

## Joshua

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot

5 will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall 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.

10 Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the

15 law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you

20 wherever you go." Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, "Pass

through the camp, and command the people: 'Prepare your provisions; for in three days you are to cross over the Jordan, to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God gives you to possess.'" To the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh Joshua said, "Remember the word

5 that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God is providing you a place of rest, and will give you this land.'

Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan. But all the warriors among you shall cross over armed before your kindred and shall help them, until the LORD

10 gives rest to your kindred as well as to you, and they too take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to your own land and take possession of it, the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan to the east." They answered Joshua:

"All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we

15 will go. Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses! Whoever rebels against your orders and disobeys your words, whatever you command, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous." Then Joshua son of

Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land,

20 especially Jericho." So they went, and entered the house of a prostitute

whose name was Rahab, and spent the night there. The king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land." Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come only to search

5 out the whole land." But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, "True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them." She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden

10 them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut. Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that dread of you has fallen on us, and that all

15 the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no courage left in any of

20 us because of you. The LORD your God is indeed God in heaven above and

on earth below. Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the LORD that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death."

- 5 The men said to her, "Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the LORD gives us the land." Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself. She said to them, "Go toward the hill country, so that the
- 10 pursuers may not come upon you. Hide yourselves there three days, until the pursuers have returned; then afterward you may go your way." The men said to her, "We will be released from this oath that you have made us swear to you if we invade the land and you do not tie this crimson cord in the window through which you let us down, and you do not gather into your
- 15 house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your family. If any of you go out of the doors of your house into the street, they shall be responsible for their own death, and we shall be innocent; but if a hand is laid upon any who are with you in the house, we shall bear the responsibility for their death. But if you tell this business of ours, then we
- 20 shall be released from this oath that you made us swear to you." She said,

"According to your words, so be it." She sent them away and they departed.

Then she tied the crimson cord in the window. They departed and went into the hill country and stayed there three days, until the pursuers returned. The pursuers had searched all along the way and found nothing. Then the two

5 men came down again from the hill country. They crossed over, came to Joshua son of Nun, and told him all that had happened to them. They said to Joshua, "Truly the LORD has given all the land into our hands; moreover all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before us." Early in the morning Joshua rose and set out from Shittim with all the Israelites, and they came to

10 the Jordan. They camped there before crossing over. At the end of three days the officers went through the camp and commanded the people, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place. Follow it, so that you may know the way you should go, for you have not passed this way

15 before. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, a distance of about two thousand cubits; do not come any nearer to it." Then Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves; for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you." To the priests Joshua said, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass on in front of the people." So they took up the ark of the covenant and

20 went in front of the people. The LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will

begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, so that they may know that I will be with you as I was with Moses. You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, "When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan." Joshua then

5 said to the Israelites, "Draw near and hear the words of the LORD your God." Joshua said, "By this you shall know that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is going to pass before you into the

10 Jordan. So now select twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. When the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap." When the people set out from their tents to cross over the

15 Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at

20 Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of

the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the

5 Jordan. When the entire nation had finished crossing over the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua: "Select twelve men from the people, one from each tribe, and command them, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood, carry them over with you, and lay them down in the place where you camp tonight.'" Then

10 Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. Joshua said to them, "Pass on before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to

15 come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever." The Israelites did as Joshua commanded. They took up twelve stones out of the

20 middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,

as the LORD told Joshua, carried them over with them to the place where they camped, and laid them down there. (Joshua set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the covenant had stood; and they are there to this day.) The priests

5 who bore the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan, until everything was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to tell the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. The people crossed over in haste. As soon as all the people had finished crossing over, the ark of the LORD, and the priests, crossed over in front of the people. The Reubenites,

10 the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over armed before the Israelites, as Moses had ordered them. About forty thousand armed for war crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for battle. On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they stood in awe of him, as they had stood in awe of Moses, all the days of his life.

15 The LORD said to Joshua, "Command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, to come up out of the Jordan." Joshua therefore commanded the priests, "Come up out of the Jordan." When the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD came up from the middle of the Jordan, and the soles of the priests' feet touched dry ground, the waters of the Jordan

20 returned to their place and overflowed all its banks, as before. The people



came up out of the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho. Those twelve stones, which they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal, saying to the Israelites, "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do  
5 these stones mean?' then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.' For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we crossed over, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty,  
10 and so that you may fear the LORD your God forever." When all the kings of the Amorites beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the Israelites until they had crossed over, their hearts melted, and there was no longer any spirit in them, because of the Israelites. At that time  
15 the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites a second time." So Joshua made flint knives, and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath-haaraloth. This is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the warriors, had died during the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt.  
20 Although all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the

people born on the journey through the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. For the Israelites traveled forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the warriors who came out of Egypt, perished, not having listened to the voice of the LORD. To them the LORD

5     swore that he would not let them see the land that he had sworn to their ancestors to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way.

When the circumcising of all the nation was done, they remained in their

10    places in the camp until they were healed. The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they

15    ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year. Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him,

20    "Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?" He replied, "Neither; but as

commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, "What do you command your servant, my lord?" The commander of the army of the LORD said to Joshua, "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you

5 stand is holy." And Joshua did so. Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one came out and no one went in. The LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers. You shall march around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for six days, with seven priests bearing seven

10 trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets. When they make a long blast with the ram's horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all the people shall charge straight ahead."

15 So Joshua son of Nun summoned the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant, and have seven priests carry seven trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark of the LORD." To the people he said, "Go forward and march around the city; have the armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD." As Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests carrying

20 the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing

the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them.

And the armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; the rear guard came after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. To the people Joshua gave this command: "You shall not shout or let your voice be heard,

5 nor shall you utter a word, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout." So the ark of the LORD went around the city, circling it once; and they came into the camp, and spent the night in the camp. Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the

10 LORD passed on, blowing the trumpets continually. The armed men went before them, and the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets blew continually. On the second day they marched around the city once and then returned to the camp. They did this for six days. On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the city in the

15 same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times. And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house

20 shall live because she hid the messengers we sent. As for you, keep away

from the things devoted to destruction, so as not to covet and take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel an object for destruction, bringing trouble upon it. But all silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are sacred to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD."

5 So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it. Then they devoted to destruction by the edge of the sword all in the city, both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys. Joshua said

10 to the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the prostitute's house, and bring the woman out of it and all who belong to her, as you swore to her." So the young men who had been spies went in and brought Rahab out, along with her father, her mother, her brothers, and all who belonged to her--they brought all her kindred out--and set them outside the camp of Israel.

15 They burned down the city, and everything in it; only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. But Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, Joshua spared. Her family has lived in Israel ever since. For she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. Joshua then

20 pronounced this oath, saying, "Cursed before the LORD be anyone who tries

to build this city--this Jericho! At the cost of his firstborn he shall lay its foundation, and at the cost of his youngest he shall set up its gates!" So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was in all the land. But the Israelites broke faith in regard to the devoted things: Achan son of Carmi son of

5 Zabdi son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of the devoted things; and the anger of the LORD burned against the Israelites. Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth-aven, east of Bethel, and said to them, "Go up and spy out the land." And the men went up and spied out Ai. Then they returned to Joshua and said to him, "Not all the people need

10 go up; about two or three thousand men should go up and attack Ai. Since they are so few, do not make the whole people toil up there." So about three thousand of the people went up there; and they fled before the men of Ai. The men of Ai killed about thirty-six of them, chasing them from outside the gate as far as Shebarim and killing them on the slope. The hearts of the

15 people melted and turned to water. Then Joshua tore his clothes, and fell to the ground on his face before the ark of the LORD until the evening, he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads. Joshua said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Why have you brought this people across the Jordan at all, to

20 hand us over to the Amorites so as to destroy us? Would that we had been content to settle beyond the Jordan! O Lord, what can I say, now that Israel

has turned their backs to their enemies! The Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will you do for your great name?" The LORD said to Joshua, "Stand up! Why have you fallen upon your face?"

