Joshua

1 After the death of Moses, the servant of the
LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun,
Moses' assistant:
2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now rise and
cross this Jordan, you and all this people, into
the land I am giving them, the people of Israel.
3 I have given you every place where the sole
of your foot will tread, just as I told Moses.
4 Your territory will extend from the
wilderness and this Lebanon to the great river,
the Euphrates River—all the land of the
Hittites—and to the Great Sea toward the setting
sun.
5 No one will be able to stand against you all
the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I
will be with you. I will not fail you or forsake
you.
6 Be strong and courageous, for you will give
this people as an inheritance the land I swore to
their ancestors to give them.
7 Only be strong and very courageous, taking
care to carry out all the law that Moses my
servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to
the right or to the left, so that you may succeed
wherever you go.
8 This book of the law must not depart from
your mouth. Meditate on it day and night, so
that you take care to do everything written in it.

For then you will make your way prosperous,
and then you will have success.
9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and
courageous. Do not be terrified or dismayed, for
the LORD your God is with you wherever you
go."
10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the
people:
11 "Pass through the camp and command the
people, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves,
because in three days you will cross this Jordan
to go in and take possession of the land the
LORD your God is giving you to possess.' "
12 Joshua said to the Reubenites, the Gadites,
and the half-tribe of Manasseh:
13 "Remember the word Moses, the servant of
the LORD, commanded you: 'The LORD your God
is giving you rest and has given you this land.'
14 Your wives, your little ones, and your
livestock will remain in the land Moses gave you
beyond the Jordan. But all of you mighty
warriors must cross over armed ahead of your
brothers and help them,
15 until the LORD gives your brothers rest as
he has given you, and they too possess the land
the LORD your God is giving them. Then you
may return to the land of your inheritance and
possess it, the land Moses, the servant of the
LORD, gave you beyond the Jordan toward the
sunrise."
16 They answered Joshua, "We will do
everything you have commanded us, and we
will go wherever you send us.

17 Just as we obeyed Moses in everything, so
we will obey you. Only let the LORD your God
be with you as he was with Moses.
18 Anyone who rebels against your command
and does not obey your words in everything you
command him must be put to death. Only be
strong and courageous."

2

1 Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two men as
spies from Shittim, saying, "Go, look over the
land and Jericho." They went and entered the
house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed
there.
2 The king of Jericho was told, "Look, some
men from the people of Israel have come here
tonight to search out the land."
3 So the king of Jericho sent word to Rahab:
"Bring out the men who came to you and
entered your house, for they have come to
search out the whole land."
4 But the woman had taken the two men and
hidden them. She said, "Yes, the men came to
me, but I did not know where they were from.
5 When it grew dark and the gate was about to
close, the men went out. I do not know where
the men went. Pursue them quickly, for you will
overtake them."
6 She had brought them up to the roof and
hidden them among the stalks of flax she had
laid out on the roof.
7 The men pursued them along the road to the
Jordan, toward the fords. The gate was closed as
soon as the pursuers went out after them.

8 Before the men lay down, she went up to
them on the roof.
9 She said to the men, “I know that the LORD
has given you the land, that dread of you has
fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the
land have melted away before you.
10 For we have heard how the LORD dried up
the waters of the Red Sea before you when you
came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two
kings of the Amorites beyond the Jordan, Sihon
and Og, whom you devoted to destruction.
11 When we heard it, our hearts melted, and
no one had any courage left because of you, for
the LORD your God is God in heaven above and
on the earth below.
12 Now please swear to me by the LORD that,
since I have shown you kindness, you too will
show kindness to my father’s household. Give
me a trustworthy sign
13 that you will keep my father and mother, my
brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them
alive, and deliver our lives from death.”
14 The men said to her, “Our lives for yours,
even to death, if you do not tell anyone about
this business of ours. When the LORD gives us
the land, we will treat you with kindness and
faithfulness.”
15 Then she lowered them by a rope through
the window, for her house was in the city wall,
and she lived in the wall.
16 She said to them, “Go to the hills so the
pursuers will not come upon you. Hide there for
three days until the pursuers return; then you
may go on your way.”

17 The men said to her, “We will be free of this
oath you made us swear.
18 Look, when we enter the land, you must tie
this cord of scarlet thread in the window
through which you lowered us. Gather your
father, your mother, your brothers, and all your
father’s household to you in the house.
19 If anyone goes outside through the doors of
your house, his blood will be on his own head,
and we will be innocent. But if a hand is laid on
anyone with you in the house, his blood will be
on our heads.
20 If you tell anyone about this business of
ours, we will be free of the oath you made us
swear.”
21 She said, “Let it be as you have said.” Then
she sent them away, and they left. She tied the
scarlet cord in the window.
22 They went to the hills and stayed there for
three days, until the pursuers returned. The
pursuers searched all along the road but did not
find them.
23 Then the two men returned. They came
down from the hills, crossed over, and came to
Joshua son of Nun. They told him everything
that had happened to them.
24 They said to Joshua, “The LORD has indeed
given the whole land into our hands. All the
inhabitants of the land have also melted away
before us.”

3

1 Joshua rose early in the morning, and he and
all the people of Israel set out from Shittim.

They came to the Jordan and lodged there
before crossing over.
2 At the end of three days, the officers went
through the camp
3 and commanded the people, “When you see
the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God,
with the Levitical priests carrying it, you must
set out from your place and follow it.
4 But keep a distance of about half a mile
between you and it. Do not come near it, so that
you may know the way to go, for you have never
passed this way before.”
5 Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate
yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do
wonders among you.”
6 Joshua said to the priests, “Lift up the ark of
the covenant and cross over ahead of the
people.” So they lifted up the ark of the covenant
and went ahead of the people.
7 The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin
to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they
may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be
with you.
8 You must command the priests carrying the
ark of the covenant, ‘When you reach the edge
of the waters of the Jordan, stand still in the
Jordan.’ ”
9 Joshua said to the people of Israel, “Come
here and hear the words of the LORD your God.”
10 Joshua said, “By this you will know that the
living God is among you and that he will
certainly drive out before you the Canaanites,

Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites,
Amorites, and Jebusites.

11 Look, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of
all the earth is crossing over ahead of you into
the Jordan.

12 Now choose twelve men from the tribes of
Israel, one man from each tribe.

13 When the soles of the feet of the priests
carrying the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the
earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the
waters of the Jordan will be cut off. The waters
flowing down from above will stand in a single
heap."

14 So the people set out from their tents to
cross the Jordan, with the priests carrying the
ark of the covenant ahead of the people.

15 When those carrying the ark reached the
Jordan and the feet of the priests carrying the
ark dipped into the edge of the water—the
Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the
harvest season—

16 the waters flowing down from above
stopped and rose in a single heap very far away,
at Adam, the city beside Zarethan. The waters
flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the
Salt Sea, ran out and were cut off. The people
crossed over opposite Jericho.

17 The priests carrying the ark of the covenant
of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the
middle of the Jordan, while all Israel crossed on
dry ground, until the entire nation had finished
crossing the Jordan.

4

1 When the entire nation had finished crossing
the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua:
2 “Choose twelve men from the people, one
man from each tribe,
3 and command them, ‘Take up twelve stones
from here, from the middle of the Jordan, from
the place where the priests’ feet stand firmly.
Carry them over with you and lay them down at
the place where you will lodge tonight.’ ”
4 So Joshua called the twelve men he had
appointed from the people of Israel, one man
from each tribe.
5 Joshua said to them, “Cross over ahead of the
ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the
Jordan, and each of you lift a stone onto his
shoulder, according to the number of the tribes
of the people of Israel,
6 so that this may be a sign among you. When
your children ask in days to come, ‘What do
these stones mean to you?’
7 tell them, ‘The waters of the Jordan were cut
off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD.
When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the
Jordan were cut off.’ These stones will be a
memorial for the people of Israel forever.”
8 The people of Israel did as Joshua
commanded. They took up twelve stones from
the middle of the Jordan, as the LORD had told
Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of
the people of Israel. They carried them over
with them to their lodging place and laid them
down there.

9 Joshua also set up twelve stones in the
middle of the Jordan, where the feet of the
priests carrying the ark of the covenant had
stood. They are there to this day.
10 The priests carrying the ark stood in the
middle of the Jordan until everything the LORD
had commanded Joshua to tell the people was
completed, in keeping with all that Moses had
commanded Joshua. The people hurried across.
11 When all the people had finished crossing,
the ark of the LORD and the priests crossed over
in the sight of the people.
12 The Reubenites, the Gadites, and the
half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over armed
ahead of the people of Israel, as Moses had told
them.
13 About forty thousand men equipped for war
crossed over before the LORD for battle, to the
plains of Jericho.
14 On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the
sight of all Israel. They feared him all the days of
his life, just as they had feared Moses.
15 The LORD said to Joshua:
16 “Command the priests carrying the ark of
the testimony to come up out of the Jordan.”
17 So Joshua commanded the priests, “Come up
out of the Jordan.”
18 When the priests carrying the ark of the
covenant of the LORD came up from the middle
of the Jordan, and the soles of the priests’ feet
were lifted onto dry ground, the waters of the
Jordan returned to their place and flowed over
all its banks as before.

19 The people came up out of the Jordan on the
tenth day of the first month and camped at
Gilgal, on the eastern edge of Jericho.
20 Joshua set up at Gilgal those twelve stones
they had taken from the Jordan.
21 He said to the people of Israel, “When your
children ask their fathers in days to come, ‘What
are these stones?’
22 you must tell your children, ‘Israel crossed
this Jordan on dry ground.’
23 For the LORD your God dried up the waters
of the Jordan before you until you had crossed,
just as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea,
which he dried up before us until we had
crossed,
24 so that all the peoples of the earth may
know that the hand of the LORD is mighty, and
so that you may fear the LORD your God all your
days.”

