

Unit Six: Joshua

Into the Promised
Land

Preparing to Enter the Land

Joshua 1

- Background
 - Egypt was nominally overlord of Canaan
 - Canaan was not a 'nation'
 - It was a land of "city-states"

- A vigorous people in strongly-walled cities (think: Jericho)

- Frequently fought among themselves and sometimes (individually or in coalitions) against outside foes

- Primarily a mountainous land

- Advanced culture

Canaan



Entering the Land

Joshua 2 – 5



Plan of attack

- Enter at approximately the midpoint of the land, dividing it north and south
- Attack each “half” separately

Entering the Land

Reconnaissance of Jericho: The Spies and Rahab (2)

- Two spies sent into Jericho
 - Rahab, the harlot
 - fear of Israel (2.10)
 - parting the Red Sea
 - defeat of Sihon and Og

Entering the Land

Crossing the Jordan (3 – 4)

- Moving to the bank of the Jordan
- Led by the priests with the Ark
- Two memorials



Crossing the Jordan

- Return of the waters of the Jordan
- Results of the crossing
 - Joshua confirmed
 - Fear of the Amorites and Canaanites

Entering the Land

Joshua 5.1-12

ENCAMPMENT AT GILGAL (*galgal*)

- Circumcision
 - “Rolling away” (*galal*) the reproach of Egypt
- Passover
- Cessation of manna

Entering the Land

- Joshua and the Captain of the Host of the LORD (5.13-15)
 - Joshua's question: Are you for us or for our adversaries? (5.13)
 - Captain's response: wrong question!

“No, for indeed I come now, captain of the army of the LORD” (5.14)

Entering the Land

- Captain of the host of the LORD = preincarnate manifestation of the Son of God
 - Holy ground
 - Joshua prostrates himself
 - Joshua given his marching orders
(6.1-5)

Central Campaign

Joshua 6 – 8



Mediterranean Sea

Mt. Hermon

Sea of Galilee

AFRICAN
TECTONIC PLATE

ARABIAN
TECTONIC PLATE

Adam
(Damiya, Jordan)

Jericho

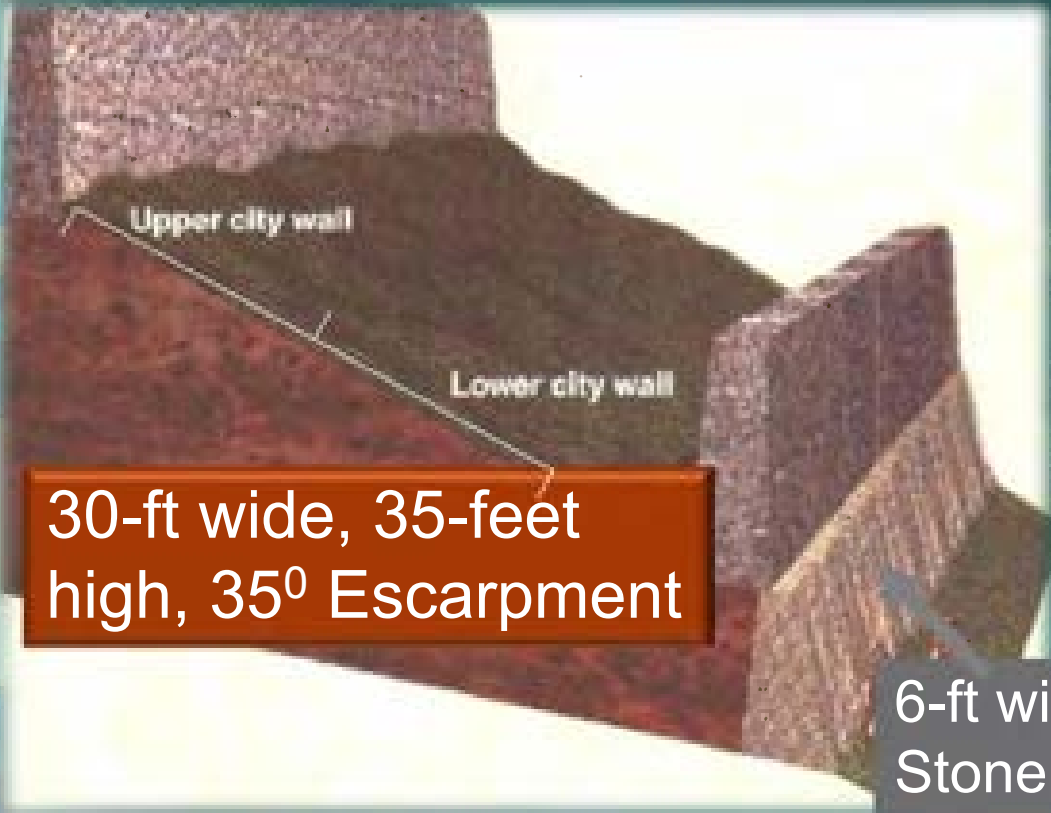
Gilgal?