5 Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I imposed on them. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have acted deceitfully, and they have put them among their own belongings. Therefore the Israelites are unable to stand before their enemies; they turn their backs to their enemies, because they have become a thing devoted for

10 destruction themselves. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you. Proceed to sanctify the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, "There are devoted things among you, O Israel; you will be unable to stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from

15 among you." In the morning therefore you shall come forward tribe by tribe. The tribe that the LORD takes shall come near by clans, the clan that the LORD takes shall come near by households, and the household that the LORD takes shall come near one by one. And the one who is taken as

20 having the devoted things shall be burned with fire, together with all that he has, for having transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and for having done

an outrageous thing in Israel." So Joshua rose early in the morning, and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken. He brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken; and he brought near the clan of the Zerahites, family by family, and Zabdi  
5 was taken. And he brought near his household one by one, and Achan son of Carmi son of Zabdi son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the LORD God of Israel and make confession to him. Tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me." And Achan answered Joshua, "It is true; I am the one who sinned  
10 against the LORD God of Israel. This is what I did: when I saw among the spoil a beautiful mantle from Shinar, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels, then I coveted them and took them. They now lie hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath." So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and there  
15 it was, hidden in his tent with the silver underneath. They took them out of the tent and brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites; and they spread them out before the LORD. Then Joshua and all Israel with him took Achan son of Zerah, with the silver, the mantle, and the bar of gold, with his sons and daughters, with his oxen, donkeys, and sheep, and his tent and all that  
20 he had; and they brought them up to the Valley of Achor. Joshua said,



"Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD is bringing trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him to death; they burned them with fire, cast stones on them, and raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his burning anger. Therefore that place

5 to this day is called the Valley of Achor. Then the LORD said to Joshua,

"Do not fear or be dismayed; take all the fighting men with you, and go up now to Ai. See, I have handed over to you the king of Ai with his people, his city, and his land. You shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king; only its spoil and its livestock you may take as booty for

10 yourselves. Set an ambush against the city, behind it." So Joshua and all the fighting men set out to go up against Ai. Joshua chose thirty thousand warriors and sent them out by night with the command, "You shall lie in ambush against the city, behind it; do not go very far from the city, but all of you stay alert. I and all the people who are with me will approach the

15 city. When they come out against us, as before, we shall flee from them. They will come out after us until we have drawn them away from the city; for they will say, 'They are fleeing from us, as before.' While we flee from them, you shall rise up from the ambush and seize the city; for the LORD your God will give it into your hand. And when you have taken the city,

20 you shall set the city on fire, doing as the LORD has ordered; see, I have

commanded you." So Joshua sent them out; and they went to the place of ambush, and lay between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai; but Joshua spent that night in the camp. In the morning Joshua rose early and mustered the people, and went up, with the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai. All

5 the fighting men who were with him went up, and drew near before the city, and camped on the north side of Ai, with a ravine between them and Ai. Taking about five thousand men, he set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city. So they stationed the forces, the main encampment that was north of the city and its rear guard west of the city.

10 But Joshua spent that night in the valley. When the king of Ai saw this, he and all his people, the inhabitants of the city, hurried out early in the morning to the meeting place facing the Arabah to meet Israel in battle; but he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city. And Joshua and all Israel made a pretense of being beaten before them, and fled

15 in the direction of the wilderness. So all the people who were in the city were called together to pursue them, and as they pursued Joshua they were drawn away from the city. There was not a man left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel; they left the city open, and pursued Israel. Then the LORD said to Joshua, "Stretch out the sword that is in your hand toward

20 Ai; for I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out the sword

that was in his hand toward the city. As soon as he stretched out his hand,  
the troops in ambush rose quickly out of their place and rushed forward.  
They entered the city, took it, and at once set the city on fire. So when the  
men of Ai looked back, the smoke of the city was rising to the sky. They  
5 had no power to flee this way or that, for the people who fled to the  
wilderness turned back against the pursuers. When Joshua and all Israel saw  
that the ambush had taken the city and that the smoke of the city was  
rising, then they turned back and struck down the men of Ai. And the others  
came out from the city against them; so they were surrounded by Israelites,  
10 some on one side, and some on the other; and Israel struck them down until  
no one was left who survived or escaped. But the king of Ai was taken  
alive and brought to Joshua. When Israel had finished slaughtering all the  
inhabitants of Ai in the open wilderness where they pursued them, and when  
all of them to the very last had fallen by the edge of the sword, all Israel  
15 returned to Ai, and attacked it with the edge of the sword. The total of  
those who fell that day, both men and women, was twelve thousand--all the  
people of Ai. For Joshua did not draw back his hand, with which he  
stretched out the sword, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of  
Ai. Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Israel took as their booty,  
20 according to the word of the LORD that he had issued to Joshua. So Joshua

burned Ai, and made it forever a heap of ruins, as it is to this day. And he  
hanged the king of Ai on a tree until evening; and at sunset Joshua  
commanded, and they took his body down from the tree, threw it down at  
the entrance of the gate of the city, and raised over it a great heap of  
5 stones, which stands there to this day. Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an  
altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, just as Moses the servant of the  
LORD had commanded the Israelites, as it is written in the book of the law  
of Moses, "an altar of unhewn stones, on which no iron tool has been used";  
and they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD, and sacrificed offerings  
10 of well-being. And there, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua wrote on  
the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written. All Israel,  
alien as well as citizen, with their elders and officers and their judges, stood  
on opposite sides of the ark in front of the levitical priests who carried the  
ark of the covenant of the LORD, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim  
15 and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the LORD  
had commanded at the first, that they should bless the people of Israel. And  
afterward he read all the words of the law, blessings and curses, according to  
all that is written in the book of the law. There was not a word of all that  
Moses commanded that Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel,  
20 and the women, and the little ones, and the aliens who resided among them.

Now when all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon--the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites--heard of this, they gathered together with one accord to fight

5 Joshua and Israel. But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, they on their part acted with cunning: they went and prepared provisions, and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended, with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes; and all their provisions were dry and moldy.

10 They went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal, and said to him and to the Israelites, "We have come from a far country; so now make a treaty with us." But the Israelites said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you live among us; then how can we make a treaty with you?" They said to Joshua, "We are your servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who are you? And where do you come

15 from?" They said to him, "Your servants have come from a very far country, because of the name of the LORD your God; for we have heard a report of him, of all that he did in Egypt, and of all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, King Sihon of Heshbon, and King Og of Bashan who lived in Ashtaroth. So our elders and all the

20 inhabitants of our country said to us, 'Take provisions in your hand for the

journey; go to meet them, and say to them, "We are your servants; come now, make a treaty with us." Here is our bread; it was still warm when we took it from our houses as our food for the journey, on the day we set out to come to you, but now, see, it is dry and moldy; these wineskins were

5 new when we filled them, and see, they are burst; and these garments and sandals of ours are worn out from the very long journey." So the leaders partook of their provisions, and did not ask direction from the LORD. And Joshua made peace with them, guaranteeing their lives by a treaty; and the leaders of the congregation swore an oath to them. But when three days had

10 passed after they had made a treaty with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and were living among them. So the Israelites set out and reached their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD,

15 the God of Israel. Then all the congregation murmured against the leaders. But all the leaders said to all the congregation, "We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we must not touch them. This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that wrath may not come upon us, because of the oath that we swore to them." The leaders said

20 to them, "Let them live." So they became hewers of wood and drawers of

water for all the congregation, as the leaders had decided concerning them.

