# Joshua

Joshua is a history book.  
  
It covers the time period between the IsraElites entering the Promised Land until JoShua’s death. These events probably happened somewhere between 1510 BCE and 1480 BCE.  
  
It was likely originally written by JoShua, but later added to or recompiled into a group of writings by someone else (possibly SamuEl or even Ezra), since there are some references to King David’s time.  
  
The book seems to begin as a continuation of the previous book of Deuteronomy, and the opening words of the following book of Judges picks up the narrative.  
  
  
*Difficult portions*  
  
Joshua also contains long lists of the conquered cities, plus descriptions of the geographic borders of each tribe. In case you wish to skip over these more difficult sections, editor notes will tell you where they begin and end.  
  
  
*Bold text*  
  
We’ve put some words and phrases in **bold** to help identify major events and important lists.

### Joshua

## Chapter 1

1After the death of Moses, the Lord spoke to Moses’ servant JoShua (son of NaWeh) and said:  
  
 2‘My servant Moses is now dead; so I want you and all of these people to get up and cross the JorDan [River] into the land that I’m giving to them.  
  
 3‘I’m giving you every place that you step as yours, just as I told Moses, 4from the desert and the borders of Lebanon to the great River EuPhrates and to the Sea…  
  
 ‘Your borders will run to the sunset.  
  
 5‘No man will be able to stand against you during all the days of your life; for, as I was with Moses is how I’ll be with you…  
  
 ‘I won’t fail you and I won’t leave you.  
  
 6‘Therefore, be strong and act like a man, because, now you must divide up the land among these people, [a land] that I swore to their ancestors that I’d give them. 7So, you must be strong, behave like a man, and pay attention and obey, just as My servant Moses instructed you…  
  
 ‘Don’t swerve to the right or to the left, so that you may prove to be wise in everything that you do.  
  
 8‘And don’t allow the Law that has been written on the scroll to leave your mouth… You must think about it day and night, so that you’ll know how to do everything that’s written in it.  
  
 ‘Then you’ll be blessed, you’ll succeed, and you’ll be wise.  
  
 9‘Look; I’m commanding you to be strong and courageous! Don’t be a coward or fearful, for Jehovah your God will be with you no matter where you may go.’  
  
  
10Then JoShua gave this commandment to the people’s scribes:  
  
 11‘Go throughout the camp and tell the people to get ready, for in three days we’ll cross the JorDan to enter and take possession of the land that Jehovah the God of your ancestors is giving to you.’  
  
12And thereafter, JoShua said this to [the tribes of] ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh:  
  
 13‘Remember what Moses the servant of Jehovah told you to do.  
  
 ‘He said:  
  
 *‘Jehovah your God has allowed you to rest by giving you this land.* 14*So now, settle your wives, children, and cattle here in the land that He’s given to you; then, all who are strong and willing to fight must arm themselves to cross [the JorDan] before their brothers.*  
  
 15*‘[You must be willing to do this] until Jehovah your God has allowed your brothers to rest, just as He’s [allowed] you [to rest], after they’ve inherited the land that Jehovah your God is giving to them.*  
  
 *‘Only then may you each return to the inheritance that Moses allotted to you east of the JorDan!’*  
  
16So they answered JoShua and said:  
  
 ‘We’ll do everything that you’ve commanded and we’ll go wherever you may send us. 17For, just as we listened to Moses, we’ll listen to you… And may our God Jehovah be with you as He was with Moses!  
  
 18‘If anyone chooses to disobey you, or doesn’t listen to you and obey whatever you tell him to do, he must die… But you must be strong and courageous!’

### Joshua

## Chapter 2

1Then from SatTin, JoShua (son of NaWeh) sent two young men as spies into the land, saying:  
  
 ‘Go there and look at the land… And [specifically] at **JeriCho**.’  
  
  
So, the two young men went and entered JeriCho and stayed at the house of a prostitute named RaHab. 2However, [someone] reported this to the king of JeriCho, saying:  
  
 ‘Men of the sons of IsraEl have come here as spies!’  
  
3Then the king of JeriCho sent [men to the house of] RaHab, that said:  
  
 ‘Bring out the men who entered your house this evening, for they’ve come to spy in our land!’  
  
4But the woman had hidden the two men, and she told [the king’s] messengers:  
  
 ‘The men came here, 5but before the [city] gate was closed this evening, they left… And I don’t know where they went.  
  
 ‘You should chase after them to see if you can catch them!’  
  
6However, she’d taken them up on the [roof] and hidden them under some hay that she’d spread there.  
  
7So the [king’s] men left and traveled towards the fords in the JorDan, and the [city] gate was closed once again.  
  
8Then, after the men who were chasing them had left (and before the spies had fallen asleep), she went up to them on the roof of her house and said:  
  
 9‘I know that Jehovah has given you this land, so we’re all afraid [of you]... 10We’ve heard how your God Jehovah dried up the Red Sea before you when you left the land of Egypt, and of the things that He did to the two Amorite kings across the JorDan… To SeOn and Og whom you destroyed.  
  
 11‘When we heard about this, our hearts were stunned and we were barely able to breathe because of you; for Jehovah your God is truly the God of the skies above and of the lands below!  
  
 12‘So now, swear to me by Jehovah your God that, since I’ve been merciful with you, you’ll be merciful to the house of my father, 13and that you’ll allow the house of my father – my mother, my brothers, myself, and everyone in my home, as well as everything that we own – to be saved from death.’  
  
14And the men replied:  
  
 ‘[We will offer] our lives for yours, even to death.’  
  
Then she said:  
  
 ‘When Jehovah gives this city to you, you must be merciful and true to me!’  
  
15And at that, she lowered them [outside the city gate] through her window 16with instructions to head towards the hill country where they should hide for three days before returning, for fear that they would run into the men who were chasing them.  
  
17And the [spies] said:  
  
 ‘We promise to do what you’ve asked.  
  
 18‘{Look!} But because we’re going to [destroy] this city, you must give us a sign... Tie this scarlet cord in the window from which you let us down, then bring everyone – your father, mother, brothers, and your father’s entire family – into your house.  
  
 19‘However, if anyone goes outside the door of your house, they’ll be guilty and no part of our promise. We’ll just be responsible for those found inside your home.  
  
 20‘And if anyone harms us or betrays us, the promise is broken.’  
  
21Then she told them:  
  
 ‘May it be as you said.’  
  
And at that, she sent them away.  
  
22Then they headed towards the hill country where they remained for three days… So although the people who were chasing them searched all the roads, they couldn’t find them.  
  
23Then the two young men left the mountains and returned to JoShua (son of NaWeh) and told him everything that had happened to them.  
  
24They said:  
  
 ‘Jehovah has put the entire land under our power, because everyone who lives there is shaking in fear of us.’

### Joshua

## Chapter 3

1Well, JoShua got up early the next morning, and thereafter, [the whole camp] left SatTin. Then when they reached the JorDan, they stayed there [until it was time to] cross.  
  
2And [for the next] three days, the scribes went throughout the entire camp 3telling the people that as soon as they saw the Levite Priests bearing Jehovah God’s Chest of the Sacred Agreement, they were to follow behind it…  
  
4But at a distance of as much as 3,000 feet (914m), because they weren’t to get near it. And that’s when everyone started to realize that things weren’t going to be the same as they’d been in the past.  
  
5Thereafter, JoShua said to the people:  
  
 ‘Now, make yourselves holy, because tomorrow Jehovah will perform a miracle among you!’  
  
6And [on the next day], JoShua told the Priests to pick up Jehovah’s Chest of the Sacred Agreement and lead the people onward. So, the Priests picked it up and walked ahead of the people.  
  
7Then Jehovah said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Today I’m going to start [raising your prestige] before all the children of IsraEl, so they’ll know that I’m with you, just as I was with Moses... 8Therefore, tell the Priests who are carrying the Chest of the Sacred Agreement that as soon as they get to the edge of the water, it’ll part! And then they are to go down and stand still in the middle of the JorDan.’  
  
9So JoShua gathered the children of IsraEl and said:  
  
 ‘Come here and listen to the words of our God Jehovah, 10for this is how you’ll know that the living God is among you and that He will destroy the CanaAnites, Hittites, Pherezites, Evites, Amorites, Gergesites, and the Jebusites ahead of you:  
  
 11‘Watch what happens when the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of the Lord of the whole earth [is being carried] into the JorDan!  
  
 12‘You must choose 12 men, one from each of your tribes, 13and these will [serve as witnesses] to the fact that when the feet of the Priests that are carrying the Chest of the Sacred Agreement [step into] the JorDan, the water will [move away], and that which is pouring down from higher up will stop flowing.’  
  
14So then, the people packed up their tents to cross over the JorDan, as the Priests walked ahead of them carrying the Chest of Jehovah’s Sacred Agreement... 15And when the feet of the Priests who were carrying the Chest entered the JorDan, the water parted – even though it was harvest time and the river was at flood stage!  
  
16The water that was flowing down from higher up stopped in a solid wall – backing up all the way to the region of KiriAth JaiRim, and the water that flowed down to the Salt Sea dried up!  
  
So, there the people were, standing across from JeriCho.  
  
17Then the Priests who were carrying the Chest continued on and they stopped in the middle of the JorDan and just stood there until all the children of IsraEl had passed through it on dry ground.

### Joshua

## Chapter 4

1Well, after everyone had crossed the JorDan, the Lord spoke to JoShua and said:  
  
 2‘Now, select one man from each tribe, 3then tell them to go out to the middle of the JorDan and pick up 12 appropriate rocks and carry them back to the place where you’ll be camping tonight.’  
  
4So JoShua selected 12 important men from among the children of IsraEl, one from each tribe, 5and he told them:  
  
 ‘Now, walk in front of me to the middle of the JorDan, and there in the presence of the Lord, each of you must pick up a rock and carry it on your shoulders – one [rock] for each of the 12 tribes of IsraEl.  
  
 6‘These will serve as signs to future [generations], so that when your sons ask you:  
  
 *‘What do these rocks mean to us?’*  
  
 7...you can tell them:  
  
 *‘The JorDan River dried up in front of the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of the Lord of the whole earth as it started passing through.’*  
  
 ‘So, these rocks are to serve as reminders of this event to the children of IsraEl throughout the ages.’  
  
8And that’s what the children of IsraEl did… They did just as the Lord had commanded JoShua. They picked up 12 rocks from the middle of the JorDan (after all the children of IsraEl had finished crossing), then they carried them into their camp and laid them there.  
  
9And JoShua also had 12 further rocks placed in the JorDan where the feet of the Priests who carried the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of Jehovah had entered… And they’re still there today!  
  
10Well, the Priests who were carrying the Chest of the Sacred Agreement just kept on standing there in the middle of the JorDan until JoShua had finished doing everything that the Lord had commanded, and until everyone had crossed.  
  
  
11Then, after all the people had crossed, they carried Jehovah’s Chest of the Sacred Agreement and the rocks [to the other side]. 12Also, the sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh led the way for the children of IsraEl, just as Moses had commanded them… 1340,000 of their armed men crossed [the river] before Jehovah so as to join in the attack against the city of JeriCho.  
  
14As a result, on that day, Jehovah raised JoShua’s prestige [in the eyes of] all the people of IsraEl, and they started fearing him as they [had once feared] Moses!  
  
15Then the Lord spoke to JoShua and said:  
  
 16‘Now, tell the Priests who are carrying the Chest of the Sacred Agreement [that it’s time for them to] to come up out of the JorDan!’  
  
17So JoShua told the Priests to come from the JorDan... 18And as soon as the Priests carrying the Chest stepped out of the JorDan and put their feet on dry ground, the water quickly returned and overflowed its banks, like it’d been doing before.  
  
19It was on the 10th day of the 1st month that the children of IsraEl crossed the JorDan, and they set up camp at GilGal, east of JeriCho. 20It was there at GilGal that JoShua set up those 12 rocks that they’d taken from the JorDan.  
  
