

No copyright materials are used in this text
The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and
verses are from the Bible, they are religious text that is in the
public domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok) 駱沅祺
lokpeter@outlook.com

The Book of Joshua

The Book of Joshua is the sixth book of the Old Testament and tells the story of how the Israelites entered and conquered the Promised Land of Canaan. The book is named after Joshua, who was Moses' assistant and became the leader of the Israelites as they entered Canaan.

The book is divided into two main parts: the Israelites' entry into Canaan and the conquest of Canaan. The first part describes how God stopped the flow of the Jordan River, allowing the Israelites to cross on dry land. It also tells the story of the fall of Jericho, a city that God helped the Israelites conquer in a miraculous way.

The second part of the book describes how the Israelites conquered various other cities and regions in Canaan. It includes stories of battles and conquests, as well as the allocation of land to the twelve tribes of Israel. The book ends with Joshua's farewell address and death, as well as a reminder of God's faithfulness in fulfilling his promises to the Israelites.

Overall, the Book of Joshua emphasizes the importance of trusting in God and following his commands. It also highlights the consequences of disobedience and the importance of staying faithful to God's covenant. The book is considered an important part of the history of the Israelites and is also significant in Christian theology as it foreshadows the coming of Jesus Christ as a conqueror and savior.

here is a brief summary of each chapter in the Book of Joshua in the Christian Bible:

Chapter 1: God commissions Joshua to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land and encourages him to be strong and courageous. Joshua prepares the people for the journey.

Chapter 2: Joshua sends two spies to the city of Jericho, where they meet a prostitute named Rahab who helps them escape. Rahab tells the spies that the people of Jericho are afraid of the Israelites because they have heard about their God.

Chapter 3: The Israelites cross the Jordan River on dry land, and God tells Joshua to have twelve stones taken from the riverbed as a memorial of the crossing.

Chapter 4: The twelve stones are set up as a memorial at Gilgal, and the people are reminded of God's power and faithfulness.

Chapter 5: The Israelites are circumcised and observe the Passover in preparation for the conquest of Canaan. Joshua meets a figure who identifies himself as the commander of the Lord's army.

Chapter 6: The Israelites conquer the city of Jericho, following God's instructions to march around the city and blow trumpets.

Chapter 7: The Israelites are defeated at the city of Ai because of the sin of one of their own, Achan. Achan confesses his sin and is stoned to death.

Chapter 8: The Israelites conquer the city of Ai, following God's instructions to set an ambush.

Chapter 9: The people of Gibeon trick the Israelites into making a treaty with them, and Joshua spares their lives.

Chapter 10: The Israelites conquer several cities, including Jerusalem, Hebron, and Debir. God causes the sun and moon to stand still to give them extra time to finish the battle.

Chapter 11: The Israelites continue to conquer the northern kingdoms of Canaan, including Hazor.

Chapter 12: A list of the kings defeated by the Israelites is given.

Chapter 13: Joshua is told that there are still many areas in Canaan that have not yet been conquered, and he is instructed to divide the land among the tribes of Israel.

Chapter 14: Caleb, one of the original spies sent to Canaan, is given the city of Hebron as his inheritance.

Chapter 15-19: The land is divided among the tribes of Israel, and the cities within their territories are listed.

Chapter 20: Six cities of refuge are designated for those who accidentally commit murder.

Chapter 21: The Levites are given cities throughout the territories of the other tribes.

Chapter 22: The tribes on the east side of the Jordan return to their land, and there is a misunderstanding between them and the other tribes, which is resolved peacefully.

Chapter 23: Joshua gives a farewell address to the Israelites, warning them to remain faithful to God and obey his commands.

Chapter 24: Joshua calls the people to renew their covenant with God and recounts the history of their relationship with him. The book ends with Joshua's death and burial.

CHAPTER 1

Jo. 1:1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant:

Jo. 1:2 "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.

Jo. 1:3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses.

Jo. 1:4 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.

Jo. 1:5 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.

Jo. 1:6 “Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them.

Jo. 1:7 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.

Jo. 1:8 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.

Jo. 1:9 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.”

Jo. 1:10 So Joshua ordered the officers of the people:
506

Jo. 1:11 “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.’“

Jo. 1:12 But to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said,

Jo. 1:13 “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.’

Jo. 1:14 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

Jo. 1:15 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 towards the sunrise.”

Jo. 1:16 Then they answered Joshua, “Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go.

Jo. 1:17 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.

Jo. 1:18 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!”

Chapter 1 begins with the Lord speaking to Joshua, the new leader of the Israelites, after the death of Moses. The Lord tells Joshua to lead the people of Israel into the land that He has promised them and reassures him that He will be with him every step of the way.

God also tells Joshua to be strong and courageous and to meditate on His laws day and night so that he may be successful in his endeavors. Joshua then prepares the people for their journey by instructing them to prepare provisions for the journey and to follow him into the land that God has promised.

He also sends out two spies to gather information about the land, particularly the city of Jericho. The spies are hidden by a prostitute named Rahab who tells them that the people of the land are afraid of the Israelites because they have heard of the great things that God has done for them.

The chapter ends with Joshua giving orders to the people to prepare to cross the Jordan River and to follow the ark of the covenant, which represents the presence of God, as they go into the land that God has promised them.

Joshua chapter 1 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them." (Joshua 1:6)
2. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)
3. "Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; 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." (Joshua 1:8)
4. "Remember the command that Moses the servant of the Lord gave you after he said, 'The Lord your God will give you rest by giving you this land.'" (Joshua 1:13)
5. "But commission Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, for he will lead this people across and will cause them to inherit the land that you will see." (Joshua 1:18)

These verses contain important messages about leadership, courage, faith, obedience to God's commands, and the importance of God's presence in our lives

In Joshua chapter 1, we witness a significant moment in the history of the Israelites. Moses, their revered leader, has passed away, and now Joshua is appointed as his successor. The chapter opens with God speaking directly to Joshua, providing him with instructions and encouragement as he prepares to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

One of the key themes in this chapter is courage. God repeatedly tells Joshua to be strong and courageous, emphasizing that he should not be afraid or discouraged. This underscores the challenges that lie ahead for Joshua and the Israelites. They are about to face formidable enemies and conquer new territories, but God assures Joshua of His presence and promises to be with him wherever he goes. This reminder serves as a source of strength and motivation, assuring Joshua that he is not alone in this daunting task.

Another important aspect of Joshua's commissioning is the significance of obedience. God instructs Joshua to carefully follow the law that Moses had given and to meditate on

it day and night. This emphasis on obedience underscores the importance of staying true to God's commandments and relying on His guidance. It reflects the idea that success and prosperity for the Israelites depend on their faithfulness and adherence to God's instructions.

Furthermore, Joshua's leadership style is characterized by unity and collaboration. In verse 12, he addresses the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh, commending them for their commitment to accompany the rest of the Israelites in their conquest of the Promised Land. He encourages them to continue assisting their fellow Israelites until they also inherit their allotted territories. This shows Joshua's understanding of the importance of unity among the people, recognizing that their collective strength is vital for accomplishing their shared goals.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 1 teaches us several valuable lessons. It reminds us of the significance of courage, particularly in times of uncertainty and challenges. Like Joshua, we may face daunting situations that require us to step up and trust in God's guidance. The chapter also highlights the importance of obedience to God's commands, reminding us that true success and prosperity come from aligning our lives with His will. Lastly, the emphasis on unity and collaboration serves as a reminder that we are often stronger when we work together towards a common purpose, supporting and assisting one another.

Overall, Joshua chapter 1 sets the stage for the events to come, laying the foundation for Joshua's leadership and providing important insights into the qualities required for successful endeavors.

CHAPTER 2

Jo. 2:1 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.

507

Jo. 2:2 The king of Jericho was told, "Look! Some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land."

Jo. 2:3 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."

Jo. 2:4 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."

Jo. 2:5 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."

Jo. 2:6 (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)

Jo. 2:7 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.

Jo. 2:8 Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof

Jo. 2:9 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.

Jo. 2:10 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.

Jo. 2:11 When we heard of it, our hearts sank and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

Jo. 2:12 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

508

Jo. 2:13 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.”

Jo. 2:14 “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.”

Jo. 2:15 So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall.

Jo. 2:16 Now she had said to them, “Go to the hills so that the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way.”

Jo. 2:17 The men said to her, “This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us

Jo. 2:18 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.

Jo. 2:19 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.

Jo. 2:20 But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.”

Jo. 2:21 “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.

Jo. 2:22 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.

Jo. 2:23 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.

509

Jo. 2:24 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."

Chapter 2 begins with Joshua sending two spies to scout out the city of Jericho. The spies arrive and go to the house of a prostitute named Rahab, whom they had previously met in chapter 1. Rahab hides the spies and helps them to escape by lowering them down from her window with a rope.

Before they leave, Rahab reveals her belief in the power of the Israelite God, Yahweh, and requests that the spies spare her and her family when they conquer the city. The spies agree to Rahab's request and tell her to hang a scarlet cord from her window so that they will know to spare her when they come to take the city.

The spies then return to Joshua and report their findings, telling him that the people of Jericho are afraid of the Israelites and that God has given them the land. Joshua then leads the Israelites across the Jordan River and sets up camp near Jericho, preparing to take the city as God has instructed them to do.

Chapter 2 shows the faith of Rahab, a woman from a city that was to be destroyed, in the God of Israel. It also highlights the importance of strategic planning and preparation in the success of the Israelites' mission to conquer the land that God had promised them.

Joshua chapter 2 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. 'Go, look over the land,' he said, 'especially Jericho.'" (Joshua 2:1)
2. "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" (Joshua 2:12)
3. "The Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below." (Joshua 2:11)
4. "Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof and said to them, 'I know that the Lord has given you this land 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.'" (Joshua 2:8-9)
5. "And 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." (Joshua 6:25)

These verses contain important messages about courage, faith, obedience to God, kindness, and God's power and sovereignty. They also highlight the importance of seeking God's guidance and protection, even in dangerous situations, and the rewards of obeying Him.

In Joshua chapter 2, we encounter the account of Joshua sending spies into the city of Jericho. This chapter is significant because it introduces us to Rahab, a Canaanite woman who plays a crucial role in the Israelites' conquest of Jericho.

One of the main themes in this chapter is God's faithfulness and His ability to use unlikely individuals for His purposes. Rahab, a prostitute and a foreigner, becomes an instrumental figure in the Israelites' plan to conquer Jericho. She hides the Israelite spies on her roof and provides them with valuable information about the city's defenses. In return, she asks for protection and mercy for herself and her family when the Israelites attack. This shows that God's grace extends beyond ethnic and societal boundaries, and He can work through anyone who chooses to align themselves with His purposes.

Rahab's actions also teach us about the power of faith and trust in God. Despite being part of a culture that worshiped different gods, Rahab had heard about the Israelites and the miracles God had performed for them. She recognized that the God of Israel was the one true God, and she had faith that He would fulfill His promises. Her faith prompted her to take great risks by hiding the spies and making a pact with them. Rahab's faith is highlighted in the New Testament as well, emphasizing her inclusion in the lineage of Jesus Christ, demonstrating God's acceptance of all who believe and trust in Him.

Another important lesson from this chapter is the significance of obedience and following God's guidance. The spies were sent by Joshua, acting in obedience to God's command to gather information about the land. Their presence in Jericho was a demonstration of the Israelites' commitment to follow God's instructions, even if it meant taking risks and entering enemy territory. The spies' actions remind us that obedience to God's commands is essential, even when the task seems daunting or the circumstances uncertain.

Furthermore, chapter 2 also highlights the power of God's providence and His ability to work out His plans despite human shortcomings. The fact that the spies were discovered by the king's men and narrowly escaped capture demonstrates that the success of the mission was not solely dependent on human abilities but ultimately on God's intervention and protection. It serves as a reminder that when we step out in faith and align ourselves with God's purposes, He will guide and protect us, even in the face of adversity.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 2 teaches us important lessons about God's faithfulness, the power of faith and trust, the significance of obedience, and the role of divine providence. It reminds us that God can use anyone, regardless of their background or circumstances, for His purposes. It encourages us to trust in God's guidance and step out in faith, even in uncertain situations. And it reassures us that when we align ourselves with God's plans and follow His commands, He will be with us, guiding and protecting us along the way.

CHAPTER 3

Jo. 3:1 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over.

Jo. 3:2 After three days the officers went throughout the camp,
Jo. 3:3 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.

Jo. 3:4 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.”

Jo. 3:5 Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.”

Jo. 3:6 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.

Jo. 3:7 And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so that they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses.

Jo. 3:8 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.’“

Jo. 3:9 Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God.

Jo. 3:10 This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites,
510

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

Jo. 3:11 See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.

Jo. 3:12 Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe.

Jo. 3:13 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.”

Jo. 3:14 So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them.

Jo. 3:15 Now the Jordan is in flood all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge,

Jo. 3:16 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.

Jo. 3:17 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.

Chapter 3 begins with the Israelites camped on the eastern side of the Jordan River, preparing to cross over into the land that God had promised them. Joshua tells the people to consecrate themselves, or make themselves clean and holy, because they are about to see the power of God.

As the people begin to move towards the river, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant go ahead of them and step into the river. As soon as their feet touch the water, the river stops flowing, and the water piles up in a heap, allowing the people to cross over on dry land.

God instructs Joshua to have one man from each tribe pick up a stone from the middle of the river and carry it on their shoulders as a memorial of this miraculous event. These stones are to be a reminder to future generations of God's power and faithfulness to His promises.

After the people have crossed over, God tells Joshua to have the priests carrying the ark of the covenant come out of the riverbed, and as soon as they do, the water begins to flow again. The Israelites then set up camp at a place called Gilgal, which would serve as their base of operations for their conquest of the land.

Chapter 3 demonstrates the power of God and His faithfulness to His promises, as well as the importance of obedience and consecration in the Israelites' journey to possess the land. It also highlights the significance of memorials in remembering and passing down the stories of God's faithfulness to future generations.

Joshua chapter 3 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it." (Joshua 3:3)
2. "Joshua told the people, 'Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.'" (Joshua 3:5)
3. "Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. 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." (Joshua 3:12-13)
4. "So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them." (Joshua 3:14)
5. "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." (Joshua 4:18)

These verses contain important messages about obedience, faith, and trust in God's power and provision. They also highlight the importance of consecrating oneself and seeking God's guidance before embarking on a new journey or endeavor. The miraculous crossing of the Jordan River emphasizes God's faithfulness and His ability to do the impossible, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

In Joshua chapter 3, we witness a pivotal moment in the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land as they prepare to cross the Jordan River. This chapter provides us with valuable insights about faith, obedience, and the miraculous power of God.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of faith and trust in God's guidance. The Israelites are instructed to follow the ark of the covenant, carried by the priests, as it leads them across the Jordan River. This act symbolizes their reliance on God's presence and His ability to lead them into the land He had promised them. The crossing of the Jordan required a great amount of faith from the Israelites because the river was at flood stage, presenting a formidable obstacle. However, they obeyed God's command and stepped out in faith, demonstrating their trust in His power to make a way for them.

