A Practical Study of JOSHUA

“The Path of Obedience Leads to Victory”

PART I

STUDY NUMBER ONE – JOSHUA 1:1-18

v. 1 After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ aide:

v. 2 “Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.

v. 3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.

v. 4 Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west.

v. 5 No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

v. 6 “Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them.

v. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

v. 8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

v. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

v. 10 So Joshua ordered the officers of the people:

v. 11 “Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get your supplies ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you for your own.”
But to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said,

Remember the command that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: ‘The Lord your God is giving you rest and has granted you this land.’

Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers. You are to help your brothers until the Lord gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land that the Lord your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the Lord gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise.”

Then they answered Joshua, “Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.

Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. Only may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses.

Whoever rebels against your word and does not obey your words, whatever you may command them, will be put to death. Only be strong and courageous!”

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 1:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the Lord’s command to Joshua in verse 2?

3. What is the Lord’s promise to Joshua in verse 5?

4. What command does the Lord give to Joshua in verses 6-9?

5. How does Joshua respond to the Lord’s commands, according to verses 10 & 11?
6. What special instructions does Joshua have for the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh in verses 13-15?

7. How do these tribes respond to Joshua’s instructions, according to verse 16?

8. What is their wish for Joshua as he assumes the leadership of the nation, according to verse 17?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God’s work is not affected by the death of His servants.

LESSON #2: Past failure doesn’t affect the promise made by God to His children.

LESSON #3: The Lord promises Joshua a provision, His protection, and His presence.

LESSON #4: The key to success is obedience to His Word.

LESSON #5: Meditation upon the Word day and night is critical in the campaign.

LESSON #6: Be strong and courageous; not scared and discouraged.

LESSON #7: Joshua immediately gets things organized for the project of possessing their inheritance.
v. 1 Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

v. 2 The king of Jericho was told, “Look! Some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.”

v. 3 So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land.”

v. 4 But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from.

v. 5 At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, the men left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.”

v. 6 (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)

v. 7 So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

v. 8 Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof

v. 9 and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given this land to you and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you.

v. 10 We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed.

v. 11 When we heard of it, our hearts melted and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

v. 12 Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign

v. 13 that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and that you will save us from death.”

v. 14 “Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the Lord gives us the land.”

v. 15 So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall.

v. 16 Now she had said to them, “Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way.”
The men said to her, “This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house. If anyone goes outside your house into the street, his blood will be on his own head; we will not be responsible. As for anyone who is in the house with you, his blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on him.

But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.”

“Agreed,” she replied. “Let it be as you say.” So she sent them away and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

When they left, they went into the hills and stayed there three days, until the pursuers had searched all along the road and returned without finding them.

Then the two men started back. They went down out of the hills, forded the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them.

They said to Joshua, “The Lord has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are melting in fear because of us.”

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 2:1-24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Joshua do in verse 1?

3. Who is Rahab and what does she do for the spies?

4. Summarize Rahab’s statement of faith in verses 9-11.

5. What request does Rahab make of the spies in verses 12 & 13?
6. What do the spies promise Rahab before they depart in verses 14-20?

7. What is Rahab instructed to do at the time of the invasion, according to verse 18?

8. What do the spies report to Joshua, according to verse 24?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Joshua is taking preliminary steps in preparation for the occupation of the land.

LESSON #2: The greater the knowledge of the enemy the better the chance for victory.

LESSON #3: God protects and provides for the two spies who enter the land.

LESSON #4: It is never right for us to lie in any situation.

LESSON #5: Rahab’s faith is demonstrated in: the promise of verse 9, the power of verse 10, and the preeminence of verse 11.

LESSON #6: Our faith is demonstrated when our IFs become WHENs.

LESSON #7: The scarlet cord reminds us of the blood on the doorpost when the death angel passed over during the slaying of all the firstborn in the land of Egypt.

LESSON #8: The staying inside the shelter to escape judgment reminds us of Noah and the ark.
LESSON #9: Have you come under the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, and into the shelter of salvation—the only ark of safety?

LESSON #10: Rahab put the scarlet cord in the window immediately because she wanted to be ready.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THREE – JOSHUA 3:1-17

v. 1 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over.

v. 2 After three days the officers went throughout the camp,

v. 3 giving orders to the people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it.

v. 4 Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it.”

v. 5 Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.”

v. 6 Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people.” So they took it up and went ahead of them.

v. 7 And the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.

v. 8 Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: ‘When you reach the edge of the Jordan’s waters, go and stand in the river.’”

v. 9 Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the Lord your God.

v. 10 This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites.

v. 11 See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.

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

v. 13 And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the Lord—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”

v. 14 So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them.

v. 15 Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge,
v. 16 the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

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

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 3:1-17 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is to be the signal for military invasion, according to verse 3?

3. What is Joshua’s message to the people in verse 5?

4. What is the Lord’s message to Joshua in verses 7 & 8?

5. What will the Lord do as soon as the priests set foot in the Jordan, according to verse 13?

6. What was the condition of the Jordan, according to verse 15?

7. Describe in your own words what happened when the feet of the priests touched the water’s edge.
8. What did the priests do, according to verse 17?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

**LESSON #1:** Early in the morning seems to be the best time for a lot of God’s people.

**LESSON #2:** The ark of the covenant is the focal point in this whole chapter.

**LESSON #3:** God allows us plenty of time to view the impossible before He does His work.

**LESSON #4:** Will you examine your heart before the Lord so that He might do a great work among us?

**LESSON #5:** God is the one who is going to take them in, drive out the enemies, and give them the land.

**LESSON #6:** The people exercised faith when they broke camp and moved toward the river. The priests exercised faith when their feet got wet at the river’s edge.

**LESSON #7:** The Lord goes before us to open up the way.

**LESSON #8:** All the blessings of the land are waiting on the other side of the flooded river.

**LESSON #9:** Are you tired of wandering in the desert of Christian experience and longing for the spiritual sweetness of drawing upon an adequate Christ?

**LESSON #10:** Have you made that surrender and turned it all over to Him?
v. 1 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua,
v. 2 “Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe,
v. 3 and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”
v. 4 So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe,
v. 5 and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,
v. 6 to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’
v. 7 tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”
v. 8 So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the Lord had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down.
v. 9 Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.
v. 10 Now the priests who carried the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything the Lord had commanded Joshua was done by the people, just as Moses had directed Joshua. The people hurried over,
v. 11 and as soon as all of them had crossed, the ark of the Lord and the priests came to the other side while the people watched.
v. 12 The men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, armed, in front of the Israelites, as Moses had directed them.
v. 13 About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the Lord to the plains of Jericho for war.
v. 14 That day the Lord exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel; and they revered him all the days of his life, just as they had revered Moses.
v. 15 Then the Lord said to Joshua,
v. 16 “Command the priests carrying the ark of the Testimony to come up out of the Jordan.”
v. 17 So Joshua commanded the priests, “Come up out of the Jordan.”
v. 18 And the priests came up out of the river carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord. No sooner had they set their feet on the dry ground than the waters of the Jordan returned to their place and ran at flood stage as before.

v. 19 On the tenth day of the first month the people went up from the Jordan and camped at Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho.

v. 20 And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan.

v. 21 He said to the Israelites, “In the future when your descendants ask their fathers, ‘What do these stones mean?’

v. 22 tell them, ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.’

v. 23 For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan just what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over.

v. 24 He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God.”

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 4:1-24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does the Lord command Joshua to do in verses 2 & 3?

3. What is the significance of the stones, according to verses 6 & 7?

4. How long did the priests remain standing in the middle of the Jordan, according to verse 10?

5. What did the Lord do for Joshua, according to verse 14?
6. What happened as soon as the priests carrying the ark reached dry ground on the other side of the river, according to verse 18?

7. Where did the children of Israel set up camp once they got into the land, according to verse 19?

8. Why did the Lord dry up the Jordan River for this crossing, according to verse 24?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God wants us to call to remembrance His mighty works.

LESSON #2: The Lord always goes before us to lead the way.

LESSON #3: The stones in the middle of the river speak of our death and burial with Jesus Christ.

LESSON #4: The stones at Gilgal speak of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and our new life in Him.

LESSON #5: The people hurried over because they were still anxious and afraid.

LESSON #6: God has waited until now to exalt Joshua before the people.

LESSON #7: The hand of the Lord is powerful.
**LESSON #8: God is faithful to fulfill His promises to us.**

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

**STUDY NUMBER FIVE – JOSHUA 5:1-15**

| v. 1  | Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the Lord had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until we had crossed over, their hearts melted and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites. |
| v. 2  | At that time the Lord said to Joshua, “Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again.” |
| v. 3  | So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth. |
| v. 4  | Now this is why he did so: All those who came out of Egypt—all the men of military age—died in the desert on the way after leaving Egypt. |
| v. 5  | All the people that came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the desert during the journey from Egypt had not. |
| v. 6  | The Israelites had moved about in the desert forty years until all the men who were of military age when they left Egypt had died, since they had not obeyed the Lord. For the Lord had sworn to them that they would not see the land that he had solemnly promised their fathers to give us, a land flowing with milk and honey. |
| v. 7  | So he raised up their sons in their place, and these were the ones Joshua circumcised. They were still uncircumcised because they had not been circumcised on the way. |
| v. 8  | And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed. |
| v. 9  | Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” So the place has been called Gilgal to this day. |
| v. 10 | On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. |
| v. 11 | The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. |
| v. 12 | The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate of the produce of Canaan. |
| v. 13 | Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?” |
| v. 14 | “Neither,” he replied, “but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.” Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my Lord have for his servant?” |
The commander of the Lord’s army replied, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 5:1-15 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What happened to many of the residents in the land when they got the report of God’s working on behalf of Israel, according to verse 1?

3. What does the Lord command Joshua to do in verse 2?

4. Why did the Lord feel it was necessary for this to be done, according to verses 4-6?

5. What did the Israelites do, according to verse 10?


7. What happens to Joshua in verses 13 & 14?

8. What is Joshua commanded to do, according to verse 15?
9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Cleansing comes before Conquest.

LESSON #2: The Lord’s ways are often different than our ways.

LESSON #3: If we are going to bear fruit as Christians, it is necessary for the Father to prune us.

LESSON #4: Is there something that the Father wants to cut out of your life that you are resisting at this moment?

LESSON #5: The Lord’s response to obedience is to roll away our reproach.

LESSON #6: Cleaning up the clutter in our lives is critical in anticipation of usefulness.

LESSON #7: The miraculous is done away with when the provision can be made by natural means.

LESSON #8: Obedience is followed by revelation.

LESSON #9: The Lord says, “I have come not to take sides but to take over.”

LESSON #10: Obedience brings a revelation of our resources.

LESSON #11: Revelation spells R-E-L-I-E-F.