21And he said:  
  
 ‘When your sons ask you what these rocks are, 22tell them that IsraEl walked over them while they crossed the JorDan on dry ground, 23back when our God Jehovah dried up the JorDan’s waters in front of them until they’d all crossed... The same as He did at the Red Sea, when He dried up its waters until we’d all crossed.  
  
 24‘[They’re here] to remind every nation on earth of the mighty power of Jehovah, and that you should always be bowing low before Jehovah your God!’

### Joshua

## Chapter 5

1Well, when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan and the kings of Phoenicia heard that Jehovah God had dried up the JorDan River in front of the children of IsraEl as they crossed it, their hearts dropped, they were terrified, and they were beside themselves because of the children of IsraEl!  
  
2And thereafter, the Lord said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘You must now make yourself some knives out of sharp stones, then sit down and circumcise the children of IsraEl.’  
  
3So JoShua made some very sharp knives out of stone, and he circumcised the children of IsraEl at a place [that came to] be known as, ‘The Hill of Foreskins.’  
  
4By doing this, JoShua cleansed all the children of IsraEl that had been born along the way, as well as all the uncircumcised that had come with them from Egypt. 5He circumcised all [the males] that had wandered in the MabDaris Desert for the past 40 years.  
  
6[Of course, this didn’t include] the uncircumcised fighting men who’d left the land of Egypt but then disobeyed the commandments of God, for God had decided that they wouldn’t see the land that He’d sworn to their ancestors that He would give to them… A land flowing with milk and honey.  
  
7But in their place, He elevated their sons… These were the ones whom JoShua circumcised, since those who had been born along the way hadn’t been circumcised.  
  
8So, after they were circumcised, they had to stay there in the camp and rest until they’d all healed.  
  
9It was then that the Lord said to JoShua (son of NaWeh):  
  
 ‘On this day, I’ve removed all the shame of Egypt from you.’  
  
And that’s when He named the place GilGal (Circle of Stones).  
  
  
10It was on the 14th day of the month, in the evening, in a field to the west of JeriCho on the [west] side of the JorDan, that the children of IsraEl then celebrated the Passover.  
  
11There they ate the yeast-free new grain [that they’d found] in the land; 12and after they’d eaten the grain, the manna stopped coming.  
  
So, the children of IsraEl no longer had the manna, and they went on to eat the fruitage from the land of the Phoenicians for the rest of that year.  
  
  
13Well, as JoShua was approaching JeriCho, he looked up and he saw a person standing in front of him that had a drawn sword in his hand.  
  
So he went up to him and asked:  
  
 ‘Are you for us or are you on the side of our enemies?’  
  
14And he replied:  
  
 ‘I have come here as the leader of the army of Jehovah!’  
  
Well at that, JoShua fell with his face to the ground and he asked:  
  
 ‘Lord, what would you command your servant to do?’  
  
15And the leader of Jehovah’s army said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Untie the sandals from your feet, for the place where you’re standing is holy ground!’

### Joshua

## Chapter 6

1Well, by this time, JeriCho was all closed up and ready for a siege, so nobody could enter or leave.  
  
2But then the Lord said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘{Look!} I’m giving JeriCho to you, along with its king and all its mighty men. 3So, station your army around the city, 4and when they hear the trumpets blowing, all the people must shout.  
  
 5‘For it is this shouting that will bring down the walls of the city. And thereafter, everyone must rush straight into it.’  
  
6So JoShua (son of NaWeh) went to the Priests and said:  
  
 7‘Give the sacred trumpets to 7 of the Priests, and have them blow [the trumpets] loudly as they walk before Jehovah, followed by the Lord’s Chest of the Sacred Agreement.  
  
 8‘Also tell the people to walk in a circle around the city with the men all armed and ready for war before Jehovah. 9The army is to walk ahead of the Priests, who must keep blowing the trumpets, [and they’ll] be followed by the Lord’s Chest of the Sacred Agreement.’  
  
10Then JoShua told the people:  
  
 ‘Don’t shout or say a word until [God] Himself tells you it’s time to shout.  
  
 11‘For, the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of God will circle the city, and then it must immediately be returned to the camp and be left there.’  
  
12So on the next day, JoShua got up in the morning and the Priests picked up the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of Jehovah. 13Then the 7 Priests who had the 7 trumpets walked ahead, followed by the men of war, then the rest of the group, and finally by the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of Jehovah, as the Priests were blowing the trumpets.  
  
14The group circled the city closely 6 times, then they returned to the camp… And they did this for 6 days.  
  
15Then on the 7th day, they all arose early and circled the city 7 times…  
  
16And on the 7th round, the Priests blew their trumpets.  
  
Then JoShua told the children of IsraEl:  
  
 ‘Now shout, for Jehovah has given you the city!  
  
 17‘You must dedicate it and everything that’s in it to Jehovah of Armies, except for the prostitute RaHab and the things in her house.  
  
 18‘You must stay free from the cursed things that are there, for fear that you might be tempted to take some and bring a curse upon the camp of the children of IsraEl, which would cause us [all] to be destroyed!  
  
 19‘Also, all the gold, silver, brass, and iron there is to be considered as holy to Jehovah, so it must be taken to the Lord’s treasury!’  
  
20[Well, on the 7th round], the Priests blew their trumpets; and when the people heard that, they all started shouting together as loudly as they could… And all the walls around the city collapsed.  
  
So the people rushed in.  
  
21Thereafter, JoShua dedicated it and everything in it (the men and the women, both the young and the old, as well as their cattle and burros) to destruction by the edge of the sword.  
  
22However, JoShua told the two young men who’d served as spies to go to the house of the woman [that had sheltered them] and bring her and everything that was hers out of it. 23So, the two young men went to her house and brought out the prostitute RaHab, along with her father, mother, brothers, all of her relatives and everything she owned, and set her up outside of the camp of IsraEl.  
  
24And thereafter, they burned the city along with everything in it, except for the gold, silver, brass, and iron, which they carried into the treasury of Jehovah.  
  
25However, JoShua allowed RaHab the prostitute and all the house of her father to live… And she still lives in IsraEl today, because she had hidden the spies that JoShua sent to JeriCho.  
  
26Also on that day, JoShua made everyone swear before Jehovah that any man who rebuilt the city would be cursed… The one who laid its foundation would lose his firstborn, and the one who rebuilt its gates would lose his youngest son.  
  
Yet, that’s what Hozan of BethEl did! He laid the foundation [with the body of] AbiRom his firstborn, and he set up its gates [with the body of] his youngest son.  
  
27Thereafter, because Jehovah was with JoShua, his name became [famous] throughout all the lands.

### Joshua

## Chapter 7

1However, the children of IsraEl committed a serious sin by taking some of the things that had been cursed. It was Achar (son of CharMi, son of ZamBri, and grandson of ZaRa) of the tribe of Judah that took the cursed things, which made Jehovah very angry with the children of IsraEl.  
  
2Well, [after JeriCho had been destroyed], JoShua had sent men as spies to Gai (which was close to BethEl). 3And when they returned, they told him:  
  
 ‘We won’t need the whole army. All we’ll need is two or three thousand men to take the city, because not many of our enemies are there.’  
  
4Therefore, they sent about 3,000 there to fight…  
  
But these had to turn and run from the people of Gai, 5and the [people there] killed 36 of their men as they chased them away from their [city] gate, destroying them as they were running down the steep hill.  
  
Of course, this upset the [IsraElites], and it caused their hearts to become as [weak as] water. 6So, JoShua started ripping his clothes, and he and the elders of IsraEl threw dust on their heads and fell with their faces to the ground before Jehovah, [just lying there] until the evening.  
  
7Then JoShua prayed:  
  
 ‘O Lord,  
  
 ‘Why did You have Your servant bring these people across the JorDan and then allow the Amorites to destroy us? We would’ve been better off if we’d stayed on the other side of the JorDan and settled there!  
  
 8‘What can I tell them now that IsraEl has [been forced to] flee from our enemies? 9And when the CanaAnites and all the other inhabitants of the land hear about this, they’ll surround us and wipe us out of their land…  
  
 ‘And then, what will You do for Your great Name?’  
  
10But the Lord said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Why have you fallen to your face? Get up!  
  
 11‘[I allowed this because] the people have sinned and broken the agreement that I made with them by stealing things that are cursed and hiding them among their possessions.  
  
 12‘Because of this, the children of IsraEl won’t be able to stand before their enemies… They’ll have to run from them, because they’ve brought a curse upon themselves. So, I won’t be with you anymore until you remove those cursed things from among yourselves!  
  
 13‘Now, get up and make the people holy… Yes, tell them to make themselves holy! Then explain to them that Jehovah the God of IsraEl says that there are cursed things among them and that they won’t be able to stand before their enemies until they’ve removed these cursed things.  
  
 14‘You must gather all the tribes in the morning, and Jehovah will indicate which tribe, which family line, which household, and which man [is guilty] of doing this. 15Then, those to whom He points must be burned with fire for breaking the agreement with Jehovah and bringing wickedness upon all IsraEl!’  
  
  
16So JoShua got up early [the next morning] and he assembled the people by their tribes.  
  
Well, the tribe of Judah was the first to be indicated; 17so, all of their families [were set aside].  
  
Next the family of the Zaraites was indicated; 18and all of their people were set aside.  
  
[And finally], Achar (son of ZamBri and grandson of ZaRa) was indicated.  
  
19So JoShua said to Achar:  
  
 ‘Give glory to Jehovah the God of IsraEl today and confess.  
  
 ‘Tell me what you’ve done… Don’t [try to] hide it from me!’  
  
20And at that, Achar said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Yes, I have sinned against Jehovah the God of IsraEl… This is what I did:  
  
 21‘I noticed an embroidered shawl, 200 silver coins, and a piece of gold among the treasures. So because I wanted them, I took them and hid them inside my tent [under the shawl].’  
  
22Well at that, JoShua sent messengers who ran to his tent in the camp, and they found those things hidden under the shawl. 23Then they brought them to JoShua and the elders of IsraEl and laid them before Jehovah.  
  
24As a result, JoShua took Achar (son of ZaRa), along with his sons, daughters, calves, burros, sheep, tent, all his belongings, and all the people who lived with him, and he brought them to the Valley of Achar at Emec.  
  
25There, JoShua said to Achar:  
  
 ‘You’ve destroyed us, so today Jehovah is going to destroy you!’  
  
Then all IsraEl stoned him along with all who were with him with rocks, and they burned [their bodies] in a fire, 26after which they covered [their bones] with a huge pile of rocks… Which are still there today.  
  
This brought an end to Jehovah’s rage, and it’s why that place is still called The Valley of Achar (the Troublemaker) to this day.

### Joshua

## Chapter 8

1Then Jehovah said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid or tremble anymore; for, now you must take all the men of war and return to Gai. Look; I’ve given the king of Gai and his land into your hands!  
  
 2‘So you must do to Gai as you did to JeriCho and its king; however, [this time] you may take their cattle.  
  
 ‘Now, go and set up an ambush behind the city.’  
  
3Therefore, JoShua got the men of war ready to go to Gai. He chose 30,000 mighty men and sent them during the night, 4giving them these orders:  
  
 ‘Wait in ambush behind the city… Don’t go too far, and everyone must be ready.  
  
 5‘Then I’ll take [a group] up to the city [gate]; And when the people of Gai come out to meet us, we’re going to turn and run from them, 6so they’ll chase after us and leave the city… For they’ll think that we’re running from them as we did before.  
  
 7‘That’s when those lying in ambush must get up and enter the city. 8You must do exactly as I’ve commanded you!’  
  
9So JoShua sent them on, and they waited in ambush to the west of Gai, between BethEl and Gai.  
  
  
10Well, early the next morning, JoShua got up and counted off the people. Then he and the elders went up to face the people of Gai, 11approaching it from the east, 12as the rest hid in ambush to the west of the city.  
  
