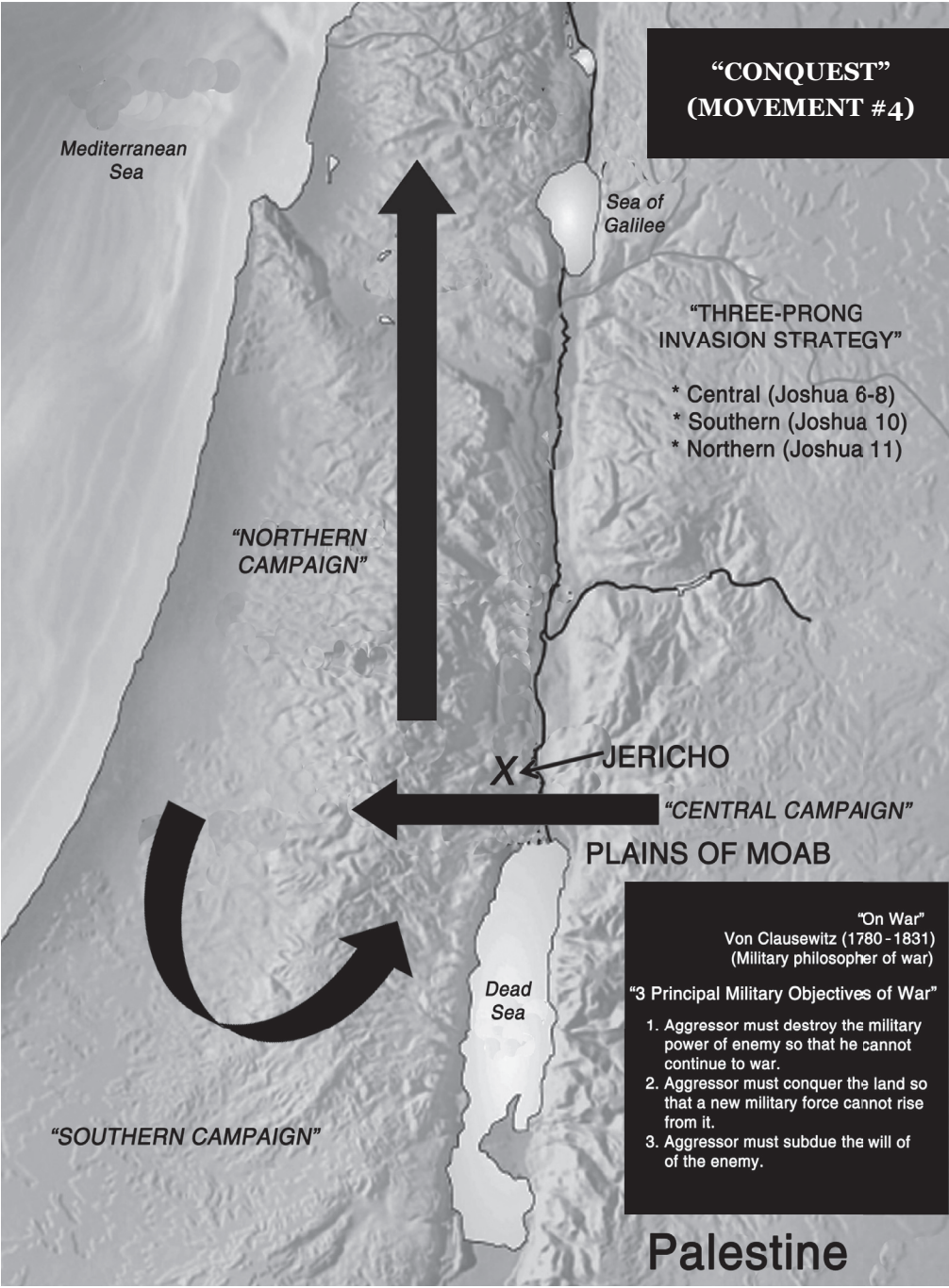
And God said to Abraham, “As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.¹⁰ This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.”

4. Significance of entering the land (at Gilgal)

- a. Note the map on the following page.
- b. The Israelites will be facing a confederation of city-states within the land of Canaan. It will be important to “divide and conquer.”
- c. Note the inset on military strategy in the map.

Military Insight:

Joshua’s campaign to take the land will require a three-pronged attack. The map on the following page pictorially represents the military strategy. If successful, this plan will break the back of united Canaanite resistance.