5

1 When all the kings of the Amorites west of
the Jordan and all the kings of the Canaanites
along the sea heard that the LORD had dried up
the waters of the Jordan before the people of
Israel until we had crossed, their hearts melted,
and they had no courage left because of the
people of Israel.

2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, “Make
flint knives for yourself and circumcise the
people of Israel again, a second time.”

3 So Joshua made flint knives for himself and
circumcised the people of Israel at the Hill of
Foreskins.
4 This is why Joshua circumcised them: all the
males among the people who came out of Egypt,
all the men of war, had died in the wilderness
along the way after leaving Egypt.
5 All the people who came out had been
circumcised, but none of the people born in the
wilderness along the way after leaving Egypt
had been circumcised.
6 For the people of Israel walked in the
wilderness for forty years, until the whole
nation's men of war who had come out of Egypt
had perished, because they had not obeyed the
voice of the LORD. The LORD had sworn to them
that he would not let them see the land the
LORD had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a
land flowing with milk and honey.
7 It was their sons, whom he had raised up in
their place, that Joshua circumcised, for they
were uncircumcised. They had not been
circumcised along the way.
8 When the whole nation had finished being
circumcised, they remained where they were in
the camp until they healed.
9 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have
rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." So
that place has been called Gilgal to this day.
10 The people of Israel camped at Gilgal and
kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the
month, in the evening, on the plains of Jericho.
11 On the day after the Passover, they ate some

of the grain of the land: unleavened bread and
roasted grain, on that very day.
12 The manna ceased the next day, after they
ate some of the grain of the land. There was no
more manna for the people of Israel, and that
year they ate from the harvest of the land of
Canaan.
13 When Joshua was near Jericho, he looked
up and saw a man standing before him with a
drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him
and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?”
14 He said, “No, but I have now come as
commander of the LORD’s army.” Joshua fell
facedown to the ground and bowed down. He
said to him, “What does my lord have to say to
his servant?”
15 The commander of the LORD's army said to
Joshua, “Take your sandal off your foot, for the
place where you are standing is holy.” And
Joshua did so.

6

1 Jericho was shut up tight because of the
people of Israel. No one went out, and no one
came in.
2 The LORD said to Joshua, “Look, I have given
Jericho into your hand, along with its king and
its mighty warriors.
3 All of you men of war must march around
the city, circling the city once. Do this for six
days.
4 Seven priests must carry seven ram’s-horn
trumpets ahead of the ark. On the seventh day

you must march around the city seven times,
and the priests must blow the trumpets.
5 When a long blast is sounded on the ram's
horn and you hear the sound of the trumpet, all
the people must give a great shout. The city wall
will collapse in its place, and the people will go
up, each man straight ahead."
6 Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said
to them, "Lift up the ark of the covenant, and let
seven priests carry seven ram's-horn trumpets
ahead of the ark of the LORD."
7 They said to the people, "Move forward and
march around the city. Let the armed men move
ahead of the ark of the LORD."
8 When Joshua had spoken to the people, the
seven priests carrying the seven ram's-horn
trumpets before the LORD moved forward and
blew the trumpets. The ark of the covenant of
the LORD followed them.
9 The armed men went ahead of the priests
blowing the trumpets, and the rear guard
followed the ark, while the trumpets sounded
continually.
10 Joshua had commanded the people, "Do not
shout or let your voice be heard. Do not let a
word come out of your mouths until the day I
tell you, 'Shout!' Then you must shout."
11 So he had the ark of the LORD circle the city
once. Then they came into the camp and spent
the night in the camp.
12 Joshua rose early in the morning, and the
priests lifted up the ark of the LORD.
13 The seven priests carrying the seven

ram's-horn trumpets ahead of the ark of the
LORD kept marching and blowing the trumpets.
The armed men went ahead of them, and the
rear guard followed the ark of the LORD, while
the trumpets sounded continually.
14 On the second day they circled the city once
and returned to the camp. They did this for six
days.
15 On the seventh day they rose early, at
daybreak, and circled the city seven times in the
same manner. Only on that day did they circle
the city seven times.
16 On the seventh time around, the priests
blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the
people, "Shout, for the LORD has given you the
city!
17 The city and everything in it must be
devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only
Rahab the prostitute and everyone with her in
the house will remain alive, because she hid the
messengers we sent.
18 But keep yourselves from what is devoted to
destruction, lest you make yourselves devoted to
destruction by taking some of what is devoted,
and make the camp of Israel devoted to
destruction and bring trouble on it.
19 All the silver and gold and the articles of
bronze and iron are holy to the LORD. They
must go into the treasury of the LORD."
20 So the people shouted, and the trumpets
were blown. When the people heard the sound
of the trumpet, they gave a great shout, and the
wall collapsed in its place. The people went up

into the city, each man straight ahead, and captured the city.

21 They devoted everything in the city to destruction—men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys—with the edge of the sword.

22 Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, “Go into the prostitute’s house and bring out the woman and all that belongs to her, just as you swore to her.”

23 So the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab, her father, her mother, her brothers, and all that belonged to her. They brought out all her relatives and settled them outside the camp of Israel.

24 They burned the city and everything in it with fire. Only the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron did they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

25 But Joshua kept Rahab the prostitute, her father’s household, and all that belonged to her alive. She has lived among Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 At that time Joshua made them swear this oath: “Cursed before the LORD is the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho. At the cost of his firstborn he will lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest he will set up its gates.”

27 The LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.

7

1 But the people of Israel acted unfaithfully
concerning what was devoted to destruction.
Achan son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah,
of the tribe of Judah, took some of what was
devoted to destruction, and the LORD's anger
burned against the people of Israel.
2 Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is
near Beth-aven, east of Bethel. He said to them,
"Go up and spy out the land." So the men went
up and spied out Ai.
3 They returned to Joshua and said to him, "Do
not have all the people go up. Let about two
thousand or three thousand men go up and
attack Ai. Do not weary all the people by
sending them there, for they are few."
4 So about three thousand men from the
people went up there, but they fled before the
men of Ai.
5 The men of Ai killed about thirty-six of them.
They pursued them from before the gate as far
as Shebarim and struck them down on the
descent. The people's hearts melted and became
water.
6 Joshua tore his clothes. He and the elders of
Israel fell facedown to the ground before the ark
of the LORD until evening. They put dust on
their heads.
7 Joshua said, "Alas, Lord GOD, why did you
ever bring this people across the Jordan, to give
us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us?
If only we had been content to remain beyond
the Jordan!

8 Please, Lord, what can I say, now that Israel
has turned its back before its enemies?
9 The Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the
land will hear of it. They will surround us and
cut off our name from the earth. What will you
do for your great name?”

10 The LORD said to Joshua, “Get up! Why are
you lying facedown like this?
11 Israel has sinned. They have also broken my
covenant that I commanded them. They have
also taken some of what was devoted to
destruction. They have also stolen, also lied, and
also put it among their own belongings.
12 The people of Israel cannot stand before
their enemies. They turn their backs before
their enemies because they have become
devoted to destruction. I will no longer be with
you unless you destroy what is devoted to
destruction from among you.
13 Get up, consecrate the people, and say,
‘Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, for this is
what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: There is
something devoted to destruction among you,
Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies
until you remove what is devoted to destruction
from among you.
14 In the morning you must come forward by
your tribes. The tribe the LORD selects must
come forward by clans; the clan the LORD
selects must come forward by households; and
the household the LORD selects must come
forward man by man.
15 The one caught with what is devoted to

destruction must be burned with fire, he and all
that belongs to him, because he has broken the
covenant of the LORD and committed an
outrage in Israel.' "
16 Joshua rose early in the morning and
brought Israel forward by its tribes, and the
tribe of Judah was selected.
17 He brought the family of Judah forward and
selected the Zerahite clan. He brought the
Zerahite clan forward man by man, and Zabdi
was selected.
18 He brought his household forward man by
man, and Achan son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son
of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was selected.
19 Joshua said to Achan, "My son, please give
glory to the LORD, the God of Israel, and make
confession to him. Please tell me what you have
done. Do not hide it from me."
20 Achan answered Joshua, "Truly I have
sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. This
is what I did:
21 I saw among the plunder a fine robe from
Shinar, about five pounds of silver, and a gold
bar weighing about twenty ounces. I coveted
them and took them. There they are, hidden in
the ground in the middle of my tent, with the
silver beneath the robe."
22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to
the tent. There was the robe, hidden in his tent,
with the silver beneath it.
23 They took the things from the middle of the
tent and brought them to Joshua and all the
people of Israel. They laid them out before the
LORD.

24 Then Joshua and all Israel with him took
Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold
bar, his sons, his daughters, his ox, his donkey,
his flock, his tent, and all that belonged to him,
and brought them up to the Valley of Achor.
25 Joshua said, “Why have you brought trouble
on us? The LORD will bring trouble on you
today.” All Israel stoned him with stones. They
burned them with fire and stoned them with
stones.
26 They raised a great heap of stones over him,
which remains to this day. Then the LORD
turned from his fierce anger. For this reason
that place has been called the Valley of Achor to
this day.

8

1 The LORD said to Joshua, “Do not fear or be
dismayed. Take all the men of war with you,
rise, and go up to Ai. Look, I have given into
your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and
his land.
2 Do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho
and its king, except that you may take its
plunder and livestock for yourselves. Set an
ambush against the city behind it.”
3 So Joshua and all the men of war rose to go
up to Ai. Joshua chose thirty thousand mighty
warriors and sent them out by night.
4 He commanded them, “Look, you must lie in
ambush against the city, behind the city. Do not
go very far from the city, and all of you be ready.