Jericho

Jordan River

Possible route of the Jews

Dead Sea



30-ft wide, 35-feet high, 35° Escarpment



6-ft wide, 11-feet high Stone abutment

Walls of Jericho

Destruction of Jericho

Joshua 6

- The first “battle”
- Under a ban (= devoted to God; 17-19)
 - the LORD did it
 - the plunder was the first fruits
- Rahab and her family spared
- Curse placed upon Jericho (applied 1 Kings 16.34)

Defeat by and Conquest of Ai (Joshua 7 – 8)

- Overconfidence toward Ai
 - Reconnoitered
 - Initial defeat
- The sin of Achan
- Two lessons
- Conquest of Ai
- Conquest of Bethel(?)



Covenant renewal ceremony at Shechem (8.30-35)



- Shechem, 30+ miles north of Ai
- Altar of uncut stones set up
- Mount Gerizim (blessing) and Mount Ebal (cursing)

Southern Campaign

Joshua 9, 10

Southern Campaign



- From Kadesh-barnea even as far as Gaza, and all the country of Goshen even as far as Gibeon (10.41)

Southern Campaign



- Treaty with the Gibeonites (9)
- Defeat of the Southern Kings (10)
 - Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, Eglon attack Gibeon for the alliance with Israel
 - Their attack of Gibeon gets them all together (→Joshua doesn't have to conquer them individually)

Southern Campaign

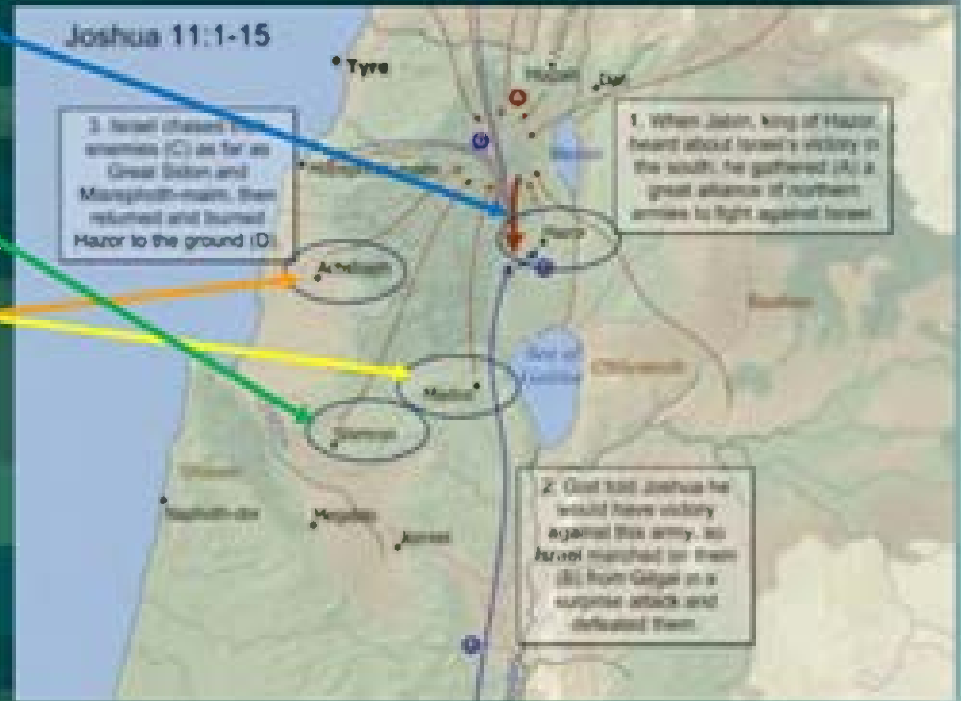
- Again, careful strategy
- God participates visibly
- These campaigns break the backs of the Canaanites

