

Study Series: Joshua

Questions about Joshua 1—5

1. Who was Joshua, and what does the Lord promise him? (1.1-9)
2. How does the foreigner Rahab show her faith in the Lord? (2.1-11) How is she to be “rewarded” for her actions? (2.12-14)
3. Compare the crossing of the Jordan River (3.1-17) with the crossing of the Sea of Reeds (Red Sea) under Moses (Exodus 14). How are the situations similar? How are they different? What purpose was this miracle crossing meant to serve? (3.10; 4.6, 7, 22,23)
4. In what ways does the material in chapter 5 mark the end of an old era and the beginning of the new?
5. What person or event in Joshua 1–5 do you find most inspiring? Why?

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Questions about Joshua 6—12

1. What were the “rules” of holy war? (chapter 6) Why were these rules so important at that time in Israel’s history?
2. What things did Achan keep? (chapter 7) When you read, “Get rid of those things” (7.13), what might that command mean for you today?
3. What did the Gibeonites hope for? What did they actually get? (9.1-27)
4. How does the account of the war against the five kings (10.1-15) make it clear that the Lord was fighting for Israel? Who does God “fight for” today?

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Questions about Joshua 13—22

1. Why were the Levites singled out as special among the twelve tribes? (13.14, 33) How did their special duties affect where they lived when Canaan was settled by Israel? (21.1-42)
2. What do you know about Caleb from his speech in 14.6-12? After reading his words, how would you describe him?
3. Review the material in chapter 15. What does this information tell you about the tribe of Judah? Why do you think such detailed lists were necessary?
4. What do you think of the Joseph tribes' request for "more land" in 17.14-18? How does Joshua handle this request?
5. What was the purpose of the Safe Towns? (20.1-9) What does their existence reveal about the relationship of punishment and justice in Israelite society?
6. What does the brief summary given in 22.43-45 reveal about God's relationship with Israel?
7. How does the departure of "the two and a half tribes" mark the end of this phase of the conquest? (22.1-9) What were these tribes accused of doing? What were they actually doing? (22.10-34) Describe an incident where a conflict started because of rumors and hearsay?

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Questions about Joshua 23—24

1. Re-read Joshua's farewell speech (23.1-16). What were his key points? What were his instructions concerning how the Israelites were to live in relationship to the other people in the land? Would Joshua's advice work in today's world? Why or why not?
2. Why did Joshua call the Israelites together at Shechem? (24.1-28) What did he ask them to do? What does Joshua's speech reveal about what God is like?
3. Name two things you learned from studying Joshua? What questions do you still have?