

# Joshua 1,2

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## Day 1

Joshua's Commission. Read Joshua 1:1-9

1. How had the Lord equipped Joshua for leadership? Deuteronomy 34:9
  - Where and when did Joshua's leadership of Israel begin? 1:1,2
  
2. What are some of the things Joshua had witnessed throughout the years that had prepared him for leadership?
  - Exodus 17:9-10
  
  - Exodus 24:12-14
  
  - Exodus 33:11b
  
3. What instructions and promise did the Lord give Joshua about possessing the land? 1:2,3
  - How large a territory had God promised Israel? 1:4 (What does the past tense "*I have given it to you*" indicate about this promise?)
  
4. List the assurances the Lord gave Joshua.
  - 1:5a (Whom might this include?)
  
  - 1:5b (Consider what this would have meant to Joshua.)
  
  - 1:5c
  
5. What had God told Israel about their enemies? Deuteronomy 11:25; 28:7,10

6. What charge is repeated 3 times in 1:6a,7a,9a? *What does this indicate about the difficulties Joshua would be facing and the focus he needed to have? What kinds of fears could he have been struggling with?*

- What assurance was given? 1:6b

**FYI:** "*courageous*" - Strong's OT:553 *'amats*; to be alert, physically (on foot) or mentally (in courage)  
 "Repetition was typically used by the Hebrews for emphasis with the threefold repetition as the highest degree."  
 - The Woman's Study Bible (341)

7. What commands was Joshua given about the law?

- 1:7
- 1:8

**FYI:** "To meditate... The idea here is that one should reflect upon God's Word in a thoughtful way, appropriating its truths personally and applying them to life. (Ps. 1:2,3)."  
 - The Nelson Study Bible (353)

8. What would obedience to the law ensure? 71:7c, 8c

**Digging Deeper**  
 Deuteronomy 28:1-14  
 gives a list of the  
 amazing blessings that  
 God promised Israel if  
 they followed His  
 commands.

9. What did Joshua's strength and courage need to be founded on? 1:9  
 (Cf. Joshua's courageous statement in Numbers 14:5-9.)

10. Underline the source of our strength and courage:

- Ephesians 6:10-11 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. NIV
- 2 Timothy 2:1 You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. NIV
- Ephesians 3:16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, NIV
- Philippians 2:13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose. NIV
- 2 Corinthians But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.
- 2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. (KJV)

11. How sufficient is this power?

- Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us,
- Philippians 4:13 I can do everything through him who gives me strength. NIV
- 2 Peter 1:3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

12. Of what can we be confident? Hebrews 13:5b,6

**Applying the Word:** Think of a position of authority or leadership that you have (at home, church, work...). What experiences from your past helped to prepare you for this responsibility? Where do you see God's leading in this?

## Day 2

### Joshua Assumes Command. Read Joshua 1:10-18

13. How much confidence and conviction do you see in Joshua's commands to the people?  
1:10,11

14. What instructions were the tribes that had already inherited their land on the east side of the Jordan given? 1:13-15

Numbers 32 tells about the land given to the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh on the east side of the Jordan.

- What had Moses said to them earlier about fighting with the other tribes to take the land of Canaan? Numbers 32:6,7

15. How many went? Joshua 4:12,13 (What would they have to trust God for in order to leave their families?)

**FYI:** "The number of warriors...is much smaller than that listed in Numbers 26. There the warriors from Reuben alone number 43,740 (Numbers 26:7). The number here was most likely a portion of the warriors from the three tribes; the rest probably stayed with the women, children, and elderly to protect them." - The Nelson Study Bible (360)

16. What did the people agree to?

1:16	Contrast the response of the previous generation: Numbers 13:31-14:4.
1:17a	
1:18a	

17. What hopes did they express for Joshua’s leadership? 1:17b,18b (How would you describe their response?)

18. What word would you use to describe their commitment? What does Joshua 22:1-4 say about how well they kept their word?

**Applying the Word:** *Where have you followed through well on a commitment you made to the Lord? What are some areas of your life you need to recommit to Him?*

### Day 3

Spies Sent Out; Rahab Offers Protection. Read Joshua 2:1-14

19. How did Joshua’s mission for spying out the land differ from Moses’? Compare 2:1 with Numbers 13:2

**FYI:** “The location of Acacia Grove (*Shittim*) is unknown today, but it was where Israel had been camped for some time after arriving at the plains of Moab, at the northern end of the Dead Sea (Numbers 22:1; 25:1).”  
 - The Nelson Study Bible (357)

“Jericho was a well-fortified city at an oasis supplied by springs of water, and was located about five miles from the Jordan. ”  
 - Africa Bible Commentary (261)