Northern Campaign

Joshua 11

Northern Coalition

- Jabin of Hazor,
Jobab of
Madon, Shimron,
Achshaph
- Canaanites,
Amorites, Hittites,
Perizzites,
Jebusites, Hivites
(11.18-20)



Back to the South

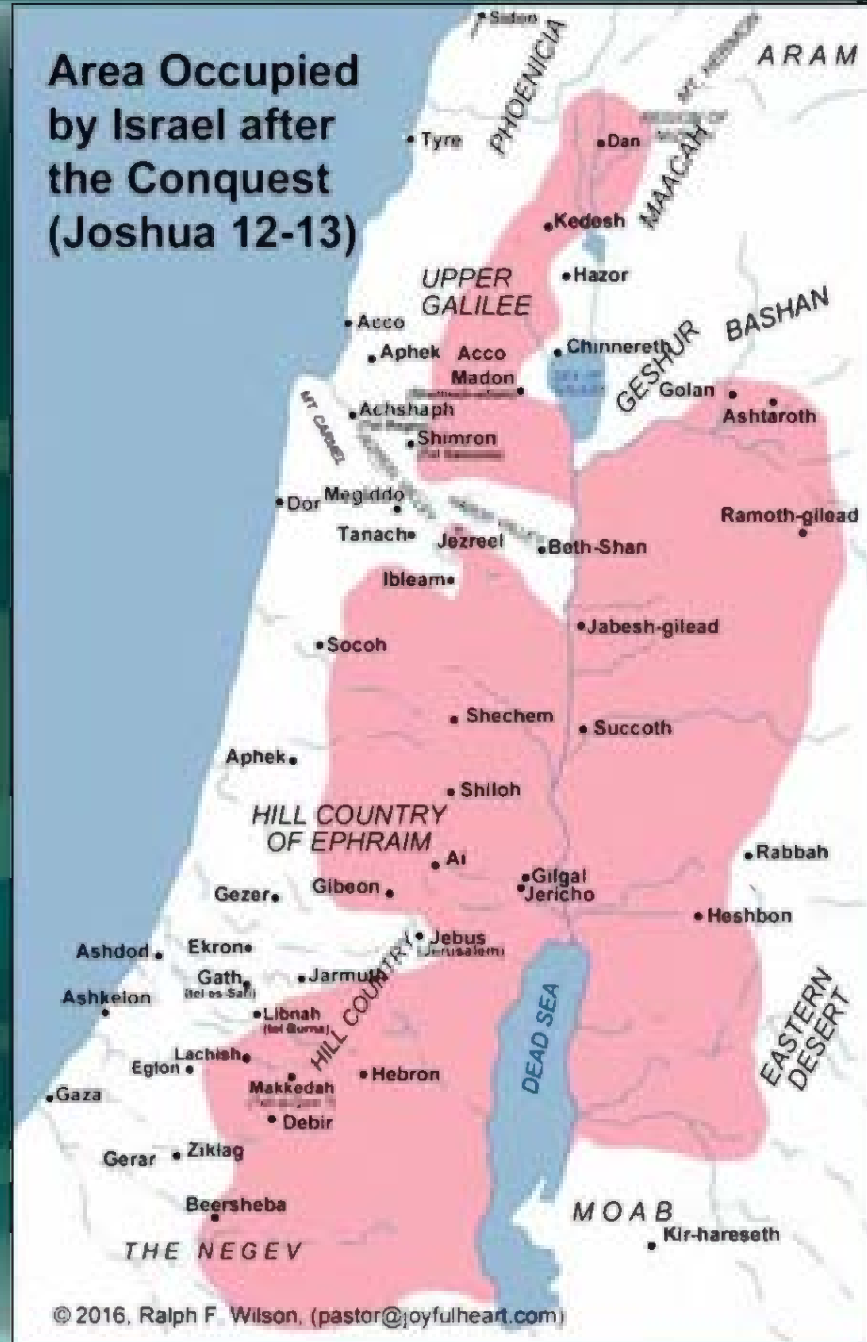
Joshua 11.21-23