Joshua summoned them, and said to them, "Why did you deceive us, saying, 'We are very far from you,' while in fact you are living among us? Now therefore you are cursed, and some of you shall always be slaves, hewers of

5 wood and drawers of water for the house of my God." They answered

Joshua, "Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land, and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land before you; so we were in great fear for our lives because of you, and did this thing. And now we are in your

10 hand: do as it seems good and right in your sight to do to us." This is what he did for them: he saved them from the Israelites; and they did not kill them. But on that day Joshua made them hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to continue to this day, in the place that he should choose. When King Adoni-zedek of

15 Jerusalem heard how Joshua had taken Ai, and had utterly destroyed it, doing to Ai and its king as he had done to Jericho and its king, and how the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were among them, he became greatly frightened, because Gibeon was a large city, like one of the royal cities, and was larger than Ai, and all its men were warriors. So King

20 Adoni-zedek of Jerusalem sent a message to King Hoham of Hebron, to King

Piram of Jarmuth, to King Japhia of Lachish, and to King Debir of Eglon, saying, "Come up and help me, and let us attack Gibeon; for it has made peace with Joshua and with the Israelites." Then the five kings of the Amorites--the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, 5 the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon--gathered their forces, and went up with all their armies and camped against Gibeon, and made war against it. And the Gibeonites sent to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal, saying, "Do not abandon your servants; come up to us quickly, and save us, and help us; for all the kings of the Amorites who live in the hill country are gathered 10 against us." So Joshua went up from Gilgal, he and all the fighting force with him, all the mighty warriors. The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have handed them over to you; not one of them shall stand before you." So Joshua came upon them suddenly, having marched up all night from Gilgal. And the LORD threw them into a panic before Israel, 15 who inflicted a great slaughter on them at Gibeon, chased them by the way of the ascent of Beth-horon, and struck them down as far as Azekah and Makkedah. As they fled before Israel, while they were going down the slope of Beth-horon, the LORD threw down huge stones from heaven on them as far as Azekah, and they died; there were more who died because of the 20 hailstones than the Israelites killed with the sword. On the day when the



LORD gave the Amorites over to the Israelites, Joshua spoke to the LORD;  
and he said in the sight of Israel, "Sun, stand still at Gibeon, and Moon, in  
the valley of Aijalon." And the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, until  
the nation took vengeance on their enemies. Is this not written in the Book  
5 of Jashar? The sun stopped in mid-heaven, and did not hurry to set for about  
a whole day. There has been no day like it before or since, when the LORD  
heeded a human voice; for the LORD fought for Israel. Then Joshua  
returned, and all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal. Meanwhile, these  
five kings fled and hid themselves in the cave at Makkedah. And it was told  
10 Joshua, "The five kings have been found, hidden in the cave at Makkedah."  
Joshua said, "Roll large stones against the mouth of the cave, and set men  
by it to guard them; but do not stay there yourselves; pursue your enemies,  
and attack them from the rear. Do not let them enter their towns, for the  
LORD your God has given them into your hand." When Joshua and the  
15 Israelites had finished inflicting a very great slaughter on them, until they  
were wiped out, and when the survivors had entered into the fortified towns,  
all the people returned safe to Joshua in the camp at Makkedah; no one  
dared to speak against any of the Israelites. Then Joshua said, "Open the  
mouth of the cave, and bring those five kings out to me from the cave."  
20 They did so, and brought the five kings out to him from the cave, the king

of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. When they brought the kings out to Joshua, Joshua summoned all the Israelites, and said to the chiefs of the warriors who had gone with him, "Come near, put your feet on the necks of these kings."

- 5 Then they came near and put their feet on their necks. And Joshua said to them, "Do not be afraid or dismayed; be strong and courageous; for thus the LORD will do to all the enemies against whom you fight." Afterward Joshua struck them down and put them to death, and he hung them on five trees. And they hung on the trees until evening. At sunset Joshua commanded, and
- 10 they took them down from the trees and threw them into the cave where they had hidden themselves; they set large stones against the mouth of the cave, which remain to this very day. Joshua took Makkedah on that day, and struck it and its king with the edge of the sword; he utterly destroyed every person in it; he left no one remaining. And he did to the king of Makkedah
- 15 as he had done to the king of Jericho. Then Joshua passed on from Makkedah, and all Israel with him, to Libnah, and fought against Libnah. The LORD gave it also and its king into the hand of Israel; and he struck it with the edge of the sword, and every person in it; he left no one remaining in it; and he did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho. Next
- 20 Joshua passed on from Libnah, and all Israel with him, to Lachish, and laid

siege to it, and assaulted it. The LORD gave Lachish into the hand of Israel,  
and he took it on the second day, and struck it with the edge of the sword,  
and every person in it, as he had done to Libnah. Then King Horam of  
Gezer came up to help Lachish; and Joshua struck him and his people,  
5 leaving him no survivors. From Lachish Joshua passed on with all Israel to  
Eglon; and they laid siege to it, and assaulted it; and they took it that day,  
and struck it with the edge of the sword; and every person in it he utterly  
destroyed that day, as he had done to Lachish. Then Joshua went up with all  
Israel from Eglon to Hebron; they assaulted it, and took it, and struck it  
10 with the edge of the sword, and its king and its towns, and every person in  
it; he left no one remaining, just as he had done to Eglon, and utterly  
destroyed it with every person in it. Then Joshua, with all Israel, turned back  
to Debir and assaulted it, and he took it with its king and all its towns; they  
struck them with the edge of the sword, and utterly destroyed every person  
15 in it; he left no one remaining; just as he had done to Hebron, and, as he  
had done to Libnah and its king, so he did to Debir and its king. So Joshua  
defeated the whole land, the hill country and the Negeb and the lowland and  
the slopes, and all their kings; he left no one remaining, but utterly destroyed  
all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel commanded. And Joshua  
20 defeated them from Kadesh-barnea to Gaza, and all the country of Goshen,

as far as Gibeon. Joshua took all these kings and their land at one time,  
because the LORD God of Israel fought for Israel. Then Joshua returned, and  
all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal. When King Jabin of Hazor heard  
of this, he sent to King Jobab of Madon, to the king of Shimron, to the  
5 king of Achshaph, and to the kings who were in the northern hill country,  
and in the Arabah south of Chinneroth, and in the lowland, and in Naptho-  
dor on the west, to the Canaanites in the east and the west, the Amorites,  
the Hittites, the Perizzites, and the Jebusites in the hill country, and the  
Hivites under Hermon in the land of Mizpah. They came out, with all their  
10 troops, a great army, in number like the sand on the seashore, with very  
many horses and chariots. All these kings joined their forces, and came and  
camped together at the waters of Merom, to fight with Israel. And the  
LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them, for tomorrow at this time  
I will hand over all of them, slain, to Israel; you shall hamstring their  
15 horses, and burn their chariots with fire." So Joshua came suddenly upon  
them with all his fighting force, by the waters of Merom, and fell upon  
them. And the LORD handed them over to Israel, who attacked them and  
chased them as far as Great Sidon and Misrephoth-maim, and eastward as far  
as the valley of Mizpeh. They struck them down, until they had left no one  
20 remaining. And Joshua did to them as the LORD commanded him; he

hamstrung their horses, and burned their chariots with fire. Joshua turned back at that time, and took Hazor, and struck its king down with the sword. Before that time Hazor was the head of all those kingdoms. And they put to the sword all who were in it, utterly destroying them; there was no one left

5 who breathed, and he burned Hazor with fire. And all the towns of those kings, and all their kings, Joshua took, and struck them with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them, as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded. But Israel burned none of the towns that stood on mounds except Hazor, which Joshua did burn. All the spoil of these towns, and the

10 livestock, the Israelites took for their booty; but all the people they struck down with the edge of the sword, until they had destroyed them, and they did not leave any who breathed. As the LORD had commanded his servant Moses, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did; he left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses. So Joshua took all that