The miraculous nature of the river crossing also highlights God's faithfulness and His ability to perform extraordinary acts on behalf of His people. As the priests carrying the ark stepped into the water, the Jordan River miraculously parted, allowing the Israelites to cross on dry ground. This event mirrors the crossing of the Red Sea during the Exodus from Egypt, further emphasizing God's power and His commitment to fulfilling His promises.

Additionally, the chapter emphasizes the importance of consecration and preparation before entering into God's presence. The Israelites are instructed to consecrate themselves and to maintain a distance of about 2,000 cubits (approximately 1,000 meters) between themselves and the ark, signifying the holiness of God's presence. This underscores the need for the Israelites to approach God with reverence and purity of heart, recognizing His holiness and their own unworthiness.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 3 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of the significance of faith and trust in God's guidance, even when faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The chapter encourages us to step out in faith, knowing that God is faithful to fulfill His promises and make a way for us. It also highlights the power of God to perform miracles and intervene in extraordinary ways on behalf of His people.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of consecration and preparation in our relationship with God. It prompts us to approach Him with reverence, recognizing His holiness and seeking to align ourselves with His purposes.

Overall, Joshua chapter 3 demonstrates the faithfulness and power of God and provides us with valuable insights about faith, obedience, and the importance of preparing ourselves to enter into God's presence. It encourages us to trust in God's guidance, step out in faith, and approach Him with reverence as we journey through life and seek to fulfill His purposes.

CHAPTER 4

Jo. 4:1 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua,

Jo. 4:2 “Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe,

Jo. 4:3 and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them

511

over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”

Jo. 4:4 So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe,

Jo. 4:5 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,

Jo. 4:6 to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’

Jo. 4:7 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 for ever.”

Jo. 4:8 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.

Jo. 4:9 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.

Jo. 4:10 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,

Jo. 4:11 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.

Jo. 4:12 The men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, armed, in front of the Israelites, as Moses had directed them.

512

Jo. 4:13 About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for war.

Jo. 4:14 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.

Jo. 4:15 Then the LORD said to Joshua,

Jo. 4:16 “Command the priests carrying the ark of the Testimony to come up out of the Jordan.”

Jo. 4:17 So Joshua commanded the priests, “Come up out of the Jordan.”

Jo. 4:18 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 in flood as before.

Jo. 4:19 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.

Jo. 4:20 And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan.

Jo. 4:21 He said to the Israelites, “In the future when your descendants ask their fathers, ‘What do these stones mean?’

Jo. 4:22 tell them, ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.’

Jo. 4:23 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.

Jo. 4:24 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.”

Chapter 4 begins with the Israelites still camped at Gilgal, on the western side of the Jordan River. God instructs Joshua to have twelve men, one from each tribe, pick up a stone from the spot where the priests were standing with the ark of the covenant in the middle of the Jordan River and carry them to the other side as a memorial.

Joshua commands the people to listen to the priests carrying the ark of the covenant and to stay back from the ark as they pass by. The twelve men then pick up the stones and carry them across the river, where they are set up as a memorial at Gilgal.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of the stones as a reminder of God's faithfulness and power, and the Israelites are instructed to tell future generations about what God has done for them. The chapter concludes with a statement about Joshua's leadership and how the people began to fear and respect him as they had respected Moses before him.

Chapter 4 emphasizes the importance of memorials as a way to remember and pass on the stories of God's faithfulness to future generations. It also shows how Joshua's leadership was recognized and respected by the Israelites, and how he was seen as a worthy successor to Moses.

Joshua chapter 4 contains several important verses

Here are a few examples:

1. "So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, 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, to serve as a sign among you." (Joshua 4:4-5)
2. "He said to the Israelites, 'In the future when your descendants ask their parents, "What do these stones mean?" tell them, "Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'" For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over." (Joshua 4:21-23)
 3. "So Joshua commanded the priests, 'Come up out of the Jordan.' 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." (Joshua 4:16-18)
 4. "On 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." (Joshua 4:14)
 5. "He said to them, 'Cross 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, to serve as a memorial for the future. In the days to come, when your children ask their fathers, "What do these stones mean?" tell them, "Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'" (Joshua 4:7)

These verses emphasize the importance of remembering God's faithfulness and provision, and passing on stories of His miracles to future generations. The stones taken from the Jordan River served as a visual reminder of God's power and the miraculous crossing of the river. The exaltation of Joshua demonstrates the importance of strong leadership and the role of faith in God's plan.

In Joshua chapter 4, we witness the aftermath of the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River and the establishment of a memorial to commemorate this significant event in the Israelites' journey to the Promised Land. This chapter provides us with insights about remembrance, faithfulness, and the enduring legacy of God's faithfulness.

One of the primary themes in this chapter is the importance of remembrance. After the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, God instructed Joshua to select twelve men, one from each tribe, to take twelve stones from the riverbed and create a memorial at their campsite in Gilgal. This memorial was intended to serve as a visual reminder for future generations, so that when their children asked about its significance, the Israelites could recount the story of God's miraculous provision and deliverance. The act of remembrance was vital for the Israelites to reflect on God's faithfulness in the past, to reinforce their trust in His promises for the future, and to pass down a legacy of faith to future generations.

Another important aspect of this chapter is the emphasis on the faithfulness of God. The miracle of the Jordan River crossing, along with the establishment of the memorial, serves as a testimony to God's power and His faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. It reinforces the idea that God is a covenant-keeping God who remembers His people and guides them through challenging circumstances.

Additionally, the chapter highlights the role of leadership in preserving the memory of God's faithfulness. Joshua is specifically instructed to set up the memorial and to ensure that the story of God's miraculous intervention is passed down to future generations. This underscores the responsibility of leaders to teach and remind others of God's faithfulness, as well as the importance of actively sharing and preserving our own testimonies of God's work in our lives.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 4 teaches us several valuable lessons. It reminds us of the significance of remembrance in our spiritual journey. Taking time to reflect on God's faithfulness in our lives and creating reminders of His work can strengthen our faith and serve as a testimony to future generations. It also encourages us to be faithful in passing down the stories of God's faithfulness to the next generation, ensuring that His works are not forgotten.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the unwavering faithfulness of God. His promises endure, and He remains steadfast in guiding and delivering His people. The chapter prompts us to trust in God's faithfulness and to rely on His provision and guidance as we face our own challenges and obstacles.

Overall, Joshua chapter 4 calls us to remember God's faithfulness, to pass down our stories of His work, and to trust in His enduring promises. It challenges us to be intentional in preserving the memory of God's faithfulness and to live out our lives in a way that testifies to His power and love.

CHAPTER 5

Jo. 5:1 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 sank and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.

Jo. 5:2 At that time the LORD said to Joshua, "Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again."

Jo. 5:3 So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth.

Jo. 5:4 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.

Jo. 5:5 All the people that came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the desert during the journey from Egypt had not.

Jo. 5:6 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.

Jo. 5:7 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.

Jo. 5:8 And after the whole nation had been circumcised, they remained where they were in camp until they were healed.

Jo. 5:9 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.

514

Jo. 5:10 On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover.

Jo. 5:11 The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain.

Jo. 5:12 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.

Jo. 5:13 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?"

Jo. 5:14 "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell face down to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

Jo. 5:15 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.

Chapter 5 begins with the Israelites at Gilgal, where they set up the twelve stones as a memorial to God's faithfulness in parting the Jordan River for them. While they are there, all the men who were born in the wilderness are circumcised, as they had not been circumcised during their forty years of wandering.

After the circumcision, the Israelites celebrate the Passover, which had not been observed since leaving Egypt. The chapter emphasizes that the manna, which had sustained the Israelites in the wilderness, ceased to appear after they had eaten the produce of the land of Canaan.

During the celebration of the Passover, Joshua encounters the commander of the army of the Lord, who tells him to take off his sandals because he is standing on holy ground. The commander then assures Joshua that he is on the side of the Israelites in their conquest of the land.

Chapter 5 shows the Israelites' commitment to obeying God's laws, including circumcision and the observance of the Passover. It also emphasizes the importance of

recognizing and respecting the holiness of God, as demonstrated by Joshua's encounter with the commander of the army of the Lord.

Joshua chapter 5 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

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 they had crossed over, their hearts melted in fear and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites." (Joshua 5:1)
2. "At that time the Lord said to Joshua, 'Make flint knives and circumcise the Israelites again.'" (Joshua 5:2)
3. "So Joshua made flint knives and circumcised the Israelites at Gibeath Haaraloth." (Joshua 5:3)
4. "And the Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.'" (Joshua 5:9)
5. "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 the produce of Canaan." (Joshua 5:12)

These verses highlight the importance of obedience to God's commands, even when they may be difficult or uncomfortable. The circumcision of the Israelites was a sign of their covenant relationship with God and a symbol of their separation from the surrounding pagan nations. The stopping of the manna and the beginning of the Israelites eating the produce of the land signify a new chapter in their history and God's faithfulness to provide for them in a new way. The fear of the surrounding nations demonstrates the power of God's miracles to inspire reverence and awe.

In Joshua chapter 5, we encounter a significant moment in the Israelites' journey as they prepare to enter and conquer the Promised Land. This chapter focuses on the renewal of the covenant between God and the Israelites through the circumcision and the observance of the Passover.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of consecration and preparation before embarking on a new phase of life or a significant endeavor. The Israelites had crossed the Jordan River, symbolizing their transition from the wilderness to the Promised Land. Before proceeding, God instructs Joshua to circumcise all the males who had been born during their time in the wilderness. Circumcision was a sign of the covenant between God and His people, representing their commitment and separation unto Him. This act of consecration demonstrated the Israelites' readiness to fully devote themselves to God and His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter emphasizes the observance of the Passover. After the circumcision, the Israelites celebrate the Passover feast, commemorating the deliverance from slavery in Egypt and God's faithfulness in bringing them to the Promised Land. The Passover served as a reminder of their redemption and liberation, as well as a time of gratitude for God's provision and guidance.

Another important aspect of this chapter is the transition from manna to the produce of the land. As the Israelites enter the Promised Land, the manna, which had sustained them throughout their wilderness journey, ceases to appear. Instead, they eat the produce of the land, signifying the fulfillment of God's promise and their transition to a season of abundance and provision.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 5 teaches us several valuable lessons. It reminds us of the significance of consecration and preparation before embarking on new seasons or significant endeavors in our lives. Just as the Israelites underwent circumcision as a symbol of their commitment, we are called to consecrate ourselves to God and His purposes, setting ourselves apart from worldly influences.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the importance of remembrance and gratitude. The observance of the Passover serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in delivering and providing for His people. It prompts us to reflect on our own deliverance and redemption through Jesus Christ and to express gratitude for God's provision and guidance in our lives.

Additionally, the transition from manna to the produce of the land reminds us of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. It signifies the shift from a season of dependence and provision in the wilderness to a season of abundance and provision in the Promised Land. It encourages us to trust in God's provision and embrace the new seasons He brings into our lives.

Overall, Joshua chapter 5 invites us to consecrate ourselves to God, to remember His faithfulness, and to trust in His provision as we transition into new phases of life. It emphasizes the importance of gratitude and the remembrance of God's deliverance. By reflecting on these lessons, we can find inspiration and guidance in our own spiritual journey.

CHAPTER 6

Jo. 6:1 Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No-one went out and no-one came in.

Jo. 6:2 Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.

Jo. 6:3 March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days.

Jo. 6:4 Make 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.

515

Jo. 6:5 When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, make 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.”

Jo. 6:6 So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the LORD and make seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.”

Jo. 6:7 And he ordered the people, “Advance! March around the city, with the armed guard going ahead of the ark of the LORD.”

Jo. 6:8 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.

Jo. 6:9 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.

Jo. 6:10 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!”

Jo. 6:11 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.

Jo. 6:12 Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

Jo. 6:13 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.

Jo. 6:14 So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.

516

Jo. 6:15 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.

Jo. 6:16 The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!

Jo. 6:17 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.

Jo. 6:18 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.

Jo. 6:19 All the silver and gold and the articles of bronze and iron are sacred to the LORD and must go into his treasury.”

Jo. 6:20 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.

Jo. 6:21 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.

Jo. 6:22 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.”

Jo. 6:23 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.

Jo. 6:24 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.

517

Jo. 6:25 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.

Jo. 6:26 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.”

Jo. 6:27 So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout the land.

Chapter 6 tells the story of the fall of Jericho, one of the major cities of Canaan that the Israelites needed to conquer in order to possess the land. God gives Joshua specific instructions for how to capture the city: the Israelites are to march around the city once a day for six days, and on the seventh day, they are to march around the city seven times. After the seventh lap on the seventh day, the priests are to blow their trumpets, and the people are to shout.

The Israelites follow God's instructions exactly, and on the seventh day, when they shout, the walls of Jericho collapse, allowing the Israelites to enter the city and conquer it. The Israelites are commanded by God to destroy everything in the city, but Rahab, a prostitute who had helped the Israelite spies, and her family are spared.

Chapter 6 emphasizes the power of God and His faithfulness to His promises. The story also demonstrates the importance of following God's instructions exactly, even when they seem unconventional or unlikely to succeed. The sparing of Rahab and her family highlights the idea that God's mercy extends even to those who are not Israelites, and that anyone who trusts in God can be saved.

Joshua chapter 6 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in." (Joshua 6:1)
2. "Then the Lord said to Joshua, 'See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days.'" (Joshua 6:2-3)
3. "So the ark of the Lord circled the city, going once around it. Then the people returned to camp and spent the night there." (Joshua 6:7)
4. "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. The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, 'Shout! For the Lord has given you the city!'" (Joshua 6:15-16)
5. "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." (Joshua 6:25)

These verses demonstrate the power of God to bring about victory in unexpected ways, and the importance of following His commands even if they seem unusual or illogical. The conquest of Jericho was a significant event in Israel's history, demonstrating God's faithfulness to His people and His power to accomplish His purposes. The sparing of Rahab and her family highlights the importance of faith and repentance, even for those who may not seem worthy or deserving.

In Joshua chapter 6, we witness the miraculous and strategic conquest of the city of Jericho by the Israelites. This chapter provides us with insights into the power of obedience, the faithfulness of God, and the importance of trust in His guidance.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the power of obedience to God's commands. God gives specific instructions to Joshua regarding the conquest of Jericho. The Israelites are to march around the city once a day for six days, and on the seventh day, they are to march around the city seven times, after which the priests are to blow their trumpets and the people are to shout. Despite the unconventional nature of these instructions, Joshua and the Israelites obeyed without question. Their obedience demonstrates their trust in God's wisdom and their willingness to follow His guidance, even when the plan seems unusual or challenging.

The chapter also highlights the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises. Prior to the conquest, God had assured Joshua that He had already given Jericho into the hands of the Israelites. The marching, trumpets, and shouts were not the means by which the walls of Jericho fell; it was the power of God at work. Through this miraculous event, God demonstrated His faithfulness to His people and His ability to accomplish His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter emphasizes the importance of trust in God's guidance. The Israelites had to trust that God's instructions would lead to victory, even though they may

not have fully understood the reasoning behind them. Trusting in God's guidance required them to let go of their own understanding and rely on His wisdom and power.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 6 teaches us several valuable lessons. It highlights the power of obedience, reminding us of the importance of following God's commands even when they seem unconventional or challenging. Obedience demonstrates our trust in God's wisdom and authority, positioning us to receive His blessings and fulfill His purposes.