13[verse 13 not present in LXX source]  
  
14And when the king of Gai saw them, he and all his people rushed out to meet them head on, not realizing that an ambush had formed behind their city. 15Then JoShua and IsraEl turned and retreated from them, 16and they chased the children of IsraEl for some distance, 17which left very few people inside Gai… They’d left the city wide open as everyone was out chasing IsraEl.  
  
18Then Jehovah said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Now, raise the spear that’s in your hand towards the city, for I’ve given it into your hands.  
  
 ‘Those who are hiding must quickly get up and enter it.’  
  
19So then JoShua raised his spear towards the city, and when those who were hiding in ambush saw him raise his spear, they quickly arose and entered the city, capturing it and setting it on fire.  
  
20Well, when the inhabitants of Gai turned around and looked back, they saw the smoke from their city rising high into the sky, and they [realized] that they then had nowhere to run.  
  
21And when JoShua and all IsraEl saw that the city had been taken and its smoke was rising into the sky, they turned around and started cutting down the men of Gai. 22Then the men [who were burning] the city came out and attacked them from their rear, cutting them all down until no one was left… Not a survivor or an escapee!  
  
23They also captured the king of Gai and brought him before JoShua.  
  
24Well, after the children of IsraEl had finished killing everyone in Gai in the fields and on the descent from its mountain where they’d started chasing them, JoShua returned to Gai and cut down all those who remained with his sword. 25So, 12,000 inhabitants of Gai fell and were destroyed that day (both the men and the women).  
  
26[verse 26 not present in LXX source]  
  
27Then the children of IsraEl took all their cattle and they looted the city for themselves, following the instructions that Jehovah had given to JoShua.  
  
  
28Thereafter, JoShua finished burning the city. He turned it into an uninhabitable pile of rubble, which is how it’s remained throughout the ages down to today.  
  
29Then he hung the king of Gai [on a tree] and left [his body] there until the evening. But after the sun set, JoShua gave instructions to take his body down, and they threw it into a pit and piled a heap of rocks over it, [which can still be seen] today.  
  
30Then JoShua built an altar to Jehovah the God of IsraEl on Mount Ebal, 31just as Moses (Jehovah’s servant) had commanded the children of IsraEl, like it’s written in the Law of Moses... It was an altar made of rocks that hadn’t been cut or touched by iron. And there he sacrificed whole burnt offerings and a peace offering to Jehovah.  
  
  
32Thereafter, JoShua inscribed the Law of Moses on those rocks in front of all the children of IsraEl.  
  
33Then everyone in IsraEl (including their elders, judges, and scribes) filed past the [Sacred] Chest, passing on either side, as the Levite Priests were carrying the Chest of the Sacred Agreement of Jehovah.  
  
  
And after that, all the native [IsraElites] and the aliens were divided into two groups:  
  
Half were stationed near Mount GiriZim, and the other half were stationed near Mount Ebal, just as Moses (Jehovah’s servant) had commanded, so as to receive the first blessings on the people.  
  
34Then JoShua read all the words of the Law… all the blessings and curses that were written in the Law of Moses.  
  
35There wasn’t a word that Moses had said to JoShua that wasn’t read within the hearing of the entire assembly of the children of IsraEl… The men, the women, the children, and all the aliens that had joined themselves to IsraEl.

### Joshua

## Chapter 9

1Well when the kings of the Amorites on the [west] side of the JorDan (all those in the mountain country, those in the plains by the [MediTerranean] Sea, and those near the borders of Lebanon), as well as the Hittites, CanaAnites, Pherezites, Evites, Amorites, Gergesites, and the Jebusites heard what had happened there, 2they all banded together to fight against JoShua and IsraEl.  
  
  
3However, when the inhabitants of **GibeOn** heard what Jehovah had done to JeriCho and Gai, 4they craftily made [a plan to save themselves]...  
  
They put old sacks over their shoulders, they carried old torn and patched wine skins, 5and they tore off the upper parts of old shoes and sandals and put them on their feet. Then they dressed themselves in old clothes and carried along some bread that was dry, moldy, and rotting; 6and they went to JoShua at the camp of IsraEl at GilGal, and said:  
  
 ‘We’ve come from a faraway land, [and we want you to] make a treaty with us.’  
  
7But [JoShua] asked the GibeOnites:  
  
 ‘How can I sign a treaty with you if you live near to us?’  
  
8And they told JoShua:  
  
 ‘We’re [coming here to be] your servants!’  
  
Then JoShua asked:  
  
 ‘So, who are you and where have you come from?  
  
9And they replied:  
  
 ‘Your servants have come from a far away country in the Name of your God, Jehovah.  
  
 ‘For we’ve heard of His Name and of all that He did in Egypt, 10as well as of the things He did to the kings of the Amorites across the JorDan, and of what He did to SeOn the king of the Amorites and to Og the king of BaShan who lived in AstarOth and in EdraIn. 11And when our elders and the people who live in our land heard of this, they spoke to us and said:  
  
 *‘Take along enough provisions for the trip and travel to meet with them; then tell them that we’ll be their servants and that [we want to] make a treaty with them.’*  
  
 12‘Look at our bread! On the day that we started our journey to come here, it was hot. But now it’s all dry and moldy. 13And look at these wine skins! When we filled them they were new, but now they’re torn… And our clothes and shoes are worn out because of the long journey!’  
  
14So the leaders [of IsraEl] shared their provisions with them. And because they’d failed to ask Jehovah’s direction, 15JoShua concluded a peace treaty with them and agreed to allow them to live… And the leaders of the gathering also swore to this.  
  
  
16Well, it was three days after they’d made the treaty [with the GibeOnites] that [the IsraElites] found out that they were [actually] close neighbors who lived in their midst!  
  
17So the children of IsraEl went to their cities (GibeOn, KePhira, Berot, and the cities around JaRim). 18However, they didn’t fight against them, because all the leaders had sworn not to do this in an oath that they’d made before Jehovah the God of IsraEl… And this caused the whole gathering to start grumbling against their leaders.  
  
19So the leaders spoke to the gathering and said this:  
  
 ‘Because we’ve sworn [an oath] to them by Jehovah the God of IsraEl, we can’t touch them!  
  
 20‘However, we will do this:  
  
 ‘We’ll let them live and we’ll protect them, so [God] won’t be angry with us for [breaking] the oath that we swore to them. 21But they’ll have to serve our entire gathering as woodcutters and water bearers, just as our leaders have told them.’  
  
22Well thereafter, JoShua assembled the [GibeOnites] and he asked them:  
  
 ‘Why did you deceive me?  
  
 ‘Why did you say that you live far away from us, when you’re really the fellow countrymen of the other people who live here? 23Because you did this, you are cursed! And you’ll always have to serve as slaves, woodcutters, and water drawers for me and for my God!’  
  
24And they replied to JoShua:  
  
 ‘We were told that Jehovah your God ordered his servant Moses to [take] this land and to destroy us, along with everyone else who lives here.  
  
 ‘So it was because we feared for our lives that we did this thing! 25And now look… We’ve surrendered to you, so you may do to us whatever pleases and seems good to you.’  
  
26Well, that’s what they did.  
  
JoShua saved them from the hands of the children of IsraEl, and he didn’t allow them to be killed. 27Then JoShua made them woodcutters and water bearers to the whole gathering and for the Altar of God.  
  
[And he said]:  
  
 ‘The inhabitants of GibeOn will continue to serve as the woodcutters and water bearers for the Altar of God even in that [future] place that will be chosen by Jehovah.’

### Joshua

## Chapter 10

1Well, when Lord Bezek (the king of Salem) heard that JoShua had taken Gai and destroyed it in the same way as JeriCho and its king, and that the inhabitants of GibeOn had gone over to JoShua and IsraEl, 2this frightened him. For he knew that the cities of GibeOn were large… They were some of [the land’s] primary cities, and [were widely-known] for their mighty men.  
  
3So Lord Bezek sent [messages] to ElAm (the king of HebRon), PhiDon (the king of JeriMuth), JephTha (the king of LachIsh), and Dabin (the king of OdolLam) which said:  
  
 4‘Come and help us to conquer GibeOn, because the GibeOnites have gone over to JoShua and the children of IsraEl!’  
  
5And at that, the five kings of the Jebusites joined with the king of Salem (this included the kings of HebRon, JeriMuth, LachIsh, and OdolLam). Then they and all their people went and camped around GibeOn, laying siege against them.  
  
6So the GibeOnites sent [a message] to JoShua at his camp at GilGal, which said:  
  
 ‘Hurry and send your servants to help us!  
  
 ‘Save us from the Amorite kings of the hill country, for they’ve all united against us!’  
  
7Well at that, JoShua collected the best of his army [and marched them] from GilGal.  
  
8And the Lord told JoShua:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid, for I’m giving them into your hands… There won’t be anyone left to oppose you!’  
  
9Then, because JoShua had marched all night from GilGal, he caught them by surprise, 10and Jehovah struck them with terror before the children of IsraEl. So they destroyed them all with a great slaughter there at GibeOn.  
  
He chased them to the road that leads to OroNin, Azeca, and MakeDa, 11and as they were fleeing the children of IsraEl along the descent from OroNin, the Lord threw hailstones from the sky at them – all the way to Azeca!  
  
And more died from the hailstones than were killed in battle by the children of IsraEl.  
  
  
12JoShua spoke to Jehovah that day while He was delivering the Amorites into the [hands] of IsraEl, and while they were destroying [their enemies] at GibeOn.  
  
JoShua said:  
  
 ‘May the sun stand still over GibeOn and may the moon [stand still] over the valley of AiLon!’  
  
13And at that, the sun and the moon actually stood still as God brought vengeance on their enemies… The sun stood still in the midst of the sky and it didn’t move for a whole day!  
  
14There’s never been a day like that before or since. For God listened to a man and He fought on the side of IsraEl! 15~~And Joshua returned, and all Israel with him, unto the camp to Gilgal.~~ [spurious words]  
  
  
16Well, the five kings had all run away and hidden themselves in a cave at MakeDa. 17And when JoShua was told that the five kings had been found hiding in the cave at MakeDa, 18he said:  
  
 ‘Roll boulders to cover the mouth of the cave, and then appoint men to guard them. 19But don’t stop there; just keep on chasing your enemies and attacking them from the rear.  
  
 ‘Don’t allow them to go back into their cities, for Jehovah our God has given them into our hands!’  
  
20However, although JoShua and IsraEl wiped most of them out, those who escaped finally did take refuge in their fortified cities.  
  
  
21Well, after the battle, all the people returned safely to JoShua at MakeDa, and none of the children of IsraEl grumbled against him after that.  
  
22Then JoShua said:  
  
 ‘Now, open the cave and bring out those five kings!’  
  
23So they brought the five kings out of the cave… The king of Salem, the king of HebRon, the king of JeriMuth, the king of LachIsh, and the king of OdolLam.  
  
24And when they brought them out to JoShua, he assembled all IsraEl and said to the chiefs of the army that went with him:  
  
 ‘Now, come here and put your feet on their necks.’  
  
So they came and put their feet on the necks [of the kings], 25and JoShua said:  
  
 ‘You must not be afraid or cowardly… You must be courageous and strong!  
  
 ‘For this is what Jehovah will do to all the enemies you’re going to fight against!’  
  
26Then JoShua killed them and hung their bodies on five trees, where they remained until the evening.  
  
27It was about sunset when JoShua commanded them to be taken down from the trees, and their [bodies] were thrown into the cave where they’d run for refuge. Then stones were rolled back over the cave, and [their bodies] are still there today.  
  
  
28Also on that same day, they captured **MakeDa** and destroyed its inhabitants with swords… They destroyed every living thing that was there… No one was left or escaped. Then they did the same thing to the king of MakeDa as they’d done to the king of JeriCho.  
  