- Joshua turns back to area of Hebron
- Cuts off the Anakim
(Some left in Gaza, Gath and Ashdod)

Summary of Conquests

Joshua 12

Area Occupied by Israel after the Conquest (Joshua 12-13)



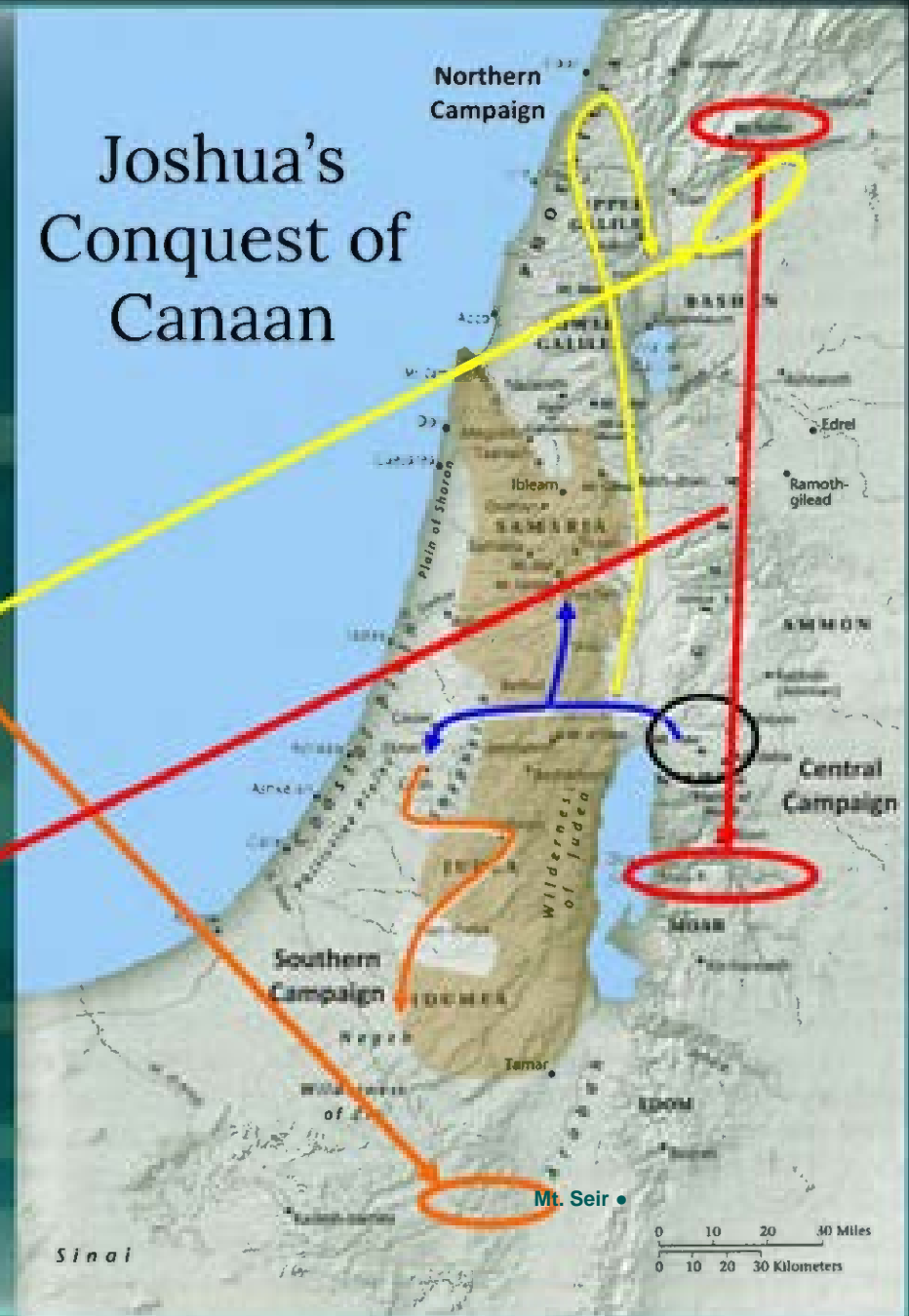
Thirty-one Kings (12.10-24)