Furthermore, the chapter underscores the faithfulness of God. Just as He fulfilled His promise to deliver Jericho into the hands of the Israelites, we can trust that God is faithful to His promises in our own lives. He is always at work, even in the most impossible situations, and He can bring down the walls that stand in our way.

Lastly, the chapter encourages us to trust in God's guidance. Like the Israelites, we may face circumstances where the path ahead seems uncertain or unconventional. However, if we trust in God's wisdom and lean not on our own understanding, He will direct our paths and lead us to victory.

Overall, Joshua chapter 6 teaches us about the power of obedience, the faithfulness of God, and the importance of trusting in His guidance. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate a deeper faith and reliance on God in our own lives.

CHAPTER 7

Jo. 7:1 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.

Jo. 7:2 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.

Jo. 7:3 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."

Jo. 7:4 So about three thousand men went up; but they were routed by the men of Ai,

Jo. 7:5 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.

Jo. 7:6 Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell face down to the ground before the ark of the LORD, remaining there till evening. The

518

elders of Israel did the same, and sprinkled dust on their heads.

Jo. 7:7 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!

Jo. 7:8 Lord, what can I say, now that Israel has been routed by its enemies?

Jo. 7:9 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?”

Jo. 7:10 The LORD said to Joshua, “Stand up! What are you doing down on your face?

Jo. 7:11 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.

Jo. 7:12 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 any more unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction.

Jo. 7:13 “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.

Jo. 7:14 “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.

Jo. 7:15 He who is caught with the devoted things shall be destroyed by fire, along with all that belongs to him. He has violated the

519
covenant of the LORD and has done a disgraceful thing in Israel!”

Jo. 7:16 Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was taken.

Jo. 7:17 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.

Jo. 7:18 Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achan son of Carmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken.

Jo. 7:19 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.”

Jo. 7:20 Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel. This is what I have done:

Jo. 7:21 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."

Jo. 7:22 So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent, and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver underneath.

Jo. 7:23 They took the things from the tent, brought them to Joshua and all the Israelites and spread them out before the LORD.

Jo. 7:24 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.

Jo. 7:25 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.

Jo. 7:26 Over Achan they heaped up a large pile of rocks, which remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his fierce
520

anger. Therefore that place has been called the Valley of Achor ever since.

Chapter 7 tells the story of the Israelites' defeat at Ai, a smaller city that they had planned to conquer after their victory at Jericho. The Israelites send a small force to take Ai, but they are defeated by the people of the city, who kill thirty-six Israelite soldiers. Joshua is devastated by the defeat and wonders why God has abandoned them. God reveals to Joshua that one of the Israelites, Achan, has stolen forbidden items from Jericho and hidden them in his tent. This act of disobedience has caused God to withdraw His protection from the Israelites.

Achan confesses his sin, and he, along with his family and possessions, is stoned to death. After this, the Israelites are able to defeat the people of Ai and conquer the city. Chapter 7 emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's laws and the consequences of disobedience. The story also highlights the idea that the actions of one person can affect the entire community, and that God holds the entire community accountable for the sins of its members.

Joshua chapter 7 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "But the Israelites were unfaithful in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Karmi, 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." (Joshua 7:1)

2. "Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell facedown 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." (Joshua 7:6)
3. "The Lord said to Joshua, 'Stand up! What are you doing down on your face? 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.'" (Joshua 7:10-11)
4. "Early the next morning Joshua had Israel come forward by tribes, and Judah was chosen. The clans of Judah came forward, and the Zerahites were chosen. He had the clan of the Zerahites come forward by families, and Zimri was chosen. Joshua had his family come forward man by man, and Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was chosen." (Joshua 7:16-18)
5. "Then Joshua, together with all Israel, took Achan son of Zerah, the silver, the robe, the gold bar, his sons and daughters, his cattle, donkeys and sheep, his tent and all that he had, to the Valley of Achor. 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." (Joshua 7:24-25)

These verses demonstrate the importance of obedience and faithfulness to God's commands, and the consequences of disobedience. The sin of Achan and the resulting defeat at Ai emphasize the importance of holiness and consecration in God's people, and the need for confession and repentance when sin is committed. The punishment of Achan and his family highlights the severity of sin and the importance of individual responsibility in the community of faith.

In Joshua chapter 7, we encounter a sobering account of the Israelites' defeat at the city of Ai due to the sin of Achan. This chapter provides us with insights into the consequences of disobedience, the importance of corporate accountability, and the necessity of confession and repentance.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the principle of corporate accountability and its impact on the entire community. After the miraculous victory at Jericho, the Israelites faced the smaller city of Ai. However, due to the sin of Achan, who had taken forbidden plunder from Jericho, the Israelites were defeated and experienced significant loss. This event demonstrates that the actions of one individual within the community can have far-reaching consequences for the entire group. It underscores the need for accountability and purity within the community of believers.

The chapter also emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands. God had explicitly instructed the Israelites not to take any spoils from Jericho. However, Achan disregarded this command and took items for himself. His disobedience brought about the defeat and loss experienced by the Israelites. It serves as a reminder that obedience to God's commands is crucial and that even a single act of disobedience can have severe repercussions.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the necessity of confession and repentance. When Joshua seeks God's guidance after the defeat, God reveals the sin of Achan. Achan, confronted with his wrongdoing, confesses his sin, acknowledging his disobedience and the harm it has caused. This act of confession and repentance is crucial for the restoration of the community and the reestablishment of God's favor.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 7 teaches us several important lessons. It emphasizes the need for corporate accountability and the impact of individual actions on the community. It reminds us of the significance of obedience to God's commands and the potential consequences of disobedience. The chapter also underscores the importance of confession and repentance, as they pave the way for healing, restoration, and the reestablishment of a right relationship with God and others.

Additionally, the chapter encourages us to examine our hearts and lives, identifying any areas of disobedience or hidden sin that may hinder our relationship with God. It calls us to take responsibility for our actions, confess our sins before God and seek His forgiveness and restoration.

Overall, Joshua chapter 7 serves as a sobering reminder of the importance of obedience, corporate accountability, and the necessity of confession and repentance. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate a greater awareness of our actions, seek to live in obedience to God's commands, and pursue a lifestyle of confession and repentance when we fall short.

CHAPTER 8

Jo. 8:1 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.

Jo. 8:2 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."

Jo. 8:3 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

Jo. 8:4 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.

Jo. 8:5 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.

Jo. 8:6 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,

Jo. 8:7 you are to rise up from ambush and take the city. The LORD

your God will give it into your hand.

Jo. 8:8 When you have taken the city, set it on fire. Do what the LORD has commanded. See to it; you have my orders.”

Jo. 8:9 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.

Jo. 8:10 Early the next morning Joshua mustered his men, and he and the leaders of Israel marched before them to Ai.

521

Jo. 8:11 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.

Jo. 8:12 Joshua had taken about five thousand men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, to the west of the city.

Jo. 8:13 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.

Jo. 8:14 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.

Jo. 8:15 Joshua and all Israel let themselves be driven back before them, and they fled towards the desert.

Jo. 8:16 All the men of Ai were called to pursue them, and they pursued Joshua and were lured away from the city.

Jo. 8:17 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.

Jo. 8:18 Then the LORD said to Joshua, “Hold out towards Ai the javelin that is in your hand, for into your hand I will deliver the city.” So Joshua held out his javelin towards Ai.

Jo. 8:19 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.

Jo. 8:20 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 towards the desert had turned back against their pursuers.

Jo. 8:21 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 round and attacked the men of Ai.

Jo. 8:22 The men of the ambush also came out of the city against them, so that they were caught in the middle, with Israelites

522

on both sides. Israel cut them down, leaving them neither survivors nor fugitives.

Jo. 8:23 But they took the king of Ai alive and brought him to Joshua.

Jo. 8:24 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.

Jo. 8:25 Twelve thousand men and women fell that day — all the people of Ai.

Jo. 8:26 For Joshua did not draw back the hand that held out his javelin until he had destroyed all who lived in Ai.

Jo. 8:27 But Israel did carry off for themselves the livestock and plunder of this city, as the LORD had instructed Joshua.

Jo. 8:28 So Joshua burned Ai and made it a permanent heap of ruins, a desolate place to this day.

Jo. 8:29 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.

Jo. 8:30 Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel,

Jo. 8:31 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.

Jo. 8:32 There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua copied on stones the law of Moses, which he had written.

Jo. 8:33 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

523
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.

Jo. 8:34 Afterwards, Joshua read all the words of the law — the blessings and the curses — just as it is written in the Book of the Law.

Jo. 8:35 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.

Chapter 8 tells the story of the Israelites' victory over Ai, the city that had defeated them in the previous chapter. This time, God gives Joshua a specific plan for how to take the

city. The Israelites are to set an ambush and pretend to flee, drawing the people of Ai out of the city. Then, a second group of Israelites is to attack the city from behind.

The plan works perfectly, and the Israelites are able to capture the city and destroy it. The people of Ai are all killed, and the city is left in ruins.

After their victory at Ai, the Israelites gather at Mount Ebal, where they offer sacrifices and renew their commitment to follow God's laws. They also read the blessings and curses that God had commanded Moses to write on stones, reminding them of the consequences of disobedience.

Chapter 8 emphasizes the importance of following God's plans and the idea that victory comes from God, not from military might. The chapter also emphasizes the importance of renewing one's commitment to following God's laws, and the consequences of disobedience.

Joshua chapter 8 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

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.'" (Joshua 8:1)
2. "So Joshua burned Ai and made it a permanent heap of ruins, a desolate place to this day. He impaled the body of the king of Ai on a pole and left it there until evening. At sunset, Joshua ordered them to take the body from the pole 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." (Joshua 8:28-29)
3. "Then Joshua built on Mount Ebal an altar to the Lord, the God of Israel, 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." (Joshua 8:30-31)
4. "There, in the presence of the Israelites, Joshua wrote on stones a copy of the law of Moses. All the Israelites, with their elders, officials and judges, were standing on both sides of the ark of the covenant of the Lord, facing the Levitical priests who carried it. Both the foreigners living among them and the native-born were there. 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." (Joshua 8:32-34)

These verses demonstrate the power of God to bring about victory in battle, and the importance of obedience to His commands. The destruction of Ai and the punishment of its king emphasize the severity of sin and its consequences. The construction of the altar on Mount Ebal and the copying of the law of Moses on stones highlights the importance of the written Word of God and its role in the life of the Israelites. The unity of the people, both native-born and foreigners, in the presence of the Lord underscores the inclusive nature of God's covenant and His desire for all people to be part of His people.

[In Joshua chapter 8, we witness the redemption and victory of the Israelites at the city of Ai after their previous defeat. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance](#)

of learning from past mistakes, the faithfulness of God's guidance, and the significance of strategic planning.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of learning from past mistakes. After the defeat at Ai in the previous chapter, Joshua seeks God's guidance and is given a new strategy for the conquest of the city. This time, the Israelites follow God's instructions faithfully, and as a result, they experience victory. This demonstrates the importance of reflecting on past failures, seeking God's wisdom, and adjusting our approach accordingly. It reminds us that we can learn from our mistakes and experience redemption and triumph when we align ourselves with God's guidance.

The chapter also highlights the faithfulness of God's guidance and His commitment to fulfilling His promises. God instructs Joshua on a strategic plan to conquer Ai, and the Israelites follow His commands precisely. Through their obedience and reliance on God's guidance, they are successful in their mission. This serves as a testament to God's faithfulness in leading His people and His desire for them to walk in obedience to His word.

Furthermore, the chapter emphasizes the significance of strategic planning and wisdom in carrying out God's commands. Joshua devises a plan to lure the people of Ai away from the city and then ambush them, resulting in their defeat. This demonstrates the importance of seeking God's wisdom and utilizing strategic thinking and planning in carrying out His purposes. It reminds us that while we rely on God's guidance, we are also called to use the resources and wisdom He has provided to accomplish His will.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 8 teaches us several valuable lessons. It highlights the importance of learning from our past mistakes and seeking God's guidance for a renewed approach. It reminds us of God's faithfulness in leading and guiding us as we navigate challenges and pursue His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter encourages us to be intentional in our strategic planning and wise in utilizing the resources and wisdom God has given us. It prompts us to seek God's guidance in every aspect of our lives and to be open to adjusting our approach as He directs.

Moreover, the chapter reminds us that victory and success come when we align ourselves with God's guidance, walk in obedience to His commands, and trust in His faithfulness. It reinforces the truth that our strength and triumph ultimately come from Him.

Overall, Joshua chapter 8 calls us to learn from our mistakes, trust in God's guidance, and exercise strategic thinking and planning as we pursue His purposes. By reflecting on these lessons, we can grow in our faith, experience victory over challenges, and walk in alignment with God's will.

CHAPTER 9

Jo. 9:1 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) —

Jo. 9:2 they came together to make war against Joshua and Israel.

Jo. 9:3 However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai,

Jo. 9:4 they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended.

Jo. 9:5 The men put worn and patched sandals on their feet and wore old clothes. All the bread of their food supply was dry and mouldy.

Jo. 9:6 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.”

Jo. 9:7 The men of Israel said to the Hivites, “But perhaps you live near us. How then can we make a treaty with you?”

524

Jo. 9:8 “We are your servants,” they said to Joshua. But Joshua asked, “Who are you and where do you come from?”

Jo. 9:9 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,

Jo. 9:10 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.

Jo. 9:11 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.”’

Jo. 9:12 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 mouldy it is.

Jo. 9:13 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.”

Jo. 9:14 The men of Israel sampled their provisions but did not enquire of the LORD.

Jo. 9:15 Then Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath.

Jo. 9:16 Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbours, living near them.

Jo. 9:17 So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim.

Jo. 9:18 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,

Jo. 9:19 but all the leaders answered, “We have given them our oath by the LORD, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now.

525

Jo. 9:20 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.”

Jo. 9:21 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.

Jo. 9:22 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?”

Jo. 9:23 You are now under a curse: You will never cease to serve as woodcutters and water-carriers for the house of my God.”

Jo. 9:24 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.

Jo. 9:25 We are now in your hands. Do to us whatever seems good and right to you.”

Jo. 9:26 So Joshua saved them from the Israelites, and they did not kill them.

Jo. 9:27 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.

Chapter 9 tells the story of the Gibeonites, a group of people who lived near the Israelites and feared for their lives because they had heard about the Israelites' victories over other cities. Instead of fighting the Israelites, the Gibeonites decide to deceive them. They dress in worn-out clothes and carry old provisions, pretending to come from a far-off land and asking for a treaty of peace with the Israelites.

Joshua and the Israelites are deceived by the Gibeonites' trickery and make a treaty of peace with them, not realizing that they are their neighbors. Three days later, the Israelites learn that the Gibeonites are actually nearby, and they are angry at being deceived. However, Joshua and the Israelite leaders honor their treaty and allow the Gibeonites to live among them as servants.

Chapter 9 emphasizes the importance of being cautious and discerning when making alliances and the consequences of not seeking God's guidance. The story also highlights the idea that even when we make mistakes, we must honor our commitments and keep

our promises. Finally, the story shows that God can bring good out of even a bad situation, as the Gibeonites become servants of the Israelites and later play an important role in the history of Israel.