LESSON #12: Instant obedience is the safest policy in our relationship to God.
STUDY NUMBER SIX – JOSHUA 6:1-27

v. 1 Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

v. 2 Then the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.

v. 3 March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days.

v. 4 Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets.

v. 5 When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in.”

v. 6 So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.”

v. 7 And he ordered the people, “Advance! March around the city, with the armed guard going ahead of the ark of the Lord.”

v. 8 When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the Lord went forward, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the Lord’s covenant followed them.

v. 9 The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding.

v. 10 But Joshua had commanded the people, “Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!”

v. 11 So he had the ark of the Lord carried around the city, circling it once. Then the people returned to camp and spent the night there.

v. 12 Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the Lord.

v. 13 The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets went forward, marching before the ark of the Lord and blowing the trumpets. The armed men went ahead of them and the rear guard followed the ark of the Lord, while the trumpets kept sounding.

v. 14 So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.

v. 15 On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times.
Joshua commanded the people, “Shout! For the Lord has given you the city!

The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the Lord. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent.

But keep away from the devoted things, so that you will not bring about your own destruction by taking any of them. Otherwise you will make the camp of Israel liable to destruction and bring trouble on it.

All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the Lord and must go into his treasury.”

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

They devoted the city to the Lord and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.

Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, “Go into the prostitute’s house and bring her out and all who belong to her, in accordance with your oath to her.”

So the young men who had done the spying went in and brought out Rahab, her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her. They brought out her entire family and put them in a place outside the camp of Israel.

Then they burned the whole city and everything in it, but they put the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron into the treasury of the Lord’s house.

But Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent as spies to Jericho—and she lives among the Israelites to this day.

At that time Joshua pronounced this solemn oath: “Cursed before the Lord is the man who undertakes to rebuild this city, Jericho: “At the cost of his firstborn son will he lay its foundations; at the cost of his youngest will he set up its gates.”

So the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 6:1-27 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What is the description of Jericho in verse 1?
3. Summarize the Lord’s instructions for taking the city of Jericho in verses 2-5.

4. What did they do on the seventh day, according to verses 15 & 16?

5. Who comes up for mention in verse 17?

6. What warning does Joshua give in verses 18 & 19?

7. What happened when they shouted, according to verse 20?


9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

**LESSON #1:** The time for judgment of the city of Jericho has now come.

**LESSON #2:** The Lord tells Joshua that the city of Jericho is his—all he has to do is claim it.
LESSON #3: The Lord’s plans are not our plans.

LESSON #4: God gives us plenty of time to view the walls of impossibility before He works.

LESSON #5: God isn’t ever in a hurry.

LESSON #6: God is the One responsible for the falling walls.

LESSON #7: Rahab and her family are kept from destruction in honor of the oath made by the spies.

LESSON #8: What walls of difficulty are you facing today?

LESSON #9: Are you willing to believe God and move ahead?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER SEVEN – JOSHUA 7:1-26

v. 1 But the Israelites acted unfaithfully in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the Lord’s anger burned against Israel.

v. 2 Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is near Beth Aven to the east of Bethel, and told them, “Go up and spy out the region.” So the men went up and spied out Ai.

v. 3 When they returned to Joshua, they said, “Not all the people will have to go up against Ai. Send two or three thousand men to take it and do not weary all the people, for only a few men are there.”

v. 4 So about three thousand men went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai,

v. 5 who killed about thirty-six of them. They chased the Israelites from the city gate as far as the stone quarries and struck them down on the slopes. At this the hearts of the people melted and became like water.

v. 6 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell face-down to the ground before the ark of the Lord, remaining there till evening. The elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads.

v. 7 And Joshua said, “Ah, Sovereign Lord, why did you ever bring this people across the Jordan to deliver us into the hands of the Amorites to destroy us? If only we had been content to stay on the other side of the Jordan!

v. 8 O Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has been routed by its enemies?
v. 9  The Canaanites and the other people of the country will hear about this and they will surround us and wipe out our name from the earth. What then will you do for your own great name?"

v. 10  The Lord said to Joshua, “Stand up! What are you doing down on your face?

v. 11  Israel has sinned; they have violated my covenant, which I commanded them to keep. They have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen, they have lied, they have put them with their own possessions.

v. 12  That is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies; they turn their backs and run because they have been made liable to destruction. I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.

v. 13  “Go, consecrate the people. Tell them, ‘Consecrate yourselves in preparation for tomorrow; for this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: That which is devoted is among you, O Israel. You cannot stand against your enemies until you remove it.

v. 14  “In the morning, present yourselves tribe by tribe. The tribe that the Lord takes shall come forward clan by clan; the clan that the Lord takes shall come forward family by family; and the family that the Lord takes shall come forward man by man.

v. 15  He who is caught with the devoted things shall be destroyed by fire, along with all that belongs to him. He has violated the covenant of the Lord and has done a disgraceful thing in Israel!”

v. 16  Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was taken.

v. 17  The clans of Judah came forward, and he took the Zerahites. He had the clan of the Zerahites come forward by families, and Zimri was taken.

v. 18  Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achán of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

v. 19  Then Joshua said to Achan, “My son, give glory to the Lord, the God of Israel, and give him the praise. Tell me what you have done; do not hide it from me.”

v. 20  Achan replied, “It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. This is what I have done:

v. 21  When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath.”

v. 22  So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath.

v. 23  They took the things from the tent, brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and spread them out before the Lord.

v. 24  Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold wedge, his sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor.

v. 25  Joshua said, “Why have you brought this trouble on us? The Lord will bring trouble on you today.” Then all Israel stoned him, and after they had stoned the rest, they burned them.

v. 26  Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the Lord turned from his fierce anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of Achor ever since.
QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 7:1-26 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What happened when they got into the city of Jericho, according to verse 1?

3. What is the recommendation of the spies who have scouted Ai, according to verse 3?

4. What happened at Ai, according to verses 4 & 5?

5. What is the reason for the defeat at Ai, according to the Lord’s message in verse 11?

6. What does the Lord tell Joshua to do, according to verse 13?

7. What did Achan do to create the defeat at Ai, according to verses 20 & 21?

8. What did Joshua and the children of Israel do to Achan and his family and all of his belongings, according to verses 24-26?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: What one person does affects the whole nation.

LESSON #2: When you take something that doesn’t belong to you, you have acted unfaithfully.

LESSON #3: How important it is to pray before we proceed with the project of possession of the land.

LESSON #4: The people are not even aware that they are out of fellowship with God.

LESSON #5: The high cost of disobedience for Achan and for the nation as a whole.

LESSON #6: How weak and whipped we are without his strength in our lives.

LESSON #7: We open ourselves up to judgment when we are disobedient.

LESSON #8: The eye saw, the heart desired, and the will took.

LESSON #9: There is no victory until you deal with the problem.

LESSON #10: Fellowship breaks—growth stops, until the sin is confessed.

LESSON #11: The confession of sin must be specific.

LESSON #12: The children of Israel are now ready for victory because the offense has been dealt with.
v. 1 Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Take the whole army with you, and go up and attack Ai. For I have delivered into your hands the king of Ai, his people, his city and his land.

v. 2 You shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king, except that you may carry off their plunder and livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush behind the city.”

v. 3 So Joshua and the whole army moved out to attack Ai. He chose thirty thousand of his best fighting men and sent them out at night with these orders: “Listen carefully. You are to set an ambush behind the city. Don’t go very far from it. All of you be on the alert.

v. 4 I and all those with me will advance on the city, and when the men come out against us, as they did before, we will flee from them.

v. 5 They will pursue us until we have lured them away from the city, for they will say, ‘They are running away from us as they did before.’ So when we flee from them,

v. 6 you are to rise up from ambush and take the city. The Lord your God will give it into your hand.

v. 7 When you have taken the city, set it on fire. Do what the Lord has commanded. See to it; you have my orders.”

v. 8 Then Joshua sent them off, and they went to the place of ambush and lay in wait between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai—but Joshua spent that night with the people.

v. 9 Early the next morning Joshua mustered his men, and he and the leaders of Israel marched before them to Ai.

v. 10 The entire force that was with him marched up and approached the city and arrived in front of it. They set up camp north of Ai, with the valley between them and the city.

v. 11 Joshua had taken about five thousand men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city.

v. 12 They had the soldiers take up their positions—all those in the camp to the north of the city and the ambush to the west of it. That night Joshua went into the valley.

v. 13 When the king of Ai saw this, he and all the men of the city hurried out early in the morning to meet Israel in battle at a certain place overlooking the Arabah. But he did not know that an ambush had been set against him behind the city.

v. 14 Joshua and all Israel let themselves be driven back before them, and they fled toward the desert.

v. 15 All the men of Ai were called to pursue them, and they pursued Joshua and were lured away from the city.

v. 16 Not a man remained in Ai or Bethel who did not go after Israel. They left the city open and went in pursuit of Israel.

v. 17 Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Hold out toward Ai the javelin that is in your hand, for into your hand I will deliver the city.” So Joshua held out his javelin toward Ai.

v. 18 As soon as he did this, the men in the ambush rose quickly from their position and rushed forward. They entered the city and captured it and quickly set it on fire.
v. 20 The men of Ai looked back and saw the smoke of the city rising against the sky, but they had no chance to escape in any direction, for the Israelites who had been fleeing toward the desert had turned back against their pursuers.

v. 21 For when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that smoke was going up from the city, they turned around and attacked the men of Ai.

v. 22 The men of the ambush also came out of the city against them, so that they were caught in the middle, with Israelites on both sides. Israel cut them down, leaving them neither survivors nor fugitives.

v. 23 But they took the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.

v. 24 When Israel had finished killing all the men of Ai in the fields and in the desert where they had chased them, and when every one of them had been put to the sword, all the Israelites returned to Ai and killed those who were in it.

v. 25 Twelve thousand men and women fell that day—all the people of Ai.

v. 26 For Joshua did not draw back the hand that held out his javelin until he had destroyed all who lived in Ai.

v. 27 But Israel did carry off for themselves the livestock and plunder of this city, as the Lord had instructed Joshua.

v. 28 So Joshua burned Ai and made it a permanent heap of ruins, a desolate place to this day.

v. 29 He hung the king of Ai on a tree and left him there until evening. At sunset, Joshua ordered them to take his body from the tree and throw it down at the entrance of the city gate. And they raised a large pile of rocks over it, which remains to this day.

v. 30 Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the Lord, the God of Israel,

v. 31 as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded the Israelites. He built it according to what is written in the Book of the Law of Moses—an altar of uncut stones, on which no iron tool had been used. On it they offered to the Lord burnt offerings and sacrificed fellowship offerings.

v. 32 There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua copied on stones the law of Moses, which he had written.

v. 33 All Israel, aliens and citizens alike, with their elders, officials and judges, were standing on both sides of the ark of the covenant of the Lord, facing those who carried it—the priests, who were Levites. Half of the people stood in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal, as Moses the servant of the Lord had formerly commanded when he gave instructions to bless the people of Israel.

v. 34 Afterward, Joshua read all the words of the law—the blessings and the curses—just as it is written in the Book of the Law.

v. 35 There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded that Joshua did not read to the whole assembly of Israel, including the women and children, and the aliens who lived among them.
QUESTIONS:
1. Read Joshua 8:1-35 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What are the Lord’s instructions in verses 1 & 2?