  
29Well, after MakeDa, JoShua and all IsraEl left and laid siege against **LebNa**, 30and Jehovah gave it into their hands... They captured it and its king, then they killed all the inhabitants with swords. They killed everything that breathed there… No one survived or escaped. Then they did the same thing to its king as they’d done to the king of JeriCho.  
  
  
31Thereafter, JoShua and IsraEl left LebNa and went on to **LachIsh**, where they camped around the city and laid siege to it... 32Then Jehovah handed LachIsh over to IsraEl.  
  
They captured it on the 2nd day and put all the inhabitants to death with swords, after which they destroyed [the city], just as they’d done to LebNa.  
  
  
33Well, because ElAm (the king of **GaZer**) had gone to help LachIsh, JoShua also cut him and his people down with swords until there were none left and none had escaped.  
  
34And from LachIsh, JoShua and all IsraEl went on to **OdolLam**, laid siege to it, and took it. 35Yes, Jehovah gave it into the hands of IsraEl on that same day, and they killed all the inhabitants as well as every breathing thing that was there with swords, as they’d done at LachIsh.  
  
  
36Thereafter, JoShua and all IsraEl went on to **HebRon** and camped around it. 37Then they cut it down along with all the living creatures in it with swords, leaving nothing alive there. They destroyed the [city] and everything in it, as they’d done to OdolLam.  
  
  
38After that, JoShua and IsraEl returned to **DabIr** and camped around it. 39Then they took it, its king, and its villages, cutting them down with swords… They destroyed everything that breathed there. They left nothing alive! And what they’d done to HebRon and her king is what they did to DabIr and its king.  
  
  
40Then JoShua attacked all **the hill country**, the **Negev**, **the plain country**, and **AsedOth** and all their kings… They didn’t spare anything. They destroyed everything that had the breath of life (just as Jehovah the God of IsraEl had commanded), 41from KaDesh BarNea to the Gaza, and all of Goshen as far as GibeOn.  
  
42JoShua struck down all of their kings and he took their lands, because Jehovah the God of IsraEl was fighting on his side.  
  
43[verse 43 not present in LXX source]

### Joshua

## Chapter 11

1And when JabIsh (the king of Asor) heard about this, he sent for:  
  
 • Jobab (the king of MaRon),  
 • The kings of SymoOn and Aziph,  
 • 2The kings around Sidon,  
 • Those in the hill country,  
 • Those in the Araba across from KenerOth,  
 • Those in the plains,  
 • Those in PhenaEdDor,  
 • 3The CanaAnites along the eastern border,  
 • The Amorites along their borders,  
 • The Hittites,  
 • The Pherezites,  
 • The mountain Jebusites,  
 • The Evites,  
 • All those living near Mount HerMon in the land of MasSyma.  
  
4And when all those kings and their armies came together, they were like the sands on the seashore in numbers, with multitudes of horses and chariots! 5All the kings were there in person, and they camped at the waters of MaRon to prepare for war with IsraEl.  
  
6Then Jehovah said to JoShua:  
  
 ‘Don’t be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this same time I’ll make them flee before IsraEl. Then you must hamstring their horses and burn their chariots.’  
  
7So JoShua and all the men of war made a surprise attack on them at the waters of MaRon and in the hill country, 8and Jehovah gave them into IsraEl’s hands. They struck them down and chased them all the way to Sidon, MasEron, and eastward to the plains of MasSoch… They kept destroying them until there were no more.  
  
9Then JoShua did as Jehovah commanded, he hamstrung the horses and burned their chariots in a fire.  
  
10Next, JoShua went back and took Asor and her king (back then, Asor was the capital city of those kingdoms), 11and they killed everything that breathed with swords… They destroyed them all and nothing was left alive there. Then they burned Asor with fire.  
  
  
12Thereafter, JoShua conquered all the cities that belonged to those kings, and he had everyone put to death by the sword. He left no survivors, just as Moses (the servant of Jehovah) had commanded.  
  
13However, they didn’t burn down all the walled cities, just Asor. 14This time, the children of IsraEl looted the cities and killed all the people with swords, leaving no breathing survivors, 15for this is what Jehovah had commanded His servant Moses to do, and it’s what Moses commanded JoShua to do.  
  
So JoShua did everything that Moses had commanded.  
  
  
16Next, JoShua took all the hill country, all the Negev, all the land of Goshen, the plain country, all the [country] to the west, the mountains of IsraEl, the low country near the mountains 17from Mount ChelCha to SeIr (all the way to BalaGad), and the plains to the borders of Lebanon near Mount HerMon.  
  
He captured all their kings and he destroyed everyone.  
  
  
18This war that JoShua waged with those kings went on for quite some time, 19and there was no city that IsraEl warred against which they failed to conquer. 20For Jehovah had hardened all the hearts [of the people in those cities] when they went to war against IsraEl, so that they might be destroyed without mercy, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses.  
  
21Then JoShua went and destroyed the Enakim in the hill country from HebRon, to DabIr, to AnabOth, as well as all the other races in the land of IsraEl, including those in the mountains of Judea and their cities… JoShua destroyed them all, 22for the children of IsraEl left no one. And among the Enakim, the only survivors were found in Gaza, Gath, and AselDo.  
  
23Thereafter, JoShua took all their land, just as Jehovah had commanded Moses, and he and [divided] it among IsraEl by their tribes as their inheritance.  
  
And that’s when the wars ended.

### Joshua

## Chapter 12

**[Editor note: Now begins a series of lists of conquered kings, cities, and the geographic borders of the 2½ tribes east of the JorDan. The narrative resumes at Joshua 14:1]**  
  
  
  
1These are the kings in that land whom the children of IsraEl killed and whose land they inherited **[on the east side] of the JorDan**, which ran from the Arnon Valley to Mount HerMon, and all the land of the Araba in the east:  
  
2SeOn, the king of the Amorites.  
  
 He lived in Hesh-EbonEh and ruled [over the area] from the Arnon (which is on the side of the valley) and half of GileAd as far as the JaBoc, to the borders of the children of AmMon 3and the Araba, up to the Sea of [Galilee], then down to the [Dead] Sea and along the road to AsimOth, from ThaEman to AsedOth Phasga.  
  
4Og, the king of BaShan.  
  
 He lived in AstarOth near EdraIn, which was [inhabited by] giants.  
  
 5He ruled over all the land of BaShan from Mount HerMon and SecChai to the borders of GerGesi, Machi, and half of GileAd, up to the borders of SeOn, the king of Hesh-EbonEh.  
  
6They were the ones whom Moses (the servant of Jehovah) and the children of IsraEl had struck down, and whose [land] Moses gave as an inheritance to ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh.  
  
  
7These are the kings of the Amorites whom JoShua and the children of IsraEl killed **[on the west side of] the JorDan** along the [MediTerranean] Sea, from the plains of Lebanon to Mount ChelCha and along the road to SeIr (which JoShua gave to the tribes of IsraEl as their inheritance), 8to the mountains and plains, in the Araba and AsedOth, and to the desert and the Negev…  
  
The [lands] of the Hittites, Amorites, CanaAnites, Pherezites, Evites, and Jebusites:  
  
 • 9The king of JeriCho,  
 • The king of Gai (near BethEl),  
 • 10The king of JeruSalem,  
 • The king of HebRon,  
 • 11The king of JeriMuth,  
 • The king of LachIsh,  
 • 12The king of ElAm,  
 • The king of GaZer,  
 • 13The king of DabIr,  
 • The king of Gader,  
 • 14The king of HerMath,  
 • The king of Ader,  
 • 15The king of LebNa,  
 • The king of OdolLam,  
 • 16The king of ElAth,  
 • 17The king of Taphu,  
 • The king of Opher,  
 • 18The king of Ophec and Aroc,  
 • 19The king of Asom,  
 • 20The king of SymoOn,  
 • The king of MamBroth,  
 • The king of Aziph,  
 • 21The king of KaDesh,  
 • The king of ZachAc,  
 • 22The king of MaredOth,  
 • The king of Jecom and CarMel,  
 • 23The king of OdolLam [who was] under...  
 • PhenNeAldor, the king of Gei of Galilee, and [lastly]  
 • 24The king of Thersa.  
  
A total of 29 kings.

### Joshua

## Chapter 13

1Well by then, JoShua had grown very old, so the Lord said to him:  
  
 ‘You’re getting very old and there’s still a lot of land to [divide as] inheritances...  
  
 2‘For all of this is still left:  
  
 • The borders of the Philistines, Gesirites, and CanaAnites 3from the desert across from Egypt to the borders of AcCaron (the CanaAnites are thought to have had five principalities among the Philistines), they’re the inhabitants of Gaza, including Azotus, AshCalon, Geth, and AcCaron.  
 • The Evites 4from ThaEman through the land of CanaAn to the Gaza.  
 • The Sidonians from Aphec to the borders of the Amorites.  
 • 5The Philistine land of GoliAth from the border of Lebanon east of GilGal at Mount HerMon and the road to Emath.  
 • 6All those who inhabit the hill country from Lebanon to MaserEth-MemphoMaim, and all the Sidonians.  
  
 ‘I’m going to destroy them all before IsraEl... So, divide their land as an inheritance among IsraEl, as I told you. 7Divide it [and let it be offered] in a lottery to the 9 tribes and to the half tribe of ManasSeh.  
  
 8‘Its boundaries will run west from the JorDan to the [MediTerranean] Sea.’  
  
  
Now, Moses (the servant of Jehovah) had already given the tribes of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh their inheritance in the east across the JorDan.  
  
9[It went] from:  
  
 AroEr (at the brook of Arnon) to the city in the middle of the valley, as well as all of Misor to MaEdAban 10and all the cities of SeOn (the king of the Amorites who reigned from Hesh-EbonEh) to the borders of the children of AmMon.  
  
 11Also, the region of GileAd, the borders of the Gesirites and Machatites all around Mount HerMon, the land of BaShan to Acha, 12and the entire kingdom of Og in the region of BaShan (he reigned in AstarOth and in EdraIn near the giants before Moses struck him down and destroyed him).  
  
13But the children of IsraEl didn’t destroy the Gesirites, Machatites, and CanaAnites; so the king of the Gesiri and the Machatites are still living among the children of IsraEl to this day.  
  
14However, no inheritance was given to the tribe of Levi, since Jehovah the God of IsraEl is their inheritance, like He told them.  
  
  
**This is how Moses divided the land** among the children of IsraEl at ArabOth in MoAb on the other side of the JorDan near JeriCho:  
  
  
15**To the tribe of ReuBen** and their families he gave all of this:  
  
 16Their borders ran from AroEr across from the Brook of Arnon (which includes the cities in the valley of Arnon and all of Misor) 17to Hesh-EbonEh.  
  
 So theirs included all the cities in:  
  
 • Misor,  
 • DaEbon,  
 • BaEmonBaAl,  
 • BethMeElBoth,  
 • 18BaShan,  
 • BakedMoth,  
 • MaEphaAd,  
 • 19KiriAth JaiRim,  
 • Sebama,  
 • Serada,  
 • Sion (on Mount Enab),  
 • 20BaethPhogor,  
 • AsedOth,  
 • Phasga,  
 • BaethThasinOth,  
 • 21All the cities of Misor, and   
 • All the kingdom of [king] SeOn.  
  
 [Now, this man SeOn was] the king of the Amorites whom Moses struck down, along with the leaders of MidiAn – Evi, Roboc, Sur, Ur, and Robe, who was the leader of the looters in Sion, all the inhabitants of Sion, 22and BalaAm son of BeOr, yes, they also killed this prophet in the battle.  
  
 23The [western] border of ReuBen started at the JorDan.  
  
So, those are the boundaries and inheritance of the children of ReuBen, which were divided among all their families, as well as their cities and villages.  
  