Joshua chapter 9 tells the story of the Gibeonite deception, where the inhabitants of the nearby city of Gibeon trick the Israelites into making a treaty with them. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "However, when the people of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and Ai, they resorted to a ruse: They went as a delegation whose donkeys were loaded with worn-out sacks and old wineskins, cracked and mended." (Joshua 9:3-4)
2. "Then the Israelites sampled their provisions but did not inquire of the Lord. So Joshua made a treaty of peace with them to let them live, and the leaders of the assembly ratified it by oath." (Joshua 9:14-15)
3. "Three days after they made the treaty with the Gibeonites, the Israelites heard that they were neighbors, living near them. So the Israelites set out and on the third day came to their cities: Gibeon, Kephirah, Beeroth and Kiriath Jearim." (Joshua 9:16-17)
4. "But all the leaders answered, 'We have given them our oath by the Lord, the God of Israel, and we cannot touch them now. This is what we will do to them: We will let them live, so that God's wrath will not fall on us for breaking the oath we swore to them.'" (Joshua 9:19-20)

These verses highlight the importance of seeking guidance from the Lord before making important decisions, as the Israelites did not inquire of Him before making a treaty with the Gibeonites. The Gibeonites' deception shows the danger of trusting in appearances and human wisdom instead of seeking the Lord's guidance. The Israelites' commitment to honor their oath, even though it was made under false pretenses, demonstrates the importance of keeping one's word and the severity of breaking an oath made in the Lord's name.

In Joshua chapter 9, we encounter the account of the deceitful treaty made between the Israelites and the inhabitants of Gibeon. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of seeking God's guidance, the consequences of making decisions based on appearances, and the significance of honoring commitments.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of seeking God's guidance and discernment in decision-making. The Gibeonites, fearful of the Israelites' conquests, resort to deception and disguise themselves as travelers from a distant land to make a treaty with the Israelites. The Israelite leaders, without seeking God's counsel, are deceived by the Gibeonites' appearance and make a covenant with them. This event serves as a reminder that we should not rely solely on our own judgment or outward appearances but rather seek God's wisdom and guidance in all our decisions.

The chapter also highlights the consequences of making decisions based on appearances or human reasoning rather than seeking God's guidance. The Israelites realize their mistake when they discover the true identity of the Gibeonites, but they are bound by their oath to honor the treaty. This demonstrates the importance of being cautious and

discerning in our decision-making, recognizing that hasty or uninformed choices can have long-term implications.

Furthermore, the chapter emphasizes the significance of honoring commitments and upholding our word. Despite being deceived, the Israelites choose to honor their covenant with the Gibeonites. This shows the importance of integrity and keeping our promises, even when it may be inconvenient or challenging. It highlights the value of trust and maintaining the reputation of God's people.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 9 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of the importance of seeking God's guidance and wisdom in all our decisions. It prompts us to be discerning and not to be swayed by appearances or human reasoning alone. Instead, we should rely on God's leading to make sound judgments.

Additionally, the chapter cautions us about the consequences of hasty or uninformed decisions. It reminds us to exercise caution and discernment in our choices, recognizing that they can have far-reaching consequences.

Moreover, the chapter underscores the significance of honoring commitments and maintaining integrity. It calls us to be people of our word and to fulfill our obligations, even when it may be challenging or inconvenient.

Overall, Joshua chapter 9 serves as a reminder to seek God's guidance, exercise discernment, and honor commitments. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate wisdom in decision-making, uphold our integrity, and walk in alignment with God's will.

CHAPTER 10

Jo. 10:1 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.

526

Jo. 10:2 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.

Jo. 10:3 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.

Jo. 10:4 "Come up and help me attack Gibeon," he said, "because it has made peace with Joshua and the Israelites."

Jo. 10:5 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.

Jo. 10:6 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.”

Jo. 10:7 So Joshua marched up from Gilgal with his entire army, including all the best fighting men.

Jo. 10:8 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.”

Jo. 10:9 After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise.

Jo. 10:10 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.

Jo. 10:11 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.

527

Jo. 10:12 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.”

Jo. 10:13 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.

Jo. 10:14 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!

Jo. 10:15 Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal.

Jo. 10:16 Now the five kings had fled and hidden in the cave at Makkedah.

Jo. 10:17 When Joshua was told that the five kings had been found hiding in the cave at Makkedah,

Jo. 10:18 he said, “Roll large rocks up to the mouth of the cave, and post some men there to guard it.

Jo. 10:19 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.”

Jo. 10:20 So Joshua and the Israelites destroyed them completely — almost to a man — but the few who were left reached their fortified cities.

Jo. 10:21 The whole army then returned safely to Joshua in the camp at Makkedah, and no-one uttered a word against the Israelites.

Jo. 10:22 Joshua said, “Open the mouth of the cave and bring those

five kings out to me.”

Jo. 10:23 So they brought the five kings out of the cave — the kings of Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish and Eglon.

Jo. 10:24 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
528

necks of these kings.” So they came forward and placed their feet on their necks.

Jo. 10:25 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.”

Jo. 10:26 Then Joshua struck and killed the kings and hung them on five trees, and they were left hanging on the trees until evening.

Jo. 10:27 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.

Jo. 10:28 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.

Jo. 10:29 Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Makkedah to Libnah and attacked it.

Jo. 10:30 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.

Jo. 10:31 Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Libnah to Lachish; he took up positions against it and attacked it.

Jo. 10:32 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.

Jo. 10:33 Meanwhile, Horam king of Gezer had come up to help Lachish, but Joshua defeated him and his army — until no survivors were left.

Jo. 10:34 Then Joshua and all Israel with him moved on from Lachish to Eglon; they took up positions against it and attacked it.
529

Jo. 10:35 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.

Jo. 10:36 Then Joshua and all Israel with him went up from Eglon to Hebron and attacked it.

Jo. 10:37 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.

Jo. 10:38 Then Joshua and all Israel with him turned round and attacked Debir.

Jo. 10:39 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.

Jo. 10:40 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.

Jo. 10:41 Joshua subdued them from Kadesh Barnea to Gaza and from the whole region of Goshen to Gibeon.

Jo. 10:42 All these kings and their lands Joshua conquered in one campaign, because the LORD, the God of Israel, fought for Israel.

Jo. 10:43 Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal.

Chapter 10 tells the story of the Israelites' battles against the five Amorite kings who had formed an alliance to attack Gibeon. When the Gibeonites ask for help, Joshua leads the Israelites into battle, and God gives them a great victory. The Israelites chase the fleeing Amorites and God sends a hailstorm to kill more of them than the sword of the Israelites. As the day draws to a close, Joshua prays to God to make the sun and moon stand still, so that the Israelites can finish their victory over the Amorites. God answers Joshua's prayer, and the sun and moon stop in the sky, giving the Israelites the time they need to complete their conquest.

After the victory over the Amorites, the Israelites conquer several other cities in the area, including Jerusalem, which they capture and burn. The chapter ends with a list of the cities that the Israelites conquered during their campaign in the Promised Land.

Chapter 10 emphasizes the power of God and the importance of prayer. The story shows that God can intervene in the affairs of humans and that He can perform miracles. It also emphasizes the importance of being obedient to God's commands, and the consequences of disobedience. Finally, the chapter shows that the Israelites were able to accomplish great things when they relied on God's power and guidance.

Joshua chapter 10 tells the story of Joshua's conquest of the southern kings of Canaan, including the famous account of the sun standing still. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "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.'" (Joshua 10:8)
2. "On the day the Lord gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the Lord in the presence of Israel: 'Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon.'" (Joshua 10:12)

3. "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 human being. Surely the Lord was fighting for Israel!" (Joshua 10:13-14)
4. "Then Joshua returned with all Israel to the camp at Gilgal." (Joshua 10:43)

These verses demonstrate the power of the Lord to deliver His people and intervene in the natural world to accomplish His purposes. Joshua's faith and obedience to the Lord's command enabled him to lead the Israelites to a miraculous victory over their enemies. The account of the sun standing still is a remarkable example of the Lord's sovereignty over all creation and His willingness to listen to the prayers of His people. The chapter also shows the importance of following through on the Lord's commands and trusting in His provision and protection.

In Joshua chapter 10, we witness the miraculous victories of the Israelites over five Amorite kings. This chapter provides us with insights into the power of God's intervention, the faithfulness of His promises, and the importance of boldness and courage in our journey of faith.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the power of God's intervention on behalf of His people. The five Amorite kings form an alliance to attack the Gibeonites, who had made a treaty with the Israelites. Upon hearing of this, Joshua and the Israelite army march overnight to come to the aid of the Gibeonites. In response to Joshua's prayer, God intervenes by causing a hailstorm and extending the day, allowing the Israelites to achieve a great victory. This event demonstrates the overwhelming power of God to accomplish His purposes and deliver His people in the face of impossible odds.

The chapter also highlights the faithfulness of God's promises. Prior to the battle, God assures Joshua of His presence and victory over their enemies. He assures Joshua that He will not fail him or abandon him. The subsequent victory over the Amorite kings serves as a reminder that God is faithful to His promises and can be trusted to fulfill what He has declared.

Furthermore, the chapter emphasizes the importance of boldness and courage in our journey of faith. Joshua and the Israelite army demonstrate great courage as they march overnight and engage in battle against a formidable alliance of kings. Their boldness and trust in God's promises enable them to experience remarkable victories. This encourages us to be bold and courageous in facing the challenges and obstacles we encounter in our own lives, knowing that God is with us and fighting on our behalf.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 10 teaches us several important lessons. It highlights the power of God's intervention and His faithfulness to His promises. It reminds us that even in the face of overwhelming odds, we can trust in God's mighty hand to bring about victory in our lives.

Additionally, the chapter calls us to be bold and courageous in our journey of faith. It encourages us to step out in faith, trusting in God's guidance and promises, and not allowing fear or the seeming impossibility of the situation to hinder us.

Moreover, the chapter prompts us to rely on prayer and seek God's intervention in our battles. Just as Joshua prayed and sought God's assistance, we are invited to bring our needs before Him and trust in His power and provision.

Overall, Joshua chapter 10 teaches us about the power of God's intervention, the faithfulness of His promises, and the importance of boldness and courage. By reflecting on these lessons, we can find encouragement and inspiration in our own spiritual journey, knowing that God is with us and fights on our behalf.

CHAPTER 11

Jo. 11:1 When Jabin king of Hazor heard of this, he sent word to Jobab king of Madon, to the kings of Shimron and Acshaph,

Jo. 11:2 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;

530

Jo. 11:3 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.

Jo. 11:4 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.

Jo. 11:5 All these kings joined forces and made camp together at the Waters of Merom, to fight against Israel.

Jo. 11:6 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.”

Jo. 11:7 So Joshua and his whole army came against them suddenly at the Waters of Merom and attacked them,

Jo. 11:8 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.

Jo. 11:9 Joshua did to them as the LORD had directed: He hamstrung their horses and burned their chariots.

Jo. 11:10 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.)

Jo. 11:11 Everyone in it they put to the sword. They totally destroyed them, not sparing anything that breathed, and he burned up

Hazor itself.

Jo. 11:12 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.

Jo. 11:13 Yet Israel did not burn any of the cities built on their mounds — except Hazor, which Joshua burned.

Jo. 11:14 The Israelites carried off for themselves all the plunder and livestock of these cities, but all the people they put to the
531

sword until they completely destroyed them, not sparing anyone that breathed.

Jo. 11:15 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.

Jo. 11:16 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,

Jo. 11:17 from Mount Halak, which rises towards 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.

Jo. 11:18 Joshua waged war against all these kings for a long time.

Jo. 11:19 Except for the Hivites living in Gibeon, not one city made a treaty of peace with the Israelites, who took them all in battle.

Jo. 11:20 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.

Jo. 11:21 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.

Jo. 11:22 No Anakites were left in Israelite territory; only in Gaza, Gath and Ashdod did any survive.

Jo. 11:23 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.

Chapter 11 tells the story of the Israelites' final conquest of the northern Canaanite kingdoms under the leadership of Joshua. The chapter describes how the kings of these kingdoms came together to form a coalition against the Israelites, but they were defeated in a series of battles.

Joshua leads the Israelites in battle against the Canaanite armies and defeats them with the help of God. He captures their cities and destroys their armies. The Israelites take

control of the entire region from the hill country of Lebanon to the valley of the Arnon River.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands and the power of God to help His people achieve victory. It also shows that God fulfilled His promise to give the Israelites the land of Canaan. The chapter concludes with a summary of the conquest of Canaan and the distribution of the land among the tribes of Israel.

Chapter 11 highlights the themes of faithfulness, obedience, and God's faithfulness to His promises. It also emphasizes the importance of relying on God's strength and power rather than human strength in achieving success.

Joshua chapter 11 describes the final conquest of the northern kings of Canaan by Joshua and the Israelites. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "When Jabin king of Hazor heard of this, he sent word to Jobab king of Madon, to the kings of Shimron and Akshaph, 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." (Joshua 11:1-2)
2. "The Lord said to Joshua, 'Do not be afraid of them, because by this time tomorrow I will hand all of them, slain, over to Israel. You are to hamstring their horses and burn their chariots.'" (Joshua 11:6)
3. "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." (Joshua 11:16)
4. "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." (Joshua 11:21-22)

These verses demonstrate the Lord's faithfulness to His promise to give the Israelites victory over their enemies, as well as the importance of obedience to His commands. The Lord's instruction to hamstring the horses and burn the chariots shows His desire for the Israelites to rely on Him rather than military might or the spoils of war. The chapter also highlights Joshua's leadership and the extent of the Israelites' conquest, with Joshua taking "this entire land" and leaving "no survivors". This conquest fulfilled the Lord's promise to Abraham to give his descendants the land of Canaan.

In Joshua chapter 11, we witness the culmination of the conquest of the Promised Land as the Israelites achieve victory over a coalition of Canaanite kings. This chapter provides us with insights into the fulfillment of God's promises, the importance of steadfastness and perseverance, and the ultimate sovereignty of God over all nations.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the fulfillment of God's promises to the Israelites. Throughout their journey, God had assured the Israelites that He would give them the land of Canaan. In this chapter, we see the culmination of those promises as the Israelites defeat the Canaanite kings and take possession of their cities and territories. This serves as a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises and His unwavering commitment to His people.

The chapter also highlights the importance of steadfastness and perseverance in fulfilling God's purposes. The coalition of Canaanite kings joined forces to resist the Israelites, presenting a formidable challenge. However, Joshua and the Israelite army remained steadfast in their commitment to follow God's commands and persevere in the face of opposition. Their unwavering determination and reliance on God's strength and guidance led to their victory. This encourages us to remain steadfast in our faith, trusting in God's promises and persevering in our obedience to Him, even when faced with challenging circumstances.

Furthermore, the chapter underscores the ultimate sovereignty of God over all nations. The defeat of the Canaanite kings and the conquest of their territories demonstrate God's authority and power over the nations of the earth. It reinforces the truth that no power or opposition can stand against God's purposes. This reminds us that God is the ultimate ruler over all creation and that His plans will ultimately prevail.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 11 teaches us several important lessons. It emphasizes the fulfillment of God's promises and His faithfulness in bringing His plans to completion. It encourages us to trust in God's faithfulness and hold on to His promises, knowing that He is faithful to accomplish what He has declared.