5 I and all the people with me will approach
the city. When they come out against us as
before, we will flee before them.
6 They will come out after us until we have
drawn them away from the city, for they will
say, 'They are fleeing before us as before.' So we
will flee before them.
7 Then you must rise from the ambush and
seize the city, for the LORD your God will give it
into your hand.
8 When you capture the city, set the city on
fire. Do as the LORD has said. See, I have
commanded you."
9 Joshua sent them out, and they went to the
ambush and took up their position between
Bethel and Ai, west of Ai. Joshua spent that night
among the people.
10 Joshua rose early in the morning and
mustered the people. He and the elders of Israel
went up ahead of the people to Ai.
11 All the men of war with him went up,
approached, and came before the city. They
camped north of Ai, with the valley between
him and Ai.
12 He took about five thousand men and set
them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, west of
the city.
13 They positioned the people, with the entire
camp north of the city and its rear guard west of
the city. That night Joshua went into the middle
of the valley.
14 When the king of Ai saw this, he and all his
people, the men of the city, hurried and rose

early. They went out to meet Israel in battle at
the appointed time, facing the Arabah. But he
did not know that an ambush lay against him
behind the city.
15 Joshua and all Israel pretended to be beaten
before them and fled along the road to the
wilderness.
16 All the people in the city were called out to
pursue them. They pursued Joshua and were
drawn away from the city.
17 Not a man remained in Ai or Bethel who did
not go out after Israel. They left the city open
and pursued Israel.

18 The LORD said to Joshua, “Stretch out the
javelin in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it
into your hand.” So Joshua stretched out the
javelin in his hand toward the city.
19 The men in ambush rose quickly from their
place and ran as soon as he stretched out his
hand. They entered the city, captured it, and
quickly set the city on fire.
20 The men of Ai turned and saw the smoke of
the city rising toward heaven. They had no
power to flee this way or that, and the people
fleeing toward the wilderness turned against
their pursuers.
21 When Joshua and all Israel saw that the
men in ambush had captured the city and that
the smoke of the city was rising, they turned
back and struck down the men of Ai.
22 The others came out of the city against
them, so they were caught in the middle of
Israel, with some on one side and some on the

other. They struck them down until neither survivor nor fugitive remained.
23 But they captured the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.
24 When Israel had finished killing all the inhabitants of Ai in the open country, in the wilderness where they had pursued them, and all had fallen by the edge of the sword until they were wiped out, all Israel returned to Ai and struck it with the edge of the sword.
25 All who fell that day, men and women, numbered twelve thousand—all the people of Ai.
26 Joshua did not draw back the hand he had stretched out with the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction.
27 Israel took only the livestock and the plunder of that city for themselves, according to the word of the LORD that he had commanded Joshua.
28 Joshua burned Ai and made it a mound forever, a desolation to this day.
29 He hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening. At sunset Joshua gave the command, and they took his body down from the tree, threw it at the entrance of the city gate, and raised over him a great heap of stones, which remains to this day.

30 Then Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal,
31 as Moses, the servant of the LORD, had commanded the people of Israel, as written in the book of the law of Moses: an altar of whole stones on which no iron tool had been raised.

They offered burnt offerings to the LORD on it
and sacrificed peace offerings.
32 There, on the stones, he wrote a copy of the
law of Moses, which he wrote in the sight of the
people of Israel.
33 All Israel, with its elders, officers, and
judges, stood on either side of the ark, facing the
Levitical priests carrying the ark of the covenant
of the LORD, resident foreigners and
native-born alike. Half stood facing Mount
Gerizim and half facing Mount Ebal, as Moses,
the servant of the LORD, had first commanded,
to bless the people of Israel.
34 Afterward he read all the words of the law,
the blessing and the curse, according to
everything written in the book of the law.
35 There was not a word of all that Moses
commanded that Joshua did not read before the
entire assembly of Israel, including the women,
the little ones, and the resident foreigners who
lived among them.

9

1 When all the kings beyond the Jordan, in the
hill country, in the lowland, and along the entire
coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon—the
Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites,
Hivites, and Jebusites—heard this,
2 they gathered together with one accord to
fight against Joshua and Israel.

3 But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard
what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,

4 they too acted shrewdly. They went and
presented themselves as envoys, taking
worn-out sacks for their donkeys and worn-out
wineskins, split and patched,
5 with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet
and worn-out clothes on their bodies. All the
bread of their provisions was dry and
crumbling.
6 They went to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal
and said to him and the men of Israel, “We have
come from a distant land. Now make a covenant
with us.”
7 The men of Israel said to the Hivites,
“Perhaps you live among us. How, then, can we
make a covenant with you?”
8 They said to Joshua, “We are your servants.”
Joshua said to them, “Who are you, and where
do you come from?”
9 They said to him, “Your servants have come
from a very distant land because of the name of
the LORD your God, for we have heard of his
fame and everything he did in Egypt,
10 and everything he did to the two kings of
the Amorites beyond the Jordan, Sihon king of
Heshbon and Og king of Bashan, who was at
Ashtaroth.
11 Our elders and all the inhabitants of our
land told us, ‘Take provisions with you for the
journey and go to meet them. Say to them: We
are your servants; now make a covenant with
us.’
12 This bread of ours was warm when we took
it from our houses as provisions on the day we
set out to come to you. But now look: it is dry

and crumbling.
13 These wineskins were new when we filled
them, but look, they are split. These clothes and
sandals of ours have worn out from the very
long journey."
14 So the men took some of their provisions,
but they did not seek counsel from the mouth of
the LORD.
15 Joshua made peace with them and made a
covenant with them to let them live. The leaders
of the congregation swore an oath to them.
16 At the end of three days after they had
made a covenant with them, they heard that
they were their neighbors, living among them.
17 The people of Israel set out and reached
their cities on the third day. Their cities were
Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim.
18 But the people of Israel did not attack them,
because the leaders of the congregation had
sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel.
The whole congregation grumbled against the
leaders.
19 All the leaders said to the whole
congregation, "We have sworn to them by the
LORD, the God of Israel, and now we cannot
touch them.
20 This is what we will do with them: we will
let them live, so that wrath does not come upon
us because of the oath we swore to them."
21 The leaders said to them, "Let them live." So
they became woodcutters and water carriers for
the whole congregation, as the leaders had told
them.
22 Joshua called them and said to them, "Why

did you deceive us by saying, 'We are very far from you,' when you live among us?

23 Now you are cursed, and there will always be slaves among you, woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God."

24 They answered Joshua, "Your servants were clearly told that the LORD your God had commanded Moses his servant to give you the whole land and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land before you. We feared greatly for our lives because of you, and so we did this.

25 Now here we are in your hand. Do to us whatever is good and right in your eyes."

26 So he did this for them: he delivered them from the hand of the people of Israel, and they did not kill them.

27 That day Joshua appointed them to be woodcutters and water carriers for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD at the place he would choose, as they are to this day.

10

1 When Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had captured Ai and devoted it to destruction—as he had done to Jericho and its king, so he had done to Ai and its king—and that the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were living among them,

2 they were greatly afraid, because Gibeon was a great city, like one of the royal cities, larger than Ai, and all its men were mighty warriors.

3 Adoni-zedek king of Jerusalem sent word to
Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth,
Japhia king of Lachish, and Debir king of Eglon:
4 "Come up to me and help me, and let us
attack Gibeon, because it has made peace with
Joshua and the people of Israel."
5 So the five kings of the Amorites—the king of
Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of
Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of
Eglon—gathered and went up with all their
armies. They camped against Gibeon and fought
against it.
6 The men of Gibeon sent word to Joshua at
the camp in Gilgal: "Do not withdraw your
hands from your servants. Come up to us
quickly, save us, and help us, for all the kings of
the Amorites living in the hill country have
gathered against us."
7 So Joshua went up from Gilgal with all the
men of war and all the mighty warriors.
8 The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them,
for I have given them into your hand. Not one of
them will stand before you."
9 Joshua came upon them suddenly, having
marched up from Gilgal all night.
10 The LORD threw them into confusion before
Israel and inflicted a great defeat on them at
Gibeon. He pursued them along the road up to
Beth-horon and struck them down as far as
Azekah and Makkedah.
11 As they fled before Israel on the descent of
Beth-horon, the LORD hurled great stones from
heaven upon them as far as Azekah, and they

died. More died from the hailstones than the
people of Israel killed with the sword.

12 Then Joshua spoke to the LORD on the day
the LORD gave the Amorites over before the
people of Israel. He said in the sight of Israel,
"Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and moon, in the
Valley of Aijalon."
13 The sun stood still, and the moon stopped,
until the nation had avenged itself on its
enemies.
Is this not written in the Book of Jashar?
The sun stood still in the middle of the
heavens and did not hurry to set for about
a full day.
14 There has been no day like it before or
since, when the LORD listened to the voice of a
man, for the LORD fought for Israel.
15 Then Joshua and all Israel with him
returned to the camp in Gilgal.
16 Now those five kings had fled and hidden in
the cave at Makkedah.
17 Joshua was told, "The five kings have been
found hiding in the cave at Makkedah."
18 Joshua said, "Roll large stones against the
mouth of the cave and station men there to
guard them.
19 But do not stop. Pursue your enemies and
attack them from the rear. Do not let them enter
their cities, for the LORD your God has given
them into your hand."
20 When Joshua and the people of Israel had
finished striking them down in a very great
slaughter, until they were wiped out, the

survivors who remained entered the fortified cities.
21 All the people returned safely to Joshua at
the camp in Makkedah. No one sharpened his
tongue against any of the people of Israel.
22 Then Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the
cave and bring those five kings out of the cave to
me.”
23 They did so and brought those five kings out
of the cave to him: the king of Jerusalem, the
king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of
Lachish, and the king of Eglon.
24 When they brought these kings to Joshua,
Joshua called all the men of Israel and said to
the commanders of the men of war who had
gone with him, “Come forward and put your feet
on the necks of these kings.” So they came
forward and put their feet on their necks.
25 Joshua said to them, “Do not fear or be
dismayed. Be strong and courageous, for this is
what the LORD will do to all your enemies
whom you fight.”
26 Afterward Joshua struck them, killed them,
and hanged them on five trees. They hung on
the trees until evening.
27 At sunset Joshua gave the command, and
they took them down from the trees and threw
them into the cave where they had hidden. They
placed large stones against the mouth of the
cave, which remain to this very day.