Jericho	Gezer	Bethel	Achshaph
Ai	Debir	Tappuah	Taanach
Jerusalem	Geder	Hepher	Megiddo
Hebron	Hormah	Aphek	Kedesh
Jarmuth	Arad	Lasharon	Jokneam
Lachish	Libnah	Madon	Dor
Eglon	Adullam	Hazor	Goiim
	Makkedah	Shimron	Tirzah

Territory

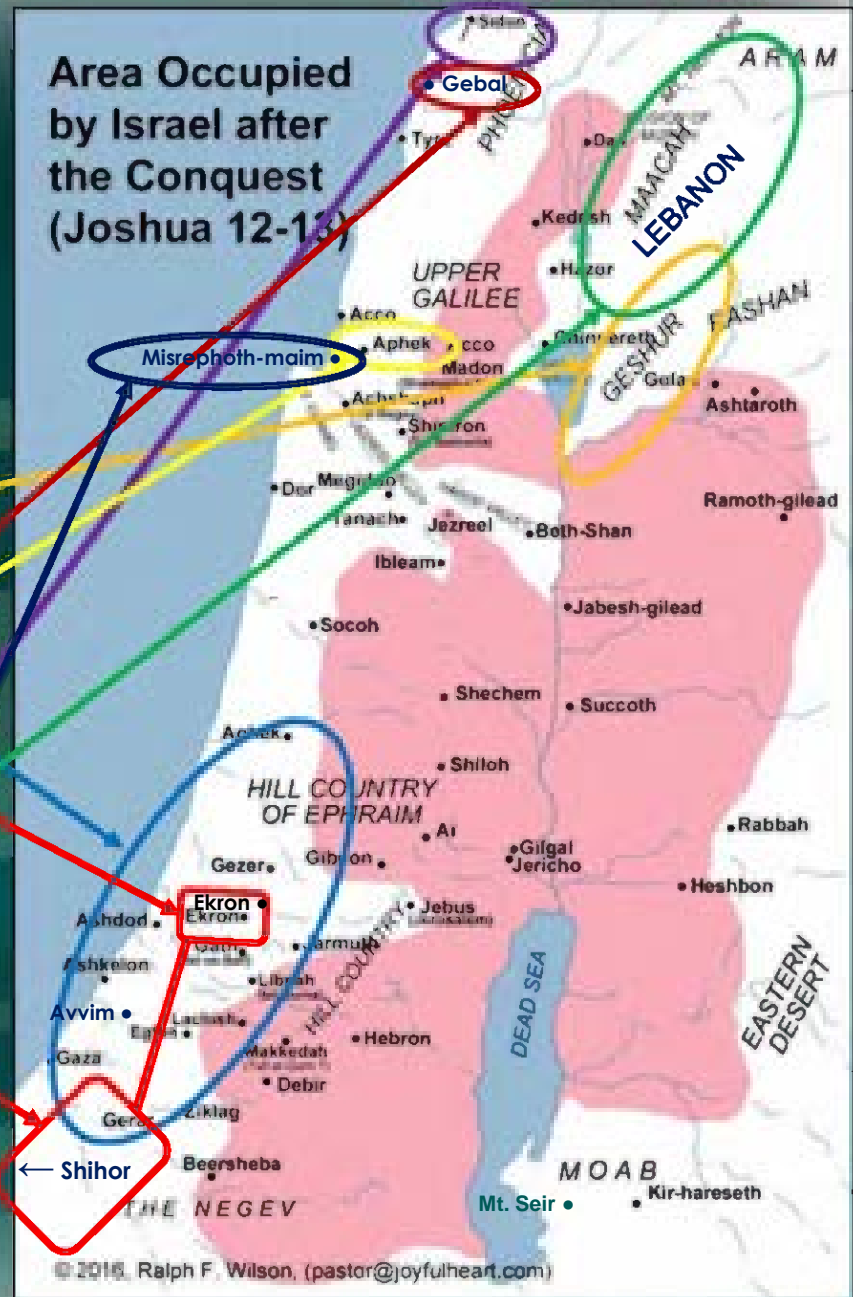
- **South** at “Mount Halak which rises toward Seir”
- **North** to the “Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon”
- **East**: from the Arnon River to the south and Mount Hermon to the north