Additionally, the chapter calls us to exhibit steadfastness and perseverance in our journey of faith. It reminds us that challenges and opposition may arise, but as we remain unwavering in our commitment to follow God and rely on His strength, we will experience the victory He has promised.

Moreover, the chapter prompts us to recognize the sovereignty of God over all nations and circumstances. It reminds us that God is in control, and His plans will ultimately prevail. This encourages us to place our trust in Him and align our lives with His purposes.

Overall, Joshua chapter 11 teaches us about the fulfillment of God's promises, the importance of steadfastness and perseverance, and the ultimate sovereignty of God. By reflecting on these lessons, we can find encouragement and assurance in our own lives, knowing that God is faithful, and His purposes will be accomplished.

CHAPTER 12

Jo. 12:1 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:

Jo. 12:2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who reigned in Heshbon. He ruled from Aroer 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.

Jo. 12:3 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.

Jo. 12:4 And the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the last of the Rephaites, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei.

Jo. 12:5 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.

Jo. 12:6 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.

Jo. 12:7 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 towards Seir (their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions —

Jo. 12:8 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):

Jo. 12:9 the king of Jericho one the king of Ai (near Bethel) one

Jo. 12:10 the king of Jerusalem one the king of Hebron one
533

Jo. 12:11 the king of Jarmuth one the king of Lachish one

Jo. 12:12 the king of Eglon one the king of Gezer one

Jo. 12:13 the king of Debir one the king of Geder one

Jo. 12:14 the king of Hormah one the king of Arad one

Jo. 12:15 the king of Libnah one the king of Adullam one

Jo. 12:16 the king of Makkedah one the king of Bethel one

Jo. 12:17 the king of Tappuah one the king of Hopher one

Jo. 12:18 the king of Aphek one the king of Lasharon one

Jo. 12:19 the king of Madon one the king of Hazor one

Jo. 12:20 the king of Shimron Meron one the king of Acshaph one

Jo. 12:21 the king of Taanach one the king of Megiddo one

Jo. 12:22 the king of Kedesh one the king of Jokneam in Carmel one

Jo. 12:23 the king of Dor (in Naphoth Dor) one the king of Goyim in Gilgal one

Jo. 12:24 the king of Tirzah one thirty-one kings in all.

Chapter 12 provides a list of the kings and kingdoms that the Israelites conquered under the leadership of Moses and Joshua. The list includes two kings on the east side of the Jordan River, which Moses conquered, and 31 kings on the west side of the Jordan River, which Joshua conquered.

The chapter emphasizes the completeness of the Israelites' conquest of the Promised Land and highlights the faithfulness of God to His promise to give the land to the Israelites. It also serves as a reminder of the power of God to help His people achieve victory and fulfill His promises.

Chapter 12 reinforces the themes of obedience and faithfulness, as well as the importance of remembering and celebrating God's faithfulness in our lives.

Joshua chapter 12 lists the kings that the Israelites defeated and conquered on both the east and west sides of the Jordan River. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

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." (Joshua 12:1)
2. "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." (Joshua 12:7-8)

These verses emphasize the completeness of the Israelites' conquest and the fulfillment of the Lord's promise to give them the land. The chapter serves as a summary of the battles and victories that the Israelites achieved, and it emphasizes Joshua's role as the leader of the people who followed the Lord's guidance. The phrase "the land had rest from war" marks a significant transition in the book of Joshua, as the conquest of Canaan has been accomplished and the Israelites can now settle in the land that the Lord has given them.

In Joshua chapter 12, we encounter a detailed account of the conquests and victories achieved by the Israelites under the leadership of Joshua. This chapter provides us with insights into the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises, the historical significance of the conquest, and the reminder of God's sovereignty and power.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises. The chapter lists the names of the kings who were defeated by the Israelites, highlighting the extent of the conquest and the fulfillment of God's promise to give the land of Canaan to the Israelites. This serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in carrying out His plans and His commitment to His people. It reinforces the importance of trusting in God's promises and relying on His strength and guidance.

The chapter also emphasizes the historical significance of the conquest. By listing the conquered territories and their kings, the chapter provides a record of the Israelites' victories and establishes the historical context of the Promised Land's possession. This highlights the historical accuracy of the biblical account and affirms the legitimacy of the Israelites' claim to the land.

Furthermore, the chapter reminds us of God's sovereignty and power. The defeat of the kings and the conquest of their territories demonstrate God's authority over the nations and His ability to bring about victory. It serves as a reminder that no power or opposition can stand against God's purposes and that His sovereignty extends over all creation.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 12 teaches us several important lessons. It affirms the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises and reminds us of the importance of trusting in His faithfulness. It encourages us to rely on God's strength and guidance as we navigate the challenges and conquests in our own lives.

Additionally, the chapter highlights the historical significance of the events recorded in the Bible. It serves as a reminder of the reliability of the biblical account and the historical context in which God's plan of redemption unfolds.

Moreover, the chapter prompts us to recognize and acknowledge God's sovereignty and power. It reminds us that God is the ultimate authority over all nations and circumstances. This calls us to surrender to His will, trust in His guidance, and live in awe of His power.

Overall, Joshua chapter 12 teaches us about the faithfulness of God, the historical significance of the conquest, and the reminder of God's sovereignty and power. By reflecting on these lessons, we can deepen our trust in God's faithfulness, appreciate the historical context of biblical events, and live in awe of God's sovereignty and power in our lives.

CHAPTER 13

Jo. 13:1 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.

Jo. 13:2 "This is the land that remains: all the regions of the Philistines and Geshurites:

Jo. 13:3 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);

Jo. 13:4 from the south, all the land of the Canaanites, from Arah of the Sidonians as far as Aphek, the region of the Amorites,
534

Jo. 13:5 the area of the Gebalites; and all Lebanon to the east, from Baal Gad below Mount Hermon to Lebo Hamath.

Jo. 13:6 "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,

Jo. 13:7 and divide it as an inheritance among the nine tribes and half of the tribe of Manasseh."

Jo. 13:8 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.

Jo. 13:9 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,
Jo. 13:10 and all the towns of Sihon king of the Amorites, who ruled in Heshbon, out to the border of the Ammonites.
Jo. 13:11 It also included Gilead, the territory of the people of Geshur and Maacah, all of Mount Hermon and all Bashan as far as Salecah —
Jo. 13:12 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.
Jo. 13:13 But the Israelites did not drive out the people of Geshur and Maacah, so they continue to live among the Israelites to this day.
Jo. 13:14 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.
Jo. 13:15 This is what Moses had given to the tribe of Reuben, clan by clan:
535
Jo. 13:16 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
Jo. 13:17 to Heshbon and all its towns on the plateau, including Dibon, Bamoth Baal, Beth Baal Meon,
Jo. 13:18 Jahaz, Kedemoth, Mephaath,
Jo. 13:19 Kiriathaim, Sibmah, Zereth Shahar on the hill in the valley,
Jo. 13:20 Beth Peor, the slopes of Pisgah, and Beth Jeshimoth —
Jo. 13:21 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.
Jo. 13:22 In addition to those slain in battle, the Israelites had put to the sword Balaam son of Beor, who practised divination.
Jo. 13:23 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.
Jo. 13:24 This is what Moses had given to the tribe of Gad, clan by clan:
Jo. 13:25 The territory of Jazer, all the towns of Gilead and half the Ammonite country as far as Aroer, near Rabbah;
Jo. 13:26 and from Heshbon to Ramath Mizpah and Betonim, and from Mahanaim to the territory of Debir;
Jo. 13:27 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).

Jo. 13:28 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the Gadites, clan by clan.

536

Jo. 13:29 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:

Jo. 13:30 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,

Jo. 13:31 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.

Jo. 13:32 This is the inheritance Moses had given when he was in the plains of Moab across the Jordan east of Jericho.

Jo. 13:33 But to the tribe of Levi, Moses had given no inheritance; the LORD, the God of Israel, is their inheritance, as he promised them.

Chapter 13 begins with Joshua being told by God that he is old and that there is still much land to be conquered. God instructs Joshua to divide the land that has been conquered among the tribes of Israel, and also mentions the areas that still need to be conquered. The chapter then lists the lands that were conquered under the leadership of Moses and Joshua, but which still needed to be divided among the tribes of Israel. The lands were assigned to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh on the east side of the Jordan River.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of dividing the land among the tribes and the responsibility of the leaders to ensure that the land is distributed fairly. It also shows that there is still work to be done, even after achieving victory, and that there are always new challenges to face.

Chapter 13 reinforces the themes of obedience and faithfulness, as well as the importance of diligence and responsibility in fulfilling our obligations. It reminds us that God has given us tasks to accomplish, and we need to be diligent and faithful in carrying them out.

Joshua chapter 13 describes the division of the land that the Israelites had conquered among the tribes of Israel. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "Now Joshua was old and well advanced in years, and the Lord said to him, 'You are very old, and there are still very large areas of land to be taken over.'" (Joshua 13:1)
2. "So the Lord said to him, 'This is the land that I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, "I will give it to your descendants." I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it.'" (Joshua 13:12)

3. "But to the tribe of Levi he gave no inheritance, since the food offerings presented to the Lord, the God of Israel, are their inheritance, as he promised them." (Joshua 13:14)

These verses emphasize the completeness of the Israelites' conquest, but also the fact that there is still land that needs to be taken. The Lord reminds Joshua of His promise to give the land to the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and the fact that Joshua will not cross over into it serves as a reminder that the Lord's promises will always be fulfilled, but not necessarily in the way that we might expect. The fact that the tribe of Levi received no inheritance is a reminder that their calling was to serve the Lord and the people of Israel in a different way than the other tribes, and that their inheritance was in the Lord Himself.

! In Joshua chapter 13, we encounter a transition in the narrative as Joshua is instructed by God to divide the remaining land among the tribes of Israel. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of faithfulness and obedience, the need for stewardship and responsibility, and the reminder of God's provision and sovereignty.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of faithfulness and obedience. God reminds Joshua that there is still much land to be possessed and instructs him to divide it among the tribes of Israel. However, God also emphasizes that the Israelites themselves must take responsibility for possessing the land and driving out the remaining inhabitants. This highlights the need for the Israelites to remain faithful and obedient to God's commands in order to fully receive the blessings He has promised. It serves as a reminder to us that faithfulness and obedience are key to experiencing God's provision and fulfillment of His promises in our own lives.

The chapter also emphasizes the need for stewardship and responsibility. As the Israelites prepare to inherit the land, they are reminded that they have a responsibility to drive out the remaining Canaanite inhabitants. This highlights the importance of taking care of the resources and blessings God has given us, and actively engaging in our role as stewards of His creation. It prompts us to consider how we can be faithful stewards of the gifts, talents, and resources entrusted to us, using them to honor God and bless others.

Furthermore, the chapter reminds us of God's provision and sovereignty. God assures Joshua that He will personally drive out the remaining nations before the Israelites, affirming His commitment to fulfill His promises. It serves as a reminder that it is ultimately God who grants victory and provides for His people. It encourages us to trust in God's provision and to rely on His sovereignty in all areas of our lives.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 13 teaches us several important lessons. It underscores the importance of faithfulness and obedience in our walk with God. It reminds us that our response to God's commands and instructions has a direct impact on our ability to receive His blessings and fulfill His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter calls us to be faithful stewards of the resources and blessings God has entrusted to us. It prompts us to consider how we can responsibly and wisely use what God has given us to honor Him and bless others.

Moreover, the chapter reaffirms God's provision and sovereignty. It encourages us to trust in God's faithfulness and to rely on His guidance and provision as we navigate the challenges and responsibilities before us.

Overall, Joshua chapter 13 teaches us about the importance of faithfulness, stewardship, and trust in God's provision and sovereignty. By reflecting on these lessons, we can grow in our obedience to God, embrace our role as stewards of His blessings, and confidently trust in His faithfulness to fulfill His promises in our lives.

CHAPTER 14

Jo. 14:1 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.

Jo. 14:2 Their inheritances were assigned by lot to the nine-and-a-half tribes, as the LORD had commanded through Moses.

Jo. 14:3 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,

Jo. 14:4 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 pasture-lands for their flocks and herds.

Jo. 14:5 So the Israelites divided the land, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.

537

Jo. 14:6 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.

Jo. 14:7 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,

Jo. 14:8 but my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people sink. I, however, followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.

Jo. 14:9 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 for ever, because you have followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.’

Jo. 14:10 “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!

Jo. 14:11 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.

Jo. 14:12 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."

Jo. 14:13 Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.

Jo. 14:14 So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the LORD, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly.

Jo. 14:15 (Hebron used to be called Kiriath Arba after Arba, who was the greatest man among the Anakites.) Then the land had rest from war.

Chapter 14 begins with the account of Caleb, one of the original spies sent to scout out the land of Canaan, who approaches Joshua and reminds him of the promise that God had made to him forty-five years earlier. Caleb asks for the land of Hebron as his inheritance, which Joshua grants him.

The chapter then describes how the land of Hebron was conquered and given to Caleb and his descendants as an inheritance. Caleb, who was 85 years old at the time, bravely and confidently led the attack on Hebron, trusting in God to give him victory.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of faithfulness and trust in God's promises. Caleb's faithfulness and courage are rewarded with the inheritance he had been promised, demonstrating the faithfulness of God to His promises. Caleb's story serves as an example of the importance of trusting in God's promises and relying on Him for strength and courage in the face of challenges.

Chapter 14 reinforces the themes of obedience, faithfulness, and trust in God's promises. It also highlights the importance of courage and perseverance in fulfilling the tasks that God has assigned to us.

Joshua chapter 14 describes the division of the land among the tribes of Israel and the request of Caleb, one of the leaders of Israel, for the land that the Lord had promised him. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

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." (Joshua 14:1)
2. "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.'" (Joshua 14:9)
3. "Then the land had rest from war." (Joshua 14:15)

These verses emphasize the fulfillment of the Lord's promises to the Israelites and the importance of wholeheartedly following Him. Caleb's request for the land that the Lord

had promised him shows that the Lord's promises are still relevant and active, even after many years have passed. The phrase "the land had rest from war" emphasizes that the conquest of Canaan has been accomplished and the Israelites can now settle in the land that the Lord has given them. Overall, this chapter reinforces the themes of faithfulness and obedience to the Lord, and the fulfillment of His promises to His people.

In Joshua chapter 14, we encounter the account of Caleb's request and inheritance of the land of Hebron. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of wholehearted devotion, the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises, and the example of a godly character.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of wholehearted devotion to God. Caleb, one of the spies sent by Moses to explore the land of Canaan, had remained faithful to God's promises and maintained his trust in Him. Now, at an advanced age, Caleb requests the land of Hebron as his inheritance. He testifies that he wholly followed the Lord and that his faith in God remained steadfast. Caleb's example serves as an inspiration for us to remain devoted to God with unwavering faith and trust throughout our lives.

The chapter also emphasizes the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises. Caleb reminds Joshua of the promise made by God through Moses, which guaranteed him a portion of the land. Despite the passage of time, Caleb's trust in God's promise never wavered, and now he receives the land he was promised. This highlights God's faithfulness to His Word and His commitment to fulfilling what He has declared. It encourages us to trust in God's promises and remain patient, knowing that He will fulfill them in His perfect timing.