  
24He gave this inheritance **to the sons of Gad** and to their families:  
  
 25Their borders run from JaZer (they include all the cities of GileAd and half the land of the children of AmMon) to the Araba near Arad.  
  
 26Then on from Hesh-EbonEh to ArabOth through MasSepha, Botanim, and MaAn, to the borders of DaEbon, 27EnAdom, OtharGai, BaenThanabra, SocCotha, and Saphan, and the rest of the kingdom of SeAn (the king of Hesh-EbonEh) to the JorDan, then up to the Sea of Galilee on the east side of the JorDan.  
  
28This is the inheritance of the children of Gad and their cities, which was divided among their families. They had to [stick together when facing] their enemies, because those cities and villages were to be distributed among their families.  
  
  
29He gave this inheritance to **half the tribe of ManasSeh** and their families:  
  
 30Their borders ran from MaAn, through the kingdom of BaShan, and the entire kingdom of Og (the king of BaShan), all the villages of JaIr that are in the region of BaShan (some 60 cities), 31half of GileAd, and AstarOth and EdraIn (the royal cities of Og in the land of BaShan).  
  
That’s what Moses gave to the sons of MachIr (the son of ManasSeh) and their families, which comprised the half tribe of ManasSeh 32(they’re the ones who urged Moses to give them all the land east of the JorDan at ArabOth MoAb).

### Joshua

## Chapter 14

**[Editor note: The narrative resumes here.]**  
  
  
1And these were the children of IsraEl who received their inheritance in the land of CanaAn – those to whom EliEzer the Priest, JoShua (son of NaWeh), and the family heads of the tribes of the children of IsraEl gave an inheritance.  
  
2The 9-1/2 tribes received their inheritances in a lottery, just as Jehovah had commanded JoShua. 3But the Levites received no inheritance among them 4other than their own cities and suburbs, where their cattle were kept separate from those of the rest.  
  
5So the children of IsraEl did just as Jehovah commanded Moses, and they divided up the land.  
  
  
6Then, [one of] the sons of Judah (Caleb, son of JephoNe the Kenite) went to JoShua at GilGal and said to him:  
  
 ‘You know what Jehovah said to Moses (the man of God) about me at KaDesh BarNea. 7For I was 40 years old when Moses (the servant of God) sent me from KaDesh BarNea to spy in this land, and I returned to him and gave him an answer that pleased him.  
  
 8‘Although my brothers who went with me preferred to listen to the people, I kept following my God Jehovah...  
  
 ‘9So Moses swore on that day, saying:  
  
 *‘The land where you went will become the inheritance of you and your children throughout the ages, because you made sure that you followed our God, Jehovah.’*  
  
 10‘Well, Jehovah has kept me alive until now, and it has been 45 years since Jehovah said that to Moses back when IsraEl [lived] in the desert. So today, {Look!} I’m 85 years old! 11Yet, I’m still as strong as when Jehovah sent me!  
  
 ‘In fact, I’m still strong enough to fight as a soldier!  
  
 12‘So now I’m asking you for this mountain [in order to fulfill Jehovah’s promise] which you heard on that day. And although the Enakim are here in large fortified cities... If Jehovah is with me, I’ll destroy them just as Jehovah has instructed me!’  
  
13So JoShua blessed him and gave HebRon to Caleb (son of JephoNe and grandson of Kenez) as his inheritance. 14And since then, HebRon has been the inheritance of Caleb, because he followed the commandments of Jehovah, the God of IsraEl.  
  
15The name of that city used to be ArGob when it belonged to the Enakim, but after the war, it was renamed HebRon.

### Joshua

## Chapter 15

**[Editor note: Now begins the geographic description of the borders of the 9½ tribes west of the JorDan. The narrative resumes at Joshua 15:13.]**  
  
  
1**The border of the tribe of Judah** (which land was divided among their families) runs south from Idumea and the Sin Desert, as far as KaDesh 2in the south.  
  
It runs from part of the Dead Sea into the high country, 3then it goes towards the base of Mount AcraBin, around Sena, then south to KaDesh BarNea, over to AsoRon, up to SaraDa, then along the road west of KaDesh, 4out to SelMona towards the valley of Egypt, and it ends at the Sea.  
  
These are their southern borders.  
  
  
5Their borders on the east run from the Dead Sea and up the JorDan.  
  
Their borders in the north run from the Sea over to part of the JorDan. 6They run from BethLehem in the north to the House in the Plains, along the stone [wall] of BaeOn to the borders of the sons of ReuBen.  
  
7The border continues through a quarter of the Valley of Achor and goes down towards GilGal to the approach to AdamMin (on the south side of the valley), and terminates at the water [that flows from] the Spring of the Sun and the Spring of RogEl.  
  
8Then it runs southward to the valley of EnNom behind Jebus (which is now JeruSalem), and ends at the top of the mountain facing the seaward side of the valley of EnNom, with the land of the RaphaIn in the north.  
  
9Then the border runs from the top of the mountain to the spring water of NaphTho, and on to Mount EphRon along the [road] that leads to BaAl (which is now the city of JaRim). 10Then it runs from BaAl to the sea across Mount AsSar, which is behind the city of JaRim to the north (ChasLon), and down to the City of the Sun. From there, it heads south.  
  
11This border terminates behind AcCaron (to the north), then it runs on to SocChoth and southward to LebNa, then over to the Sea. The [MediTerranean] Sea is their [western] border.  
  
12These are the borders of the [land that was distributed among] the families of the children of Judah.  
  
  
**[Editor note: The narrative resumes here.]**  
  
  
13And **to Caleb** (son of JephoNe), JoShua set aside a [special] portion in the midst of the children of Judah, as God had commanded JoShua. He gave him the city of ArBoc and the metropolis of Enac, which is now called HebRon.  
  
14So, Caleb (son of JephoNe) destroyed the three sons of Enac (Susi, Tholami, and Achima) there, 15then he [attacked] DabIr, which used to be called The City of Letters.  
  
16Then Caleb swore:  
  
 ‘To whoever takes, conquers, and destroys the City of Letters, I’ll give my daughter AsCha to be his woman.’  
  
17And it was GothoniEl (son of Chenez, Caleb’s brother) who took [the city], so [Caleb] gave him AsCha his daughter to be his woman. 18But as she was leaving [her father], she said to [Chenez]:  
  
 ‘I’m going to ask my father for a field.’  
  
So she got off her burro and started crying.  
  
And Caleb asked her:  
  
 ‘What’s wrong?’  
  
19Then she said:  
  
 ‘Give me a blessing, for you’re sending me into the land of Negev… Give me [a place where there are] springs!’  
  
So he gave her both the upper and lower springs.  
  
  
**[Editor note: Now the geographic descriptions resume. The narrative resumes at Joshua 17:12, although there’s an important brief account about daughters receiving inheritance in Joshua 17:3-4.]**  
  
  
  
20This is all **the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Judah**.  
  
21Their cities on the border of Edom next to the BaeSeleEl desert are:  
  
 • Ara,  
 • Asor,  
 • 22Icam,  
 • RegMa,  
 • AruEl,  
 • 23KaDesh,  
 • AsoriOnain,  
 • MaEnam,  
 • 24BalmaEnan and its suburbs,  
 • 25The cities of AseRon (which are now called Asor),  
 • 26Sen,  
 • SalmaA,  
 • MoLada,  
 • 27Seri,  
 • BaePhalath,  
 • 28CholaseOla,  
 • BeerSabee (and its suburbs and villages),  
 • 29Bala,  
 • Bacoc,  
 • Asom,  
 • 30ElBoudad,  
 • BethEl,  
 • Herma,  
 • 31SekeLac,  
 • Macharim,  
 • SethenNac,  
 • 32Labos,  
 • Sale, and   
 • EroMoth.  
  
[A total of] 29 cities and their villages.  
  
  
33In the plain country, [the cities are]:  
  
 • AstaOl,  
 • RaA,  
 • AsSa,  
 • 34Ramen,  
 • Tano,  
 • IluthOth,  
 • MaeAni,  
 • 35JerMuth,  
 • OdolLam,  
 • MemBra,  
 • SaoCho,  
 • Jazeca,  
 • 36SacArim, and   
 • GadeRa with its villages.  
  
[A total of] 14 cities and their villages.  
  
  
37Also:  
  
 • SenNa,  
 • AdaSan,  
 • MagadalGad,  
 • 38Dalad,  
 • MasPha,  
 • JaChareEl,  
 • 39Lachish,  
 • BasedOth,  
 • IdeaDalea,  
 • 40Chabra,  
 • Maches,  
 • MaAchos,  
 • 41GedDor,  
 • BagadiEl,  
 • Noman, and   
 • MacheDan.  
  
[A total of] 16 cities and their villages.  
  
  
42Also:  
  
 • LebNa,  
 • Ithac,  
 • Anoch,  
 • 43Jana,  
 • Nasib,  
 • 44KeILam,  
 • AkiEzi,  
 • Kezib,  
 • BethEsar, and   
 • AiLom.  
  
[A total of] 10 cities and their villages.  
  
  
45Also:  
  
 • AcCaron and her villages and towns,  
 • 46AcCaron-Gemna,  
 • All the cities near AsedOth and their villages,  
 • 47AsiedOth and her villages and towns,  
 • Gaza and its villages and towns, which run to the river of Egypt and along the [MediTerranean] Sea.  
  
  
48In the hill country, [the cities are]:  
  
 • SamIr,  
 • JeTher,  
 • Socha,  
 • 49RenNa,  
 • The City of Letters (DabIr),  
 • 50Anon,  
 • EskaiMan,  
 • AiSam,  
 • 51Goshen,  
 • Chalu, and  
 • ChanNa.  
  
[A total of] 11 cities and their villages.  
  
  
52Also:  
  
 • AiRem,  
 • RemNa,  
 • Soma,  
 • 53JemaIn,  
 • BaethAchu,  
 • Phacua,  
 • 54Euma,  
 • the city ArBoc (HebRon), and   
 • SoraIth.  
  
[A total of] 9 cities and their villages.  
  
  
55Also:  
  
 • MaOr,  
 • CarMel,  
 • Ozib,  
 • Itan,  
 • 56JariEl,  
 • AriCam,  
 • Zacanaim,  
 • 57GabaA, and   
 • ThamNatha.  
  
[A total of] 9 cities and their villages.  
  
  
58Also:  
  
 • AiLua,  
 • BethSur,  
 • GedDon,  
 • 59MagarOth,  
 • BethAnam, and   
 • Thecum.  
  
[A total of] 6 cities and their villages.  
  
  
60Also:  
  
 • Theco,  
 • EphRatha (BethLehem),  
 • Phagor,  
 • AiTan,  
 • Culon,  
 • Tatam,  
 • Thobes,  
 • Carem,  
 • Galem,  
 • Thether, and   
 • ManoCho.  
  
[A total of] 11 cities and their villages.  
  
  
61Also:  
  
 • KariAth-BaAl (JaiRim) and,  
 • SoTheba.  
  
[A total of] 2 cities and their villages.  
  
  
62Also:  
  
 • BadDargeIsh,  
 • ThaRabaAm,  
 • AiNon,  
 • AiOchiOza,  
 • NaphLazon,  
 • Sadon, and   
 • AnKadesh.  
  
[A total of] 7 cities and their villages.  
  
  
63Well, the Jebusites lived in JeruSalem, because the children of Judah couldn’t destroy them… And they still live there today.

### Joshua

## Chapter 16

1**The borders of the children of JoSeph[, that is Ephraim and ManasSeh]** run from the JorDan past JeriCho on the east, and from JeriCho to the hill country, to the desert, then up to BethEl Luza.  
  
2And from BethEl they proceed on to the borders of AchaTarOthi, 3then they go across towards the sea along the borders of ApTalim, and to the borders of Lower BethOron, then on to the sea.  
  
4[And that’s where] the sons of JoSeph (Ephraim and ManasSeh) claimed their inheritance.  
  