20. Why do you think the spies went to the house of a prostitute?

- What happened to the secrecy of Joshua's mission? 2:2

**FYI:** "Their purpose was not impure; rather, the spies sought a place where they would not be conspicuous. Resorting to such a house would be a good cover, from where they might learn something of Jericho. Also, a house on the city wall (v.15) would allow a quick getaway...God, in his sovereign providence, wanted them there for the salvation of the prostitute. She would provide an example of His saving, by faith, a woman at the bottom of the social strata... Most importantly, by God's grace she was in the Messianic line (Matthew 1:5)." - MacArthur Bible Commentary

21. How much of a risk do you see Rahab taking by protecting the spies? 2:3-5

- Why do you think the King and men of the city believed her story? 2:7

22. List the phrases that describe the state of the inhabitants of the land. 2:8-11 (See Exodus 15:13-16)

23. What statements of faith did Rahab make? *What would you say about her understanding and relationship with the Lord at this point?*

- 2:9a
- 2:11b

**FYI:** "Rahab drew a contrast between the one God of Israel and the many gods of the Canaanites. Yahweh... is supreme everywhere...He is actively involved in the lives and events of His people...In contrast, the Canaanite gods [*as imagined*] competed for rule, were limited to particular areas and functions, and were involved with their own lusts, murders and intrigues." - The Woman's Study Bible (344)

"Here was a Canaanite woman stating that she knew, as a matter of fact, the God **had already given** the land to Israel. The Bible says that 'faith comes by hearing' (see Romans 10:17). Rahab had heard and had believed. What's more, her faith was not just a verbal confession. It was combined with action, and risky action at that. It was faith she was ready to die for. "

- Africa Bible Commentary (262)

24. On what basis did Rahab ask for protection? 2:12a (Note the "therefore")

25. In the New Testament, what is said about Rahab's attitude and actions? Hebrews 11:31

## 26. Underline descriptions of God's care for mankind and His response to faith.

- 2 Chronicles 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. NIV
- Psalm 36:7 How priceless is your unfailing love! Both high and low among men find refuge in the shadow of your wings. NIV
- Ps 113:5-7 Who is like the LORD our God, Who is enthroned on high, 6 Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in heaven and in the earth? 7 He raises the poor from the dust And lifts the needy from the ash heap, NASU
- Psalm 145:18-20 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. 19 He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them. 20 The LORD watches over all who love him, NIV
- Jeremiah 32:18-19 O great and powerful God, whose name is the LORD Almighty, 19 great are your purposes and mighty are your deeds. Your eyes are open to all the ways of men; you reward everyone according to his conduct and as his deeds deserve. NIV
- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. NASU
- 1 Timothy 2:3-4 ...God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. NASU
- 2 Timothy 2:19 God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are his," NIV
- Nahum 1:7 The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, NIV
- Romans 10:12-13 For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, 13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." NIV
- Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. NIV

## 27. List what Rahab asked of the spies. 2:12-13

- List what the men asked of her. 2:14

**Applying the Word:** *Do you have any ungodly experiences from your past that you feel hinders your relationship with God? What does this story have to say about that?*

## Day 4

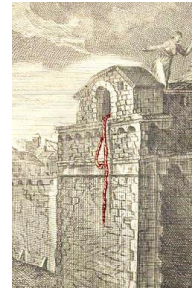
### The Spies Escape. Rahab Saved. Read Joshua 2:15-24

28. What other help did Rahab give the spies? 2:15,16

**“Get to the mountain:** The only hills near Jericho are to the west. This is the opposite direction from the route the pursuers had taken; they had gone east, down to the Jordan (2:7). - The Nelson Study Bible (356)

29. What conditions did the men put on Rahab’s family’s protection?

- 2:17-18 (Compare to Exodus 12:13)
- 2:19
- 2:14,20



30. How did Rahab respond? 2:21 Why do you think she believed the men?

31. What happened to the spies? 2:22,23

- What was they conclude about the situation? 2:24
- Contrast Numbers 13:31. How do you account for the difference in attitude?

32. What happened to Rahab and her family when the city of Jericho was destroyed? 6:22-23

33. From Deuteronomy 20:16-18 what had been God's command concerning the inhabitants of Canaan?

- Why? Deuteronomy 20:17,18
- Why would Rahab be an exception?

#### ***Digging Deeper***

What phrase describes the extent of the wickedness of the Canaanites described in Deuteronomy 12:31?

34. From Matthew 1:5, what amazing thing did God do with Rahab's life?

***Applying the Word:*** *What is one of the most risky things your faith has prompted you to do? What happened?*