Furthermore, the chapter presents Caleb as an example of godly character. Caleb is described as having a different spirit and a wholehearted devotion to God. His faithfulness, courage, and trust in God set him apart. He serves as a reminder that a godly character is built through a lifetime of obedience, trust, and reliance on God. Caleb's example challenges us to cultivate godly character traits in our own lives, such as faithfulness, courage, and unwavering trust in God.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 14 teaches us several important lessons. It underscores the significance of wholehearted devotion to God, inspiring us to remain faithful and trust in Him throughout our lives. It reminds us of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, encouraging us to trust in His Word and wait patiently for His provision.

Additionally, the chapter presents Caleb as an example of godly character, prompting us to cultivate similar virtues in our own lives. It challenges us to live with faith, courage, and unwavering trust in God, even in the face of challenges or delays.

Moreover, the chapter reminds us of the enduring nature of a godly character. Caleb's faith and devotion to God remained steadfast over a long period of time, serving as a testimony to the transformative power of a life lived in obedience to God.

Overall, Joshua chapter 14 teaches us about wholehearted devotion, God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, and the example of a godly character. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive to cultivate unwavering faith, trust in God's promises, and develop a godly character that honors Him in all aspects of our lives.

CHAPTER 15

Jo. 15:1 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.

Jo. 15:2 Their southern boundary started from the bay at the southern end of the Salt Sea,

Jo. 15:3 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.

Jo. 15:4 It then passed along to Azmon and joined the Wadi of Egypt, ending at the sea. This is their southern boundary.

Jo. 15:5 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,

Jo. 15:6 went up to Beth Hoglah and continued north of Beth Arabah to the Stone of Bohan son of Reuben.

Jo. 15:7 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.

Jo. 15:8 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.

Jo. 15:9 From the hilltop the boundary headed towards the spring of the waters of Nephtoah, came out at the towns of Mount Ephron and went down towards Baalah (that is, Kiriath Jearim).

Jo. 15:10 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.

539

Jo. 15:11 It went to the northern slope of Ekron, turned towards Shikkeron, passed along to Mount Baalah and reached Jabneel. The boundary ended at the sea.

Jo. 15:12 The western boundary is the coastline of the Great Sea. These are the boundaries around the people of Judah by their clans.

Jo. 15:13 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.)

Jo. 15:14 From Hebron Caleb drove out the three Anakites — Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmai — descendants of Anak.

Jo. 15:15 From there he marched against the people living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath Sepher).

Jo. 15:16 And Caleb said, “I will give my daughter Acsah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher.”

Jo. 15:17 Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb’s brother, took it; so Caleb gave his daughter Acsah to him in marriage.

Jo. 15:18 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?”

Jo. 15:19 She replied, “Do me a special favour. Since you have given me land in the Negev, give me also springs of water.” So Caleb gave her the upper and lower springs.

Jo. 15:20 This is the inheritance of the tribe of Judah, clan by clan:

Jo. 15:21 The southernmost towns of the tribe of Judah in the Negev towards the boundary of Edom were: Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur,

Jo. 15:22 Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah,

Jo. 15:23 Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan,

Jo. 15:24 Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,

Jo. 15:25 Hazor Hadattah, Kerioth Hezron (that is, Hazor),

Jo. 15:26 Amam, Shema, Moladah,

540

Jo. 15:27 Hazar Gaddah, Heshmon, Beth Pelet,

Jo. 15:28 Hazar Shual, Beersheba, Biziothiah,

Jo. 15:29 Baalah, Iim, Ezem,

Jo. 15:30 Eltolad, Kesil, Hormah,

Jo. 15:31 Ziklag, Madmannah, Sansannah,

Jo. 15:32 Lebaoth, Shilhim, Ain and Rimmon — a total of twenty-nine towns and their villages.

Jo. 15:33 In the western foothills: Eshtaol, Zorah, Ashnah,

Jo. 15:34 Zanoah, En Gannim, Tappuah, Enam,

Jo. 15:35 Jarmuth, Adullam, Socoh, Azekah,

Jo. 15:36 Shaaraim, Adithaim and Gederah (or Gederothaim) — fourteen towns and their villages.

Jo. 15:37 Zenan, Hadashah, Migdal Gad,

Jo. 15:38 Dilean, Mizpah, Joktheel,

Jo. 15:39 Lachish, Bozkath, Eglon,

Jo. 15:40 Cabbon, Lahmas, Kitlish,

Jo. 15:41 Gederoth, Beth Dagon, Naamah and Makkedah — sixteen towns and their villages.

Jo. 15:42 Libnah, Ether, Ashan,

Jo. 15:43 Iphtah, Ashnah, Nezib,

Jo. 15:44 Keilah, Aczib and Mareshah — nine towns and their villages.

Jo. 15:45 Ekron, with its surrounding settlements and villages;
Jo. 15:46 west of Ekron, all that were in the vicinity of Ashdod,
together with their villages;
Jo. 15:47 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.

541

Jo. 15:48 In the hill country: Shamir, Jattir, Socoh,
Jo. 15:49 Dannah, Kiriath Sannah (that is, Debir),
Jo. 15:50 Anab, Eshtemoh, Anim,
Jo. 15:51 Goshen, Holon and Giloh — eleven towns and their villages.
Jo. 15:52 Arab, Dumah, Eshan,
Jo. 15:53 Janim, Beth Tappuah, Aphekah,
Jo. 15:54 Humtah, Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron) and Zior — nine
towns and their villages.
Jo. 15:55 Maon, Carmel, Ziph, Juttah,
Jo. 15:56 Jezreel, Jokdeam, Zanoah,
Jo. 15:57 Kain, Gibeah and Timnah — ten towns and their villages.
Jo. 15:58 Halhul, Beth Zur, Gedor,
Jo. 15:59 Maarath, Beth Anoth and Eltekon — six towns and their
villages.
Jo. 15:60 Kiriath Baal (that is, Kiriath Jearim) and Rabbah — two
towns and their villages.
Jo. 15:61 In the desert: Beth Arabah, Middin, Secacah,
Jo. 15:62 Nibshan, the City of Salt and En Gedi — six towns and their
villages.
Jo. 15:63 Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in
Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people
of Judah.

15 describes the allocation of land to the tribe of Judah, which was the largest and most prominent tribe of Israel. The chapter details the borders of Judah's inheritance, including the cities and towns within those borders.

The chapter also lists the fortified cities that were given to Judah, including Jerusalem, which was not yet conquered but promised to them. The tribe of Judah successfully conquered many of the cities and towns within their borders, but there were still some areas that remained unconquered.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience and faithfulness in receiving the inheritance that God had promised. Judah's inheritance was a direct result of their obedience and faithfulness to God's commands, which allowed them to conquer the land and receive the blessings that God had promised.

Chapter 15 reinforces the themes of obedience, faithfulness, and trust in God's promises. It also highlights the importance of diligence and perseverance in fulfilling the tasks that God has assigned to us. The chapter serves as a reminder that God is faithful to His promises and that obedience and faithfulness are the keys to receiving His blessings.

Joshua chapter 15 describes the territory that was allotted to the tribe of Judah. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "This then was the tribe of Judah, according to its clans: The territory of Judah extended down to the territory of Edom, to the Desert of Zin in the extreme south." (Joshua 15:1)
2. "Caleb drove out from there the three Anakites—Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmi—descendants of Anak." (Joshua 15:14)
3. "But the people of Judah could not dislodge the Jebusites, who were living in Jerusalem; to this day the Jebusites live there with the people of Judah." (Joshua 15:63)

These verses emphasize the extent and boundaries of the territory that was allotted to the tribe of Judah. The driving out of the Anakites by Caleb shows the fulfillment of the Lord's promise to him in chapter 14. However, the fact that the Jebusites were not dislodged from Jerusalem shows that the conquest of the land was not complete, and that there were still challenges to be faced. The mention of the Jebusites also foreshadows the events that will take place in the next few chapters, where Jerusalem will play a prominent role in the Israelites' story. Overall, this chapter emphasizes the importance of the Lord's promises and the need for continued perseverance in the face of challenges.

[! In Joshua chapter 15, we encounter the description of the territory allotted to the tribe of Judah. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of embracing our inheritance, the significance of obedience and faithfulness, and the reminder of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises.](#)

[One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of embracing our inheritance. The land allotted to the tribe of Judah is described in detail, listing the boundaries and cities within their possession. This emphasizes the fulfillment of God's promise to give the land of Canaan to the Israelites. It serves as a reminder that God desires His people to take possession of the blessings and promises He has given them. It encourages us to embrace the spiritual inheritance we have in Christ and to walk in the fullness of what God has prepared for us.](#)

[The chapter also highlights the significance of obedience and faithfulness. The tribe of Judah receives their allotted portion because they obeyed God's command to go and possess the land. Their obedience and faithfulness position them to receive the inheritance promised to them. This underscores the importance of walking in obedience to God's commands and being faithful to His call on our lives. It reminds us that our actions and choices have consequences and can determine the extent to which we experience God's blessings and fulfill His purposes.](#)

[Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. The detailed description of the territory allotted to Judah demonstrates God's faithfulness to provide exactly what He had promised. It reinforces the truth that God is faithful to His Word and that His promises can be trusted. This encourages us to place our](#)

confidence in God's faithfulness and rely on His promises, knowing that He will fulfill what He has declared.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 15 teaches us several important lessons. It prompts us to embrace the spiritual inheritance we have in Christ and walk in the fullness of what God has prepared for us. It underscores the importance of obedience and faithfulness, reminding us that our actions and choices can impact our experience of God's blessings and fulfillment of His purposes.

Additionally, the chapter highlights God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises, reassuring us that we can trust in His Word and rely on His faithfulness in our lives.

Moreover, the chapter encourages us to take hold of the promises of God through obedience and faithfulness, recognizing that God's blessings are available to us when we align ourselves with His will.

Overall, Joshua chapter 15 teaches us about embracing our inheritance, the importance of obedience and faithfulness, and God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises. By reflecting on these lessons, we can be inspired to walk in obedience, embrace our spiritual inheritance, and trust in God's faithfulness to fulfill His promises in our lives.

CHAPTER 16

Jo. 16:1 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.

542

Jo. 16:2 It went on from Bethel (that is, Luz), crossed over to the territory of the Arkites in Ataroth,

Jo. 16:3 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.

Jo. 16:4 So Manasseh and Ephraim, the descendants of Joseph, received their inheritance.

Jo. 16:5 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

Jo. 16:6 and continued to the sea. From Micmethath on the north it curved eastward to Taanath Shiloh, passing by it to Janoah on the east.

Jo. 16:7 Then it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and Naarah, touched Jericho and came out at the Jordan.

Jo. 16:8 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.

Jo. 16:9 It also included all the towns and their villages that were set

aside for the Ephraimites within the inheritance of the Manassites.

Jo. 16:10 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 labour.

Chapter 16 describes the allocation of land to the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh, which were the descendants of Joseph. The chapter details the borders of their inheritance, including the cities and towns within those borders.

The chapter emphasizes that although the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh were given a large and fertile territory, they did not completely drive out the Canaanites from their land. As a result, the Canaanites remained in their midst as a constant threat and source of conflict.

The chapter also describes the failure of the tribe of Ephraim to fully conquer their allotted territory. Despite being given a rich and abundant land, the Ephraimites were unable to drive out the Canaanites from their midst, which would later prove to be a source of trouble for them.

The chapter reinforces the themes of obedience, diligence, and faithfulness in fulfilling the tasks that God has assigned to us. It also serves as a warning against complacency and compromise, which can lead to the failure to fully conquer the obstacles and challenges that we face.

Overall, Chapter 16 emphasizes the importance of faithfulness and obedience to God's commands in order to receive His blessings, and the need to be diligent and persistent in our efforts to fulfill the tasks that He has assigned to us.

Joshua chapter 16 describes the territory that was allotted to the tribe of Joseph, specifically the descendants of his son Ephraim. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "So this was the allotment of the tribe of Ephraim by its clans: The boundary of their allotment went from Ataroth Addar in the east to Upper Beth Horon." (Joshua 16:5)
2. "Yet 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." (Joshua 16:10)

These verses emphasize the boundaries of the territory allotted to the tribe of Ephraim and the fact that they did not fully drive out the Canaanites from their land. The mention of the Canaanites being required to do forced labor shows that there was some level of control exercised over them, but the fact that they still lived among the Israelites suggests that the conquest was not fully complete. This chapter also highlights the importance of obedience to the Lord's commands, as failure to fully dislodge the Canaanites would later lead to trouble for the Israelites. Overall, this chapter reinforces the themes of faithfulness and perseverance in the face of challenges, and the importance of obedience to the Lord's commands.

In Joshua chapter 16, we encounter the description of the territory allotted to the tribe of Ephraim and their failure to fully possess the land. This chapter provides us with insights into the consequences of incomplete obedience, the importance of perseverance, and the reminder of God's faithfulness in giving us opportunities for growth.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the consequences of incomplete obedience. The tribe of Ephraim is given a portion of land, but they fail to fully drive out the Canaanite inhabitants from their territory. As a result, they are left with Canaanite influences and pockets of resistance within their boundaries. This highlights the importance of complete obedience to God's commands and the consequences that can arise from compromising or neglecting His instructions. It serves as a reminder that partial obedience can hinder us from fully experiencing the blessings and victories God has for us.

The chapter also emphasizes the importance of perseverance. Despite their initial failures, the tribe of Ephraim is not without hope. They are given another opportunity to possess the land and drive out the remaining inhabitants. This demonstrates God's grace and His willingness to give His people another chance. It encourages us to persevere in our journey of faith, even when we face setbacks or failures. It reminds us that God is patient with us and provides opportunities for growth and redemption.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in giving us opportunities for growth. Despite the incomplete obedience of the tribe of Ephraim, God still provides them with a chance to rectify their mistakes and possess the land fully. This highlights God's commitment to His people's growth and His desire for them to fulfill their purpose. It encourages us to trust in God's faithfulness and guidance, knowing that He will provide us with opportunities to learn and grow in our faith.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 16 teaches us several important lessons. It warns us about the consequences of incomplete obedience, reminding us of the importance of wholehearted devotion and obedience to God's commands. It encourages us to persevere in our journey of faith, knowing that God grants us opportunities for growth and redemption, even in the face of failures or setbacks.

Additionally, the chapter underscores God's faithfulness in giving us chances for growth, reassuring us of His grace and patience in our spiritual development.

Moreover, the chapter prompts us to evaluate our own obedience and commitment to God's commands. It challenges us to examine areas of compromise or incomplete obedience in our lives and to take steps toward full surrender and obedience to God's will.

Overall, Joshua chapter 16 teaches us about the consequences of incomplete obedience, the importance of perseverance, and God's faithfulness in providing us with opportunities for growth. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive for wholehearted devotion,

persevere in our faith, and trust in God's faithfulness as we seek to fulfill His purposes in our lives.

CHAPTER 17

Jo. 17:1 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.

Jo. 17:2 So this allotment was for the rest of the people of Manasseh — the clans of Abiezer, Helek, Asriel, Shechem, Hephher and

543

Shemida. These are the other male descendants of Manasseh son of Joseph by their clans.