3. Describe in your own words how the children of Israel captured Ai.

4. What did Joshua do to make the victory complete, according to verses 28 & 29?

5. What did Joshua do in verses 30 & 31?

6. What is the next step that Joshua takes, according to verse 32?

7. Describe the scene in verse 33.

8. What final thing does Joshua do in verses 34 & 35?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord graciously comes and ministers to our needs in a time of uncertainty.

LESSON #2: Following the discipline God is always ready to get on with the program.

LESSON #3: The Lord’s instructions are different each time so that we remain dependent.

LESSON #4: Joshua and the Lord are working together in this victory.

LESSON #5: God blesses the plan with success.

LESSON #6: Worship follows war on this occasion.

LESSON #7: Joshua is sensitive to come back to the Lord after the victory has been granted.

LESSON #8: The focus is on the Word of God again.

LESSON #9: The discipline has yielded the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LAND AMONG THE TWELVE TRIBES
A Practical Study of JOSHUA

“The Path of Obedience Leads to Victory”

PART II

 STUDY NUMBER NINE – JOSHUA 9:1-27

v. 1 Now when all the kings west of the Jordan heard about these things—those in the hill country, in the western foothills, and along the entire coast of the Great Sea as far as Lebanon (the kings of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites)—
v. 2 they came together to make war against Joshua and Israel.
v. 3 However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,
v. 4 they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended.
v. 5 The men put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and moldy.
v. 6 Then they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and the men of Israel, “We have come from a distant country; make a treaty with us.”
v. 7 The men of Israel said to the Hivites, “But perhaps you live near us. How then can we make a treaty with you?”
v. 8 “We are your servants,” they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, “Who are you and where do you come from?”
v. 9 They answered: “Your servants have come from a very distant country because of the fame of the Lord your God. For we have heard reports of him: all that he did in Egypt,
v. 10 and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan—Sihon king of Heshbon, and Og king of Bashan, who reigned in Ashtaroth.
v. 11 And our elders and all those living in our country said to us, ‘Take provisions for your journey; go and meet them and say to them, ‘We are your servants; make a treaty with us.’“
v. 12 This bread of ours was warm when we packed it at home on the day we left to come to you. But now see how dry and moldy it is.
v. 13 And these wineskins that we filled were new, but see how cracked they are. And our clothes and sandals are worn out by the very long journey.”
v. 14 The men of Israel sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the Lord.
v. 15 Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.
v. 16 Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them.
v. 17 So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim.
v. 18 But the Israelites did not attack them, because the leaders of the assembly had sworn an oath to them by the Lord, the God of Israel. The whole assembly grumbled against the leaders,
v. 19 but all the leaders answered, “We have given them our oath by the Lord, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now.
v. 20 This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them.”
v. 21 They continued, “Let them live, but let them be woodcutters and water carriers for the entire community.” So the leaders’ promise to them was kept.
v. 22 Then Joshua summoned the Gibeonites and said, “Why did you deceive us by saying, 'We live a long way from you,' while actually you live near us?
v. 23 You are now under a curse: You will never cease to serve as woodcutters and water carriers for the house of my God.”
v. 24 They answered Joshua, “Your servants were clearly told how the Lord your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you the whole land and to wipe out all its inhabitants from before you. So we feared for our lives because of you, and that is why we did this.
v. 25 We are now in your hands. Do to us whatever seems good and right to you.”
v. 26 So Joshua saved them from the Israelites, and they did not kill them.
v. 27 That day he made the Gibeonites woodcutters and water carriers for the community and for the altar of the Lord at the place the Lord would choose. And that is what they are to this day.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 9:1-27 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What happens in verses 1 & 2?

4. What mistake did the men of Israel make, according to verse 14?

5. What did Joshua do, according to verse 15?

6. What did they find out later, according to verse 16?

7. What was finally done to the Gibeonites, according to verse 21?

8. How did the Gibeonites explain their action, according to verse 24?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Satan is cunning and crafty and covers the consequences.

LESSON #2: We are most vulnerable for attack at the time of victory.
LESSON #3: How sensitive we must be to the strategies of Satan and the Spirit’s leadership in our lives.

LESSON #4: Lies and deception are two of Satan’s greatest tools.

LESSON #5: A situation can look right and good, and we can fall into it if we don’t pray.

LESSON #6: Satan gets at us when we fail to read the Word and pray.

LESSON #7: The Lord is left out of all the negotiations.

LESSON #8: They assumed the mind of the Lord without asking.

LESSON #9: When a vow is made, God intends for us to keep it.

LESSON #10: How good God is at taking our mistakes and salvaging them into something for our good.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TEN – JOSHUA 10:1-43

v. 1 Now Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had taken Ai and totally destroyed it, doing to Ai and its king as he had done to Jericho and its king, and that the people of Gibeon had made a treaty of peace with Israel and were living near them.

v. 2 He and his people were very much alarmed at this, because Gibeon was an important city, like one of the royal cities; it was larger than Ai, and all its men were good fighters.

v. 3 So Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem appealed to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish and Debir king of Eglon.

v. 4 “Come up and help me attack Gibeon,” he said, “because it has made peace with Joshua and the Israelites.”

v. 5 Then the five kings of the Amorites—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon—joined forces. They moved up with all their troops and took up positions against Gibeon and attacked it.

v. 6 The Gibeonites then sent word to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal: “Do not abandon your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us! Help us, because all the Amorite kings from the hill country have joined forces against us.”

v. 7 So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men.
The Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you.”

After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise.

The Lord threw them into confusion before Israel, who defeated them in a great victory at Gibeon. Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah.

As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the Lord hurled large hailstones down on them from the sky, and more of them died from the hailstones than were killed by the swords of the Israelites.

On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel: “O sun, stand still over Gibeon, O moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.”

So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day.

There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a man. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!

Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal.

Now the five kings had fled and hidden in the cave at Makkedah.

When Joshua was told that the five kings had been found hiding in the cave at Makkedah,

he said, “Roll large rocks up to the mouth of the cave, and post some men there to guard it.

But don’t stop! Pursue your enemies, attack them from the rear and don’t let them reach their cities, for the Lord your God has given them into your hand.”

So Joshua and the Israelites destroyed them completely—almost to a man—but the few who were left reached their fortified cities.

The whole army then returned safely to Joshua in the camp at Makkedah, and no one uttered a word against the Israelites.

Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the cave and bring those five kings out to me.”

So they brought the five kings out of the cave—the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon.

When they had brought these kings to Joshua, he summoned all the men of Israel and said to the army commanders who had come with him, “Come here and put your feet on the necks of these kings.” So they came forward and placed their feet on their necks.

Joshua said to them, “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Be strong and courageous. This is what the Lord will do to all the enemies you are going to fight.”

Then Joshua struck and killed the kings and hung them on five trees, and they were left hanging on the trees until evening.

At sunset Joshua gave the order and they took them down from the trees and threw them into the cave where they had been hiding. At the mouth of the cave they placed large rocks, which are there to this day.

That day Joshua took Makkedah. He put the city and its king to the sword and totally destroyed everyone in it. He left no survivors. And he did to the king of Makkedah as he had done to the king of Jericho.

Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Makkedah to Libnah and attacked it.
v. 30  The Lord also gave that city and its king into Israel's hand. The city and everyone in it Joshua put to the sword. He left no survivors there. And he did to its king as he had done to the king of Jericho.

v. 31  Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Libnah to Lachish; he took up positions against it and attacked it.

v. 32  The Lord handed Lachish over to Israel, and Joshua took it on the second day. The city and everyone in it he put to the sword, just as he had done to Libnah.

v. 33  Meanwhile, Horam king of Gezer had come up to help Lachish, but Joshua defeated him and his army—until no survivors were left.

v. 34  Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Lachish to Eglon; they took up positions against it and attacked it.

v. 35  They captured it that same day and put it to the sword and totally destroyed everyone in it, just as they had done to Lachish.

v. 36  Then Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron and attacked it.

v. 37  They took the city and put it to the sword, together with its king, its villages and everyone in it. They left no survivors. Just as at Eglon, they totally destroyed it and everyone in it.

v. 38  Then Joshua and all Israel with him turned around and attacked Debir.

v. 39  They took the city, its king and its villages, and put them to the sword. Everyone in it they totally destroyed. They left no survivors. They did to Debir and its king as they had done to Libnah and its king and to Hebron.

v. 40  So Joshua subdued the whole region, including the hill country, the Negev, the western foothills and the mountain slopes, together with all their kings. He left no survivors. He totally destroyed all who breathed, just as the Lord, the God of Israel, had commanded.

v. 41  Joshua subdued them from Kadesh Barnea to Gaza and from the whole region of Goshen to Gibeon.

v. 42  All these kings and their lands Joshua conquered in one campaign, because the Lord, the God of Israel, fought for Israel.

v. 43  Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Joshua 10:1-43 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does the king of Jerusalem want to do, according to verse 4?

3. What do the Gibeonites do, according to verse 6?
4. What does the Lord say to Joshua in verse 8?

5. How did the Lord help Joshua and his forces in the battle, according to verse 11?

6. What else happened, according to verses 12 & 13?

7. What does Joshua say to his men in verse 25?

8. Why were Joshua and the sons of Israel so successful, according to verse 42?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God uses the compromise with Gibeon to trigger the southern campaign.

LESSON #2: Prior compromises draw us into battles that we would just as soon not fight.

LESSON #3: The Lord can use our mistakes to accomplish His purpose.

LESSON #4: The Lord grants the victory because Joshua and the nation Israel are living in obedience.
LESSON #5: Life gets complicated when we compromise our convictions.

LESSON #6: It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

LESSON #7: The Lord always comes to us at the perfect time with peace, assurance, and confidence.

LESSON #8: The Lord intervenes on the behalf of his people in answer to prayer in the passage.

LESSON #9: Joshua challenges his men to be strong and courageous, even as the Lord had challenged him in his commissioning service in chap.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER ELEVEN – JOSHUA 11:1-23

v. 1 When Jabin king of Hazor heard of this, he sent word to Jobab king of Madon, to the kings of Shimron and Acshaph,

v. 2 and to the northern kings who were in the mountains, in the Arabah south of Kinnereth, in the western foothills and in Naphoth Dor on the west;

v. 3 to the Canaanites in the east and west; to the Amorites, Hittites, Perizzites and Jebusites in the hill country; and to the Hivites below Hermon in the region of Mizpah.

v. 4 They came out with all their troops and a large number of horses and chariots—a huge army, as numerous as the sand on the seashore.

v. 5 All these kings joined forces and made camp together at the Waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

v. 6 The Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid of them, because by this time tomorrow I will hand all of them over to Israel, slain. You are to hamstring their horses and burn their chariots.”

v. 7 So Joshua and his whole army came against them suddenly at the Waters of Merom and attacked them,

v. 8 and the Lord gave them into the hand of Israel. They defeated them and pursued them all the way to Greater Sidon, to Misrephoth Maim, and to the Valley of Mizpah on the east, until no survivors were left.

v. 9 Joshua did to them as the Lord had directed: He hamstring their horses and burned their chariots.

v. 10 At that time Joshua turned back and captured Hazor and put its king to the sword. (Hazor had been the head of all these kingdoms.)

v. 11 Everyone in it they put to the sword. They totally destroyed them, not sparing anything that breathed, and he burned up Hazor itself.
Joshua took all these royal cities and their kings and put them to the sword. He totally destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded.