28 That day Joshua captured Makkedah and
struck it and its king with the edge of the sword.
He devoted them and every person in it to

destruction, leaving no survivor. He did to the king of Makkedah as he had done to the king of Jericho.

29 Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Makkedah to Libnah and fought against Libnah.

30 The LORD also gave it and its king into the hand of Israel. Joshua struck it and every person in it with the edge of the sword, leaving no survivor in it. He did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho.

31 Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Libnah to Lachish, camped against it, and fought against it.

32 The LORD gave Lachish into the hand of Israel, and Joshua captured it on the second day. He struck it and every person in it with the edge of the sword, just as he had done to Libnah.

33 Then Horam king of Gezer came up to help Lachish. Joshua struck him and his people down until he left him no survivor.

34 Joshua and all Israel with him passed on from Lachish to Eglon, camped against it, and fought against it.

35 They captured it that day and struck it with the edge of the sword. That day he devoted every person in it to destruction, just as he had done to Lachish.

36 Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron and fought against it.

37 They captured it and struck it with the edge of the sword, along with its king, all its towns, and every person in it. He left no survivor, just

as he had done to Eglon, and devoted it and every person in it to destruction.

38 Then Joshua and all Israel with him turned back toward Debir and fought against it.

39 He captured it, its king, and all its towns. They struck them with the edge of the sword and devoted every person in it to destruction. He left no survivor. As he had done to Hebron, so he did to Debir and its king, just as he had done to Libnah and its king.

40 So Joshua struck down the whole land: the hill country, the Negev, the lowland, and the slopes, and all their kings. He left no survivor and devoted everything that breathed to destruction, as the LORD, the God of Israel, had commanded.

41 Joshua struck them down from Kadesh-barnea as far as Gaza, and throughout the land of Goshen as far as Gibeon.

42 Joshua captured all these kings and their land in one campaign, because the LORD, the God of Israel, fought for Israel.

43 Then Joshua and all Israel with him returned to the camp in Gilgal.

11

1 When Jabin king of Hazor heard this, he sent word to Jobab king of Madon, to the king of Shimron, and to the king of Achshaph,

2 and to the kings in the north, in the hill country, in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, in the lowland, and on the heights of Dor to the west,

3 to the Canaanites in the east and west, the
Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites, and Jebusites in
the hill country, and the Hivites below Hermon
in the land of Mizpah.
4 They went out with all their armies, a
multitude as numerous as the sand on the
seashore, with very many horses and chariots.
5 All these kings joined forces and came and
camped together at the waters of Merom to fight
against Israel.
6 The LORD said to Joshua, “Do not fear them,
for tomorrow about this time I will give them all
over, slain, before Israel. You must hamstring
their horses and burn their chariots with fire.”
7 So Joshua and all the men of war with him
came upon them suddenly at the waters of
Merom and fell upon them.
8 The LORD gave them into the hand of Israel,
and they struck them down and pursued them
as far as Great Sidon, Misrephoth-maim, and the
Valley of Mizpah to the east. They struck them
down until they left them no survivor.
9 Joshua did to them as the LORD had told
him: he hamstrung their horses and burned
their chariots with fire.
10 At that time Joshua turned back and
captured Hazor and struck down its king with
the sword, for Hazor had formerly been the
head of all these kingdoms.
11 They struck every person in it with the edge
of the sword, devoting them to destruction.
Nothing that breathed remained. He burned
Hazor with fire.

12 Joshua captured all the cities of these kings
and all their kings. He struck them with the
edge of the sword and devoted them to
destruction, as Moses, the servant of the LORD,
had commanded.
13 But Israel did not burn any of the cities
standing on their mounds, except Hazor alone,
which Joshua burned.
14 The people of Israel took all the plunder and
livestock of these cities for themselves. But they
struck all the people with the edge of the sword
until they had destroyed them, leaving nothing
that breathed.
15 As the LORD had commanded Moses his
servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so
Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that
the LORD had commanded Moses.
16 Joshua took all this land: the hill country, all
the Negev, all the land of Goshen, the lowland,
the Arabah, the hill country of Israel and its
lowland,
17 from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir,
as far as Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon
below Mount Hermon. He captured all their
kings, struck them down, and killed them.
18 Joshua waged war against all these kings for
a long time.
19 No city made peace with the people of Israel
except the Hivites living in Gibeon. They took all
the others in battle.
20 For it was the LORD's doing to harden their
hearts to meet Israel in battle, so that they
would be devoted to destruction and receive no
mercy, but be destroyed, as the LORD had

commanded Moses.

21 At that time Joshua came and cut off the
Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron,
Debir, and Anab, and from all the hill country of
Judah and all the hill country of Israel. Joshua
devoted them and their cities to destruction.
22 No Anakim remained in the land of the
people of Israel. They remained only in Gaza,
Gath, and Ashdod.
23 Joshua took the whole land, according to all
that the LORD had told Moses. Joshua gave it to
Israel as an inheritance, according to their tribal
divisions. And the land rested from war.

12

1 These are the kings of the land whom the
people of Israel defeated and whose land they
possessed beyond the Jordan toward the
sunrise, from the Arnon River to Mount
Hermon, with all the eastern Arabah:
2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived in
Heshbon and ruled from Aroer on the bank of
the Arnon River, and from the middle of the
valley, over half of Gilead as far as the Jabbok
River, the border of the Ammonites,
3 and over the Arabah as far as the Sea of
Chinneroth on the east, and as far as the Sea of
the Arabah, the Salt Sea, on the east, toward
Beth-jeshimoth, and southward below the slopes
of Pisgah;
4 and the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of
the remnant of the Rephaim, who lived in
Ashtaroth and Edrei

5 and ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, and
all Bashan as far as the border of the Geshurites
and the Maacathites, and over half of Gilead as
far as the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.
6 Moses, the servant of the LORD, and the
people of Israel defeated them. Moses, the
servant of the LORD, gave their land as a
possession to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and
the half-tribe of Manasseh.
7 These are the kings of the land whom Joshua
and the people of Israel defeated beyond the
Jordan to the west, from Baal-gad in the Valley
of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward
Seir. Joshua gave their land to the tribes of Israel
as a possession according to their divisions,
8 in the hill country, the lowland, the Arabah,
the slopes, the wilderness, and the Negev. These
were the kings of the Hittites, Amorites,
Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites:
9 the king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, beside
Bethel, one;
10 the king of Jerusalem, one; the king of
Hebron, one;
11 the king of Jarmuth, one; the king of
Lachish, one;
12 the king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer,
one;
13 the king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;
14 the king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad,
one;
15 the king of Libnah, one; the king of
Adullam, one;
16 the king of Makkedah, one; the king of
Bethel, one;

17 the king of Tappuah, one; the king of
Hepher, one;
18 the king of Aphek, one; the king of
Lasharon, one;
19 the king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor,
one;
20 the king of Shimron-meron, one; the king of
Achshaph, one;
21 the king of Taanach, one; the king of
Megiddo, one;
22 the king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam
in Carmel, one;
23 the king of Dor on the heights of Dor, one;
the king of Goyim in Gilgal, one;
24 the king of Tirzah, one. Thirty-one kings in
all.

13

1 Joshua was old and advanced in years. The
LORD said to him, “You are old and advanced in
years, and very much land still remains to be
possessed.
2 This is the land that remains: all the regions
of the Philistines and all the Geshurites,
3 from the Shihor, which is east of Egypt, to the
border of Ekron on the north, counted as
Canaanite territory: the five rulers of the
Philistines, those of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon,
Gath, and Ekron; also the Avvim
4 in the south; all the land of the Canaanites,
and Mearah, which belongs to the Sidonians, as
far as Aphek, to the border of the Amorites;