15 land: the hill country and all the Negeb and all the land of Goshen and the lowland and the Arabah and the hill country of Israel and its lowland, from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, as far as Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He took all their kings, struck them down, and put them to death. Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

20 There was not a town that made peace with the Israelites, except the Hivites,

the inhabitants of Gibeon; all were taken in battle. For it was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed, and might receive no mercy, but be exterminated, just as the LORD had commanded Moses. At that time

5 Joshua came and wiped out the Anakim from the hill country, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel; Joshua utterly destroyed them with their towns. None of the Anakim was left in the land of the Israelites; some remained only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod. So Joshua took the whole land,

10 according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war. Now these are the kings of the land, whom the Israelites defeated, whose land they occupied beyond the Jordan toward the east, from the Wadi Arnon to Mount Hermon, with all the Arabah eastward: King Sihon

15 of the Amorites who lived at Heshbon, and ruled from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, and from the middle of the valley as far as the river Jabbok, the boundary of the Ammonites, that is, half of Gilead, and the Arabah to the Sea of Chinneroth eastward, and in the direction of Beth-

20 jeshimoth, to the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, southward to the foot of the slopes of Pisgah; and King Og of Bashan, one of the last of the

Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei and ruled over Mount Hermon  
 and Salecah and all Bashan to the boundary of the Geshurites and the  
 Maacathites, and over half of Gilead to the boundary of King Sihon of  
 Heshbon. Moses, the servant of the LORD, and the Israelites defeated them;  
 5 and Moses the servant of the LORD gave their land for a possession to the  
 Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh. The following are  
 the kings of the land whom Joshua and the Israelites defeated on the west  
 side of the Jordan, from Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak,  
 that rises toward Seir (and Joshua gave their land to the tribes of Israel as a  
 10 possession according to their allotments, in the hill country, in the lowland,  
 in the Arabah, in the slopes, in the wilderness, and in the Negeb, the land  
 of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites): the  
 king of Jericho one the king of Ai, which is next to Bethel one the king of  
 Jerusalem one the king of Hebron one the king of Jarmuth one the king of  
 15 Lachish one the king of Eglon one the king of Gezer one the king of Debir  
 one the king of Geder one the king of Hormah one the king of Arad one  
 the king of Libnah one the king of Adullam one the king of Makkedah one  
 the king of Bethel one the king of Tappuah one the king of Hephher one the  
 king of Aphek one the king of Lasharon one the king of Madon one the  
 20 king of Hazor one the king of Shimron-meron one the king of Achshaph one

the king of Taanach one the king of Megiddo one the king of Kedesh one  
the king of Jokneam in Carmel one the king of Dor in Naphath-dor one the  
king of Goiim in Galilee, one the king of Tirzah one thirty-one kings in all.  
Now Joshua was old and advanced in years; and the LORD said to him,  
5 "You are old and advanced in years, and very much of the land still remains  
to be possessed. This is the land that still remains: all the regions of the  
Philistines, and all those of the Geshurites (from the Shihor, which is east of  
Egypt, northward to the boundary of Ekron, it is reckoned as Canaanite;  
there are five rulers of the Philistines, those of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon,  
10 Gath, and Ekron), and those of the Avvim, in the south, all the land of the  
Canaanites, and Mearah that belongs to the Sidonians, to Aphek, to the  
boundary of the Amorites, and the land of the Gebalites, and all Lebanon,  
toward the east, from Baal-gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo-hamath, all the  
inhabitants of the hill country from Lebanon to Misrephoth-maim, even all  
15 the Sidonians. I will myself drive them out from before the Israelites; only  
allot the land to Israel for an inheritance, as I have commanded you. Now  
therefore divide this land for an inheritance to the nine tribes and the half-  
tribe of Manasseh." With the other half-tribe of Manasseh the Reubenites and  
the Gadites received their inheritance, which Moses gave them, beyond the  
20 Jordan eastward, as Moses the servant of the LORD gave them: from Aroer,



which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, and the town that is in the middle of the valley, and all the tableland from Medeba as far as Dibon; and all the cities of King Sihon of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon, as far as the boundary of the Ammonites; and Gilead, and the region of the Geshurites

5 and Maacathites, and all Mount Hermon, and all Bashan to Salecah; all the kingdom of Og in Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei (he alone was left of the survivors of the Rephaim); these Moses had defeated and driven out. Yet the Israelites did not drive out the Geshurites or the Maacathites; but Geshur and Maacath live within Israel to this day. To the

10 tribe of Levi alone Moses gave no inheritance; the offerings by fire to the LORD God of Israel are their inheritance, as he said to them. Moses gave an inheritance to the tribe of the Reubenites according to their clans. Their territory was from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Wadi Arnon, and the town that is in the middle of the valley, and all the tableland by Medeba;

15 with Heshbon, and all its towns that are in the tableland; Dibon, and Bamoth-baal, and Beth-baal-meon, and Jahaz, and Kedemoth, and Mephaath, and Kiriathaim, and Sibmah, and Zereth-shahar on the hill of the valley, and Beth-peor, and the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth-jeshimoth, that is, all the towns of the tableland, and all the kingdom of King Sihon of the Amorites,

20 who reigned in Heshbon, whom Moses defeated with the leaders of Midian,

Evi and Rekem and Zur and Hur and Reba, as princes of Sihon, who lived in the land. Along with the rest of those they put to death, the Israelites also put to the sword Balaam son of Beor, who practiced divination. And the border of the Reubenites was the Jordan and its banks. This was the inheritance of the Reubenites, according to their families with their towns and villages. Moses gave an inheritance also to the tribe of the Gadites, according to their families. Their territory was Jazer, and all the towns of Gilead, and half the land of the Ammonites, to Aroer, which is east of Rabbah, and from Heshbon to Ramath-mizpeh and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the territory of Debir, and in the valley Beth-haram, Beth-nimrah, Succoth, and Zaphon, the rest of the kingdom of King Sihon of Heshbon, the Jordan and its banks, as far as the lower end of the Sea of Chinnereth, eastward beyond the Jordan. This is the inheritance of the Gadites according to their clans, with their towns and villages. Moses gave an inheritance to the half-tribe of Manasseh; it was allotted to the half-tribe of the Manassites according to their families. Their territory extended from Mahanaim, through all Bashan, the whole kingdom of King Og of Bashan, and all the settlements of Jair, which are in Bashan, sixty towns, and half of Gilead, and Ashtaroth, and Edrei, the towns of the kingdom of Og in Bashan; these were allotted to the people of Machir son of Manasseh according to their clans--for half the

Machirites. These are the inheritances that Moses distributed in the plains of Moab, beyond the Jordan east of Jericho. But to the tribe of Levi Moses gave no inheritance; the LORD God of Israel is their inheritance, as he said to them. These are the inheritances that the Israelites received in the land of Canaan, which the priest Eleazar, and Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of the families of the tribes of the Israelites distributed to them. Their inheritance was by lot, as the LORD had commanded Moses for the nine and one-half tribes. For Moses had given an inheritance to the two and one-half tribes beyond the Jordan; but to the Levites he gave no inheritance among them. For the people of Joseph were two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim; and no portion was given to the Levites in the land, but only towns to live in, with their pasture lands for their flocks and herds. The Israelites did as the LORD commanded Moses; they allotted the land. Then the people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal; and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God in Kadesh-barnea concerning you and me. 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 an honest report. But my companions who went up with me made the heart of the people melt; yet I wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God. And Moses swore on that day, saying, 'Surely

the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children forever, because you have wholeheartedly followed the LORD my God.' And now, as you see, the LORD has kept me alive, as he said, these forty-five years since the time that the LORD spoke this word to

5 Moses, while Israel was journeying through the wilderness; and here I am today, eighty-five years old. I am still as strong today as I was on the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my strength was then, for war, and for going and coming. So now give me this hill country of which the LORD spoke on that day; for you heard on that day how the Anakim were