Yet Israel did not burn any of the cities built on their mounds—except Hazor, which Joshua burned.

The Israelites carried off for themselves all the plunder and livestock of these cities, but all the people they put to the sword until they completely destroyed them, not sparing anyone that breathed.

As the Lord commanded his servant Moses, so Moses commanded Joshua, and Joshua did it; he left nothing undone of all that the Lord commanded Moses.

So Joshua took this entire land: the hill country, all the Negev, the whole region of Goshen, the western foothills, the Arabah and the mountains of Israel with their foothills,

from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, to Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He captured all their kings and struck them down, putting them to death.

Joshua waged war against all these kings for a long time.

Except for the Hivites living in Gibeon, not one city made a treaty of peace with the Israelites, who took them all in battle.

For it was the Lord himself who hardened their hearts to wage war against Israel, so that he might destroy them totally, exterminating them without mercy, as the Lord had commanded Moses.

At that time Joshua went and destroyed the Anakites from the hill country: from Hebron, Debir and Anab, from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua totally destroyed them and their towns.

No Anakites were left in Israelite territory; only in Gaza, Gath and Ashdod did any survive.

So Joshua took the entire land, just as the Lord had directed Moses, and he gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal divisions.

Then the land had rest from war.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Joshua 11:1-23 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Describe what happened in the north after Joshua’s victory in the south, according to verses 1-5.
3. What statement does the Lord make to Joshua in verse 6?

4. What is the key to Joshua’s success, according to verse 9?

5. Describe the chain of command in verse 15.

6. How did the Lord help Joshua to victory, according to verse 20?

7. Who are the Anakites that are destroyed in verses 21 & 22?

8. What does Joshua do in verse 23?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: When things look hopeless in our eyes, God is ready to work.

LESSON #2: The Lord has a message for Joshua in the midst of this crisis.
LESSON #3: The Lord is the one responsible for the victory.

LESSON #4: Joshua has an obedient heart.

LESSON #5: Joshua is a doer of the word, and not just a hearer only.

LESSON #6: God has been faithful over all the years of conflict.

LESSON #7: The Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

LESSON #8: God is faithful to fulfill His promises to Joshua.

LESSON #9: Rest follows the conflict.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWELVE — JOSHUA 12:1-24

v. 1 These are the kings of the land whom the Israelites had defeated and whose territory they took over east of the Jordan, from the Arnon Gorge to Mount Hermon, including all the eastern side of the Arabah:

v. 2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon. He ruled from Aröer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge—from the middle of the gorge—to the Jabbok River, which is the border of the Ammonites. This included half of Gilead.

v. 3 He also ruled over the eastern Arabah from the Sea of Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea), to Beth Jeshimoth, and then southward below the slopes of Pisgah.

v. 4 And the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the last of the Rephaites, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei.

v. 5 He ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, all of Bashan to the border of the people of Geshur and Maacah, and half of Gilead to the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

v. 6 Moses, the servant of the Lord, and the Israelites conquered them. And Moses the servant of the Lord gave their land to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh to be their possession.

v. 7 These are the kings of the land that Joshua and the Israelites conquered on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir (their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions—
v. 8 the hill country, the western foothills, the Arabah, the mountain slopes, the desert and the Negev—the lands of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites):

v. 9 the king of Jericho  one
the king of Ai (near Bethel)  one
v. 10 the king of Jerusalem  one
the king of Hebron  one
v. 11 the king of Jarmuth  one
the king of Lachish  one
v. 12 the king of Eglon  one
the king of Gezer  one
v. 13 the king of Debir  one
the king of Geder  one
v. 14 the king of Hormah  one
the king of Arad  one
v. 15 the king of Libnah  one
the king of Adullam  one
v. 16 the king of Makkedah  one
the king of Bethel  one
v. 17 the king of Tappuah  one
the king of Hepher  one
v. 18 the king of Aphek  one
the king of Lasharon  one
v. 19 the king of Madon  one
the king of Hazor  one
v. 20 the king of Shimron Meron  one
the king of Acshaph  one
v. 21 the king of Taanach  one
the king of Megiddo  one
v. 22 the king of Kedesh  one
the king of Jokneam in Carmel  one
v. 23 the king of Dor
(in Naphoth Dor)  one
the king of Goyim in Gilgal  one
v. 24 the king of Tirzah  one
thirty-one kings in all.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 12:1-24 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What are we going to be looking at in this twelfth chapter, according to verse 1?
3. Using a good Bible map, locate the sites described in verses 2 & 3.

4. Locate the territory of Og king of Bashan and the other geographical sites mentioned as a part of his kingdom.

5. To whom did Moses delegate this land east of the Jordan, according to verse 6?

6. Where would you find Baal Gad and Mount Halak?

7. What did Joshua do with all of this conquered land, according to verse 7?

8. How many kings were defeated in the Canaan campaign, according to verse 24?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

**LESSON #1:** The Lord grants victory to the obedient heart.
LESSON #2: It is Satan’s supreme desire to keep us childish and carnal after we become Christians.

LESSON #3: Each of us face similar problems in our pursuit of Christian growth.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER THIRTEEN – JOSHUA 13:1-33

v. 1 When Joshua was old and well advanced in years, the Lord said to him, “You are very old, and there are still very large areas of land to be taken over.

v. 2 “This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines and Geshurites:

v. 3 from the Shihor River on the east of Egypt to the territory of Ekron on the north, all of it counted as Canaanite (the territory of the five Philistine rulers in Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath and Ekron—that of the Avvites);

v. 4 from the south, all the land of the Canaanites, from Arah of the Sidonians as far as Aphek, the region of the Amorites,

v. 5 the area of the Gebalites; and all Lebanon to the east, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo Hamath.

v. 6 “As for all the inhabitants of the mountain regions from Lebanon to Misrephoth Maim, that is, all the Sidonians, I myself will drive them out before the Israelites. Be sure to allocate this land to Israel for an inheritance, as I have instructed you,

v. 7 and divide it as an inheritance among the nine tribes and half of the tribe of Manasseh.”

v. 8 The other half of Manasseh, the Reubenites and the Gadites had received the inheritance that Moses had given them east of the Jordan, as he, the servant of the Lord, had assigned it to them.

v. 9 It extended from Aroer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge, and from the town in the middle of the gorge, and included the whole plateau of Medeba as far as Dibon,

v. 10 and all the towns of Sihon king of the Amorites, who ruled in Heshbon, out to the border of the Ammonites.

v. 11 It also included Gilead, the territory of the people of Geshur and Maacah, all of Mount Hermon and all Bashan as far as Salecah—

v. 12 that is, the whole kingdom of Og in Bashan, who had reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei and had survived as one of the last of the Rephaites. Moses had defeated them and taken over their land.

v. 13 But the Israelites did not drive out the people of Geshur and Maacah, so they continue to live among the Israelites to this day.
v. 14 But to the tribe of Levi he gave no inheritance, since the offerings made by fire to the Lord, the God of Israel, are their inheritance, as he promised them.

v. 15 This is what Moses had given to the tribe of Reuben, clan by clan:

v. 16 The territory from Aroer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge, and from the town in the middle of the gorge, and the whole plateau past Medeba to Heshbon and all its towns on the plateau, including Dibon, Bamoth Baal, Beth Baal Meon,

v. 18 Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath,

v. 19 Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth Shahar on the hill in the valley,

v. 20 Beth Peor, the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth Jeshimoth

v. 21—all the towns on the plateau and the entire realm of Sihon king of the Amorites, who ruled at Heshbon. Moses had defeated him and the Midianite chiefs, Evi, Rekem, Zur, Hur and Reba—princes allied with Sihon—who lived in that country.

v. 22 In addition to those slain in battle, the Israelites had put to the sword Balaam son of Beor, who practiced divination.

v. 23 The boundary of the Reubenites was the bank of the Jordan. These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the Reubenites, clan by clan.

v. 24 This is what Moses had given to the tribe of Gad, clan by clan:

v. 25 The territory of Jazer, all the towns of Gilead and half the Ammonite country as far as Aroer, near Rabbah;

v. 26 and from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpah and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the territory of Debir;

v. 27 and in the valley, Beth Haram, Beth Nimrah, Succoth and Zaphon with the rest of the realm of Sihon king of Heshbon (the east side of the Jordan, the territory up to the end of the Sea of Kinnereth).

v. 28 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the Gadites, clan by clan.

v. 29 This is what Moses had given to the half-tribe of Manasseh, that is, to half the family of the descendants of Manasseh, clan by clan:

v. 30 The territory extending from Mahanaim and including all of Bashan, the entire realm of Og king of Bashan—all the settlements of Jair in Bashan, sixty towns,

v. 31 half of Gilead, and Ashtaroth and Edrei (the royal cities of Og in Bashan). This was for the descendants of Makir son of Manasseh—for half of the sons of Makir, clan by clan.

v. 32 This is the inheritance Moses had given when he was in the plains of Moab across the Jordan east of Jericho.

v. 33 But to the tribe of Levi, Moses had given no inheritance; the Lord, the God of Israel, is their inheritance, as he promised them.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 13:1-33 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
2. What is the Lord’s message to Joshua, according to verse 1?

3. Locate the territories that still need to be conquered that are described in verses 2-5.

4. Who got the land east of the Jordan, according to verse 8?

5. What is stated about the tribe of Levi in verse 14?

6. Locate, on a good biblical map, the inheritance of the tribe of Reuben.

7. Locate, on a good biblical map, the inheritance of the tribe of Gad.

8. Who is the inheritance of Levi, according to verse 33?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?
LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Even though Joshua is old, the Lord is not finished with him yet.

LESSON #2: I know I am far from what I ought to be, but thank God I am far from what I once was.

LESSON #3: The work of making me like Jesus Christ will be instantaneously complete when I see Him face to face.

LESSON #4: Joshua is changing jobs from action to administration.

LESSON #5: What pain we suffer when we fail to be completely obedient.

LESSON #6: God is faithful to do all that He said He would do.

LESSON #7: God granted their request but sent leanness into their souls.

LESSON #8: The two and a half tribes are settling short of what God intended for them.