5 the land of the Gebalites and all Lebanon
toward the sunrise, from Baal-gad below Mount
Hermon to the entrance to Hamath.
6 All the inhabitants of the hill country from
Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, all the
Sidonians—I myself will drive them out before
the people of Israel. Only allot the land to Israel
as an inheritance, as I have commanded you.
7 Now divide this land as an inheritance
among the nine tribes and the half-tribe of
Manasseh."
8 Along with the other half of Manasseh, the
Reubenites and Gadites had received their
inheritance, which Moses gave them beyond the
Jordan to the east, just as Moses, the servant of
the LORD, had given them:
9 from Aroer on the bank of the Arnon River,
and the city in the middle of the valley, and the
entire plateau of Medeba as far as Dibon;
10 all the cities of Sihon king of the Amorites,
who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the border of
the Ammonites;
11 Gilead, the territory of the Geshurites and
Maacathites, all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan
as far as Salecah;
12 all the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who
reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei. He was left
from the remnant of the Rephaim. Moses
defeated them and drove them out.
13 But the people of Israel did not drive out the
Geshurites or the Maacathites. Geshur and
Maacath have lived among Israel to this day.
14 Only to the tribe of Levi did he give no
inheritance. The offerings by fire to the LORD,

the God of Israel, are their inheritance, as he had told them.
15 Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of the descendants of Reuben according to their clans.
16 Their territory extended from Aroer on the bank of the Arnon River, and the city in the middle of the valley, and all the plateau by Medeba:
17 Heshbon and all its towns on the plateau; Dibon, Bamoth-baal, Beth-baal-meon,
18 Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath,
19 Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zareth-shahar on the hill in the valley,
20 Beth-peor, the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth-jeshimoth;
21 all the cities of the plateau and all the kingdom of Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon. Moses struck him down, along with the leaders of Midian—Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur, and Reba—the chieftains of Sihon who lived in the land.
22 The people of Israel also killed Balaam son of Beor, the diviner, with the sword, among those they killed.
23 The border of the descendants of Reuben was the Jordan with its bank. This was the inheritance of the descendants of Reuben according to their clans: the cities and their villages.
24 Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of Gad, to the descendants of Gad according to their clans.
25 Their territory was Jazer, all the cities of Gilead, and half the land of the Ammonites as

far as Aroer, which faces Rabbah,
26 and from Heshbon to Ramath-mizpeh and
Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the border of
Lidebir;
27 and in the valley, Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah,
Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of
Sihon king of Heshbon, the Jordan with its bank
as far as the edge of the Sea of Chinnereth,
beyond the Jordan to the east.
28 This was the inheritance of the descendants
of Gad according to their clans: the cities and
their villages.
29 Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe
of Manasseh. It belonged to the half-tribe of the
descendants of Manasseh according to their
clans.
30 Their territory extended from Mahanaim
and included all Bashan, all the kingdom of Og
king of Bashan, and all the settlements of Jair in
Bashan, sixty cities;
31 and half of Gilead, Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the
cities of Og's kingdom in Bashan, belonged to
the descendants of Machir son of Manasseh, to
half the descendants of Machir according to
their clans.
32 These are the inheritances Moses allotted on
the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan east of
Jericho.
33 But Moses gave no inheritance to the tribe
of Levi. The LORD, the God of Israel, is himself
their inheritance, as he had told them.

14

1 These are the inheritances the people of

Israel received in the land of Canaan, which
Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the
heads of the ancestral houses of the tribes of the
people of Israel allotted to them.
2 Their inheritance was by lot, as the LORD
had commanded through Moses for the nine
tribes and the half-tribe.
3 For Moses had given an inheritance to the
two tribes and the half-tribe beyond the Jordan,
but he gave the Levites no inheritance among
them.
4 The descendants of Joseph formed two
tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. They gave the
Levites no share in the land, except cities to live
in, with their pasturelands for their livestock
and possessions.
5 The people of Israel did as the LORD had
commanded Moses and divided the land.
6 Then the descendants of Judah approached
Joshua at Gilgal. Caleb son of Jephunneh the
Kenizzite said to him, “You know what the LORD
said to Moses, the man of God, about me and
you at Kadesh-barnea.
7 I was forty years old when Moses, the servant
of the LORD, sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy
out the land, and I brought him back a report
according to what was in my heart.
8 My brothers who went up with me made the
people’s hearts melt, but I fully followed the
LORD my God.
9 So Moses swore that day, ‘Surely the land
where your foot has trodden will be an
inheritance for you and your children forever,

because you fully followed the LORD my God.'
10 Now look, the LORD has kept me alive, as he
said, these forty-five years since the LORD spoke
this word to Moses, when Israel was walking in
the wilderness. And now look, today I am
eighty-five years old.
11 I am still as strong today as I was on the day
Moses sent me. My strength now is as it was
then, for war and for going out and coming in.
12 Now give me this hill country that the LORD
spoke of that day. For you heard that day that
the Anakim were there, with great fortified
cities. Perhaps the LORD will be with me, and I
will drive them out, as the LORD has said."
13 Then Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron
to Caleb son of Jephunneh as an inheritance.
14 So Hebron has been the inheritance of Caleb
son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day,
because he fully followed the LORD, the God of
Israel.
15 Hebron was formerly called Kiriath-arba.
Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim.
And the land rested from war.

15

1 The allotment for the tribe of the
descendants of Judah, according to their clans,
reached the border of Edom, to the wilderness
of Zin in the south, at the farthest southern end.
2 Their southern border began at the end of
the Salt Sea, at the bay facing south.
3 It went out south of the ascent of Akrabbim,
passed on to Zin, and went up south of

Kadesh-barnea. It passed Hezron, went up to
Addar, and turned toward Karka.
4 It passed on to Azmon, went out to the Brook
of Egypt, and ended at the sea. This will be your
southern border.
5 The eastern border was the Salt Sea as far as
the mouth of the Jordan. The northern border
began at the bay of the sea at the mouth of the
Jordan.
6 The border went up to Beth-hoglah and
passed north of Beth-arabah. The border went
up to the stone of Bohan son of Reuben.
7 The border went up to Debir from the Valley
of Achor, then turned north toward Gilgal,
opposite the ascent of Adummim south of the
brook. The border passed on to the waters of
En-shemesh and ended at En-rogel.
8 The border went up through the Valley of the
Son of Hinnom to the southern side of the
Jebusite city, that is, Jerusalem. The border went
up to the top of the hill west of the Valley of
Hinnom, at the northern end of the Valley of
Rephaim.
9 The border curved from the top of the hill to
the spring of the waters of Nephtoah and went
out to the towns of Mount Ephron. The border
curved toward Baalah, that is, Kiriath-jearim.
10 The border turned west from Baalah to
Mount Seir, passed along the northern side of
Mount Jearim, that is, Chesalon, went down to
Beth-shemesh, and passed on to Timnah.
11 The border went out to the northern side of
Ekron. The border curved toward Shikkeron,

passed Mount Baalah, and went out to Jabneel.
The border ended at the sea.
12 The western border was the Great Sea with
its coast. This was the border around the
descendants of Judah according to their clans.
13 Joshua gave Caleb son of Jephunneh a share
among the descendants of Judah, according to
the LORD's command to Joshua: Kiriath-arba,
that is, Hebron. Arba was the father of Anak.
14 Caleb drove out from there the three sons of
Anak: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, the
descendants of Anak.
15 From there he went up against the
inhabitants of Debir. Debir was formerly called
Kiriath-sepher.
16 Caleb said, "To the man who attacks
Kiriath-sepher and captures it, I will give my
daughter Achsah as his wife."
17 Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb's brother,
captured it, and Caleb gave him his daughter
Achsah as his wife.
18 When she arrived, she urged him to ask her
father for a field. She dismounted from the
donkey, and Caleb said to her, "What do you
want?"
19 She said, "Give me a blessing. Since you
have given me land in the Negev, give me
springs of water too." So he gave her the upper
springs and the lower springs.

20 This was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Judah according to their clans.
21 The cities at the far southern end of the
tribe of the descendants of Judah, toward the
border of Edom, were Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur,

22 Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah,
23 Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan,
24 Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,
25 Hazor-hadattah, Kerioth-hezron, that is,
Hazor,
26 Amam, Shema, Moladah,
27 Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet,
28 Hazar-shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah,
29 Baalah, Iim, Ezem,
30 Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah,
31 Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah,
32 Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and
Rimmon—twenty-nine cities in all, with their
villages.

33 In the lowland: Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,
34 Zanoah, En-gannim, Tappuah, Enam,
35 Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah,
36 Shaaraim, Adithaim, Gederah, and
Gederothaim—fourteen cities with their villages;
37 Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal-gad,
38 Dilean, Mizpeh, Joktheel,
39 Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon,
40 Cabbon, Lahmas, Chitlish,
41 Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and
Makkedah—sixteen cities with their villages;

42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan,
43 Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib,
44 Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah—nine cities
with their villages;
45 Ekron with its towns and villages;
46 from Ekron westward, all that lay beside
Ashdod, with their villages;

47 Ashdod with its towns and villages, Gaza
with its towns and villages, as far as the Brook of
Egypt and the sea as the boundary, with its coast.
48 In the hill country: Shamir, Jattir, Socoh,
49 Dannah, Kiriath-sannah, that is, Debir,
50 Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim,
51 Goshen, Holon, and Giloh—eleven cities
with their villages;
52 Arab, Rumah, Eshan,
53 Janim, Beth-tappuah, Aphekah,
54 Humtah, Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron, and
Zior—nine cities with their villages;
55 Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah,
56 Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah,
57 Kain, Gibeah, and Timnah—ten cities with
their villages;
58 Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor,
59 Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon—six cities
with their villages;
60 Kiriath-baal, that is, Kiriath-jearim, and
Rabbah—two cities with their villages.
61 In the wilderness: Beth-arabah, Middin,
Secacah,
62 Nibshan, the City of Salt, and En-gedi—six
cities with their villages.
63 But the descendants of Judah could not
drive out the Jebusites living in Jerusalem. So
the Jebusites have lived with the descendants of
Judah in Jerusalem to this day.

16

1 The allotment for the descendants of Joseph
extended from the Jordan at Jericho to the

waters of Jericho on the east, through the
wilderness going up from Jericho into the hill
country to Bethel.
2 It went out from Bethel to Luz and passed on
to the territory of the Archites at Ataroth.
3 It went down westward to the territory of
the Japhletites, as far as the border of Lower
Beth-horon and as far as Gezer, and ended at the
sea.
4 So the descendants of Joseph, Manasseh and
Ephraim, received their inheritance.
5 This was the territory of the descendants of
Ephraim according to their clans: the border of
their inheritance on the east ran from
Ataroth-addar to Upper Beth-horon.
6 The border went westward to Michmethath
on the north. The border turned eastward to
Taanath-shiloh and passed beyond it to the east
of Janoah.
7 It went down from Janoah to Ataroth and
Naarah, touched Jericho, and went out to the
Jordan.
8 From Tappuah the border went westward to
the Brook of Kanah and ended at the sea. This
was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Ephraim according to their clans,
9 including the cities set apart for the
descendants of Ephraim within the inheritance
of the descendants of Manasseh, all the cities
with their villages.
10 But they did not drive out the Canaanites
living in Gezer. The Canaanites have lived
among Ephraim to this day and have been
subjected to forced labor.