  
5**The borders of the children of Ephraim** that were divided among their families as their inheritance run eastward to AtarOth and Eroc, then on to Upper BethOron and Gazara.  
  
6They run from the sea to IcasMon north of TherMa, then east to TheNasa and SelLes, and on to JaNoca, 7Macho, and AtarOth (which are their villages), then towards JeriCho, ending at the JorDan. 8From there they run on to Tapho, to ChelCana, and back to the sea.  
  
This is the inheritance of the tribe of Ephraim and their families.  
  
  
9Many of the cities and their villages that were given to the sons of Ephraim were in inside [the land] inherited by the sons of ManasSeh. 10And Ephraim failed to destroy the CanaAnites who lived in GaZer; so the CanaAnites lived in Ephraim until PharaOh, the king of Egypt [possibly Ramses the Great] went there, took it, and burned it with fire.  
  
Then PharaOh gave the CanaAnites, Pherezites, and those who live in Gaza to his daughter as her dowry.

### Joshua

## Chapter 17

1Now, **these are the borders of the tribe of the children of ManasSeh** (JoSeph’s firstborn):  
  
MachIr was the firstborn of ManasSeh and the father of GileAd, who [took] the land of GileAd and BaShan. 2And the other sons of ManasSeh were also given land, which was divided among their families, [which are] the sons of:  
  
 • Jezi,  
 • Kelez,  
 • JeziEl,  
 • SheChem,  
 • Symarim, and   
 • Opher.  
  
[These were] the family heads.  
  
3SalpaAd (son of Opher) had no sons, just daughters, and these are their names:  
  
 • SalpaAd,  
 • MaAla,  
 • Nua,  
 • Egla,  
 • Melcha, and   
 • Thersa.  
  
4They’d gone before JoShua, EliEzer the Priest, and the rulers and said:  
  
 ‘God commanded Moses to give us an inheritance in the midst of our family.’  
  
So at the command of Jehovah, they were given an inheritance among their uncles. 5In the lottery, these women were assigned all [the land] from AnasSa to the plain of Labec in the land of GileAd [west of] the JorDan.  
  
6And because these daughters of the sons of ManasSeh inherited land inside of GileAd, the rest of it was assigned to the other sons of ManasSeh.  
  
7Thus, the borders of the sons of ManasSeh start at DelAnath (close to the sons of Anath) and proceed to the edge of JaMin and JasSib, to the spring of ThaphThoth. 8It all belongs to ManasSeh – but ThaphEth on its border belongs to the sons of Ephraim.  
  
9Then the borders go down to the valley of CaraNa, and southward past the valley of JariEl where there’s a pine tree that belongs to Ephraim near the city of ManasSeh. Then its border runs northward to the brook and over to the sea.  
  
  
10**The land to ManasSeh’s south belongs to Ephraim**, and it runs along their border from the seacoast, then northward along the border of Aseb, and eastward up to [the land of] IsSachar.  
  
11And in the land of IsSachar, ManasSeh owns:  
  
 • Asher,  
 • BethSan and their villages,  
 • The inhabitants of Dor and its villages,  
 • The inhabitants of MegidDo and its villages, and  
 • A third of MaphEta and its villages.  
  
  
**[Editor note: The narrative resumes here.]**  
  
  
12However, the sons of ManasSeh weren’t able to destroy those cities, so the CanaAnites started living there. 13But when the children of IsraEl were strong enough, they made the CanaAnites their subjects (they didn’t destroy them).  
  
14Then the sons of JoSeph went to JoShua [and complained]:  
  
 ‘Why did you just give us just one inheritance and one border? For God has blessed us and made us a large group of people!’  
  
15But JoShua replied:  
  
 ‘If you have a lot of people and the hills of Ephraim are too small for you, then go up to the forest and clear more land for yourselves.’  
  
16However, they replied:  
  
 ‘We don’t like the hills of Ephraim, and the CanaAnites are living there in BethSan and its villages, as well as in the JezreEl Valley… And they have many horsemen and iron [weapons]!’  
  
17But JoShua told the sons of JoSeph:  
  
 ‘If you have lots of people and you’re very strong, you may claim more inheritance. 18Also, if you need wood, there’s [plenty of] wood there. Clear it and the land will be yours!  
  
 ‘Then destroy the CanaAnites; for even if they’ve got good horsemen, you are stronger than they are!’

### Joshua

## Chapter 18

1Well, the entire gathering of the children of IsraEl assembled at ShiLoh, and there they set up the Tent of Proofs (since they’d already conquered that land)… 2And the sons of IsraEl that hadn’t received their inheritance yet (7 tribes), stayed there.  
  
3Then JoShua asked the sons of IsraEl:  
  
 ‘How much longer are you going to hold back from inheriting the land that our God Jehovah has given to you?  
  
 4‘Now, appoint three men from each tribe and have them travel throughout the land. Then come and describe it to me so it can be properly divided.’  
  
5And thereafter, they came to him and he [arranged for them to] divide it into 7 sections.  
  
For he said:  
  
 ‘Judah’s borders to the south will stand, as will [the land of] the sons of JoSeph to the north. 6But now you must divide the [rest of] the land into 7 parts and then bring the descriptions here to me, so I can parcel them out in a lottery before Jehovah our God.  
  
 7‘However, the sons of Levi won’t receive a share among you; for the Priesthood of Jehovah is their portion.  
  
 ‘Also, Gad, ReuBen, and the half tribe of ManasSeh have already received their inheritance east of the JorDan, which was given to them by Jehovah’s servant Moses.’  
  
8Then as the men got up to leave, JoShua gave these orders to those who were to explore the land:  
  
 ‘Go and survey the land, then come to me and I’ll divide it in a lottery here in ShiLoh, before Jehovah.’  
  
9So they went and explored the land. And after examining it, they divided it into 7 parts by cities, and [they drew a map], which they brought back to JoShua. 10Then JoShua threw lots for them before Jehovah there at ShiLoh.  
  
  
**[Editor note: Now follows long geographic descriptions of the tribal borders. The narrative resumes at Joshua 19:47.]**  
  
  
11It was the tribe of **BenJamin** and their families that came first, and the borders they received were between the children of Judah and the children of JoSeph[, that is, Ephraim and ManasSeh].  
  
12Their borders to the east went up the JorDan behind JeriCho, northward to the mountains in the west, and to BethOn of MabDara.  
  
13It runs around the south side of Luz (BethEl), and down to MaAtarob-Orech into the hill country that’s south of Lower BethOron.  
  
14Then it proceeds to the part that faces the sea, south of the mountain in front of BethOron, and ends at KariAth-BaAl (KiriAth JaiRim), a city of the children of Judah. This was their boundary on the west.  
  
15On the south side, it runs from the border of KiriAth-BaAl across to Gasin, and to the Spring of NaphTho.  
  
16Then it runs in front of the forest of SonNam (which is east of Emec-RaphaIn) in the north, and comes down to the EnNa Valley behind JebuSai; Then it runs south to the Spring of RogEl 17and over to the Spring of BethSamys.  
  
18From there, it goes in front of GalilOth by way of AiThamin, then down to the stone of BaeOn (of the sons of ReuBen), where it passes behind the north side of BethAraba to the sea in the north.  
  
19These borders end at the creek of the Dead Sea and run north along the JorDan (which is their southern border)… 20So the JorDan is their boundary on the east.  
  
This is the inheritance of the children of BenJamin and their families, and these are their borders.  
  
  
21The cities of the children of BenJamin and their families are:  
  
 • JeriCho,  
 • BethAgaeo,  
 • the AmeCasis,  
 • 22BethAbara,  
 • Sara,  
 • BesAna,  
 • 23AiEin,  
 • Phara,  
 • EphRatha,  
 • 24CarApha,  
 • Cephira, and   
 • Moni.  
  
[A total of] 12 cities and their villages.  
  
  
25[Also:]  
  
 • GibeOn,  
 • Rama,  
 • BeerOtha,  
 • 26MasSema,  
 • Miron,  
 • Amoke,  
 • 27Phira,  
 • Caphan,  
 • Nacan,  
 • Selecan,  
 • ThareEla,  
 • 28Jebus (JeruSalem), and   
 • GabaOth JaiRim.  
  
[A total of] 13 cities and their villages.  
  
This is the inheritance of the sons of BenJamin and their families.

### Joshua

## Chapter 19

1The 2nd lot fell to the children of **SymeOn**, so their inheritance is within the land of the children of Judah.  
  
2They were given:  
  
 • BeerSabee,  
 • SamaA,  
 • CalaDam,  
 • 3ArSola,  
 • Bola,  
 • Jason,  
 • 4ErThula,  
 • Bula,  
 • Herma,  
 • 5SikElac,  
 • BethMachereb,  
 • SarSusin, and   
 • 6BathAroth.  
  
[A total of] 13 cities and their villages.  
  
  
7Also:  
  
 • EremMon,  
 • Thalcha,  
 • JeTher, and   
 • Asan.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities and their villages.  
  
  
8Their cities run from Balec and the road to Bameth southward. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of SymeOn and their families. 9It’s part of the lot of Judah, because Judah’s portion was very large, so the inheritance of the children of SymeOn is within [the borders of] theirs.  
  
  
10The 3rd lot fell to **ZebuLon** and their families.  
  
The boundaries of their inheritance run from EsedekGola 11to the sea and on to MagelDa, then it reaches to BethAraba in the valley across from JekMan. 12From there it goes back to SedDuc and heads east to BethSamys along the border of ChaShilohThaith, and passes on to DabIrOth, then it goes up to PhanGai.  
  
13From there it goes back eastward to GeBere and the city of CataSem, and on to RemMonaA-MatharaOza. 14Then it goes north to AmOth and ends at:  
  
 • GaEphaEl,  
 • 15CataNath,  
 • NaBaAl,  
 • SymoOn,  
 • JeriCho, and   
 • BethMan.  
  
16This (and these cities and their villages) is the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of ZebuLon and their families.  
  
  
17The 4th lot fell to **IsSachar**.  
  
18Their borders include:  
  
 • Jazel,  
 • ChasalOth,  
 • Sunam,  
 • 19Agin,  
 • Siona,  
 • ReErOth,  
 • 20AnaChereth,  
 • DabIron,  
 • Kison,  
 • Rebes,  
 • 21RemMas,  
 • Jeon,  
 • TomMan,  
 • AiMarec, and   
 • BerSaphes.  
  
22They border on GaethBor, Salim, and BethSamys in the west, and then the border runs to the JorDan. 23This (and these cities and their villages) is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of IsSachar and their families.  
  
  
24The 5th lot fell to **Asher** and their families.  
  
25Their borders include:  
  
 • ExelEketh,  
 • Aleph,  
 • BethOk,  
 • KeAph,  
 • 26EliMelech,  
 • AmiEl, and   
 • MaAsa.  
  
Their border runs west from CarMel and on to Zion and LabaNath. 27Then it runs west from BethEgeneth to where it joins ZebuLon (EkGai and PhthaeEl), then northward to SaphthaeBethMe and InaEl; then it goes on to:  
  
 • ChobaMasomEl,  
 • 28ElBon,  
 • RaHab,  
 • EmeMaon,  
 • CanThan, and   
 • Sidon.  
  
29From there, it turns back and runs to Rama, to the Spring of MasPhasSat and the border of Tyre. Then it returns to JaSiph and ends at the sea (it includes ApoLeb, EchoZob, 30ArchOb, Aphec, and RaAu).  
  
31This (and these cities and their villages) is the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Asher and their families.  
  
  
32The 6th lot fell to **NaphTali**.  
  
33Their borders include:  
  
 • MoOlam,  
 • Mola,  
 • BesemiIn,  
 • Arme,  
 • Naboc,  
 • JephThamai (as far as Dodam),  
  
...and then end at the JorDan.  
  