LESSON #9: Future suffering is guaranteed when we settle for something out of the will of God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER FOURTEEN – JOSHUA 14:1-15

v. 1 Now these are the areas the Israelites received as an inheritance in the land of Canaan, which Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the tribal clans of Israel allotted to them.

v. 2 Their inheritances were assigned by lot to the nine-and-a-half tribes, as the Lord had commanded through Moses.

v. 3 Moses had granted the two-and-a-half tribes their inheritance east of the Jordan but had not granted the Levites an inheritance among the rest, for the sons of Joseph had become two tribes—Manasseh and Ephraim. The Levites received no share of the land but only towns to live in, with pasturcelands for their flocks and herds.

v. 5 So the Israelites divided the land, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.
Now the men of Judah approached 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 at Kadesh Barnea about you and me.

I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh Barnea to explore the land. And I brought him back a report according to my convictions,

but my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt with fear. I, however, followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.

So on that day Moses swore to me, ‘The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.’

“Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the desert. So here I am today, eighty-five years old!

I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then.

Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the Lord helping me, I will drive them out just as he said.”

Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.

So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly.

(Hebron used to be called Kiriath Arba after Arba, who was the greatest man among the Anakites.) Then the land had rest from war.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 14:1-15 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How were the inheritances assigned, according to verse 2?

3. What did the Levites receive, according to verse 4?

4. Who is Caleb?
5. What distinguishing characteristic about Caleb is mentioned in verse 8 and again in verse 9?

6. How old is Caleb, according to verse 10?

7. What request does Caleb make of Joshua in verse 12?

8. What key phrase about Caleb is mentioned again in verse 14?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The children of Israel fought and won the battles that made all this possible.

LESSON #2: We, too, as believers have an inheritance awaiting us in glory.

LESSON #3: God has been faithful to protect Caleb for forty-five years, that He might fulfill His promise to him.

LESSON #4: Caleb was successful because he followed the Lord his God wholeheartedly.

LESSON #5: It is the Lord who fills the obedient heart.
LESSON #6: Can you pray, “O God, take me, break me, and make me into that which you desire.”

LESSON #7: Caleb is where he is in life as a result of God’s faithfulness.

LESSON #8: Caleb had a commitment without reservations or contract.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

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STUDY NUMBER FIFTEEN – JOSHUA 15:1-63

v. 1 The allotment for the tribe of Judah, clan by clan, extended down to the territory of Edom, to the Desert of Zin in the extreme south.

v. 2 Their southern boundary started from the bay at the southern end of the Salt Sea,

v. 3 crossed south of Scorpion Pass, continued on to Zin and went over to the south of Kadesh Barnea. Then it ran past Hezron up to Addar and curved around to Karka.

v. 4 It then passed along to Azmon and joined the Wadi of Egypt, ending at the sea. This is their southern boundary.

v. 5 The eastern boundary is the Salt Sea as far as the mouth of the Jordan. The northern boundary started from the bay of the sea at the mouth of the Jordan,

v. 6 went up to Beth Hoglah and continued north of Beth Arabah to the Stone of Bohan son of Reuben.

v. 7 The boundary then went up to Debir from the Valley of Achor and turned north to Gilgal, which faces the Pass of Adummim south of the gorge. It continued along to the waters of En Shemesh and came out at En Rogel.

v. 8 Then it ran up the Valley of Ben Hinnom along the southern slope of the Jebusite city (that is, Jerusalem). From there it climbed to the top of the hill west of the Hinnom Valley at the northern end of the Valley of Rephaim.

v. 9 From the hilltop the boundary headed toward the spring of the waters of Nephtoah, came out at the towns of Mount Ephron and went down toward Baalah (that is, Kiriath Jearim).

v. 10 Then it curved westward from Baalah to Mount Seir, ran along the northern slope of Mount Jearim (that is, Kesalon), continued down to Beth Shemesh and crossed to Timnah.

v. 11 It went to the northern slope of Ekron, turned toward Shikkeron, passed along to Mount Baalah and reached Jabneel. The boundary ended at the sea.

v. 12 The western boundary is the coastline of the Great Sea. These are the boundaries around the people of Judah by their clans.
v. 13 In accordance with the Lord’s command to him, Joshua gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion in Judah—Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.)
v. 14 From Hebron Caleb drove out the three Anakites—Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmai—descendants of Anak.
v. 15 From there he marched against the people living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath Sepher).
v. 16 And Caleb said, “I will give my daughter Acsah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher.”
v. 17 Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb’s brother, took it; so Caleb gave his daughter Acsah to him in marriage.
v. 18 One day when she came to Othniel, she urged him to ask her father for a field. When she got off her donkey, Caleb asked her, “What can I do for you?”
v. 19 She replied, “Do me a special favor. Since you have given me land in the Negev, give me also springs of water.” So Caleb gave her the upper and lower springs.
v. 20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of Judah, clan by clan:
v. 21 The southernmost towns of the tribe of Judah in the Negev toward the boundary of Edom were: Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur,
v. 22 Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah,
v. 23 Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan,
v. 24 Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,
v. 25 Hazor Hadattah, Kerioth Hezron (that is, Hazor),
v. 26 Amam, Shema, Moladah,
v. 27 Hazar Gaddah, Heshmon, Beth Pelet,
v. 28 Hazar Shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah,
v. 29 Baalah, Iim, Ezem,
v. 30 Eltolad, Kesil, Hormah,
v. 31 Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah,
v. 32 Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain and Rimmon—a total of twenty-nine towns and their villages.
v. 33 In the western foothills: Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,
v. 34 Zanoah, En Gannim, Tappuah, Enam,
v. 35 Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah,
v. 36 Shaaraim, Adithaim and Gederah (or Gederothaim)—fourteen towns and their villages.
v. 37 Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal Gad,
v. 38 Dilean, Mizpah, Joktheel,
v. 39 Lachish, Bozkath, Ether, Ashan,
v. 40 Cabbon, Lahmas, Kitlish,
v. 41 Gederoth, Beth Dagon, Naamah and Makkedah—sixteen towns and their villages.
v. 42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan,
v. 43 Iphthah, Ashnah, Nezib,
v. 44 Keilah, Aczib and Mareshah—nine towns and their villages.
v. 45 Ekron, with its surrounding settlements and villages;
v. 46 west of Ekron, all that were in the vicinity of Ashdod, together with their villages;
v. 47 Ashdod, its surrounding settlements and villages; and Gaza, its settlements and villages, as far as the Wadi of Egypt and the coastline of the Great Sea.
v. 48 In the hill country: Shamir, Jattir, Socoh,
v. 49 Dannah, Kiriath Sannah (that is, Debir),
v. 50 Anab, Eshtemoah, Anim,
v. 51 Goshen, Holon and Giloh—eleven towns and their villages.
v. 52 Arab, Dumah, Eshan,
v. 53 Janim, Beth Tappuah, Aphekah,
v. 54 Humtah, Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron) and Zior—nine towns and their villages.
v. 55 Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah,
v. 56 Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah,
v. 57 Kain, Gibeah and Timnah—ten towns and their villages.
v. 58 Halhul, Beth Zur, Gedor,
v. 59 Maarath, Beth Anoth and Eltekon—six towns and their villages.
v. 60 Kiriath Baal (that is, Kiriath Jearim) and Rabbah—two towns and their villages.
v. 61 In the desert: Beth Arabah, Middin, Secacah,
v. 62 Nibshan, the City of Salt and En Gedi—six towns and their villages.

v. 63 Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people of Judah.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 15:1-63 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Which tribe’s allotment is dealt with here in chapter 15?

3. Locate the southern boundary of Judah’s inheritance and some of the geographical locations described in verses 2-4.

4. What is the western boundary, according to verse 12?

5. Who is given a portion in the land of Judah, according to verse 13?
6. What gift did Caleb give his daughter, according to verse 19?

7. See how many of these towns and villages that you can locate on a good biblical map.

8. With whom did Judah have problems, according to verse 63?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Judah is at the head of the line because of Caleb and Christ.

LESSON #2: The scorpion of sin grabs us on the front end and stings us on the back end.

LESSON #3: Have you been to Kadesh Barnea, the sanctuary of the wanderer?

LESSON #4: Is your life the demonstration of that which God has built?

LESSON #5: Are you gaining victory over the giants in your life?

LESSON #6: Caleb is a good, gracious, godly, great man.

LESSON #7: Have you been to the house of liberation and been set free from the law of sin and death?

LESSON #8: Are there still areas of your life possessed by the enemy because you would not allow the Lord to grant the victory?
STUDY NUMBER SIXTEEN – JOSHUA 16:1-10

v. 1  The allotment for Joseph began at the Jordan of Jericho, east of the waters of Jericho, and went up from there through the desert into the hill country of Bethel.

v. 2  It went on from Bethel (that is, Luz), crossed over to the territory of the Arkites in Ataroth,

v. 3  descended westward to the territory of the Japhletites as far as the region of Lower Beth Horon and on to Gezer, ending at the sea.

v. 4  So Manasseh and Ephraim, the descendants of Joseph, received their inheritance.

v. 5  This was the territory of Ephraim, clan by clan: The boundary of their inheritance went from Ataroth Addar in the east to Upper Beth Horon

v. 6  and continued to the sea. From Micmethath on the north it curved eastward to Taanath Shiloh, passing by it to Janoah on the east.

v. 7  Then it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and Naarah, touched Jericho and came out at the Jordan.

v. 8  From Tappuah the border went west to the Kanah Ravine and ended at the sea. This was the inheritance of the tribe of the Ephraimites, clan by clan.

v. 9  It also included all the towns and their villages that were set aside for the Ephraimites within the inheritance of the Manassites.

v. 10  They did not dislodge the Canaanites living in Gezer; to this day the Canaanites live among the people of Ephraim but are required to do forced labor.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 16:1-10 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Whose allotment are we dealing with in chapter 16?

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3. Read Genesis 48 and describe why Joseph receives his inheritance through his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh.

4. Try to locate, on a good biblical map, as many of these boundaries as possible.

5. Locate, on a good biblical map, as many of these towns and villages mentioned in verses 5-8.

6. Where is the location of the inheritance of Manasseh in relationship to Ephraim?

7. What is unique about the inheritance of the tribe of Manasseh?

8. What did these two tribes fail to do, according to verse 10?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

**LESSON #1:** It is part of God’s program for development and growth to include suffering.
LESSON #2: Are you endeavoring to be fruitful in the land of your suffering?

LESSON #3: God sometimes has to touch us physically to get us to respond spiritually.

LESSON #4: The heavenly Father makes provision for a shelter in the time of storm.

LESSON #5: Have you entered into His rest?

LESSON #6: A cure for suffering comes with learning to be a servant.

LESSON #7: Are you involved in a compromise that is going to cost you in the future?

LESSON #8: Are you bearing fruit for the glory of God?

LESSON #9: Have you been set free from your anxiety and concerns in the midst of your suffering?