17

1 The allotment also fell to the tribe of
Manasseh, for he was Joseph's firstborn. Machir,
Manasseh's firstborn and the father of Gilead,
received Gilead and Bashan because he was a
man of war.
2 An allotment also fell to the rest of the
descendants of Manasseh according to their
clans: the descendants of Abiezer, the
descendants of Helek, the descendants of Asriel,
the descendants of Shechem, the descendants of
Hepher, and the descendants of Shemida. These
were the male descendants of Manasseh son of
Joseph according to their clans.
3 But Zelophehad son of Hepher, son of Gilead,
son of Machir, son of Manasseh, had no sons,
only daughters. These were the names of his
daughters: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and
Tirzah.
4 They came before Eleazar the priest, Joshua
son of Nun, and the leaders and said, "The LORD
commanded Moses to give us an inheritance
among our brothers." So Joshua gave them an
inheritance among their father's brothers,
according to the LORD's command.
5 Ten portions fell to Manasseh, besides the
land of Gilead and Bashan beyond the Jordan,
6 because the daughters of Manasseh received
an inheritance among his sons. The land of
Gilead belonged to the rest of the descendants of
Manasseh.
7 The border of Manasseh ran from Asher to
Michmethath, opposite Shechem. The border
went south to the inhabitants of En-tappuah.

8 The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh,
but Tappuah on the border of Manasseh
belonged to the descendants of Ephraim.
9 The border went down to the Brook of
Kanah, south of the brook. These cities belonged
to Ephraim among the cities of Manasseh.
Manasseh's border was north of the brook and
ended at the sea.
10 The south belonged to Ephraim and the
north to Manasseh, with the sea as its border.
They bordered Asher on the north and Issachar
on the east.
11 Within Issachar and Asher, Manasseh had
Beth-shean and its towns, Ibleam and its towns,
the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, the
inhabitants of En-dor and its towns, the
inhabitants of Taanach and its towns, and the
inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns—the three
districts.
12 But the descendants of Manasseh could not
drive out the inhabitants of these cities, and the
Canaanites persisted in living in this land.
13 When the people of Israel grew strong, they
subjected the Canaanites to forced labor, but
they did not drive them out.

14 The descendants of Joseph said to Joshua,
"Why have you given me only one allotment and
one portion as an inheritance, when I am a large
people, since the LORD has blessed me until
now?"
15 Joshua said to them, "If you are a large
people, go up to the forest and clear land for
yourself there in the land of the Perizzites and
Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is

too narrow for you."
16 The descendants of Joseph said, "The hill
country is not enough for us. All the Canaanites
living in the valley land have iron chariots, both
those in Beth-shean and its towns and those in
the Valley of Jezreel."
17 Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to
Ephraim and Manasseh, "You are a large people
and have great strength. You will not have only
one allotment.
18 The hill country will be yours. Though it is
forest, you must clear it, and its farthest reaches
will be yours. For you will drive out the
Canaanites, though they have iron chariots and
are strong."

18

1 The whole congregation of the people of
Israel assembled at Shiloh and set up the Tent of
Meeting there. The land had been subdued
before them.
2 There remained seven tribes among the
people of Israel whose inheritance had not yet
been divided.
3 Joshua said to the people of Israel, "How long
will you delay going in to possess the land the
LORD, the God of your ancestors, has given you?
4 Choose three men from each tribe, and I will
send them out. They must rise, walk through the
land, write a description of it according to their
inheritances, and return to me.
5 They must divide it into seven portions.
Judah will remain in its territory in the south,

and the house of Joseph will remain in its
territory in the north.
6 You must describe the land in writing in
seven portions and bring the description here to
me. Here I will cast lots for you before the LORD
our God.
7 For the Levites have no portion among you,
because the priesthood of the LORD is their
inheritance. Gad, Reuben, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh have received their inheritance
beyond the Jordan to the east, which Moses, the
servant of the LORD, gave them."
8 So the men rose and went. Joshua
commanded those going to describe the land in
writing, "Go, walk through the land, describe it
in writing, and return to me. Here at Shiloh I
will cast lots for you before the LORD."
9 The men went and passed through the land.
They wrote a description of it by cities in seven
portions in a book and came to Joshua at the
camp in Shiloh.
10 Joshua cast lots for them at Shiloh before the
LORD, and there Joshua divided the land among
the people of Israel according to their divisions.
11 The lot came up for the tribe of the
descendants of Benjamin according to their
clans. The territory of their allotment lay
between the descendants of Judah and the
descendants of Joseph.
12 Their northern border began at the Jordan.
The border went up along the northern side of
Jericho, went up westward through the hill
country, and ended in the wilderness of

Beth-aven.
13 From there the border passed on to Luz,
along the southern side of Luz, that is, Bethel.
The border went down to Ataroth-addar, on the
hill south of Lower Beth-horon.
14 The border curved and turned south along
the western side, from the hill facing Beth-horon
on the south, and ended at Kiriath-baal, that is,
Kiriath-jearim, a city of the descendants of
Judah. This was the western side.
15 The southern side began at the edge of
Kiriath-jearim. The border went out westward
and went out to the spring of the waters of
Nephtoah.
16 The border went down to the edge of the
hill facing the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, at
the northern end of the Valley of Rephaim. It
went down through the Valley of Hinnom along
the southern side of the Jebusite city and went
down to En-rogel.
17 It curved northward and went out to
En-shemesh, then went out to Geliloth, opposite
the ascent of Adummim. It went down to the
stone of Bohan son of Reuben,
18 passed along the northern slope facing the
Arabah, and went down into the Arabah.
19 The border passed along the northern side
of Beth-hoglah and ended at the northern bay of
the Salt Sea, at the southern end of the Jordan.
This was the southern border.
20 The Jordan bounded it on the eastern side.
This was the inheritance of the descendants of
Benjamin, with its surrounding borders,
according to their clans.

21 The cities of the tribe of the descendants of
Benjamin according to their clans were Jericho,
Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz,
22 Beth-arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,
23 Avvim, Parah, Ophrah,
24 Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba—twelve
cities with their villages;
25 Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth,
26 Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah,
27 Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah,
28 Zela, Eleph, the Jebusite city, that is,
Jerusalem, Gibeah, and Kiriath—fourteen cities
with their villages. This was the inheritance of
the descendants of Benjamin according to their
clans.

19

1 The second lot came out for Simeon, for the
tribe of the descendants of Simeon according to
their clans. Their inheritance lay within the
inheritance of the descendants of Judah.
2 Their inheritance included Beersheba,
Sheba, Moladah,
3 Hazar-shual, Balah, Ezem,
4 Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah,
5 Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah,
6 Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhen—thirteen cities
with their villages;
7 Ain, Rimmon, Ether, and Ashan—four cities
with their villages,
8 and all the villages surrounding these cities
as far as Baalath-beer, Ramath of the Negev. This
was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Simeon according to their clans.

9 The inheritance of the descendants of
Simeon came from the portion of the
descendants of Judah, because the share of the
descendants of Judah was too large for them. So
the descendants of Simeon received their
inheritance within theirs.

10 The third lot came up for the descendants of
Zebulun according to their clans. The territory
of their inheritance reached as far as Sarid.
11 Their border went up westward to Maralah,
touched Dabbesheth, and reached the brook
opposite Jokneam.
12 It turned from Sarid eastward toward the
sunrise, to the border of Chisloth-tabor, went out
to Daberath, and went up to Japhia.
13 From there it passed eastward toward the
east to Gath-hepher and Eth-kazin. It went out
to Rimmon, curving toward Neah.
14 The border turned around it on the north
toward Hannathon and ended in the Valley of
Iphtah-el.
15 It included Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron,
Idalah, and Bethlehem—twelve cities with their
villages.
16 This was the inheritance of the descendants
of Zebulun according to their clans: these cities
with their villages.

17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, for the
descendants of Issachar according to their clans.
18 Their territory included Jezreel, Chesulloth,
Shunem,
19 Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath,
20 Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez,

21 Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, and
Beth-pazzez.
22 The border touched Tabor, Shahazimah, and
Beth-shemesh, and their border ended at the
Jordan—sixteen cities with their villages.
23 This was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Issachar according to their clans:
the cities with their villages.
24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of the
descendants of Asher according to their clans.
25 Their territory included Helkath, Hali,
Beten, Achshaph,
26 Allammelech, Amad, and Mishal. It reached
Carmel to the west and Shihor-libnath.
27 It turned toward the sunrise to Beth-dagon
and touched Zebulun and the Valley of Iphtah-el
on the north, Beth-emek and Neiel. It went out
to Cabul on the left,
28 Ebron, Rehob, Hammon, and Kanah, as far
as Great Sidon.
29 The border turned toward Ramah and as far
as the fortified city of Tyre. The border turned
toward Hosah and ended at the sea, from the
region of Achzib.
30 It included Ummah, Aphek, and
Rehob—twenty-two cities with their villages.
31 This was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Asher according to their clans:
these cities with their villages.
32 The sixth lot came out for the descendants
of Naphtali, for the descendants of Naphtali
according to their clans.
33 Their border ran from Heleph, from the oak
at Zaanannim, through Adami-nekeb and

Jabneel as far as Lakkum, and ended at the
Jordan.
34 The border turned westward to
Aznoth-tabor and went out from there to
Hukkok. It touched Zebulun on the south,
touched Asher on the west, and Judah at the
Jordan toward the sunrise.
35 The fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer,
Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth,
36 Adamah, Ramah, Hazor,
37 Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor,
38 Yiron, Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath, and
Beth-shemesh—nineteen cities with their
villages.
39 This was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Naphtali according to their clans:
the cities with their villages.