Joshua's Conquest of Canaan



Yet to be Conquered (Joshua 13.2-6)

- Philistines
- Geshurites
- Shihor to Ekron
- Mearah of Sidonians
- Aphek
- Gebal
- Lebanon
- Misrephoth-maim



Dividing the Land

Joshua 13 – 22



Introduction

(13 – 14.5)

- Conquests left to be accomplished (13.1-7)
- Transjordan (13.8 – 33)
- How the allotment would be carried out (14.1-5)
 - Eleazar the priest and Joshua
 - lot (*goral*)
 - a stone thrown to determine a decision
 - Urim and Thummim?

Caleb given Hebron (14.6-15)

- Caleb 85 years old
 - 45 years since Kadesh-Barnea
 - 38 years in the wilderness
→ 7 years in the conquest
- Remarkable request for the place where the giant Anakim had been found

Initial Allotments

Joshua 15 – 18.9

- Judah's allotment (15)
- (West) Manasseh and Ephraim (16, 17)
 - Complaints and Joshua's response (17.15-18)
- Interlude (18.1-9)
 - Camp (i.e., tabernacle) moved from Gilgal to Shiloh

Remaining Allotments

Joshua 18.10 – 20.9

1. Benjamin

2. Simeon

3. Zebulun

4. Issachar

5. Asher

6. Naphtali

7. Dan

Six Cities of Refuge



6 Cities of Refuge out of the Levitical cities

1. Kadesh in Naphtali
2. Shechem in Ephraim
3. Hebron in Judah
4. Bezer in Reuben
5. Ramoth in Gad
6. Golan in (East) Manasseh

Concluding Events

Joshua 21 – 22

- The Levites (21)
 - Cities with their pastures within the 12 tribal allotments
 - 48 cities, 4 from each tribe
 - Spiritual leaders dispersed throughout Israel

Concluding Events

Joshua 21 – 22

- Civil war narrowly averted (22)
- Reuben, Gad and East Manasseh build an altar
- Phineas, son of High Priest Eleazar, sent to confront the 2½ tribes
- A memorial indicating that the eastern tribes were no less a part of Israel

Last Counsels of Joshua

Joshua 23 – 24

- Encouragements and warnings
(23.5-16)
 - Unfinished business
 - Charge
 - Warning

Last Counsels of Joshua

Joshua 23 – 24

- Covenant Renewal and Final charge: Serve God alone (24)
- Death of Eleazar