LESSON #10: Have you learned to turn loose and trust in the heat of the traumatic?

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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A Practical Study of JOSHUA

“The Path of Obedience Leads to Victory”

PART III

STUDY NUMBER SEVENTEEN – JOSHUA 17:1-18

v. 1 This was the allotment for the tribe of Manasseh as Joseph’s firstborn, that is, for Makir, Manasseh’s firstborn. Makir was the ancestor of the Gileadites, who had received Gilead and Bashan because the Makirites were great soldiers.

v. 2 So this allotment was for the rest of the people of Manasseh—the clans of Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hepher and Shemida. These are the other male descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph by their clans.

v. 3 Now Zelophehad son of Hepher, the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons but only daughters, whose names were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah.

v. 4 They went to Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the leaders and said, “The Lord commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brothers.” So Joshua gave them an inheritance along with the brothers of their father, according to the Lord’s command.

v. 5 Manasseh’s share consisted of ten tracts of land besides Gilead and Bashan east of the Jordan,

v. 6 because the daughters of the tribe of Manasseh received an inheritance among the sons. The land of Gilead belonged to the rest of the descendants of Manasseh.

v. 7 The territory of Manasseh extended from Asher to Micmethath east of Shechem. The boundary ran southward from there to include the people living at En Tappuah.

v. 8 (Manasseh had the land of Tappuah, but Tappuah itself, on the boundary of Manasseh, belonged to the Ephraimites.)

v. 9 Then the boundary continued south to the Kanah Ravine. There were towns belonging to Ephraim lying among the towns of Manasseh, but the boundary of Manasseh was the northern side of the ravine and ended at the sea.
v. 10 On the south the land belonged to Ephraim, on the north to Manasseh. The territory of Manasseh reached the sea and bordered Asher on the north and Issachar on the east.

v. 11 Within Issachar and Asher, Manasseh also had Beth Shan, Ibleam and the people of Dor, Endor, Taanach and Megiddo, together with their surrounding settlements (the third in the list is Naphoth).

v. 12 Yet the Manassites were not able to occupy these towns, for the Canaanites were determined to live in that region.

v. 13 However, when the Israelites grew stronger, they subjected the Canaanites to forced labor but did not drive them out completely.

v. 14 The people of Joseph said to Joshua, “Why have you given us only one allotment and one portion for an inheritance? We are a numerous people and the Lord has blessed us abundantly.”

v. 15 “If you are so numerous,” Joshua answered, “and if the hill country of Ephraim is too small for you, go up into the forest and clear land for yourselves there in the land of the Perizzites and Rephaites.”

v. 16 The people of Joseph replied, “The hill country is not enough for us, and all the Canaanites who live in the plain have iron chariots, both those in Beth Shan and its settlements and those in the Valley of Jezreel.”

v. 17 But Joshua said to the house of Joseph—to Ephraim and Manasseh—“You are numerous and very powerful. You will have not only one allotment

v. 18 but the forested hill country as well. Clear it, and its farthest limits will be yours; though the Canaanites have iron chariots and though they are strong, you can drive them out.”

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 17:1-18 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. Whose allotment are we dealing with in chapter 17?

3. How are the Gileadites related to Joseph?

4. Locate, on a good biblical map, as many of these boundaries for Manasseh as possible.
5. Who were Manasseh’s neighbors on the north and the east, according to verse 10?

6. What were the Manassites unable to do, according to verse 12?

7. What request do the people of Joseph make of Joshua in verse 14?

8. What decision does Joshua make in verses 17 & 18?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: When suffering comes, we must see it as from the hand of God to produce Christlike character.

LESSON #2: In suffering, God expects us to forget the past and to press on to the future.

LESSON #3: The Lord is waiting to assume the responsibility for our burdens and problems.

LESSON #4: Happy anticipation can be ours when we are expecting something good from our suffering.

LESSON #5: The Lord Himself is our hiding place in the midst of the storm.

LESSON #6: The Father is glorified when we bear fruit as a result of our suffering.
LESSON #7: A vital principle for us to learn is to turn it over to God and to trust Him with the results.

LESSON #8: He is that house of rest for His weary pilgrims.

LESSON #9: Godliness with contentment is great gain.

LESSON #10: A compromise with Canaan now can kill the blessing of a future.

LESSON #11: With God there are no free lunches.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER EIGHTEEN – JOSHUA 18:1-28

v. 1 The whole assembly of the Israelites gathered at Shiloh and set up the Tent of Meeting there. The country was brought under their control,
v. 2 but there were still seven Israelite tribes who had not yet received their inheritance.
v. 3 So Joshua said to the Israelites: “How long will you wait before you begin to take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, has given you?
v. 4 Appoint three men from each tribe. I will send them out to make a survey of the land and to write a description of it, according to the inheritance of each. Then they will return to me.
v. 5 You are to divide the land into seven parts. Judah is to remain in its territory on the south and the house of Joseph in its territory on the north.
v. 6 After you have written descriptions of the seven parts of the land, bring them here to me and I will cast lots for you in the presence of the Lord our God.
v. 7 The Levites, however, do not get a portion among you, because the priestly service of the Lord is their inheritance. And Gad, Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh have already received their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan. Moses the servant of the Lord gave it to them.”
v. 8 As the men started on their way to map out the land, Joshua instructed them, “Go and make a survey of the land and write a description of it. Then return to me, and I will cast lots for you here at Shiloh in the presence of the Lord.”
v. 9 So the men left and went through the land. They wrote its description on a scroll, town by town, in seven parts, and returned to Joshua in the camp at Shiloh.
Joshua then cast lots for them in Shiloh in the presence of the Lord, and there he distributed the land to the Israelites according to their tribal divisions.

The lot came up for the tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan. Their allotted territory lay between the tribes of Judah and Joseph:

On the north side their boundary began at the Jordan, passed the northern slope of Jericho and headed west into the hill country, coming out at the desert of Beth Aven.

From there it crossed to the south slope of Luz (that is, Bethel) and went down to Ataroth Addar on the hill south of Lower Beth Horon.

From the hill facing Beth Horon on the south the boundary turned south along the western side and came out at Kiriath Baal (that is, Kiriath Jearim), a town of the people of Judah. This was the western side.

The southern side began at the outskirts of Kiriath Jearim on the west, and the boundary came out at the spring of the waters of Nephtoah.

The boundary went down to the foot of the hill facing the Valley of Ben Hinnom, north of the Valley of Rephaim. It continued down the Hinnom Valley along the southern slope of the Jebusite city and so to En Rogel.

Then it curved north, went to En Shemesh, continued to Geliloth, which faces the Pass of Adummim, and ran down to the Stone of Bohan son of Reuben.

It continued to the northern slope of Beth Arabah and on down into the Arabah.

It then went to the northern slope of Beth Hoglah and came out at the northern bay of the Salt Sea, at the mouth of the Jordan in the south. This was the southern boundary.

The Jordan formed the boundary on the eastern side. These were the boundaries that marked out the inheritance of the clans of Benjamin on all sides.

The tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan, had the following cities: Jericho, Beth Hoglah, Emek Keziz,

Beth Arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,

Avvim, Parah, Ophrah,

Kephar Ammoni, Ophni and Geba—twelve towns and their villages.

Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth,

Mizpah, Kephirah, Mozah,

Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah,

Zelah, Haeleph, the Jebusite city (that is, Jerusalem), Gibeah and Kiriath—fourteen towns and their villages. This was the inheritance of Benjamin for its clans.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 18:1-28 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.
2. What happens, according to verse 1?

3. How many tribes had not yet received their inheritance, according to verse 2?

4. What is Joshua’s question to the Israelites in verse 3?

5. What does Joshua command the men to do, according to verse 8?

6. Where is the tribe of Benjamin located, according to verse 11?

7. Locate, on a good biblical map, as many of these geographical boundaries as possible.

8. What formed the eastern boundary for the tribe of Benjamin, according to verse 20?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?
LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Joshua handles first things first: a place for the Lord and then a place for the people.

LESSON #2: The people had conquered and controlled the land but had not possessed it as yet.

LESSON #3: Joshua depends upon the Lord in making these last seven allotments of land.

LESSON #4: Have you been to Bethel for a meeting with the Lord?

LESSON #5: Has God had to touch you physically to get you to respond spiritually?

LESSON #6: The Father’s pruning leads to greater fruitfulness.

LESSON #7: Are you letting God work in your marriage to produce oneness?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER NINETEEN – JOSHUA 19:1-51

v. 1 The second lot came out for the tribe of Simeon, clan by clan. Their inheritance lay within the territory of Judah.

v. 2 It included: Beersheba (or Sheba), Moladah,
v. 3 Hazar Shual, Balah, Ezem,
v. 4 Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah,
v. 5 Ziklag, Beth Marcaboth, Hazar Susah,
v. 6 Beth Lebaoth and Sharuhen—thirteen towns and their villages;
v. 7 Ain, Rimmon, Ether and Ashan—four towns and their villages—
v. 8 and all the villages around these towns as far as Baalath Beer (Ramah in the Negev). This was the inheritance of the tribe of the Simeonites, clan by clan.

v. 9 The inheritance of the Simeonites was taken from the share of Judah, because Judah’s portion was more than they needed. So the Simeonites received their inheritance within the territory of Judah.

v. 10 The third lot came up for Zebulun, clan by clan: The boundary of their inheritance went as far as Sarid.

v. 11 Going west it ran to Maralah, touched Dabbesheth, and extended to the ravine near Jokneam.
v. 12 It turned east from Sarid toward the sunrise to the territory of Kisloth Tabor and went on to Daberath and up to Japhia.
v. 13 Then it continued eastward to Gath Hepher and Eth Kazin; it came out at Rimmon and turned toward Neah.
v. 14 There the boundary went around on the north to Hannathon and ended at the Valley of Iphtah El.
v. 15 Included were Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah and Bethlehem. There were twelve towns and their villages.
v. 16 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of Zebulun, clan by clan.
v. 17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, clan by clan.
v. 18 Their territory included: Jezreel, Kesulloth, Shunem,
v. 19 Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath,
v. 20 Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez,
v. 21 Remeth, En Gannim, En Haddah and Beth Pazzez.
v. 22 The boundary touched Tabor, Shahazumah and Beth Shemesh, and ended at the Jordan. There were sixteen towns and their villages.
v. 23 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Issachar, clan by clan.
v. 24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of Asher, clan by clan.
v. 25 Their territory included: Helkath, Hali, Beten, Acshaph,
v. 26 Allammelech, Amad and Mishal. On the west the boundary touched Carmel and Shihor Libnah.
v. 27 It then turned east toward Beth Dagon, touched Zebulun and the Valley of Iphtah El, and went north to Beth Emek and Neiel, passing Cabul on the left.
v. 28 It went to Abdon, Rehob, Hammon and Kanah, as far as Greater Sidon.
v. 29 The boundary then turned back toward Ramah and went to the fortified city of Tyre, turned toward Hosah and came out at the sea in the region of Aczib,
v. 30 Ummah, Aphek and Rehob. There were twenty-two towns and their villages.
v. 31 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Asher, clan by clan.
v. 32 The sixth lot came out for Naphtali, clan by clan:
v. 33 Their boundary went from Heleph and the large tree in Zaanannim, passing Adami Nekeb and Jabneel to Lakkum and ending at the Jordan.
v. 34 The boundary ran west through Aznoth Tabor and came out at Hukkok. It touched Zebulun on the south, Asher on the west and the Jordan on the east.
v. 35 The fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Kinnereth,
v. 36 Adamah, Ramah, Hazor,
v. 37 Kedesh, Edrei, En Hazor,
v. 38 Iron, Migdal El, Horem, Beth Anath and Beth Shemesh. There were nineteen towns and their villages.
v. 39 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Naphtali, clan by clan.
v. 40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of Dan, clan by clan.
v. 41 The territory of their inheritance included: Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir Shemesh,
v. 42 Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah,
v. 43 Elon, Timnah, Ekron,
v. 44 Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath,

v. 45 Jehud, Bene Berak, Gath Rimmon,

v. 46 Me Jarkon and Rakkon, with the area facing Joppa.