40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of the
descendants of Dan according to their clans.
41 The territory of their inheritance included
Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir-shemesh,
42 Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah,
43 Elon, Timnah, Ekron,
44 Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath,
45 Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon,
46 Me-jarkon, and Rakkon, with the territory
opposite Joppa.
47 The territory of the descendants of Dan
extended beyond these cities. The descendants
of Dan went up and fought against Leshem,
captured it, struck it with the edge of the sword,
possessed it, and lived in it. They called Leshem
Dan, after the name of Dan their father.

48 This was the inheritance of the tribe of the
descendants of Dan according to their clans:
these cities with their villages.

49 When they had finished allotting the land
for inheritance according to its borders, the
people of Israel gave Joshua son of Nun an
inheritance among them.
50 According to the LORD's command, they
gave him the city he asked for, Timnath-serah in
the hill country of Ephraim. He built the city
and lived in it.
51 These are the inheritances Eleazar the
priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of the
ancestral houses of the tribes of the people of
Israel allotted by lot at Shiloh before the LORD,
at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting. So they
finished dividing the land.

20

1 The LORD spoke to Joshua:
2 "Speak to the people of Israel and say,
'Appoint for yourselves the cities of refuge that I
spoke to you about through Moses,
3 so that a person who kills someone
unintentionally and unknowingly may flee
there. They will be a refuge for you from the
avenger of blood.
4 He must flee to one of these cities, stand at
the entrance of the city gate, and state his case
in the hearing of the elders of that city. They
must receive him into the city with them and
give him a place to live among them.

5 If the avenger of blood pursues him, they
must not hand the killer over to him, because he
struck his neighbor unknowingly and had not
hated him before.
6 He must remain in that city until he has
stood before the congregation for judgment and
until the death of the high priest serving in those
days. Then the killer may return to his own city
and his own house, to the city from which he
fled.' "
7 So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee, in the hill
country of Naphtali; Shechem in the hill country
of Ephraim; and Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron, in
the hill country of Judah.
8 Beyond the Jordan east of Jericho, they
appointed Bezer in the wilderness on the
plateau from the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in
Gilead from the tribe of Gad, and Golan in
Bashan from the tribe of Manasseh.
9 These were the cities appointed for all the
people of Israel and for the resident foreigner
living among them, so that anyone who killed a
person unintentionally could flee there and not
die by the hand of the avenger of blood until he
had stood before the congregation.

21

1 The heads of the ancestral houses of the
Levites approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua
son of Nun, and the heads of the ancestral
houses of the tribes of the people of Israel.
2 They spoke to them at Shiloh in the land of
Canaan, saying, "The LORD commanded through

Moses that we be given cities to live in, with
their pasturelands for our livestock."
3 So the people of Israel gave the Levites these
cities and their pasturelands from their own
inheritance, according to the LORD's command.
4 The lot came out for the clans of the
Kohathites. The descendants of Aaron the priest,
who were among the Levites, received by lot
thirteen cities from the tribe of Judah, the tribe
of Simeon, and the tribe of Benjamin.
5 The rest of the descendants of Kohath
received by lot ten cities from the clans of the
tribe of Ephraim, from the tribe of Dan, and
from the half-tribe of Manasseh.
6 The descendants of Gershon received by lot
thirteen cities from the clans of the tribe of
Issachar, from the tribe of Asher, from the tribe
of Naphtali, and from the half-tribe of Manasseh
in Bashan.
7 The descendants of Merari, according to
their clans, received twelve cities from the tribe
of Reuben, the tribe of Gad, and the tribe of
Zebulun.
8 The people of Israel gave these cities and
their pasturelands to the Levites by lot, as the
LORD had commanded through Moses.
9 From the tribe of the descendants of Judah
and the tribe of the descendants of Simeon they
gave these cities, mentioned by name,
10 to the descendants of Aaron, of the
Kohathite clans, of the descendants of Levi, for
theirs was the first lot.
11 They gave them Kiriath-arba, that is,
Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, with its

surrounding pasturelands. Arba was the father of Anak.
12 But they gave the fields of the city and its villages to Caleb son of Jephunneh as his possession.
13 To the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron, a city of refuge for the killer, with its pasturelands; Libnah with its pasturelands;
14 Jattir with its pasturelands; Eshtemoa with its pasturelands;
15 Holon with its pasturelands; Debir with its pasturelands;
16 Ain with its pasturelands; Juttah with its pasturelands; and Beth-shemesh with its pasturelands—nine cities from these two tribes.
17 From the tribe of Benjamin: Gibeon with its pasturelands; Geba with its pasturelands;
18 Anathoth with its pasturelands; and Almon with its pasturelands—four cities.
19 All the cities of the descendants of Aaron, the priests, were thirteen cities with their pasturelands.
20 The clans of the descendants of Kohath, the remaining Levites of the descendants of Kohath, received the cities of their allotment from the tribe of Ephraim.
21 They gave them Shechem, a city of refuge for the killer, with its pasturelands in the hill country of Ephraim; Gezer with its pasturelands;
22 Kibzaim with its pasturelands; and Beth-horon with its pasturelands—four cities.
23 From the tribe of Dan: Eltekeh with its pasturelands; Gibbethon with its pasturelands;

24 Aijalon with its pasturelands; and
Gath-rimmon with its pasturelands—four cities.
25 From the half-tribe of Manasseh: Taanach
with its pasturelands; and Gath-rimmon with its
pasturelands—two cities.
26 Ten cities in all, with their pasturelands,
belonged to the clans of the rest of the
descendants of Kohath.
27 To the descendants of Gershon, of the clans
of the Levites, they gave from the half-tribe of
Manasseh: Golan in Bashan, a city of refuge for
the killer, with its pasturelands; and Beeshterah
with its pasturelands—two cities.
28 From the tribe of Issachar: Kishion with its
pasturelands; Daberath with its pasturelands;
29 Jarmuth with its pasturelands; and
En-gannim with its pasturelands—four cities.
30 From the tribe of Asher: Mishal with its
pasturelands; Abdon with its pasturelands;
31 Helkath with its pasturelands; and Rehob
with its pasturelands—four cities.
32 From the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in
Galilee, a city of refuge for the killer, with its
pasturelands; Hammoth-dor with its
pasturelands; and Kartan with its
pasturelands—three cities.
33 All the cities of the Gershonites, according to
their clans, were thirteen cities with their
pasturelands.
34 To the clans of the descendants of Merari,
the remaining Levites, they gave from the tribe
of Zebulun: Jokneam with its pasturelands;
Kartah with its pasturelands;

35 Dimnah with its pasturelands; and Nahalal
with its pasturelands—four cities.
36 From the tribe of Reuben: Bezer with its
pasturelands; Jahaz with its pasturelands;
37 Kedemoth with its pasturelands; and
Mephaath with its pasturelands—four cities.
38 From the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead, a
city of refuge for the killer, with its pasturelands;
Mahanaim with its pasturelands;
39 Heshbon with its pasturelands; and Jazer
with its pasturelands—four cities in all.
40 All the cities for the descendants of Merari
according to their clans, the remaining clans of
the Levites, were twelve cities by their
allotment.
41 All the cities of the Levites within the
possession of the people of Israel were
forty-eight cities with their pasturelands.
42 Each of these cities had its surrounding
pasturelands. So it was with all these cities.
43 The LORD gave Israel all the land he had
sworn to give their ancestors. They possessed it
and lived in it.
44 The LORD gave them rest on every side,
according to all he had sworn to their ancestors.
Not one of all their enemies could stand against
them. The LORD gave all their enemies into
their hand.
45 Not one word of all the good words the
LORD had spoken to the house of Israel failed.
All came to pass.

22

1 Then Joshua called the Reubenites, the

Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh
2 and said to them, “You have kept all that
Moses, the servant of the LORD, commanded
you, and you have obeyed my voice in all that I
commanded you.
3 You have not abandoned your brothers these
many days, to this day, but have kept the charge
of the commandment of the LORD your God.
4 Now the LORD your God has given your
brothers rest, as he told them. Now turn and go
to your tents, to the land of your possession that
Moses, the servant of the LORD, gave you
beyond the Jordan.
5 Only take great care to carry out the
commandment and the law that Moses, the
servant of the LORD, commanded you: to love
the LORD your God, walk in all his ways, keep
his commandments, hold fast to him, and serve
him with all your heart and all your soul.”
6 Joshua blessed them and sent them away,
and they went to their tents.
7 To one half of the tribe of Manasseh Moses
had given an inheritance in Bashan, and to the
other half Joshua had given an inheritance with
their brothers beyond the Jordan to the west.
When Joshua sent them away to their tents, he
also blessed them
8 and said to them, “Return to your tents with
great wealth, with very much livestock, with
silver, gold, bronze, iron, and very many
garments. Divide the plunder of your enemies
with your brothers.”
9 The descendants of Reuben, the descendants

of Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh turned
and departed from the people of Israel at Shiloh
in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of Gilead,
the land of their possession, which they had
acquired according to the LORD's command
through Moses.
10 When they came to the regions of the
Jordan in the land of Canaan, the descendants of
Reuben, the descendants of Gad, and the
half-tribe of Manasseh built an altar there by the
Jordan, a large, impressive altar.
11 The people of Israel heard, "Look, the
descendants of Reuben, the descendants of Gad,
and the half-tribe of Manasseh have built the
altar facing the land of Canaan, in the regions of
the Jordan, on the side of the people of Israel."
12 When the people of Israel heard this, the
whole congregation of the people of Israel
assembled at Shiloh to go up to war against
them.
13 The people of Israel sent Phinehas son of
Eleazar the priest to the descendants of Reuben,
the descendants of Gad, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh in the land of Gilead,
14 with ten leaders, one leader from each
ancestral house of all the tribes of Israel. Each
was the head of his ancestral house among the
thousands of Israel.
15 They came to the descendants of Reuben,
the descendants of Gad, and the half-tribe of
Manasseh in the land of Gilead and said to them:
16 "This is what the whole congregation of the
LORD says: What is this unfaithfulness you have
committed against the God of Israel, turning

away today from following the LORD by
building yourselves an altar to rebel today
against the LORD?
17 Was the iniquity of Peor too little for us,
from which we have not cleansed ourselves to
this day, though a plague came upon the
congregation of the LORD?
18 And will you turn away today from
following the LORD? If you rebel against the
LORD today, tomorrow he will be angry with the
whole congregation of Israel.
19 But if the land of your possession is unclean,
cross over to the land of the LORD's possession,
where the LORD's tabernacle dwells, and take
possession among us. Do not rebel against the
LORD or against us by building yourselves an
altar apart from the altar of the LORD our God.
20 Did not Achan son of Zerah act unfaithfully
concerning what was devoted to destruction?
Wrath came upon the whole congregation of
Israel, and he was not the only one who
perished for his iniquity."