D. “Conquering the Land”

1. Jericho: the first battle

a. Importance

- (1) Militarily: cuts the Promised Land into two halves
- (2) Spiritually: proves the faithfulness of God
- (3) Nationally: forges the nation into a people capable of defeating (or defending from) enemies.

b. Condition of the city

Joshua 6:1

Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the people of Israel. None went out, and none came in.

c. Battle plan

Joshua 6:2-5

*And the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor.”³ You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days.⁴ Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams’ horns before the **ark**. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.⁵ And when they make a long blast with the ram’s horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him.”*

Importance of the Ark?

- (1) Exodus 25:21-22: mercy seat (“I will meet with you”)
- (2) Joshua 6:6-14: “Ark” is mentioned nine times; taken around the city on the battle marches
- (3) Summary: the symbol of God’s presence, promise, and power

d. Divine ban (Heb. “herem”)

Joshua 6:18-19

*“But you, keep yourselves from the things **devoted to destruction**, lest when you have devoted them you take any of the **devoted things** and make the camp of Israel a thing for destruction and bring trouble upon it. ¹⁹ But all silver and gold, and every vessel of bronze and iron, are holy to the Lord; they shall go into the treasury of the Lord.”*

Insight:

“Herem” means to ban, deny or devote to destruction. To place spoils of war under the “herem” was to devote the city to destruction and give all of the spoils to God as belonging exclusively to Him.

Joshua 7:1

*But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the **devoted things**, for Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the Lord burned against the people of Israel.*

2. Ai: the second battle

Joshua 7:3-5

And they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.” ⁴ So about three thousand men went up there from the people. And they fled before the men of Ai, ⁵ and the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of their men and chased them before the gate as far as Shebarim and struck them at the descent. And the hearts of the people melted and became as water.

Joshua 7:10-12

*The Lord said to Joshua, “Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? ¹¹ Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the **devoted things**; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings. ¹² Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become **devoted for destruction**. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the **devoted things** from among you.”*

Insight: Trust and Obey

This is a key principle illustrated repeatedly in the Book of Joshua; even an unconditional covenant (Abrahamic) can have attached to it conditions for blessing and cursing (Mosaic - see especially Deuteronomy 28).

3. Comparison of Rahab (Jericho) and Achan (Ai)

Rahab	Achan
A woman	A man
She is Canaanite, but fears the Lord	He is an Israelite, but doesn't fear the Lord
A prostitute (not respectable)	Respectable
Should have perished, but survives	Should have survived, but perishes
Her family survives	His family perishes
All that belongs to her survives	All that belongs to him perishes
Her nation (Jericho) perishes	His nation (Israel) prospers
She hides the spies from the king	He hides the loot from Joshua and the Lord
She hides the spies in her house	He hides the loot in his tent
She hides the spies on the roof	He hides the loot in the ground
Her house survives	His tent perishes
The cattle, sheep and donkeys of her city (Jericho) perish	His cattle, sheep and donkeys perish, like those in Jericho
She obeyed indirect revelation from the Lord	He disobeyed direct revelation from the Lord
She lives - like the Israelites	He dies - like the Canaanites

(from Baker Illust. Bible Handbook, 133)

4. Southern Campaign

a. Text: Joshua 10

b. Key verse: Joshua 10:42

And Joshua captured all these kings and their land at one time, because the Lord God of Israel fought for Israel.

5. Northern Campaign

a. Joshua 11

b. Key verse: Joshua 11:12

And all the cities of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua captured, and struck them with the edge of the sword, devoting them to destruction, just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded.