v. 47 (But the Danites had difficulty taking possession of their territory, so they went up and attacked Leshem, took it, put it to the sword and occupied it. They settled in Leshem and named it Dan after their forefather.)

v. 48 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Dan, clan by clan.

v. 49 When they had finished dividing the land into its allotted portions, the Israelites gave Joshua son of Nun an inheritance among them,

v. 50 as the Lord had commanded. They gave him the town he asked for—Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim. And he built up the town and settled there.

v. 51 These are the territories that Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the tribal clans of Israel assigned by lot at Shiloh in the presence of the Lord at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. And so they finished dividing the land.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 19:1-51 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What tribal inheritance are we dealing with in verse 1?

3. How did the Simeonites get their inheritance, according to verse 9?

4. Whose inheritance are we considering in verses 10-16?

5. Whose inheritance are we considering in verses 17-23?
6. Whose inheritance are we considering in verses 24-31?

7. Who are the last two tribes to receive their inheritance, according to verses 32-48?

8. Where did Joshua finally settle, according to verse 50?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God is faithful to see to it that everyone has an inheritance.

LESSON #2: God does not comfort us to make us comfortable, but to make us comforters.

LESSON #3: Our primary motivation ought to be to please the Lord, not to be possessed by people.

LESSON #4: Beware of the hardened heart.

LESSON #5: Joy is the evidence that the King is in residence.

LESSON #6: Can you say, “The Lord is my portion”?

LESSON #7: Is living water coming forth from your innermost being?

LESSON #8: Has that empty place in your life been filled with the precious stone of His presence?
LESSON #9: The Lord always does exceeding abundant above what we ask or think.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY – JOSHUA 20:1-9

v. 1 Then the Lord said to Joshua:
v. 2 “Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses,
v. 3 so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.
v. 4 “When he flees to one of these cities, he is to stand in the entrance of the city gate and state his case before the elders of that city. Then they are to admit him into their city and give him a place to live with them.
v. 5 If the avenger of blood pursues him, they must not surrender the one accused, because he killed his neighbor unintentionally and without malice aforethought.
v. 6 He is to stay in that city until he has stood trial before the assembly and until the death of the high priest who is serving at that time. Then he may go back to his own home in the town from which he fled.”
v. 7 So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron) in the hill country of Judah.
v. 8 On the east side of the Jordan of Jericho they designated Bezer in the desert on the plateau in the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in Gilead in the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan in the tribe of Manasseh.
v. 9 Any of the Israelites or any alien living among them who killed someone accidentally could flee to these designated cities and not be killed by the avenger of blood prior to standing trial before the assembly.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 20:1-9 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does the Lord command Joshua to do, according to verse 2?
3. What is the purpose of the cities of refuge, according to verse 3?

4. What is a person to do when he flees to one of these cities, according to verse 4?

5. Why are the residents of the city to protect the person who flees there, according to verse 5?

6. How long is he to remain in the city of refuge?

7. Locate, on a good biblical map, these six cities.

8. What is the purpose of these cities, which is again stated in verse 9?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord is manifesting His grace and forgiveness in this passage.
LESSON #2: Do you find yourself in the sanctuary of the struggler?

LESSON #3: Are you turning your burdens and blows into blessings?

LESSON #4: Are you offering Him your praise?

Hebrews 13:15

Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

LESSON #5: Are you a city of refuge to those who desperately need you?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-ONE – JOSHUA 21:1-45

v. 1 Now the family heads of the Levites approached Eleazar the priest, Joshua son of Nun, and the heads of the other tribal families of Israel
v. 2 at Shiloh in Canaan and said to them, “The Lord commanded through Moses that you give us towns to live in, with pasturelands for our livestock.”

v. 3 So, as the Lord had commanded, the Israelites gave the Levites the following towns and pasturelands out of their own inheritance:

v. 4 The first lot came out for the Kohathites, clan by clan. The Levites who were descendants of Aaron the priest were allotted thirteen towns from the tribes of Judah, Simeon and Benjamin.

v. 5 The rest of Kohath’s descendants were allotted ten towns from the clans of the tribes of Ephraim, Dan and half of Manasseh.

v. 6 The descendants of Gershon were allotted thirteen towns from the clans of the tribes of Issachar, Asher, Naphtali and the half-tribe of Manasseh in Bashan.

v. 7 The descendants of Merari, clan by clan, received twelve towns from the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebulun.

v. 8 So the Israelites allotted to the Levites these towns and their pasturelands, as the Lord had commanded through Moses.

v. 9 From the tribes of Judah and Simeon they allotted the following towns by name

v. 10 (these towns were assigned to the descendants of Aaron who were from the Kohathite clans of the Levites, because the first lot fell to them):

v. 11 They gave them Kiirath Arba (that is, Hebron), with its surrounding pastureland, in the hill country of Judah. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.)
v. 12 But the fields and villages around the city they had given to Caleb son of Jephunneh as his possession.

v. 13 So to the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Libnah,

v. 14 Jattir, Eshtemoa,

v. 15 Holon, Debir,

v. 16 Ain, Juttah and Beth Shemesh, together with their pasturelands—nine towns from these two tribes.

v. 17 And from the tribe of Benjamin they gave them Gibeon, Geba,

v. 18 Anathoth and Almon, together with their pasturelands—four towns.

v. 19 All the towns for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were thirteen, together with their pasturelands.

v. 20 The rest of the Kohathite clans of the Levites were allotted towns from the tribe of Ephraim:

v. 21 In the hill country of Ephraim they were given Shechem (a city of refuge for one accused of murder) and Gezer,

v. 22 Kibzaim and Beth Horon, together with their pasturelands—four towns.

v. 23 Also from the tribe of Dan they received Eltekeh, Gibbethon,

v. 24 Aijalon and Gath Rimmon, together with their pasturelands—four towns.

v. 25 From half the tribe of Manasseh they received Taanach and Gath Rimmon, together with their pasturelands—two towns;

v. 26 All these ten towns and their pasturelands were given to the rest of the Kohathite clans.

v. 27 The Levite clans of the Gershonites were given: from the half-tribe of Manasseh, Golan in Bashan (a city of refuge for one accused of murder) and Be Eshtarah, together with their pasturelands—two towns;

v. 28 from the tribe of Issachar, Kishion, Daberath,

v. 29 Jarmuth and En Gannim, together with their pasturelands—four towns;

v. 30 from the tribe of Asher, Mishal, Abdon,

v. 31 Helkath and Rehob, together with their pasturelands—four towns;

v. 32 from the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Hammoth Dor and Kartan, together with their pasturelands—three towns.

v. 33 All the towns of the Gershonite clans were thirteen, together with their pasturelands.

v. 34 The Merarite clans (the rest of the Levites) were given: from the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam, Kartah,

v. 35 Dimnah and Nahalal, together with their pasturelands—four towns;

v. 36 from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer, Jahaz,

v. 37 Kedemoth and Mephaath, together with their pasturelands—four towns;

v. 38 from the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Mahanaim,

v. 39 Heshbon and Jazer, together with their pasturelands—four towns in all.

v. 40 All the towns allotted to the Merarite clans, who were the rest of the Levites, were twelve.
v. 41 The towns of the Levites in the territory held by the Israelites were forty-eight in all, together with their pasturelands.

v. 42 Each of these towns had pasturelands surrounding it; this was true for all these towns.

v. 43 So the Lord gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their forefathers, and they took possession of it and settled there.

v. 44 The Lord gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their forefathers. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the Lord handed all their enemies over to them.

v. 45 Not one of all the Lord’s good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 21:1-45 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What group of people are we dealing with in chapter 21?

3. Who were the Levites descendants of, according to verse 4?

4. Locate these towns given to the Levites on a good biblical map.

5. How many towns were given to the Levites, according to verse 41?

6. What was true of each of these towns, according to verse 42?
7. What did the Lord give them, according to verse 44?


8. Did the Lord fulfill all of His promises to Israel, according to verse 45?


9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?


10. What lesson have you learned from this study?


**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

**LESSON #1:** Everybody participated in the giving of Levitical cities.

2 Corinthians 9:7

Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.