10 there, with great fortified cities; it may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall drive them out, as the LORD said." Then Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb son of Jephunneh for an inheritance. So Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholeheartedly followed the LORD, the God of Israel. Now the

15 name of Hebron formerly was Kiriath-arba; this Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim. And the land had rest from war. The lot for the tribe of the people of Judah according to their families reached southward to the boundary of Edom, to the wilderness of Zin at the farthest south. And their south boundary ran from the end of the Dead Sea, from the bay that faces

20 southward; it goes out southward of the ascent of Akrabbim, passes along to

Zin, and goes up south of Kadesh-barnea, along by Hezron, up to Addar,  
makes a turn to Karka, passes along to Azmon, goes out by the Wadi of  
Egypt, and comes to its end at the sea. This shall be your south boundary.  
And the east boundary is the Dead Sea, to the mouth of the Jordan. And the  
5 boundary on the north side runs from the bay of the sea at the mouth of the  
Jordan; and the boundary goes up to Beth-hoglah, and passes along north of  
Beth-arabah; and the boundary goes up to the Stone of Bohan, Reuben's son;  
and the boundary goes up to Debir from the Valley of Achor, and so  
northward, turning toward Gilgal, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim,  
10 which is on the south side of the valley; and the boundary passes along to  
the waters of En-shemesh, and ends at En-rogel; then the boundary goes up  
by the valley of the son of Hinnom at the southern slope of the Jebusites  
(that is, Jerusalem); and the boundary goes up to the top of the mountain  
that lies over against the valley of Hinnom, on the west, at the northern end  
15 of the valley of Rephaim; then the boundary extends from the top of the  
mountain to the spring of the Waters of Nephtoah, and from there to the  
towns of Mount Ephron; then the boundary bends around to Baalah (that is,  
Kiriath-jearim); and the boundary circles west of Baalah to Mount Seir,  
passes along to the northern slope of Mount Jearim (that is, Chesalon), and  
20 goes down to Beth-shemesh, and passes along by Timnah; the boundary goes

out to the slope of the hill north of Ekron, then the boundary bends around to Shikkeron, and passes along to Mount Baalah, and goes out to Jabneel; then the boundary comes to an end at the sea. And the west boundary was the Mediterranean with its coast. This is the boundary surrounding the people

5 of Judah according to their families. According to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, he gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion among the people of Judah, Kiriath-arba, that is, Hebron (Arba was the father of Anak). And Caleb drove out from there the three sons of Anak: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmai, the descendants of Anak. From there he went up against the

10 inhabitants of Debir; now the name of Debir formerly was Kiriath-sepher. And Caleb said, "Whoever attacks Kiriath-sepher and takes it, to him I will give my daughter Achsah as wife." Othniel son of Kenaz, the brother of Caleb, took it; and he gave him his daughter Achsah as wife. When she came to him, she urged him to ask her father for a field. As she dismounted

15 from her donkey, Caleb said to her, "What do you wish?" She said to him, "Give me a present; since you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me springs of water as well." So Caleb gave her the upper springs and the lower springs. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Judah according to their families. The towns belonging to the tribe of the people of

20 Judah in the extreme South, toward the boundary of Edom, were Kabzeel,

Eder, Jagur, Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, Ziph, Telem,  
 Bealoth, Hazor-hadattah, Kerioth-hezron (that is, Hazor), Amam, Shema,  
 Moladah, Hazar-gaddah, Heshmon, Beth-pelet, Hazar-shual, Beer-sheba,  
 Biziothiah, Baalah, Iim, Ezem, Eltolad, Chesil, Hormah, Ziklag, Madmannah,  
 5 Sansannah, Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain, and Rimmon: in all, twenty-nine towns,  
 with their villages. And in the Lowland, Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah, Zanoah, Engannim,  
 Tappuah, Enam, Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah, Shaaraim,  
 Adithaim, Gederah, Gederothaim: fourteen towns with their villages. Zenan,  
 Hadashah, Migdal-gad, Dilan, Mizpeh, Jokthe-el, Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon,  
 10 Cabbon, Lahmam, Chitlish, Gederoth, Beth-dagon, Naamah, and Makkedah:  
 sixteen towns with their villages. Libnah, Ether, Ashan, Iphtah, Ashnah,  
 Nezib, Keilah, Achzib, and Mareshah: nine towns with their villages. Ekron,  
 with its dependencies and its villages; from Ekron to the sea, all that were  
 near Ashdod, with their villages. Ashdod, its towns and its villages; Gaza, its  
 15 towns and its villages; to the Wadi of Egypt, and the Great Sea with its  
 coast. And in the hill country, Shamir, Jattir, Socoh, Dannah, Kiriath-sannah  
 (that is, Debir), Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim, Goshen, Holon, and Giloh: eleven  
 towns with their villages. Arab, Dumah, Eshan, Janim, Beth-tappuah,  
 Aphekah, Humtah, Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), and Zior: nine towns with  
 20 their villages. Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah, Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah, Kain,

Gibeah, and Timnah: ten towns with their villages. Halhul, Beth-zur, Gedor, Maarath, Beth-anoth, and Eltekon: six towns with their villages. Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), and Rabbah: two towns with their villages. In the wilderness, Beth-arabah, Middin, Secacah, Nibshan, the City of Salt, and Engedi: six towns with their villages. But the people of Judah could not drive out the Jebusites, the inhabitants of Jerusalem; so the Jebusites live with the people of Judah in Jerusalem to this day. The allotment of the Josephites went from the Jordan by Jericho, east of the waters of Jericho, into the wilderness, going up from Jericho into the hill country to Bethel; then going from Bethel to Luz, it passes along to Ataroth, the territory of the Archites; then it goes down westward to the territory of the Japhletites, as far as the territory of Lower Beth-horon, then to Gezer, and it ends at the sea. The Josephites--Manasseh and Ephraim--received their inheritance. The territory of the Ephraimites by their families was as follows: the boundary of their inheritance on the east was Ataroth-addar as far as Upper Beth-horon, and the boundary goes from there to the sea; on the north is Michmethath; then on the east the boundary makes a turn toward Taanath-shiloh, and passes along beyond it on the east to Janoah, then it goes down from Janoah to Ataroth and to Naarah, and touches Jericho, ending at the Jordan. From Tappuah the boundary goes westward to the Wadi Kanah, and ends at the



sea. Such is the inheritance of the tribe of the Ephraimites by their families,  
together with the towns that were set apart for the Ephraimites within the  
inheritance of the Manassites, all those towns with their villages. They did  
not, however, drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer: so the Canaanites  
5 have lived within Ephraim to this day but have been made to do forced  
labor. Then allotment was made to the tribe of Manasseh, for he was the  
firstborn of Joseph. To Machir the firstborn of Manasseh, the father of  
Gilead, were allotted Gilead and Bashan, because he was a warrior. And  
allotments were made to the rest of the tribe of Manasseh, by their families,  
10 Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hepher, and Shemida; these were the male  
descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph, by their families. Now Zelophehad  
son of Hepher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh had no sons,  
but only daughters; and these are the names of his daughters: Mahlah, Noah,  
Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. They came before the priest Eleazar and Joshua  
15 son of Nun and the leaders, and said, "The LORD commanded Moses to  
give us an inheritance along with our male kin." So according to the  
commandment of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among the kinsmen  
of their father. Thus there fell to Manasseh ten portions, besides the land of  
Gilead and Bashan, which is on the other side of the Jordan, because the  
20 daughters of Manasseh received an inheritance along with his sons. The land