E. “Possessing the Land”

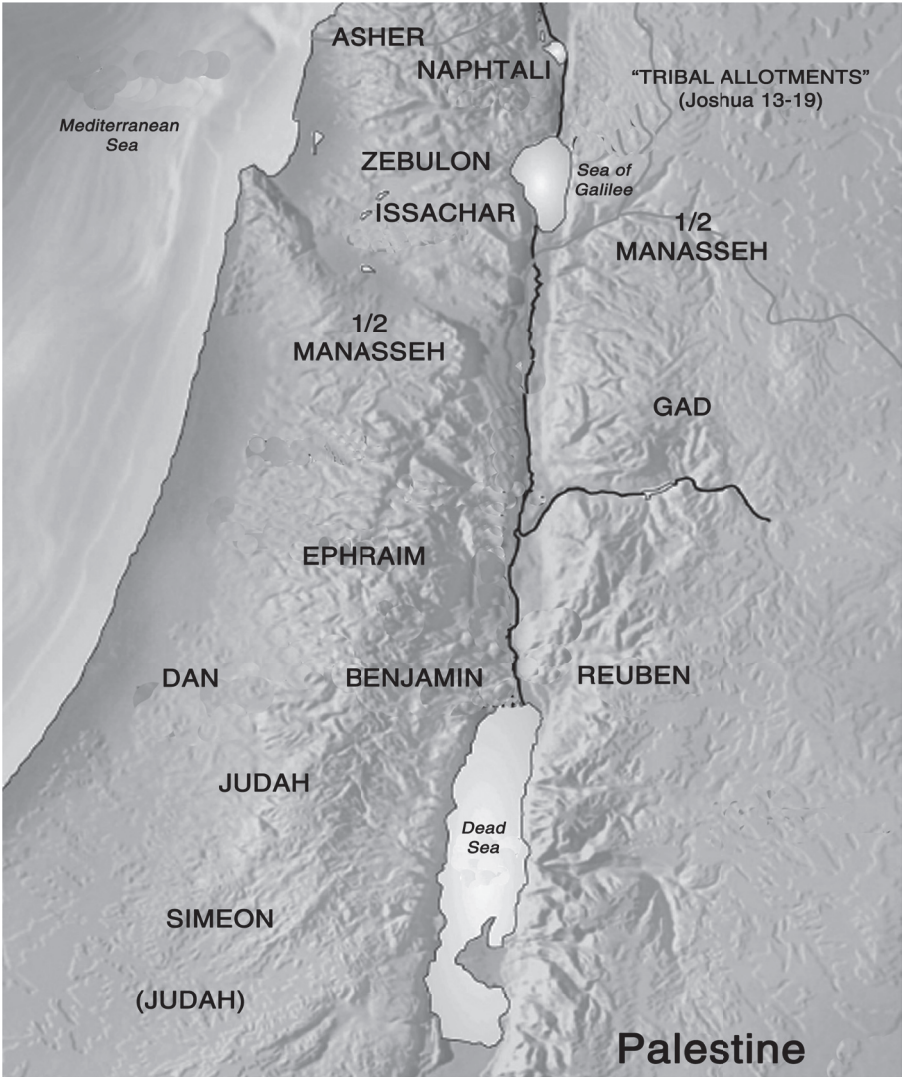
1. Division of the land

Joshua 14:1-5

*These are the **inheritances** that the people of Israel received in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest and Joshua the son of Nun and the heads of the fathers' houses of the tribes of the people of Israel gave them to inherit. ² Their **inheritance** was by lot, just as the Lord had commanded by the hand of Moses for the nine and one-half tribes. ³ For Moses had given an **inheritance** to the two and one-half tribes beyond the Jordan, but to the Levites he gave **no inheritance** among them. ⁴ For the people of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. And no portion was given to the Levites in the land, but only cities to dwell in, with their pasturelands for their livestock and their substance. ⁵ The people of Israel did as the Lord commanded Moses; they allotted the land.*

For a rough approximation of the tribal allotments, see map on the following page.

Remember: Joseph's double blessing falls to his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. Also, the Levites are the priestly tribe and receive no allotments of land.



2. Fulfillment of the promise

Joshua 21:43

Thus the Lord gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there.

3. Tribal responsibilities: finish the job!

a. Prophetic promise: Day of Moses

Exodus 23:29-30

I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. ³⁰ Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land.

b. Prophetic promise: Day of Joshua

Joshua 23:12-13

For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you, ¹³ know for certain that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the Lord your God has given you.

Insight:

Failure to drive out the inhabitants of the land as commanded by the Lord will bring cursing (discipline); this is the story of the Book of Judges.

F. Farewell Address of Joshua

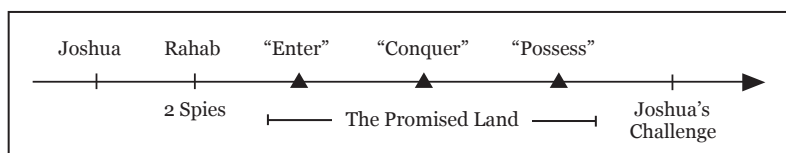
1. Address to the leadership (Josh. 23)
2. Covenant Renewal/Historical Summary (Josh. 24:1-13)
3. Challenge to the people

Joshua 24:14-15

“Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

4. Response of the people (Josh. 24:16-22)

V. TIMELINE: MOVEMENT #4 (“CONQUEST”)



VI. FOR SESSION 5: “APOSTASY”

- A. Minimal Reading: Judges 1-2
- B. Maximum Reading: Judges 1-2, 6-8
- C. Personal Project: Take a person through the “Timeline” for this session (review previous Movements as well). Draw and explain this as best you can.