**LESSON #2:** Obedience is the key word in all of spiritual life.

**LESSON #3:** Is God answering your prayers?

**LESSON #4:** Are you hardened or sensitive toward the needs which are around you?

**LESSON #5:** Not one of the good promises failed; every one was fulfilled.

Matthew 5:18

For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished.
Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and said to them, “You have done all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded, and you have obeyed me in everything I commanded. For a long time now—to this very day—you have not deserted your brothers but have carried out the mission the Lord your God gave you. Now that the Lord your God has given your brothers rest as he promised, return to your homes in the land that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you on the other side of the Jordan. But be very careful to keep the commandment and the law that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you: to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to obey his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and all your soul.” Then Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their homes. (To the half-tribe of Manasseh Moses had given land in Bashan, and to the other half of the tribe Joshua gave land on the west side of the Jordan with their brothers.) When Joshua sent them home, he blessed them, saying, “Return to your homes with your great wealth—with large herds of livestock, with silver, gold, bronze and iron, and a great quantity of clothing—and divide with your brothers the plunder from your enemies.” So the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh left the Israelites at Shiloh in Canaan to return to Gilead, their own land, which they had acquired in accordance with the command of the Lord through Moses. When they came to Gelilot near the Jordan in the land of Canaan, the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh built an imposing altar there by the Jordan. And when the Israelites heard that they had built the altar on the border of Canaan at Gelilot near the Jordan on the Israelite side, the whole assembly of Israel gathered at Shiloh to go to war against them. So the Israelites sent Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, to the land of Gilead—to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh. With him they sent ten of the chief men, one for each of the tribes of Israel, each the head of a family division among the Israelite clans. When they went to Gilead—to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh—they said to them:
v. 16 “The whole assembly of the Lord says: ‘How could you break faith with the God of Israel like this? How could you turn away from the Lord and build yourselves an altar in rebellion against him now?’

v. 17 Was not the sin of Peor enough for us? Up to this very day we have not cleansed ourselves from that sin, even though a plague fell on the community of the Lord!

v. 18 And are you now turning away from the Lord? “If you rebel against the Lord today, tomorrow he will be angry with the whole community of Israel.

v. 19 If the land you possess is defiled, come over to the Lord’s land, where the Lord’s tabernacle stands, and share the land with us. But do not rebel against the Lord or against us by building an altar for yourselves, other than the altar of the Lord our God.

v. 20 When Achan son of Zerah acted unfaithfully regarding the devoted things, did not wrath come upon the whole community of Israel? He was not the only one who died for his sin.”

v. 21 Then Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh replied to the heads of the clans of Israel:

v. 22 “The Mighty One, God, the Lord! The Mighty One, God, the Lord! He knows! And let Israel know! If this has been in rebellion or disobedience to the Lord, do not spare us this day.

v. 23 If we have built our own altar to turn away from the Lord and to offer burnt offerings and grain offerings, or to sacrifice fellowship offerings on it, may the Lord himself call us to account.

v. 24 “No! We did it for fear that some day your descendants might say to ours, ‘What do you have to do with the Lord, the God of Israel? The Lord has made the Jordan a boundary between us and you—you Reubenites and Gadites! You have no share in the Lord.’ So your descendants might cause ours to stop fearing the Lord.

v. 25 That is why we said, ‘Let us get ready and build an altar—but not for burnt offerings or sacrifices.’

v. 26 On the contrary, it is to be a witness between us and you and the generations that follow, that we will worship the Lord at his sanctuary with our burnt offerings, sacrifices and fellowship offerings. Then in the future your descendants will not be able to say to ours, ‘You have no share in the Lord.’

v. 27 “And we said, ‘If they ever say this to us, or to our descendants, we will answer: Look at the replica of the Lord’s altar, which our fathers built, not for burnt offerings and sacrifices, but as a witness between us and you.’

v. 28 “Far be it from us to rebel against the Lord and turn away from him today by building an altar for burnt offerings, grain offerings and sacrifices, other than the altar of the Lord our God that stands before his tabernacle.”

v. 30 When Phinehas the priest and the leaders of the community—the heads of the clans of the Israelites—heard what Reuben, Gad and Manasseh had to say, they were pleased.

v. 31 And Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, said to Reuben, Gad and Manasseh, “Today we know that the Lord is with us, because you have not acted unfaithfully toward the Lord in this matter. Now you have rescued the Israelites from the Lord’s hand.”
Then Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, and the leaders returned to Canaan from their meeting with the Reubenites and Gadites in Gilead and reported to the Israelites.

They were glad to hear the report and praised God. And they talked no more about going to war against them to devastate the country where the Reubenites and the Gadites lived.

And the Reubenites and the Gadites gave the altar this name: A Witness Between Us that the Lord is God.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 22:1-34 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. How does Joshua characterize the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh in verses 2-4?

3. What warning does Joshua give to them as they prepare to go to their homes in verse 5?

4. What blessing did Joshua give them as they returned home in verse 8?

5. What almost stirred up a war, according to verse 10?

6. How do Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh reply to the heads of the clans of Israel, according to verses 22-27?
7. What is the response of Phinehas and the leaders of the community, according to verse 30?

8. What is the name they gave to the altar, according to verse 34?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Will you hear a commendation at the judgment seat of Christ that you have done, you have obeyed, you have not deserted, and you have carried out what the Lord intended for you to do?

LESSON #2: Will you accept the challenge to keep, to love, to walk, to obey, to hold fast, and to serve?

LESSON #3: The children of Israel did not inquire of the Lord before they faced the possibility of war with the two and a half tribes.

LESSON #4: We must be careful not to criticize and condemn prematurely.

LESSON #5: Love says a man is innocent until he is proven guilty.

LESSON #6: How great to be able to call God to witness when you have been misjudged.

LESSON #7: What one person does affects the whole body.

LESSON #8: When we act unfaithfully, we place ourselves in the chastening hand of God.
STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-THREE – JOSHUA 23:1-16

v. 1 After a long time had passed and the Lord had given Israel rest from all their enemies around them, Joshua, by then old and well advanced in years, summoned all Israel—their elders, leaders, judges and officials—and said to them: “I am old and well advanced in years.
v. 2 You yourselves have seen everything the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake; it was the Lord your God who fought for you.
v. 3 Remember how I have allotted as an inheritance for your tribes all the land of the nations that remain—the nations I conquered—between the Jordan and the Great Sea in the west.
v. 4 The Lord your God himself will drive them out of your way. He will push them out before you, and you will take possession of their land, as the Lord your God promised you.
v. 5 Be very strong; be careful to obey all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, without turning aside to the right or to the left.
v. 6 Do not associate with these nations that remain among you; do not invoke the names of their gods or swear by them. You must not serve them or bow down to them.
v. 7 But you are to hold fast to the Lord your God, as you have until now.
v. 8 The Lord has driven out before you great and powerful nations; to this day no one has been able to withstand you.
v. 9 One of you routs a thousand, because the Lord your God fights for you, just as he promised.
v. 10 So be very careful to love the Lord your God.
v. 11 But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you and if you intermarry with them and associate with them,
v. 12 then you may be sure that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you. Instead, they will become snares and traps for you, whips on your backs and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land, which the Lord your God has given you.
v. 13 “Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the Lord your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed.
v. 14 But just as every good promise of the Lord your God has come true, so the Lord will bring on you all the evil he has threatened, until he has destroyed you from this good land he has given you.
v. 15 If you violate the covenant of the Lord your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them, the Lord’s anger will burn against you, and you will quickly perish from the good land he has given you.”
QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 23:1-16 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Joshua do in verses 1 & 2?

3. To whom does Joshua attribute all of their success during his lifetime, according to verse 3?

4. What does he command them to do in verses 6-8?

5. What are they to be careful to do, according to verse 11?

6. What warning does he give to them in verses 12 & 13?

7. What does he say about the promises of God in verse 14?

8. What final warning does he give in verses 15 & 16?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?
10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord should become more precious to us the older we get.

LESSON #2: Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

LESSON #3: God is waiting to do not what He has done in the past.

LESSON #4: God expects us to come out from the world and to be separate from it.

LESSON #5: The key to Joshua’s success in life is his obedient heart to the Word of God.

LESSON #6: It is a tragedy when Ichabod, “the glory of the Lord departed,” is written over a life.

LESSON #7: In these days of apostasy, are you holding fast and loving the Lord with all your heart?

LESSON #8: Every promise was fulfilled, not one failed.

LESSON #9: The focus of Joshua’s whole life is the Lord his God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

STUDY NUMBER TWENTY-FOUR – JOSHUA 24:1-33

v. 1 Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

v. 2 Joshua said to all the people, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshiped other gods.”
But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the River and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. I gave him Isaac, and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I assigned the hill country of Seir to Esau, but Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt.

Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I afflicted the Egyptians by what I did there, and I brought you out. When I brought your fathers out of Egypt, you came to the sea, and the Egyptians pursued them with chariots and horsemen as far as the Red Sea. But they cried to the Lord for help, and he put darkness between you and the Egyptians; he brought the sea over them and covered them. You saw with your own eyes what I did to the Egyptians. Then you lived in the desert for a long time.

I brought you to the land of the Amorites who lived east of the Jordan. They fought against you, but I gave them into your hands. I destroyed them from before you, and you took possession of their land. When Balak son of Zippor, the king of Moab, prepared to fight against Israel, he sent for Balaam son of Beor to put a curse on you. But I would not listen to Balaam, so he blessed you again and again, and I delivered you out of his hand.

Then you crossed the Jordan and came to Jericho. The citizens of Jericho fought against you, as did also the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites, but I gave them into your hands. I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you—also the two Amorite kings. So I gave you a land on which you did not toil and cities you did not build; and you live in them and eat from vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant.

Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

The people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods! It was the Lord our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. And the Lord drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God.”

Joshua said to the people, “You are not able to serve the Lord. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins.

If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you.” But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the Lord.” Then Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord.” “Yes, we are witnesses,” they replied.
v. 23  “Now then,” said Joshua, “throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.”
v. 24  And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the Lord our God and obey him.”
v. 25  On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he drew up for them decrees and laws.
v. 26  And Joshua recorded these things in the Book of the Law of God. Then he took a large stone and set it up there under the oak near the holy place of the Lord.
v. 27  “See!” he said to all the people. “This stone will be a witness against us. It has heard all the words the Lord has said to us. It will be a witness against you if you are untrue to your God.”
v. 28  Then Joshua sent the people away, each to his own inheritance.
v. 29  After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of a hundred and ten.
v. 30  And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.
v. 31  Israel served the Lord throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had experienced everything the Lord had done for Israel.
v. 32  And Joseph’s bones, which the Israelites had brought up from Egypt, were buried at Shechem in the tract of land that Jacob bought for a hundred pieces of silver from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem. This became the inheritance of Joseph’s descendants.
v. 33  And Eleazar son of Aaron died and was buried at Gibeah, which had been allotted to his son Phinehas in the hill country of Ephraim.

QUESTIONS:

1. Read Joshua 24:1-33 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

2. What does Joshua do in verse 1?

3. Who is Joshua speaking for, according to verse 2?

4. What has the Lord done for them, according to verse 13?
5. What is Joshua’s challenge to them in verses 14 & 15?

6. How do the people respond, according to verse 16?

7. How do the people respond in verse 24?

8. What is said about the history of Israel following the death of Joshua in verse 31?

9. What verse in the study has meant the most to you?

10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Have you made a commitment to be a servant of Jesus Christ?

LESSON #2: It is good for us to remember our blessings and count them one by one.

LESSON #3: How gracious God is to forgive and to forget our failures of the past.

LESSON #4: Are you serving the Lord with all faithfulness?

LESSON #5: Are there some idols that you need to throw away at this time?

LESSON #6: Have you made your decision to serve the Lord with all your heart?
LESSON #7: The four key words to a commitment are: (1) throw away; (2) yield; (3) serve; and (4) obey.

LESSON #8: It is good to drive a stake or set up a stone to mark the decision that has been made.

LESSON #9: Joshua got his title in his death, “The Servant of the Lord.”

LESSON #10: Will you hear “well done, thou good and faithful servant” when you enter the Lord’s presence?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:
THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LAND AMONG THE TWELVE TRIBES

- Asher
- Issachar
- Naphtali
- Zebulun
- Dan
- Gad
- Reuben
- Ephraim
- Benjamin
- Judah
- Simeon
- Manasseh

Levitical town
Philistine city