of Gilead was allotted to the rest of the Manassites. The territory of  
Manasseh reached from Asher to Michmethath, which is east of Shechem;  
then the boundary goes along southward to the inhabitants of En-tappuah.  
The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, but the town of Tappuah on the  
5 boundary of Manasseh belonged to the Ephraimites. Then the boundary went  
down to the Wadi Kanah. The towns here, to the south of the wadi, among  
the towns of Manasseh, belong to Ephraim. Then the boundary of Manasseh  
goes along the north side of the wadi and ends at the sea. The land to the  
south is Ephraim's and that to the north is Manasseh's, with the sea forming  
10 its boundary; on the north Asher is reached, and on the east Issachar. Within  
Issachar and Asher, Manasseh had Beth-shean and its villages, Ibleam and its  
villages, the inhabitants of Dor and its villages, the inhabitants of En-dor and  
its villages, the inhabitants of Taanach and its villages, and the inhabitants of  
Megiddo and its villages (the third is Naphath). Yet the Manassites could not  
15 take possession of those towns; but the Canaanites continued to live in that  
land. But when the Israelites grew strong, they put the Canaanites to forced  
labor, but did not utterly drive them out. The tribe of Joseph spoke to  
Joshua, saying, "Why have you given me but one lot and one portion as an  
inheritance, since we are a numerous people, whom all along the LORD has  
20 blessed?" And Joshua said to them, "If you are a numerous people, go up to

the forest, and clear ground there for yourselves in the land of the Perizzites and the Rephaim, since the hill country of Ephraim is too narrow for you."

The tribe of Joseph said, "The hill country is not enough for us; yet all the Canaanites who live in the plain have chariots of iron, both those in Beth-

5 shean and its villages and those in the Valley of Jezreel." Then Joshua said to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, "You are indeed a numerous people, and have great power; you shall not have one lot only, but the hill country shall be yours, for though it is a forest, you shall clear it and possess it to its farthest borders; for you shall drive out the Canaanites,

10 though they have chariots of iron, and though they are strong." Then the whole congregation of the Israelites assembled at Shiloh, and set up the tent of meeting there. The land lay subdued before them. There remained among the Israelites seven tribes whose inheritance had not yet been apportioned. So Joshua said to the Israelites, "How long will you be slack about going in

15 and taking possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has given you? Provide three men from each tribe, and I will send them out that they may begin to go throughout the land, writing a description of it with a view to their inheritances. Then come back to me. They shall divide it into seven portions, Judah continuing in its territory on the south, and the

20 house of Joseph in their territory on the north. You shall describe the land in

seven divisions and bring the description here to me; and I will cast lots for you here before the LORD our God. The Levites have no portion among you, for the priesthood of the LORD is their heritage; and Gad and Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have received their inheritance beyond the

5 Jordan eastward, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave them." So the men started on their way; and Joshua charged those who went to write the description of the land, saying, "Go throughout the land and write a description of it, and come back to me; and I will cast lots for you here before the LORD in Shiloh." So the men went and traversed the land and

10 set down in a book a description of it by towns in seven divisions; then they came back to Joshua in the camp at Shiloh, and Joshua cast lots for them in Shiloh before the LORD; and there Joshua apportioned the land to the Israelites, to each a portion. The lot of the tribe of Benjamin according to its families came up, and the territory allotted to it fell between the tribe

15 of Judah and the tribe of Joseph. On the north side their boundary began at the Jordan; then the boundary goes up to the slope of Jericho on the north, then up through the hill country westward; and it ends at the wilderness of Beth-aven. From there the boundary passes along southward in the direction of Luz, to the slope of Luz (that is, Bethel), then the boundary goes down

20 to Ataroth-addar, on the mountain that lies south of Lower Beth-horon. Then

the boundary goes in another direction, turning on the western side southward from the mountain that lies to the south, opposite Beth-horon, and it ends at Kiriath-baal (that is, Kiriath-jearim), a town belonging to the tribe of Judah. This forms the western side. The southern side begins at the outskirts of

5 Kiriath-jearim; and the boundary goes from there to Ephron, to the spring of the Waters of Nephtoah; then the boundary goes down to the border of the mountain that overlooks the valley of the son of Hinnom, which is at the north end of the valley of Rephaim; and it then goes down the valley of Hinnom, south of the slope of the Jebusites, and downward to En-rogel; then

10 it bends in a northerly direction going on to En-shemesh, and from there goes to Geliloth, which is opposite the ascent of Adummim; then it goes down to the Stone of Bohan, Reuben's son; and passing on to the north of the slope of Beth-arabah it goes down to the Arabah; then the boundary passes on to the north of the slope of Beth-hoglah; and the boundary ends at

15 the northern bay of the Dead Sea, at the south end of the Jordan: this is the southern border. The Jordan forms its boundary on the eastern side. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Benjamin, according to its families, boundary by boundary all around. Now the towns of the tribe of Benjamin according to their families were Jericho, Beth-hoglah, Emek-keziz, Beth-arabah,

20 Zemaraim, Bethel, Avvim, Parah, Ophrah, Chephar-ammoni, Ophni, and Geba-

-twelve towns with their villages: Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth, Mizpeh, Chephirah, Mozah, Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah, Zela, Haeleph, Jebus (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah and Kiriath-jearim--fourteen towns with their villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Benjamin according to its families. The

5 second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of Simeon, according to its families; its inheritance lay within the inheritance of the tribe of Judah. It had for its inheritance Beer-sheba, Sheba, Moladah, Hazar-shual, Balah, Ezem, Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah, Ziklag, Beth-marcaboth, Hazar-susah, Beth-lebaoth, and Sharuhenn--thirteen towns with their villages; Ain, Rimmon, Ether, and

10 Ashan--four towns with their villages; together with all the villages all around these towns as far as Baalath-beer, Ramah of the Negeb. This was the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon according to its families. The inheritance of the tribe of Simeon formed part of the territory of Judah; because the portion of the tribe of Judah was too large for them, the tribe of Simeon

15 obtained an inheritance within their inheritance. The third lot came up for the tribe of Zebulun, according to its families. The boundary of its inheritance reached as far as Sarid; then its boundary goes up westward, and on to Maralah, and touches Dabbesheth, then the wadi that is east of Jokneam; from Sarid it goes in the other direction eastward toward the sunrise to the

20 boundary of Chisloth-tabor; from there it goes to Daberath, then up to Japhia;

from there it passes along on the east toward the sunrise to Gath-hepher, to  
 Eth-kazin, and going on to Rimmon it bends toward Neah; then on the north  
 the boundary makes a turn to Hannathon, and it ends at the valley of Iphtah-  
 el; and Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah, and Bethlehem--twelve towns with  
 5 their villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Zebulun, according to its  
 families--these towns with their villages. The fourth lot came out for Issachar,  
 for the tribe of Issachar, according to its families. Its territory included  
 Jezreel, Chesulloth, Shunem, Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath, Rabbith, Kishion,  
 Ebez, Remeth, En-gannim, En-haddah, Beth-pazzez; the boundary also touches  
 10 Tabor, Shahazumah, and Beth-shemesh, and its boundary ends at the Jordan--  
 sixteen towns with their villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of  
 Issachar, according to its families--the towns with their villages. The fifth lot  
 came out for the tribe of Asher according to its families. Its boundary  
 included Helkath, Hali, Beten, Achshaph, Allammelech, Amad, and Mishal; on  
 15 the west it touches Carmel and Shihor-libnath, then it turns eastward, goes to  
 Beth-dagon, and touches Zebulun and the valley of Iphtah-el northward to  
 Beth-emek and Neiel; then it continues in the north to Cabul, Ebron, Rehob,  
 Hammon, Kanah, as far as Sidon the Great; then the boundary turns to  
 Ramah, reaching to the fortified city of Tyre; then the boundary turns to  
 20 Hosah, and it ends at the sea; Mahalab, Achzib, Ummah, Aphek, and Rehob-

-twenty-two towns with their villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Asher according to its families--these towns with their villages. The sixth lot came out for the tribe of Naphtali, for the tribe of Naphtali, according to its families. And its boundary ran from Heleph, from the oak in Zaanannim, and