21 The descendants of Reuben, the descendants
of Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh answered
the heads of the thousands of Israel:
22 "God of gods, the LORD! God of gods, the
LORD! He knows, and Israel will know! If it was
in rebellion or unfaithfulness against the LORD,
do not save us this day.
23 If we built ourselves an altar to turn away
from following the LORD, or to offer burnt
offerings or grain offerings on it, or to sacrifice
peace offerings on it, may the LORD himself call

us to account.
24 Rather, we did this out of concern that in
days to come your children might say to our
children, ‘What have you to do with the LORD,
the God of Israel?
25 The LORD has set the Jordan as a border
between us and you, descendants of Reuben and
descendants of Gad. You have no share in the
LORD.’ So your children would make our
children cease to fear the LORD.
26 So we said, ‘Let us now build ourselves the
altar, not for burnt offerings or for sacrifice,
27 but as a witness between us and you and
between our generations after us, that we may
perform the service of the LORD before him
with our burnt offerings, our sacrifices, and our
peace offerings, so that in days to come your
children will not say to our children: You have
no share in the LORD.’
28 We also said, ‘If they say this to us or to our
generations in days to come, we will say: Look
at the replica of the altar of the LORD that our
ancestors made, not for burnt offerings or for
sacrifice, but as a witness between us and you.’
29 Far be it from us to rebel against the LORD
and turn away today from following the LORD
by building an altar for burnt offerings, grain
offerings, or sacrifice apart from the altar of the
LORD our God that is before his tabernacle.”
30 When Phinehas the priest, the leaders of the
congregation, and the heads of the thousands of
Israel who were with him heard the words
spoken by the descendants of Reuben, the
descendants of Gad, and the descendants of

Manasseh, it was good in their eyes.
31 Phinehas son of Eleazar the priest said to
the descendants of Reuben, the descendants of
Gad, and the descendants of Manasseh, “Today
we know that the LORD is among us, because
you have not committed this unfaithfulness
against the LORD. Now you have delivered the
people of Israel from the hand of the LORD.”
32 Phinehas son of Eleazar the priest and the
leaders returned from the descendants of
Reuben and the descendants of Gad, from the
land of Gilead to the people of Israel in the land
of Canaan, and brought them word.
33 The matter was good in the eyes of the
people of Israel, and the people of Israel blessed
God. They spoke no more of going up to war
against them to destroy the land where the
descendants of Reuben and the descendants of
Gad lived.
34 The descendants of Reuben and the
descendants of Gad named the altar, saying, “It is
a witness between us that the LORD is God.”

23

1 A long time had passed since the LORD had
given Israel rest from all their surrounding
enemies, and Joshua was old and advanced in
years.
2 Joshua called all Israel, its elders, heads,
judges, and officers, and said to them, “I am old
and advanced in years.
3 You have seen all that the LORD your God
has done to all these nations because of you, for

the LORD your God is the one who has fought
for you.
4 Look, I have allotted to you these remaining
nations as an inheritance for your tribes, along
with all the nations I have cut off, from the
Jordan to the Great Sea toward the setting sun.
5 The LORD your God himself will push them
back before you and drive them out from before
you. You will possess their land, as the LORD
your God has told you.
6 Be very strong in keeping and doing
everything written in the book of the law of
Moses, without turning from it to the right or to
the left.
7 Do not associate with these nations that
remain among you. Do not mention the name of
their gods or make anyone swear by it. Do not
serve them or bow down to them.
8 But hold fast to the LORD your God, as you
have done to this day.
9 The LORD has driven out great and mighty
nations before you. As for you, no one has been
able to stand against you to this day.
10 One man among you will pursue a
thousand, for the LORD your God is the one who
fights for you, as he has told you.
11 Take great care for yourselves to love the
LORD your God.
12 For if you do turn back and hold fast to the
remnant of these nations that remain among
you, intermarry with them, and associate with
them and they with you,
13 know for certain that the LORD your God

will no longer drive these nations out before
you. They will be a snare and a trap for you,
whips on your sides and thorns in your eyes,
until you perish from this good land the LORD
your God has given you.
14 Look, today I am going the way of all the
earth. You know with all your heart and all your
soul that not one word of all the good words the
LORD your God spoke concerning you has failed.
All have come to pass for you; not one word has
failed.
15 Just as all the good things the LORD your
God spoke to you have come upon you, so the
LORD will bring upon you all the calamities,
until he has destroyed you from this good land
the LORD your God has given you,
16 when you transgress the covenant of the
LORD your God that he commanded you, and go
and serve other gods and bow down to them.
Then the LORD's anger will burn against you,
and you will quickly perish from the good land
he has given you."

24

1 Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at
Shechem. He called the elders of Israel, its
heads, judges, and officers, and they presented
themselves before God.
2 Joshua said to all the people, "This is what
the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your
ancestors lived beyond the River—Terah, the
father of Abraham and the father of Nahor—and
they served other gods.

3 I took your father Abraham from beyond the
River and led him through all the land of
Canaan. I multiplied his descendants and gave
him Isaac.
4 To Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. To Esau I
gave Mount Seir to possess, but Jacob and his
sons went down to Egypt.
5 I sent Moses and Aaron, and I struck Egypt
with what I did in its midst. Afterward I brought
you out.
6 I brought your ancestors out of Egypt, and
you came to the sea. The Egyptians pursued
your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to
the Red Sea.
7 They cried out to the LORD, and he put
darkness between you and the Egyptians. He
brought the sea over them and covered them.
Your own eyes saw what I did in Egypt, and you
lived in the wilderness for many days.
8 I brought you into the land of the Amorites
who lived beyond the Jordan. They fought
against you, but I gave them into your hand. You
possessed their land, and I destroyed them
before you.
9 Then Balak son of Zippor, king of Moab, rose
and fought against Israel. He sent for Balaam
son of Beor to curse you.
10 But I would not listen to Balaam, and he
kept blessing you. So I delivered you from his
hand.
11 You crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho.
The inhabitants of Jericho fought against you,
along with the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites,

Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites, and Jebusites, but I
gave them into your hand.
12 I sent hornets ahead of you, and they drove
them out before you, the two kings of the
Amorites—not by your sword or by your bow.
13 I gave you a land you had not worked for
and cities you had not built, and you live in
them. You eat from vineyards and olive groves
you did not plant.'
14 Now fear the LORD and serve him in
integrity and truth. Put away the gods your
ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt,
and serve the LORD.
15 If it seems wrong to you to serve the LORD,
choose today whom you will serve: the gods
your ancestors served beyond the River, or the
gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But
as for me and my house, we will serve the
LORD."

16 The people answered, "Far be it from us to
forsake the LORD to serve other gods!
17 For the LORD our God is the one who
brought us and our ancestors up from the land
of Egypt, from the house of slavery. He did these
great signs before our eyes and kept us all along
the way we traveled and among all the peoples
through whom we passed.
18 The LORD drove out all the peoples before
us, including the Amorites who lived in the land.
We too will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

19 Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve
the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous

God. He will not forgive your transgressions and
your sins.
20 If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign
gods, he will turn and harm you and consume
you after he has done you good."
21 The people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve
the LORD."
22 Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses
against yourselves that you have chosen the
LORD for yourselves, to serve him." They said,
"We are witnesses."
23 "Now put away the foreign gods among you
and incline your heart to the LORD, the God of
Israel."
24 The people said to Joshua, "We will serve the
LORD our God and obey his voice."
25 Joshua made a covenant with the people
that day and established a statute and an
ordinance for them at Shechem.
26 Joshua wrote these words in the book of the
law of God. He took a large stone and set it up
there under the oak that was in the sanctuary of
the LORD.
27 Joshua said to all the people, "Look, this
stone will be a witness against us, for it has
heard all the words the LORD spoke to us. It will
be a witness against you, lest you deny your
God."
28 Then Joshua sent the people away, each to
his inheritance.
29 After these things Joshua son of Nun, the
servant of the LORD, died at the age of one
hundred ten.

30 They buried him within the territory of his
inheritance at Timnath-serah, in the hill country
of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.
31 Israel served the LORD all the days of
Joshua and all the days of the elders who
outlived Joshua and knew all the work the LORD
had done for Israel.
32 The bones of Joseph, which the people of
Israel had brought up from Egypt, they buried at
Shechem in the plot of land Jacob had bought
from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem,
for one hundred qesitahs. They became an
inheritance for the descendants of Joseph.
33 Eleazar son of Aaron also died, and they
buried him on the hill belonging to Phinehas his
son, which had been given to him in the hill
country of Ephraim.

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