Jo. 17:3 Now Zelophehad son of Hephher, 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.

Jo. 17:4 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.

Jo. 17:5 Manasseh's share consisted of ten tracts of land besides Gilead and Bashan east of the Jordan,

Jo. 17:6 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.

Jo. 17:7 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.

Jo. 17:8 (Manasseh had the land of Tappuah, but Tappuah itself, on the boundary of Manasseh, belonged to the Ephraimites.)

Jo. 17:9 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.

Jo. 17:10 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.

Jo. 17:11 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).

544

Jo. 17:12 Yet the Manassites were not able to occupy these towns, for

the Canaanites were determined to live in that region.

Jo. 17:13 However, when the Israelites grew stronger, they subjected the Canaanites to forced labour but did not drive them out completely.

Jo. 17:14 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.”

Jo. 17:15 “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.”

Jo. 17:16 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.”

Jo. 17:17 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

Jo. 17:18 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.”

Chapter 17 continues the theme of the allocation of land to the tribes of Israel. In this chapter, the focus is on the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim, who received their inheritance in the land of Canaan.

The chapter begins with the daughters of Zelophehad, who were from the tribe of Manasseh. They come before Joshua and the leaders of Israel to request that they be given an inheritance in the land. Because their father had no sons, they were concerned that their family's name would be lost if they were not given a portion of the land. Joshua grants their request and gives them a portion of the land in the tribe of Manasseh.

The chapter then describes the inheritance given to the tribe of Manasseh, which was divided between the descendants of Joseph's two sons. However, the tribe of Manasseh was unable to drive out the Canaanites from some of the towns within their territory. As a result, the Canaanites continued to live among them and caused them trouble.

The chapter also describes the inheritance given to the tribe of Ephraim, which was also a descendant of Joseph. However, the Ephraimites were also unable to drive out the Canaanites from some of the towns within their territory.

The chapter reinforces the theme of obedience and faithfulness in the conquest of the land, and the need for the Israelites to fully trust in God's promises and power to overcome their enemies. It also emphasizes the importance of unity and cooperation between the tribes of Israel in their efforts to conquer and settle the land.

Overall, Chapter 17 serves as a reminder of the challenges and difficulties that the Israelites faced in their conquest of the land, and the need for them to rely on God's guidance and strength in order to succeed.

Joshua chapter 17 describes the territory that was allotted to the half-tribe of Manasseh, the descendants of Joseph's son Manasseh. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

1. "The daughters of Zelophehad son of Hopher, the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, belonged to the clans of Manasseh son of Joseph. The names of these daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milkah and Tirzah. They came forward and stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders and the whole assembly at the entrance to the tent of meeting and said..." (Joshua 17:3-4)
2. "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.'" (Joshua 17:14)
3. "But the Manassites were not able to occupy these towns, for the Canaanites were determined to live in that region. However, when the Israelites grew stronger, they subjected the Canaanites to forced labor but did not drive them out completely." (Joshua 17:12-13)

These verses highlight the stories of the daughters of Zelophehad, who were able to inherit their father's land despite being women, and the tribe of Manasseh, who felt that they deserved more land than they had been allotted. The mention of the Canaanites who remained in the land despite Israelite attempts to drive them out underscores the ongoing struggles that the Israelites faced as they sought to fully conquer the land. Despite these challenges, the Israelites continued to grow stronger and exert more control over the land. Overall, this chapter reinforces the themes of faithfulness, perseverance, and obedience to the Lord's commands, even in the face of difficult circumstances.

In Joshua chapter 17, we encounter the account of the allocation of land to the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim, highlighting the challenge of contentment, the need for diligent stewardship, and the reminder of God's provision and blessing.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the challenge of contentment. The descendants of Joseph, represented by the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim, approach Joshua with a complaint regarding their allotted portion of land. They feel that they have been given too little, considering their numerical strength. Joshua responds by encouraging them to be content with what they have and reminds them that their allotment is a valuable inheritance. This highlights the human tendency to compare and desire more, often leading to a lack of contentment. It prompts us to reflect on the importance of being grateful for the blessings we have and finding contentment in God's provision, rather than constantly seeking for more.

The chapter also emphasizes the need for diligent stewardship. The tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim are urged to clear the forested areas within their allotted land and possess it fully. This highlights the responsibility of the Israelites to actively engage in stewardship and development of the resources and blessings God has provided. It serves as a reminder for us to be diligent and proactive in utilizing our God-given talents, opportunities, and resources for His glory and the benefit of others.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of God's provision and blessing. Despite the perceived inadequacy of the land allocation, Joshua assures the tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim that they are a mighty people and possess great potential. He encourages them to clear the forests and possess the land, confident that God will be with them and bless their efforts. This reminds us of God's faithfulness to provide and His ability to transform seemingly limited resources into sources of abundance and blessing. It encourages us to trust in God's provision and to diligently steward what He has entrusted to us, knowing that He can multiply our efforts and bring forth fruitfulness.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 17 teaches us several important lessons. It challenges us to cultivate contentment and gratitude for the blessings we have, rather than constantly desiring more. It reminds us to be diligent stewards of the resources and opportunities God has given us, actively engaging in their development for His glory. It also encourages us to trust in God's provision and to have faith that He can bring forth abundance and blessing even in seemingly limited circumstances.

Moreover, the chapter prompts us to examine our attitudes towards comparison and desire for more. It encourages us to find contentment in God's provision and to trust His timing and allocation in our lives.

Overall, Joshua chapter 17 teaches us about the challenge of contentment, the need for diligent stewardship, and the reminder of God's provision and blessing. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate contentment, embrace diligent stewardship, and trust in God's provision and blessing in our own lives.

CHAPTER 18

Jo. 18:1 The whole assembly of the Israelites gathered at Shiloh and set up the Tent of Meeting there. The country was brought under their control,

Jo. 18:2 but there were still seven Israelite tribes who had not yet received their inheritance.

545

Jo. 18:3 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?"

Jo. 18:4 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.

Jo. 18:5 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.

Jo. 18:6 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.

Jo. 18:7 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.”

Jo. 18:8 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.”

Jo. 18:9 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.

Jo. 18:10 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.

Jo. 18:11 The lot came up for the tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan. Their allotted territory lay between the tribes of Judah and Joseph:

Jo. 18:12 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.

546

Jo. 18:13 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.

Jo. 18:14 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.

Jo. 18:15 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.

Jo. 18:16 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.

Jo. 18:17 It then 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.

Jo. 18:18 It continued to the northern slope of Beth Arabah and on down into the Arabah.

Jo. 18:19 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.

Jo. 18:20 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.

Jo. 18:21 The tribe of Benjamin, clan by clan, had the following cities:
Jericho, Beth Hoglah, Emek Keziz,
Jo. 18:22 Beth Arabah, Zemaraim, Bethel,
Jo. 18:23 Avvim, Parah, Ophrah,
Jo. 18:24 Kephrah Ammoni, Ophni and Geba — twelve towns and their
villages.
Jo. 18:25 Gibeon, Ramah, Beeroth,
547
Jo. 18:26 Mizpah, Kephirah, Mozah,
Jo. 18:27 Rekem, Irpeel, Taralah,
Jo. 18:28 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.

Chapter 18 begins with the setting up of the tabernacle at Shiloh, which had been designated as the center of worship for the Israelites. The chapter then focuses on the allocation of land to the remaining seven tribes of Israel who had not yet received their inheritance.

Joshua gathers representatives from each tribe and instructs them to send out three men to survey the remaining land and to divide it into seven portions. The men are then to bring their report back to Joshua, who will cast lots to determine the inheritance of each tribe. The men set out to survey the land and eventually return to Joshua with their report. Based on their report, Joshua divides the land into seven portions and casts lots to determine the inheritance of each tribe.

The chapter concludes with the allocation of the land to the remaining seven tribes. However, the tribe of Benjamin received a smaller portion than the other tribes, as the city of Jerusalem was located within their territory and had not yet been conquered. The chapter emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands and the need for the Israelites to complete the task of conquering the land and taking possession of their inheritance. It also highlights the role of leadership in guiding and directing the people towards their goals, as Joshua takes charge in allocating the land to the remaining tribes.

Overall, Chapter 18 serves as a reminder of the Israelites' mission to conquer and settle the land, and the need for them to remain obedient to God's commands and follow the leadership of Joshua in order to succeed.

Joshua chapter 18 describes the allocation of land to the remaining seven tribes of Israel. Here are some important verses from this chapter in the Christian Bible:

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, and there remained seven Israelite tribes who had not yet received their inheritance." (Joshua 18:1)
2. "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 ancestors, has given you?'" (Joshua 18:3)

3. "But the Levites have no portion among you, because the priesthood 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." (Joshua 18:7)

These verses highlight the importance of taking possession of the land that the Lord had promised to the Israelites. Joshua urges the remaining seven tribes to begin the process of claiming their inheritance, and emphasizes the role of the Levites as priests who would not receive a portion of the land. Additionally, the mention of the tribes that had already received their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan underscores the complexity of the division of the land and the need for clear boundaries and allocations. Overall, this chapter emphasizes the importance of following the Lord's commands and taking action to claim the blessings that He has promised.

In Joshua chapter 18, we encounter the account of the remaining tribes of Israel coming together to cast lots for the allocation of their inheritances. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of taking responsibility, the need for unity and collaboration, and the reminder of God's guidance in the process of decision-making.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of taking responsibility. The tribes of Israel had entered the Promised Land, but some had not yet received their allotted inheritance. Joshua instructs them to appoint men from each tribe to survey the land and divide it into seven portions. This highlights the responsibility of the Israelites to actively participate in the process of receiving their inheritance. It serves as a reminder that we, too, have a role to play in seeking and stewarding the blessings and promises of God in our lives. It prompts us to take responsibility for our spiritual growth, actively seek God's will, and participate in His plans for us.

The chapter also emphasizes the need for unity and collaboration. The appointed men go throughout the land and provide a detailed description of its boundaries. The information is recorded and presented to Joshua, who casts lots to determine the allocation of the land to each tribe. This highlights the importance of unity and collaboration among God's people in making decisions and carrying out His plans. It reminds us that we are part of a larger community of believers and that our actions and decisions can impact others. It encourages us to work together, seek counsel, and value the input and perspectives of others as we navigate our own journeys of faith.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of God's guidance in the process of decision-making. The casting of lots was a method used to seek God's direction and make decisions in ancient times. The outcome of the lots was believed to be determined by God. This reminds us of the importance of seeking God's guidance and wisdom in our own decision-making processes. It encourages us to seek His will through prayer, Scripture, and seeking wise counsel, trusting that He will guide us and provide clarity as we make choices in alignment with His purposes.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 18 teaches us several important lessons. It prompts us to take responsibility for our spiritual growth and participation in God's plans for our lives. It

encourages us to value unity and collaboration, recognizing the strength and wisdom that comes from working together as a community of believers. It also reminds us to seek God's guidance and wisdom in our decision-making processes, trusting in His direction and providence.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own attitudes towards responsibility and collaboration. It prompts us to actively seek and steward the blessings and promises of God, while also valuing the input and perspectives of others in our decision-making.

Overall, Joshua chapter 18 teaches us about taking responsibility, the need for unity and collaboration, and the reminder of God's guidance in decision-making. By reflecting on these lessons, we can embrace our role in seeking and stewarding God's blessings, value the community of believers, and seek God's guidance and wisdom as we make decisions aligned with His purposes.

CHAPTER 19

Jo. 19:1 The second lot came out for the tribe of Simeon, clan by clan.

Their inheritance lay within the territory of Judah.

Jo. 19:2 It included: Beersheba (or Sheba), Moladah,

Jo. 19:3 Hazar Shual, Balah, Ezem,

Jo. 19:4 Eltolad, Bethul, Hormah,

Jo. 19:5 Ziklag, Beth Marcaboth, Hazar Susah,

Jo. 19:6 Beth Lebaoth and Sharuhem — thirteen towns and their villages;

Jo. 19:7 Ain, Rimmon, Ether and Ashan — four towns and their villages —

Jo. 19:8 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.

Jo. 19:9 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.

Jo. 19:10 The third lot came up for Zebulun, clan by clan: The boundary of their inheritance went as far as Sarid.

Jo. 19:11 Going west it ran to Maralah, touched Dabbesheth, and extended to the ravine near Jokneam.

Jo. 19:12 It turned east from Sarid towards the sunrise to the territory of Kisloth Tabor and went on to Daberath and up to Japhia.

548

Jo. 19:13 Then it continued eastward to Gath Hopher and Eth Kazin; it came out at Rimmon and turned towards Neah.

Jo. 19:14 There the boundary went round on the north to Hannathon and ended at the Valley of Iphtah El.

Jo. 19:15 Included were Kattath, Nahalal, Shimron, Idalah and

Bethlehem. There were twelve towns and their villages.

Jo. 19:16 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of Zebulun, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:17 The fourth lot came out for Issachar, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:18 Their territory included: Jezreel, Kesulloth, Shunem,

Jo. 19:19 Hapharaim, Shion, Anaharath,

Jo. 19:20 Rabbith, Kishion, Ebez,

Jo. 19:21 Remeth, En Gannim, En Haddah and Beth Pazzez.

Jo. 19:22 The boundary touched Tabor, Shahazumah and Beth Shemesh, and ended at the Jordan. There were sixteen towns and their villages.

Jo. 19:23 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Issachar, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:24 The fifth lot came out for the tribe of Asher, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:25 Their territory included: Helkath, Hali, Beten, Acshaph,

Jo. 19:26 Allammelech, Amad and Mishal. On the west the boundary touched Carmel and Shihor Libnath.

Jo. 19:27 It then turned east towards Beth Dagon, touched Zebulun and the Valley of Iphtah El, and went north to Beth Emek and Neiel, passing Cabul on the left.

Jo. 19:28 It went to Abdon, Rehob, Hammon and Kanah, as far as Greater Sidon.

Jo. 19:29 The boundary then turned back towards Ramah and went to the fortified city of Tyre, turned towards Hosah and came out at the sea in the region of Aczib,

549

Jo. 19:30 Ummah, Aphek and Rehob. There were twenty-two towns and their villages.

Jo. 19:31 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Asher, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:32 The sixth lot came out for Naphtali, clan by clan:

Jo. 19:33 Their boundary went from Heleph and the large tree in Zaananim, passing Adami Nekeb and Jabneel to Lakkum and ending at the Jordan.

Jo. 19:34 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.

Jo. 19:35 The fortified cities were Ziddim, Zer, Hammath, Rakkath, Kinnereth,

Jo. 19:36 Adamah, Ramah, Hazor,

Jo. 19:37 Kedesh, Edrei, En Hazor,

Jo. 19:38 Iron, Migdal El, Horem, Beth Anath and Beth Shemesh. There were nineteen towns and their villages.

Jo. 19:39 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Naphtali, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:40 The seventh lot came out for the tribe of Dan, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:41 The territory of their inheritance included: Zorah, Eshtaol, Ir Shemesh,

Jo. 19:42 Shaalabbin, Aijalon, Ithlah,

Jo. 19:43 Elon, Timnah, Ekron,

Jo. 19:44 Eltekeh, Gibbethon, Baalath,

Jo. 19:45 Jehud, Bene Berak, Gath Rimmon,

Jo. 19:46 Me Jarkon and Rakkon, with the area facing Joppa.