5 Adami-nekeb, and Jabneel, as far as Lakkum; and it ended at the Jordan; then the boundary turns westward to Aznoth-tabor, and goes from there to Hukkok, touching Zebulun at the south, and Asher on the west, and Judah on the east at the Jordan. The fortified towns are Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Chinnereth, Adamah, Ramah, Hazor, Kedesh, Edrei, En-hazor, Iron,

10 Migdal-el, Horem, Beth-anath, and Beth-shemesh--nineteen towns with their villages. This is the inheritance of the tribe of Naphtali according to its families--the towns with their villages. The seventh lot came out for the tribe of Dan, according to its families. The territory of its inheritance included Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir-shemesh, Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah, Elon, Timnah, Ekron,

15 Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath, Jehud, Bene-berak, Gath-rimmon, Me-jarkon, and Rakkon at the border opposite Joppa. When the territory of the Danites was lost to them, the Danites went up and fought against Leshem, and after capturing it and putting it to the sword, they took possession of it and settled in it, calling Leshem, Dan, after their ancestor Dan. This is the

20 inheritance of the tribe of Dan, according to their families--these towns with



their villages. When they had finished distributing the several territories of the land as inheritances, the Israelites gave an inheritance among them to Joshua son of Nun. By command of the LORD they gave him the town that he asked for, Timnath-serah in the hill country of Ephraim; he rebuilt the town, and settled in it. These are the inheritances that the priest Eleazar and Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the families of the tribes of the Israelites distributed by lot at Shiloh before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting. So they finished dividing the land. Then the LORD spoke to Joshua, saying, "Say to the Israelites, 'Appoint the cities of refuge, of which I spoke to you through Moses, so that anyone who kills a person without intent or by mistake may flee there; they shall be for you a refuge from the avenger of blood. The slayer shall flee to one of these cities and shall stand at the entrance of the gate of the city, and explain the case to the elders of that city; then the fugitive shall be taken into the city, and given a place, and shall remain with them. And if the avenger of blood is in pursuit, they shall not give up the slayer, because the neighbor was killed by mistake, there having been no enmity between them before. The slayer shall remain in that city until there is a trial before the congregation, until the death of the one who is high priest at the time: then the slayer may return home, to the town in which the deed was done.'" So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in

the hill country of Naphtali, and Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim,  
and Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron) in the hill country of Judah. And beyond  
the Jordan east of Jericho, they appointed Bezer in the wilderness on the  
tableland, from the tribe of Reuben, and Ramoth in Gilead, from the tribe of  
5 Gad, and Golan in Bashan, from the tribe of Manasseh. These were the cities  
designated for all the Israelites, and for the aliens residing among them, that  
anyone who killed a person without intent could flee there, so as not to die  
by the hand of the avenger of blood, until there was a trial before the  
congregation. Then the heads of the families of the Levites came to the  
10 priest Eleazar and to Joshua son of Nun and to the heads of the families of  
the tribes of the Israelites; they said to them at Shiloh in the land of  
Canaan, "The LORD commanded through Moses that we be given towns to  
live in, along with their pasture lands for our livestock." So by command of  
the LORD the Israelites gave to the Levites the following towns and pasture  
15 lands out of their inheritance. The lot came out for the families of the  
Kohathites. So those Levites who were descendants of Aaron the priest  
received by lot thirteen towns from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and  
Benjamin. The rest of the Kohathites received by lot ten towns from the  
families of the tribe of Ephraim, from the tribe of Dan, and the half-tribe of  
20 Manasseh. The Gershonites received by lot thirteen towns from the families

of the tribe of Issachar, from the tribe of Asher, from the tribe of Naphtali, and from the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan. The Merarites according to their families received twelve towns from the tribe of Reuben, the tribe of Gad, and the tribe of Zebulun. These towns and their pasture lands the

5 Israelites gave by lot to the Levites, as the LORD had commanded through Moses. Out of the tribe of Judah and the tribe of Simeon they gave the following towns mentioned by name, which went to the descendants of Aaron, one of the families of the Kohathites who belonged to the Levites, since the lot fell to them first. They gave them Kiriath-arba (Arba being the

10 father of Anak), that is Hebron, in the hill country of Judah, along with the pasture lands around it. But the fields of the town and its villages had been given to Caleb son of Jephunneh as his holding. To the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron, the city of refuge for the slayer, with its pasture lands, Libnah with its pasture lands, Jattir with its pasture lands,

15 Eshtemoa with its pasture lands, Holon with its pasture lands, Debir with its pasture lands, Ain with its pasture lands, Juttah with its pasture lands, and Beth-shemesh with its pasture lands--nine towns out of these two tribes. Out of the tribe of Benjamin: Gibeon with its pasture lands, Geba with its pasture

20 lands, Anathoth with its pasture lands, and Almon with its pasture lands--four towns. The towns of the descendants of Aaron--the priests--were thirteen in

all, with their pasture lands. As to the rest of the Kohathites belonging to the Kohathite families of the Levites, the towns allotted to them were out of the tribe of Ephraim. To them were given Shechem, the city of refuge for the slayer, with its pasture lands in the hill country of Ephraim, Gezer with its pasture lands, Kibzaim with its pasture lands, and Beth-horon with its pasture lands--four towns. Out of the tribe of Dan: Elteke with its pasture lands, Gibbethon with its pasture lands, Aijalon with its pasture lands, Gath-rimmon with its pasture lands--four towns. Out of the half-tribe of Manasseh: Taanach with its pasture lands, and Gath-rimmon with its pasture lands--two towns. The towns of the families of the rest of the Kohathites were ten in all, with their pasture lands. To the Gershonites, one of the families of the Levites, were given out of the half-tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan with its pasture lands, the city of refuge for the slayer, and Beeshterah with its pasture lands--two towns. Out of the tribe of Issachar: Kishion with its pasture lands, Daberath with its pasture lands, Jarmuth with its pasture lands, En-gannim with its pasture lands--four towns; Out of the tribe of Asher: Mishal with its pasture lands, Abdon with its pasture lands, Helkath with its pasture lands, and Rehob with its pasture lands--four towns. Out of the tribe of Naphtali: Kedesh in Galilee with its pasture lands, the city of refuge for the slayer, Hammoth-dor with its pasture lands, and Kartan with its pasture

lands--three towns. The towns of the several families of the Gershonites were in all thirteen, with their pasture lands. To the rest of the Levites--the Merarite families--were given out of the tribe of Zebulun: Jokneam with its pasture lands, Kartah with its pasture lands, Dimnah with its pasture lands,

5 Nahalal with its pasture lands--four towns. Out of the tribe of Reuben: Bezer with its pasture lands, Jahzah with its pasture lands, Kedemoth with its pasture lands, and Mephaath with its pasture lands--four towns. Out of the tribe of Gad: Ramoth in Gilead with its pasture lands, the city of refuge for the slayer, Mahanaim with its pasture lands, Heshbon with its pasture lands,

10 Jazer with its pasture lands--four towns in all. As for the towns of the several Merarite families, that is, the remainder of the families of the Levites, those allotted to them were twelve in all. The towns of the Levites within the holdings of the Israelites were in all forty-eight towns with their pasture lands. Each of these towns had its pasture lands around it; so it was with all

15 these towns. Thus the LORD gave to Israel all the land that he swore to their ancestors that he would give them; and having taken possession of it, they settled there. And the LORD gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their ancestors; not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for the LORD had given all their enemies into their hands. Not one of