34Then it runs west at AthAbor and goes on to JaCana. It borders on ZebuLon in the south, Asher in the west, and the JorDan in the east.  
  
35Theirs includes the walled cities of the Tyrians:  
  
 • Tyre,  
 • OmaThadakEth,  
 • KenerEth,  
 • 36ArmaIth,  
 • AreAl,  
 • Asor,  
 • 37KaDesh,  
 • AsSari,  
 • The well of Asor,  
 • 38Keroe,  
 • MegalaArim,  
 • BeatThame, and   
 • BethSamus.  
  
39This is the inheritance of the tribe of the children of NaphTali.  
  
  
40The 7th lot fell to **Dan**.  
  
41Their territory includes:  
  
 • SarAth,  
 • Asa,  
 • the cities of SamMaus,  
 • 42SalaMin,  
 • AmMon,  
 • SilAtha,  
 • 43Elon,  
 • ThamNatha,  
 • AcCaron,  
 • 44AlCatha,  
 • BegEthon,  
 • GebeElan,  
 • 45Azor,  
 • BanaeBacat,   
 • GethRemMon, and  
 • 46Towards the west of HierAcon (whose border is near JopPa).  
  
  
**[Editor note: The narrative resumes here.]**  
  
  
47This (including these cities and their villages) is the inheritance of the children of Dan and their families.  
  
However, the children of Dan didn’t drive out the Amorites. So, they constantly harassed them in their mountains and wouldn’t allow them to come down into the valley... They also forcibly took a portion of their land.  
  
48Then the sons of Dan went and fought against LachIsh and took it. They cut [the people] down with swords and started living there, and they renamed the city LasenDan. However, the Amorites continued to live in Edom and in SalamIn, but the Ephraimites held them down and forced them to pay a tribute.  
  
  
49So the children of IsraEl proceeded to take possession of the land inside their borders, and they gave an inheritance to JoShua (son of NaWeh) among them. 50Following the command of God, they gave him the city that he asked for, ThamnaSarach in the hills of Ephraim. So, he built the city and lived there.  
  
51These are the divisions that EliEzer the Priest, JoShua (son of NaWeh), and the family heads of the tribes of IsraEl assigned in a lottery before Jehovah at ShiLoh, at the entrance to the Tent of Proofs.  
  
And thereafter, they each went out to take possession of their lands.

### Joshua

## Chapter 20

1Then the Lord spoke to JoShua and said:  
  
 2‘Speak to the children of IsraEl and tell them to assign **the refuge cities** that I spoke to you about through Moses. 3They are to be havens for those who accidentally kill another person…  
  
 ‘Cities to run to, so the one who killed the other won’t be put to death by the person acting as next-of-kin (over the blood).  
  
 4‘He must flee to one of these cities and go to the city gate to speak to the city elders about his case. Thereafter, he’s to be handed over [to those who are living there] and given a place where he can stay among them.  
  
 5‘And when the person acting as the next of kin over the blood (the one who is pursuing him) arrives, they’re not to hand him over for unintentionally striking his neighbor (someone whom he didn’t dislike on the previous days).  
  
 6‘The person must continue to dwell in that city until he stands trial before the congregation, and thereafter, he must stay there until the death of the High Priest (whomever it may be in that day).  
  
 ‘So then, the blood-avenger must just return to his city and home (the place they fled from).’  
  
7Therefore, [JoShua] set aside:  
  
 • KaDesh, in the hills of NaphTali in Galilee,  
 • SheChem, in the hills of Ephraim, and  
 • The city of ArBoc (HebRon), in the hills of Judah.  
  
8And across the JorDan, he set aside:  
  
 • Bosor, in the desert plain of the tribe of ReuBen,  
 • AremOth in GileAd, of the tribe of Gad, and  
 • Golan in the country of BaShan, of the tribe of ManasSeh.  
  
9These were the cities selected for the sons of IsraEl (and for the aliens who lived among them), where those who unintentionally killed another could run, so they wouldn’t be put to death by the blood avenger before they stood trial in front of the gathering.

### Joshua

## Chapter 21

1Then the heads of the families of the sons of **Levi** came to EliEzer the Priest, JoShua (son of NaWeh), and the heads of families of the tribes of IsraEl 2at ShiLoh in the land of CanaAn, and said:  
  
 ‘[Remember that Jehovah] gave the commandment through Moses that we should be given cities to live in, as well as land roundabout them for our cattle.’  
  
3So, following the commands of Jehovah, the children of IsraEl gave the Levites cities and their surrounding countrysides as their inheritance.  
  
  
**[Editor note: Here follows a list of Levite cities. The narrative resumes below at Joshua 21:39.]**  
  
  
4The first lot fell to the children of CaAth:  
  
So the sons of Aaron (the Levite Priests) received 13 cities from the tribes of Judah, SymeOn, and BenJamin, which were divided among their families in a lottery. 5And then the remaining sons of CaAth were given 10 cities from the tribes of Ephraim, Dan, and the half tribe of ManasSeh.  
  
6The sons of GedSon received 13 cities, which were divided [among their families] by lottery from the tribes of IsSachar, Asher, NaphTali, and the half tribe of ManasSeh in BaShan.  
  
7The sons of MeraRi received 12 cities, which were divided among their families by lottery from the tribes of ReuBen, Gad, and ZebuLon.  
  
8The children of IsraEl also gave the Levites the land around their cities, as Jehovah had commanded Moses, which were divided in a lottery.  
  
9These are the cities that the tribes of the children of Judah, SymeOn, and part of the tribe of the children of BenJamin assigned 10to the sons of Aaron (the family of CaAth of the sons of Levi), for whom the first lot fell.  
  
11[There was] KiriAth-ArBoc and the metropolis of the sons of Enac (HebRon) in the Mountain country of Judah and the surrounding suburbs... 12However, JoShua gave the city itself and its villages to the sons of Caleb (son of JephoNe) as his [family’s] possession.  
  
13He also assigned:  
  
 • HebRon and its suburbs (as a refuge city for unintentional killers),  
 • LemNa and its suburbs,  
 • 14AiLom and its suburbs,  
 • Tema and its suburbs,  
 • 15GelLa and its suburbs,  
 • DabIr and its suburbs,  
 • 16Asa and its suburbs,  
 • Tany and its suburbs, and  
 • BethSamus and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 9 cities from these two tribes.  
  
17And from the tribe of BenJamin, they were given:  
  
 • GibeOn and its suburbs,  
 • GathEth and its suburbs,  
 • 18AnathOth and its suburbs, and  
 • Gamala and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
19So all together, the sons of Aaron (the Priests) were given these 13 cities.  
  
  
20And the remaining families of the sons of CaAth (the Levite Priests) were given 21these cities from the tribe of Ephraim:  
  
 • SheChem and its suburbs (which was also a refuge city),  
 • Gazara and its appendages and suburbs,  
 • KibZaim and its suburbs,  
 • 22BethOron and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
  
23And from the tribe of Dan [they were given]:  
  
 • HelcoThaim and its suburbs,  
 • GethEdan and its suburbs,  
 • 24AiLon and its suburbs, and  
 • GethEremMon and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
  
25And from the half tribe of ManasSeh [they were given]:  
  
 • Tanach and its suburbs, and  
 • JeBatha and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 2 cities.  
  
26So in all, 10 cities and their suburbs were assigned to the remaining families of the sons of CaAth.  
  
  
27And JoShua gave the sons of GedSon (the Levites) these cities from the other half-tribe of ManasSeh:  
  
 • Golan in the country of BaShan and its suburbs (which was also a refuge city),  
 • Bosora and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 2 cities.  
  
  
28And from the tribe of IsSachar [they were given]:  
  
 • Kison and its suburbs,  
 • DebBa and its suburbs,  
 • 29RemMath and its suburbs, and  
 • The Well of Letters and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
  
30And from the tribe of Asher [they were given]:  
  
 • BaselLa and its suburbs,  
 • DabBon and its suburbs,  
 • 31Chelcat and its suburbs, and  
 • RaHab and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
  
32And from the tribe of NaphTali [they were given]:  
  
 • KaDesh in Galilee and its suburbs (which was a refuge city),  
 • NemMath and its suburbs, and  
 • ThemMon and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 3 cities.  
  
33All together, the families of GedSon received 13 cities.  
  
  
34The remaining families of the sons of MeraRi (the Levites) received these cities from the tribe of ZebuLon:  
  
 • MaAn and its suburbs,  
 • KaDesh and its suburbs, and  
 • 35SelLa and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 3 cities.  
  
  
36Then on the other side of the JorDan near JeriCho, they received these cities from the tribe of ReuBen:  
  
 • Bosor in the Miso Desert and its suburbs (which was a refuge city),  
 • JaZer and its suburbs,  
 • DecMon and its suburbs, and  
 • Mapha and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
  
37Then from the tribe of Gad [they received]:  
  
 • RamOth in GileAd and its suburbs (which was a refuge city),  
 • Camin and its suburbs,  
 • Esbon and its suburbs, and  
 • JaZer and its suburbs.  
  
[A total of] 4 cities.  
  
38So the families of the sons of MeraRi of the tribe of Levi received a total of 12 cities and their outlying land.  
  
  
**[Editor note: The narrative resumes here.]**  
  
  
39The Levites received [a total of] 48 cities 40and all their surrounding land and suburbs.  
  
  
Then after JoShua stopped dividing the land and setting their borders, the children of IsraEl gave JoShua his portion, because this is what Jehovah had commanded them. They gave him the city that he asked for, ThamnaSarach in the hills of Ephraim. Then JoShua built the city and lived there.  
  
Thereafter, JoShua took stone knives and circumcised all the children of IsraEl who had been born along the way, and he let [them recuperate] at ThamnaSarach.  
  
41So, Jehovah gave IsraEl all the land that He’d promised to their ancestors… They inherited it all and lived there.  
  
42He also gave them a time of peace, as He had promised to their ancestors;  
For, none of their enemies could stand against them and He gave them all into their hands.  
43As a result, all the good things that Jehovah had promised to the children of IsraEl started to be realized.

### Joshua

## Chapter 22

1Then JoShua called the sons of ReuBen, the sons of Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh together 2and said to them:  
  
 ‘You’ve [obeyed] all that Moses (the servant of Jehovah) commanded you to do, and you’ve paid attention to everything that I told you about his instructions, 3for you haven’t deserted your brothers during all this time and you’ve followed the commandments of your God Jehovah.  
  
 4‘So, now that our God Jehovah has given our brothers [a place] where they can rest (as He promised), you can return to your land and to the homes that Moses gave to you on the other side the JorDan.  
  
 5‘However, be careful to obey the Commandments and the Law that Moses (the servant of Jehovah) gave you… Love Jehovah your God, walk in all His paths, keep His commandments, stick with Him and serve Him with your whole minds and souls.’  
  
6Then JoShua blessed them and dismissed them, and they returned to their homes.  
  
  
7Now, Moses had given a portion of the land of BaShan to half of the tribe of ManasSeh, and JoShua gave the other half a portion with their brothers on the west side of the JorDan... And when JoShua sent them home, he blessed them 8with much wealth; For he divided the loot that they’d plundered from their enemies among them and their brothers, which included great numbers of cattle, as well as silver, gold, iron, and clothing.  
  
9So at that, the sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh left the children of IsraEl in ShiLoh (in the land of CanaAn) and they headed towards GileAd and the land that they’d inherited at the command of Jehovah through Moses.  
  
  
10Then, when they got to GileAd near the JorDan (in the land of CanaAn), they built a huge altar there next to the JorDan. 11And when the [other] children of IsraEl heard about it, they said,  
  
 ‘Look! The sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh have built an altar at the border of the land of CanaAn – at GileAd next to the JorDan – directly across from [the rest] of the children of IsraEl!’  
  
12And as a result, they[, that is, the tribes west of the Jordan] all gathered at ShiLoh to go and fight against them.  
  
