



Joshua's Farewell Address (Joshua 23-24)

Joshua 23:9 "The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you. ¹⁰ One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised. ¹¹ So be very careful to love the LORD your God.

Joshua 24:2 ...This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods. ³ But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the River and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. I gave him Isaac,

Joshua 24:13 So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.'

¹⁴ "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness.

Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

¹⁵ But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

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THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

Battles Begin

The Story—part 7

Books of Joshua

October 23, 2016

**God's upper story. God wants to be with us
and will pay any price to make it so.**

Why Invade the Promised Land?

1. Because of the wickedness of the inhabitants to the land.

Genesis 15:14 But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

(see Deut. 12:31; 20:18; Exodus 34:15-16)

2. To make Himself known among the nations.

Genesis 12:3 (God) "I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Entering the Land (Joshua 3)

Joshua 3:13 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."¹

¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, ..., while the water flowing down was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

¹⁷ The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Last Events Before the First Big Battle

- **The men were circumcised.**

Joshua 5:2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again."...⁹ Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So the place has been called Gilgal to this day.

They celebrated Passover.

Joshua 5:10 On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover.

People ate from the Promised Land!

Joshua 5:11 The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain.¹² The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan.

Battles begin; 7 Days Around Jericho; Joshua 5-7

Joshua 6:15 On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except



that on that day they circled the city seven times.

¹⁶ The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!

¹⁷ The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the LORD.

Joshua 6:20 When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

Battles Within and Without

Joshua 7:1 But the Israelites acted unfaithfully in regard to the devoted things; Achan ... of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the LORD's anger burned against Israel.

Joshua 7:11 "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."

Joshua 7:20 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 wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

The southern battles: Israel defeats 5 kings. (Josh. 10)

The northern campaign: Israel defeats 14 kings. (Josh. 11)

Josh. 11:23 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.