20 all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had

failed; all came to pass. Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and said to them, "You have observed all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, and have obeyed me in all that I have commanded you; you have not forsaken your kindred these  
5 many days, down to this day, but have been careful to keep the charge of the LORD your God. And now the LORD your God has given rest to your kindred, as he promised them; therefore turn and go to your tents in the land where your possession lies, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you on the other side of the Jordan. Take good care to observe the  
10 commandment and instruction that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, and to hold fast to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul." So Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their tents. Now to the one half of the tribe of  
15 Manasseh Moses had given a possession in Bashan; but to the other half Joshua had given a possession beside their fellow Israelites in the land west of the Jordan. And when Joshua sent them away to their tents and blessed them, he said to them, "Go back to your tents with much wealth, and with very much livestock, with silver, gold, bronze, and iron, and with a great  
20 quantity of clothing; divide the spoil of your enemies with your kindred." So

the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh returned home, parting from the Israelites at Shiloh, which is in the land of Canaan, to go to the land of Gilead, their own land of which they had taken possession by command of the LORD through Moses. When they came to the region near

5 the Jordan that lies in the land of Canaan, the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh built there an altar by the Jordan, an altar of great size. The Israelites heard that the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh had built an altar at the frontier of the land of Canaan, in the region near the Jordan, on the side that belongs to the

10 Israelites. And when the people of Israel heard of it, the whole assembly of the Israelites gathered at Shiloh, to make war against them. Then the Israelites sent the priest Phinehas son of Eleazar to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, in the land of Gilead, and with him ten chiefs, one from each of the tribal families of Israel, every one of them

15 the head of a family among the clans of Israel. They came to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, in the land of Gilead, and they said to them, "Thus says the whole congregation of the LORD, 'What is this treachery that you have committed against the God of

20 yourselves an altar today in rebellion against the LORD? Have we not had

enough of the sin at Peor from which even yet we have not cleansed  
 ourselves, and for which a plague came upon the congregation of the LORD,  
 that you must turn away today from following the LORD! If you rebel  
 against the LORD today, he will be angry with the whole congregation of  
 5 Israel tomorrow. But now, if your land is unclean, cross over into the Lord's  
 land where the Lord's tabernacle now stands, and take for yourselves a  
 possession among us; only do not rebel against the LORD, or rebel against  
 us by building yourselves an altar other than the altar of the LORD our  
 God. Did not Achan son of Zerah break faith in the matter of the devoted  
 10 things, and wrath fell upon all the congregation of Israel? And he did not  
 perish alone for his iniquity!"" Then the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-  
 tribe of Manasseh said in answer to the heads of the families of Israel, "The  
 LORD, God of gods! The LORD, God of gods! He knows; and let Israel  
 itself know! If it was in rebellion or in breach of faith toward the LORD,  
 15 do not spare us today for building an altar to turn away from following the  
 LORD; or if we did so to offer burnt offerings or grain offerings or  
 offerings of well-being on it, may the LORD himself take vengeance. No!  
 We did it from fear that in time to come your children might say to our  
 children, 'What have you to do with the LORD, the God of Israel? For the  
 20 LORD has made the Jordan a boundary between us and you, you Reubenites



and Gadites; you have no portion in the LORD.' So your children might  
make our children cease to worship the LORD. Therefore we said, 'Let us  
now build an altar, not for burnt offering, nor for sacrifice, but to be a  
witness between us and you, and between the generations after us, that we  
5 do perform the service of the LORD in his presence with our burnt offerings  
and sacrifices and offerings of well-being; so that your children may never  
say to our children in time to come, "You have no portion in the LORD."  
And we thought, If this should be said to us or to our descendants in time  
to come, we could say, 'Look at this copy of the altar of the LORD, which  
10 our ancestors made, not for burnt offerings, nor for sacrifice, but to be a  
witness between us and you.' Far be it from us that we should rebel against  
the LORD, and turn away this day from following the LORD by building an  
altar for burnt offering, grain offering, or sacrifice, other than the altar of the  
LORD our God that stands before his tabernacle!" When the priest Phinehas  
15 and the chiefs of the congregation, the heads of the families of Israel who  
were with him, heard the words that the Reubenites and the Gadites and the  
Manassites spoke, they were satisfied. The priest Phinehas son of Eleazar said  
to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the Manassites, "Today we know that  
the LORD is among us, because you have not committed this treachery  
20 against the LORD; now you have saved the Israelites from the hand of the

LORD." Then the priest Phinehas son of Eleazar and the chiefs returned from the Reubenites and the Gadites in the land of Gilead to the land of Canaan, to the Israelites, and brought back word to them. The report pleased the Israelites; and the Israelites blessed God and spoke no more of making

5 war against them, to destroy the land where the Reubenites and the Gadites were settled. The Reubenites and the Gadites called the altar Witness; "For," said they, "it is a witness between us that the LORD is God." A long time afterward, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies all around, and Joshua was old and well advanced in years, Joshua summoned

10 all Israel, their elders and heads, their judges and officers, and said to them, "I am now old and well advanced in years; and you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the LORD your God who has fought for you. I have allotted to you as an inheritance for your tribes those nations that remain, along with all the

15 nations that I have already cut off, from the Jordan to the Great Sea in the west. The LORD your God will push them back before you, and drive them out of your sight; and you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God promised you. Therefore be very steadfast to observe and do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the

20 right nor to the left, so that you may not be mixed with these nations left

here among you, or make mention of the names of their gods, or swear by them, or serve them, or bow yourselves down to them, but hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day. For the LORD has driven out before you great and strong nations; and as for you, no one has been

5 able to withstand you to this day. One of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the LORD your God who fights for you, as he promised you. Be very careful, therefore, to love the LORD your God. For if you turn back, and join the survivors of these nations left here among you, and intermarry with them, so that you marry their women and they yours, know assuredly

10 that the LORD your God will not continue to drive out these nations before you; but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a scourge on your sides, and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land that the LORD your God has given you. "And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one thing

15 has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you; all have come to pass for you, not one of them has failed. But just as all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so the LORD will bring upon you all the bad things, until he has destroyed you from this good land that

20 the LORD your God has given you. If you transgress the covenant of the

LORD your God, which he enjoined on you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land that he has given to you." Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and

5 summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led

10 him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. I gave him Isaac; and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the hill country of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt with what I did in its midst; and afterwards I brought you out. When I brought your ancestors out of

15 Egypt, you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your ancestors with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. When they cried out to the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and made the sea come upon them and cover them; and your eyes saw what I did to Egypt.

20 Afterwards you lived in the wilderness a long time. Then I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the other side of the Jordan; they

fought with you, and I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land, and I destroyed them before you. Then King Balak son of Zippor of Moab, set out to fight against Israel. He sent and invited Balaam son of Beor to curse you, but I would not listen to Balaam; therefore he blessed

5 you; so I rescued you out of his hand. When you went over the Jordan and came to Jericho, the citizens of Jericho fought against you, and also the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I handed them over to you. I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove out before you the two kings of the Amorites; it

10 was not by your sword or by your bow. I gave you a land on which you had not labored, and towns that you had not built, and you live in them; you eat the fruit of vineyards and oliveyards that you did not plant. "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt,

15 and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to

20 serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our

ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land.

- 5 Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But 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 or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said
- 10 to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will
- 15 serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem. Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God; and he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak in the sanctuary of the LORD.
- Joshua said to all the people, "See, this stone shall be a witness against us;
- 20 for it has heard all the words of the LORD that he spoke to us; therefore it

shall be a witness against you, if you deal falsely with your God." So  
Joshua sent the people away to their inheritances. After these things Joshua  
son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred ten years  
old. They buried him in his own inheritance at Timnath-serah, which is in  
5 the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. Israel served the LORD  
all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua  
and had known all the work that the LORD did for Israel. The bones of  
Joseph, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at  
Shechem, in the portion of ground that Jacob had bought from the children  
10 of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for one hundred pieces of money; it  
became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph. Eleazar son of Aaron  
died; and they buried him at Gibeah, the town of his son Phinehas, which  
had been given him in the hill country of Ephraim. \*

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