13But first, the children of IsraEl sent PhiNeas (son of EliEzer and grandson of Aaron the Priest) to talk to the sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh in the land of GileAd, 14along with 10 of the chiefs... One chief from each of the households of the rest of the tribes of IsraEl, who were generals over thousands in IsraEl.  
  
15So when they got to the sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh in the land of GileAd, they said:  
  
 16‘This is what the whole gathering of Jehovah wants to know:  
  
 ‘What is this sin that you’ve committed before the God of IsraEl by building yourselves an altar? Did you do this so that you could turn away from Him?  
  
 17‘Was the sin at PhoGor – from which we’ve yet to be cleansed – that insignificant to you, despite the fact that it brought a plague among the entire gathering of Jehovah?  
  
 18‘So, now that you’ve revolted against Jehovah, you’ll come to know the wrath of all IsraEl!  
  
 19‘If your land has become too small for you, then you should cross [the JorDan] and come into into the land that Jehovah [has given to us] and where the Tent of Jehovah stays, so you can receive an inheritance here among us... You must not turn away from God by building an altar apart from the Altar of Jehovah!  
  
 20‘For look! Didn’t Achar (son of ZaRa) sin by taking things that were cursed and bring the wrath [of God] on the whole gathering of IsraEl? And [remember] that he died for his sin!’  
  
21However, the sons of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh replied to the generals of the thousands of IsraEl:  
  
 22‘God – our God – is Jehovah.  
  
 ‘As God Himself knows, and as IsraEl knows; if we’ve broken away from Jehovah and become apostates, He won’t save us today.  
  
 23‘But we didn’t build an altar for ourselves to turn away from Him or to sacrifice whole burnt offerings or peace offerings on it (those things that Jehovah requires). 24Rather, we [built this Altar] as a testimony… We did it because we were afraid that sometime in the future, your sons might ask our sons what portion we have in Jehovah, the God of IsraEl!  
  
 25‘For now that Jehovah has set a boundary between you and us (the JorDan), we don’t want your sons to alienate our sons and keep them from worshiping Jehovah. 26So, this is why we gave orders to build this altar… Not for burnt offerings or for meat offerings, 27but as a witness between you and us and between our children, that we do serve Jehovah, and that we’ll sacrifice our burnt offerings, meat offerings, and peace offerings to Him.  
  
 ‘Then your sons won’t be able to say to our sons that we don’t [belong to] Jehovah.  
  
 28‘Therefore, it was in order to prevent them from ever saying such a thing to us and our descendants [that we want them to] see our representation of the altar of Jehovah. It wasn’t built for the sake of burnt offerings or meat offerings, but as a witness between you and us and between our sons.  
  
 29‘Far be it from us to turn away from Jehovah today by building an altar for burnt offerings or peace offerings separate from the Altar of Jehovah that stands before His Tent.’  
  
30And when PhiNeas the Priest and all the chiefs of the gathering of IsraEl that were with him heard what the children of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh said, they were pleased.  
  
31Then PhiNeas the Priest said:  
  
 ‘Today we know that Jehovah is with us, because you aren’t guilty of a serious sin against Jehovah and you’ve saved the children of IsraEl from the hand of Jehovah.’  
  
32So, PhiNeas (the Priest) and the leaders left the children of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh at GileAd and they all returned to the land of CanaAn, where they reported what was said to the children of IsraEl, 33and everyone was very pleased.  
  
Then they spoke to the children of IsraEl and praised them [for their zeal], and told them not to go to war against the children of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh, or to destroy their land… And they all agreed.  
  
34Thereafter, JoShua named the altar of the children of ReuBen, Gad, and the half tribe of ManasSeh, and said:  
  
 ‘It’s their testimony that Jehovah is their God.’

### Joshua

## Chapter 23

1Well, Jehovah had allowed IsraEl to rest from all their enemies [living] around them for a considerable time, until JoShua was old and up in years.  
  
2Then JoShua called all the children of IsraEl together – their elders, leaders, judges, and their officers – and said to them:  
  
 ‘I’m old and up in years, 3and you’ve seen all that Jehovah our God has done to these nations around us and how your God fought for you.  
  
 4‘Now look... I’ve given all these remaining nations to your tribes in a lottery; for even though I’ve destroyed some of them, our borders run from the JorDan to the [MediTerranean] Sea in the west, 5and Jehovah our God will keep on destroying them before us until they’re all gone.  
  
 ‘Then He will send wild animals against them until He’s wiped out them and their kings! So you’ll inherit their land, just as Jehovah our God has promised.  
  
 6‘However, you must be sure to observe and do all the things that are written in the book of the Law of Moses… Don’t stray to the right or to the left!  
  
 7‘And don’t associate with the remaining nations, nor should the names of their gods even be mentioned among you… Don’t serve them or bow before them!  
  
 8‘Rather, you must stick to Jehovah your God, just as you’ve been doing until now. 9Then Jehovah will destroy even the great and strong nations from among you – for no one has been able to stand against us so far! 10Each one among you has been able to chase thousands, for our God Jehovah has fought for you just like He promised.  
  
 11‘So, be sure to love our God Jehovah.  
  
 12‘But if you turn away from Him and start associating with these nations that still remain, then marry among them and get mixed up with them (and them with you)... 13Realize that Jehovah *won’t* destroy them. Rather, they’ll become snares and stumbling blocks – nails in your heels and darts in your eyes – until they’ve wiped you out of this good land that Jehovah your God has given to you.  
  
 14‘And now I’m getting ready to die, as everyone on this earth does...  
  
 ‘But, know in your hearts and souls that not a single word has failed of all the things that Jehovah our God has [promised] about us. 15And after all the good things that Jehovah God will bring upon you are completed, remember: He will also do bad things until He wipes you off of this good land that He’s given to you 16if you break the Sacred Agreement of our God Jehovah, then go and serve other gods by bowing before them.’

### Joshua

## Chapter 24

1So JoShua gathered all the tribes of IsraEl at ShiLoh, where he summoned their elders, officers, and judges; then he stood them there before God.  
  
2And JoShua spoke to all the people and said:  
  
 ‘This is what Jehovah the God of IsraEl said:  
  
 *‘Your ancestors (such as Terah, the father of AbraHam and NaHor) once stayed beyond the [JorDan] river and served other gods...*  3*But I took AbraHam (your ancestor) from the other side of the river and guided him throughout this entire land. Then I made his offspring grow…*  
  
 4*‘I gave him IsaAc, and to IsaAc [I gave] Jacob and Esau. Then I gave Mount SeIr to Esau as his inheritance, as Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt, where they became a great and mighty nation.*  
  
 *‘But then, the Egyptians started oppressing them,* 5*so I struck down Egypt with the miracles that I sent among them.* 6*And afterwards, I brought your fathers out of Egypt.*  
  
 *‘Then when they approached the Red Sea, the Egyptians chased them into the Sea with their chariots and horses.* 7*But when they called out to Jehovah, I put a cloud and darkness between [them and] the Egyptians, and brought the Sea down upon [the Egyptians] and covered them.’*  
  
[And JoShua continued:]  
  
 ‘So with your own eyes, you’ve seen all that Jehovah did in the land of Egypt, and of how you spent a long time in the desert. 8And now He’s brought us into the land of the Amorites that lived across the JorDan, and Jehovah has given them into our hands…  
  
 ‘You have inherited their land and destroyed them!  
  
 9‘[Do you remember when] Balak, the king of MoAb, son of SepPhor, went to war against IsraEl, and of how he called BalaAm to curse us?  
  
 10‘Yet, Jehovah your God wouldn’t destroy you; he blessed us and saved us from their hands, then He handed them over to us!  
  
 11‘Thereafter, you crossed the JorDan and came to JeriCho, where the people of JeriCho fought against us – as did the Amorites, CanaAnites, Pherezites, Evites, Jebusites, Hittites, and the Gergesites – and Jehovah gave them all into our hands.  
  
 12‘You didn’t chase them with swords or bows; instead, He sent hornets ahead of you and drove them away… The 12 kings of the Amorites!  
  
 13‘Now He’s given you a land that you didn’t clear and cities that you didn’t build, where you’ve now settled and where you’re eating from vineyards and olive groves that you didn’t plant.  
  
 14‘So, fear Jehovah and serve Him righteously and justly… Get rid of all the strange gods that our ancestors served across the river and in Egypt, and serve Jehovah!  
  
 15‘However, if you don’t wish to serve Jehovah, then choose whom you’ll serve today… Whether it’s the gods whom your ancestors [served] while they were on the other side of the [JorDan] river, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you’re now living.  
  
 ‘But as for me and my household, we will serve Jehovah, because He alone is holy!’  
  
16And the people answered:  
  
 ‘We won’t leave Jehovah and serve other gods, 17because our God Jehovah is The God!  
  
 ‘He was the One who brought our ancestors and us out of Egypt, and that protected us from all the nations that we passed along the way that we walked.  
  
 18‘And it was Jehovah who threw out the Amorites and all the other nations that lived in this land.  
  
 ‘Yes, we’ll serve Jehovah, for He is our God!’  
  
19Then JoShua said to the people:  
  
 ‘You won’t really be able to serve Jehovah, because He’s holy.  
  
 ‘And because He’s very zealous, He won’t forgive your sins and your errors.  
  
 20‘So when you leave Jehovah to serve other gods, He will come against you, oppress you, and consume you, because He’s the One who did all these good things for you.’  
  
21Then the people replied:  
  
 ‘No! We will serve Jehovah!’  
  
22And JoShua said:  
  
 ‘Then, you’re witnesses against yourselves that you’ve chosen to serve Jehovah.  
  
 23‘So now, get rid of all the strange gods that you have and set your hearts right with Jehovah the God of IsraEl.’  
  
24And the people replied:  
  
 ‘We will serve Jehovah and listen to His voice!’  
  
25So JoShua made a sacred agreement with them that day, and he gave them the laws and rules there in front of the Tent of the God of IsraEl, in ShiLoh. 26And then he wrote those words in the *Scroll of the Laws of God*.  
  
  
Thereafter, JoShua took a large block of stone and erected it under the oak tree before Jehovah.  
  
27Then he told the people:  
  
 ‘Look, this stone will serve as a witness among you, for it has ‘heard’ all the words that you’ve spoken before Jehovah... And because He’s spoken to you on this day, this stone will serve as a witness against you in the last days when you deal treacherously with my God Jehovah.’  
  
28Then JoShua dismissed the people and they each returned to their homes.  
  
  
29Thereafter, JoShua (son of NaWeh), the servant of Jehovah, died at the age of 110, 30and they buried him in the land that he’d inherited in ThamNa Sarach in the hills of Ephraim north of Mount GileAd.  
  
They put his [body] in a tomb, along with the stone knives that he’d used to circumcise the children of IsraEl at GilGal after Jehovah had brought them out of Egypt… And they’re all still there today.  
  
  
31Well, IsraEl served Jehovah for as long as JoShua and the elders of JoShua’s era (who knew all that Jehovah had done for IsraEl) were still alive.  
  
32And thereafter, the children of IsraEl brought the bones of JoSeph ([which they’d carried from] Egypt) and buried them in Sicima, in the tract of land that Jacob bought from the Amorites in Sicima for 100 ewes, and which was given to JoSeph as his property.  
  
33Shortly thereafter, EliEzer (Aaron’s son) the High Priest also died and was buried in GabaA in the hills of Ephraim (which had been given to his son PhiNeas). And on that day, the children of IsraEl took the Chest of God and carried it among the people.  
  
Then, after EliEzer’s death and burial at GabaA, PhiNeas was appointed as [High] Priest in place of his father.  
  
  
Well, the children of IsraEl each left and returned to their own cities and homes, and then they started worshiping Astarte, AstarOth, and the gods of the nations roundabout them.  
  
So Jehovah handed them over to Eglom, the king of MoAb, who ruled over them for the next 18 years.