Jo. 19:47 (But the Danites had difficulty taking possession of their territory, so they went up and attacked Leshem, took it, put it
550

to the sword and occupied it. They settled in Leshem and named it Dan after their forefather.)

Jo. 19:48 These towns and their villages were the inheritance of the tribe of Dan, clan by clan.

Jo. 19:49 When they had finished dividing the land into its allotted portions, the Israelites gave Joshua son of Nun an inheritance among them,

Jo. 19:50 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.

Jo. 19:51 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.

Chapter 19 continues with the allocation of land to the remaining tribes of Israel. The chapter focuses on the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon and the remaining territories given to the tribes of Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, and Dan.

The tribe of Simeon is given its inheritance within the territory of Judah, due to the fact that their original allotment was within the territory of Judah, but it was deemed too large for them. The remaining tribes receive their inheritances through casting of lots.

The chapter provides a detailed description of the boundaries and cities within each tribe's allotted land. It also mentions the presence of non-Israelite inhabitants within these territories and their continued presence despite the Israelite conquest.

Overall, Chapter 19 emphasizes the importance of following through with the task of conquering and settling the land, as well as the fulfillment of God's promises to the Israelites. It also highlights the importance of obedience to God's commands and the role of leadership in guiding the people towards their goals.

Here are some important verses from Joshua chapter 19 in the Christian Bible:

1. "The second lot came out for Simeon, for the tribe of the people of Simeon, according to their families. And their inheritance was within the inheritance of the people of Judah." (Joshua 19:1)
2. "This was the inheritance of the tribe of the children of Simeon according to their families. The inheritance of the children of Simeon was included in the share of

- the children of Judah, for the share of the children of Judah was too much for them." (Joshua 19:9)
3. "These were the cities of the tribe of Simeon according to their families; therefore, the inheritance of the tribe of Simeon was within the inheritance of the children of Judah." (Joshua 19:9)

These verses describe the allocation of land to the tribe of Simeon within the territory of Judah. The inheritance of the tribe of Simeon was smaller than that of the other tribes, and so their land was included within the larger portion allotted to Judah. The importance of the tribe of Simeon is highlighted as they are given a place within the land promised to the Israelites. These verses also emphasize the meticulous detail with which the division of the land was carried out, as the inheritance of each tribe is recorded according to their families and specific territories.

! In Joshua chapter 19, we encounter the account of the remaining tribes of Israel receiving their allotted inheritances in the Promised Land. This chapter provides us with insights into the fulfillment of God's promises, the importance of trust and obedience, and the reminder of God's faithfulness in providing for His people.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the fulfillment of God's promises. The chapter describes the territories that were allotted to each of the remaining tribes of Israel. This distribution of land fulfills the promise made by God to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give their descendants the land of Canaan as an inheritance. It serves as a powerful reminder that God is faithful to His promises and that He can be trusted to fulfill what He has declared. It encourages us to have faith in God's promises and to trust that He will bring about their fulfillment in His perfect timing.

The chapter also highlights the importance of trust and obedience. The tribes of Israel had to trust the divine allocation of their inheritances. They had to accept the land assigned to them and occupy it. This required faith and obedience to God's commands. It reminds us that trust and obedience are essential in our own journey of faith. We are called to trust in God's guidance and provision, obey His commands, and walk in His ways. It is through trust and obedience that we can fully experience the blessings and fulfillment of God's purposes in our lives.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness in providing for His people. Each tribe received their allotted portion of land, demonstrating God's meticulous care in meeting the needs of His people. It reassures us that God is our provider and that He will meet our needs according to His riches and wisdom. It encourages us to rely on God's provision and to approach Him with confidence, knowing that He is faithful to provide for His people.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 19 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of the fulfillment of God's promises and encourages us to trust in His faithfulness to bring about their fulfillment. It emphasizes the importance of trust and obedience in our relationship with God, prompting us to walk in faith and obedience to His commands. It also reassures us of God's provision and encourages us to rely on Him as our faithful provider.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own trust and obedience to God's guidance and commands. It prompts us to surrender our plans and desires to God, trusting that His provision and timing are perfect.

Overall, Joshua chapter 19 teaches us about the fulfillment of God's promises, the importance of trust and obedience, and God's faithfulness in providing for His people. By reflecting on these lessons, we can deepen our trust in God's promises, strive for obedience and faithfulness, and rely on His provision in every aspect of our lives.

CHAPTER 20

Jo. 20:1 Then the LORD said to Joshua:

Jo. 20:2 “Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses,

Jo. 20:3 so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.

Jo. 20:4 “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.

Jo. 20:5 If the avenger of blood pursues him, they must not surrender the one accused, because he killed his neighbour unintentionally and without malice aforethought.

Jo. 20:6 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
551

at that time. Then he may go back to his own home in the town from which he fled.”

Jo. 20:7 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.

Jo. 20:8 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.

Jo. 20:9 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.

Chapter 20 describes the establishment of cities of refuge for the Israelites. These cities were designated as safe havens for those who had unintentionally killed someone,

providing them with a place to flee and avoid retribution from the avenger of blood, who had the legal right to avenge the death of a family member.

The chapter describes how six cities were chosen as cities of refuge, three on each side of the Jordan River. These cities were Bezer, Ramoth, and Golan on the east side of the Jordan, and Kedesh, Shechem, and Hebron on the west side of the Jordan.

The chapter emphasizes the importance of justice and the need for fair treatment of all individuals, even those who may have committed unintentional acts of violence. It also underscores the importance of following God's commands and the role of the Israelites in upholding the law.

Overall, Chapter 20 highlights the importance of establishing just and fair systems of justice, even in times of war and conquest. It also serves as a reminder of the Israelites' responsibility to follow God's commands and to treat all individuals with fairness and respect.

Here are some important verses from Joshua chapter 20 in the Christian Bible:

1. "Then the Lord said to Joshua: 'Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses, so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.'" (Joshua 20:1-3)
2. "The assembly sent twelve thousand fighting men with instructions to go to the towns and villages of the tribes of Reuben, Gad and half the tribe of Manasseh and to speak to 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.'" (Joshua 22:7-8)

These verses describe the establishment of the cities of refuge in accordance with God's instructions given to Moses. These were designated cities where a person who had accidentally killed someone could flee for protection from the avenger of blood, who was a family member of the victim seeking retribution. The second verse describes the Israelites sending twelve thousand fighting men to ensure that the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh would receive their inheritance of land and possessions, as promised by Moses. These verses emphasize the importance of following God's instructions and fulfilling the promises made to each tribe.

In Joshua chapter 20, we encounter the establishment of cities of refuge in the Promised Land. This chapter provides us with insights into the concepts of justice, mercy, and the importance of seeking refuge in God.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the concept of justice. The cities of refuge were designated as safe havens for individuals who unintentionally caused the death of another person. These cities provided protection from revenge and allowed for a fair trial to determine the guilt or innocence of the individual. This highlights the importance of justice in society and the recognition that accidents or unintended actions can still have grave consequences. It prompts us to consider the value of justice in our own lives and communities, seeking to establish fair systems that protect the innocent and ensure accountability.

The chapter also emphasizes the concept of mercy. The cities of refuge were places of mercy and compassion, offering protection to those in need. It demonstrated God's concern for individuals who were caught in tragic circumstances, allowing them the opportunity to find safety and receive a fair hearing. This highlights the importance of extending mercy and grace to others, recognizing that we all make mistakes and that redemption and restoration are possible. It encourages us to show compassion and understanding to those who are facing difficult circumstances, offering support and a chance for healing and restoration.

Furthermore, the chapter underscores the importance of seeking refuge in God. The cities of refuge were ultimately symbolic of finding refuge in God's presence. They were a physical representation of the spiritual reality that God is our ultimate refuge and source of protection. This reminds us that in times of trouble or distress, we can seek refuge in God, finding comfort, safety, and guidance. It encourages us to turn to God in times of trouble, trusting in His sovereignty and finding solace in His presence.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 20 teaches us several important lessons. It prompts us to consider the significance of justice in our lives and communities, advocating for fair systems and accountability. It encourages us to extend mercy and compassion to others, recognizing the need for grace and understanding. It also reminds us of the importance of seeking refuge in God, finding comfort and guidance in His presence.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own attitudes towards justice and mercy. It prompts us to reflect on how we can promote justice and mercy in our interactions with others, and how we can seek refuge in God in times of trouble.

Overall, Joshua chapter 20 teaches us about the concepts of justice, mercy, and seeking refuge in God. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive to promote justice and extend mercy, while also finding comfort and guidance in seeking refuge in God's presence.

CHAPTER 21

Jo. 21:1 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

Jo. 21:2 at Shiloh in Canaan and said to them, "The LORD commanded through Moses that you give us towns to live in, with pasture-lands for our livestock."

Jo. 21:3 So, as the LORD had commanded, the Israelites gave the Levites the following towns and pasture-lands out of their own inheritance:

Jo. 21:4 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.

Jo. 21:5 The rest of Kohath's descendants were allotted ten towns

from the clans of the tribes of Ephraim, Dan and half of Manasseh.

552

Jo. 21:6 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.

Jo. 21:7 The descendants of Merari, clan by clan, received twelve towns from the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Zebulun.

Jo. 21:8 So the Israelites allotted to the Levites these towns and their pasture-lands, as the LORD had commanded through Moses.

Jo. 21:9 From the tribes of Judah and Simeon they allotted the following towns by name

Jo. 21:10 (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):

Jo. 21:11 They gave them Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), with its surrounding pasture-land, in the hill country of Judah. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.)

Jo. 21:12 But the fields and villages around the city they had given to Caleb son of Jephunneh as his possession.

Jo. 21:13 So to the descendants of Aaron the priest they gave Hebron (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Libnah,

Jo. 21:14 Jattir, Eshtemoa,

Jo. 21:15 Holon, Debir,

Jo. 21:16 Ain, Juttah and Beth Shemesh, together with their pasture-lands — nine towns from these two tribes.

Jo. 21:17 And from the tribe of Benjamin they gave them Gibeon, Geba,

Jo. 21:18 Anathoth and Almon, together with their pasture-lands — four towns.

Jo. 21:19 All the towns for the priests, the descendants of Aaron, were thirteen, together with their pasture-lands.

Jo. 21:20 The rest of the Kohathite clans of the Levites were allotted towns from the tribe of Ephraim:

553

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

Jo. 21:22 Kibzaim and Beth Horon, together with their pasture-lands — four towns.

Jo. 21:23 Also from the tribe of Dan they received Eltekeh, Gibbethon,

Jo. 21:24 Aijalon and Gath Rimmon, together with their pasture-lands — four towns.

Jo. 21:25 From half the tribe of Manasseh they received Taanach and Gath Rimmon, together with their pasture-lands — two towns.

Jo. 21:26 All these ten towns and their pasture-lands were given to the

rest of the Kohathite clans.

Jo. 21:27 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 pasture-lands — two towns;

Jo. 21:28 from the tribe of Issachar, Kishion, Daberath,

Jo. 21:29 Jarmuth and En Gannim, together with their pasture-lands — four towns;

Jo. 21:30 from the tribe of Asher, Mishal, Abdon,

Jo. 21:31 Helkath and Rehob, together with their pasture-lands — four towns;

Jo. 21:32 from the tribe of Naphtali, Kedesh in Galilee (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Hammoth Dor and Kartan, together with their pasture-lands — three towns.

Jo. 21:33 All the towns of the Gershonite clans were thirteen, together with their pasture-lands.

Jo. 21:34 The Merarite clans (the rest of the Levites) were given: from the tribe of Zebulun, Jokneam, Kartah,

Jo. 21:35 Dimnah and Nahalal, together with their pasture-lands — four towns;

554

Jo. 21:36 from the tribe of Reuben, Bezer, Jahaz,

Jo. 21:37 Kedemoth and Mephaath, together with their pasture-lands — four towns;

Jo. 21:38 from the tribe of Gad, Ramoth in Gilead (a city of refuge for one accused of murder), Mahanaim,

Jo. 21:39 Heshbon and Jazer, together with their pasture-lands — four towns in all.

Jo. 21:40 All the towns allotted to the Merarite clans, who were the rest of the Levites, were twelve.

Jo. 21:41 The towns of the Levites in the territory held by the Israelites were forty-eight in all, together with their pasture-lands.

Jo. 21:42 Each of these towns had pasture-lands surrounding it; this was true for all these towns.

Jo. 21:43 So the LORD gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their forefathers, and they took possession of it and settled there.

Jo. 21:44 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.

Jo. 21:45 Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.

Chapter 21 describes the allocation of cities to the Levites, who were the priestly tribe of Israel. The Levites did not receive a specific territory like the other tribes did, but were given 48 cities scattered throughout the territories of the other tribes.

The chapter describes how the Levites were given cities from the territories of Judah, Simeon, Benjamin, Ephraim, Dan, and Manasseh. These cities were given to the Levites so that they could live among the other tribes and serve as teachers of the Law and leaders of worship.

The chapter also emphasizes the importance of God's faithfulness and the fulfillment of his promises to the Israelites. It highlights the fact that God had given the Israelites the land they now inhabited, and that he had provided for the Levites as well.

Overall, Chapter 21 reinforces the importance of obedience to God's commands and the fulfillment of his promises. It also underscores the importance of the Levites in serving as leaders and teachers within the community, and the significance of their role in preserving the Law and leading worship.

Here are some important verses from Joshua chapter 21 in the Christian Bible:

1. "So the Lord gave Israel all the land he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there. The Lord gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their ancestors. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the Lord gave all their enemies into their hands." (Joshua 21:43-44)
2. "The Lord gave them rest on every side, just as he had sworn to their ancestors. Not one of their enemies withstood them; the Lord gave all their enemies into their hands. Not one of all the Lord's good promises to Israel failed; every one was fulfilled." (Joshua 21:45)

These verses describe how God fulfilled his promise to give the Israelites the land he had sworn to give to their ancestors. The Israelites settled in the land and the Lord gave them rest from their enemies, fulfilling his promises to them. These verses emphasize the importance of trusting in God's promises and faithfulness, and how he always fulfills his word.

In Joshua chapter 21, we encounter the account of the allocation of cities to the Levites, the priestly tribe of Israel. This chapter provides us with insights into the concepts of provision, gratitude, and the importance of fulfilling God's purposes.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the concept of provision. The Levites, being set apart for service to God, did not receive a specific portion of land like the other tribes of Israel. Instead, they were allocated cities throughout the territory of the other tribes. These cities provided them with homes and means of sustenance. This highlights God's provision for His chosen servants and the importance of taking care of those who are dedicated to His service. It reminds us that God is faithful to provide for the needs of His people, and He uses others to be His instruments of provision.

The chapter also emphasizes the importance of gratitude. The Levites, upon receiving their cities, were grateful for God's provision. They recognized that it was God who had blessed them with their inheritance and acknowledged His faithfulness. This prompts us to cultivate a spirit of gratitude in our own lives, acknowledging God's provision and

blessings, and expressing thankfulness for His faithfulness. It encourages us to recognize that everything we have comes from God, and it is our responsibility to be grateful stewards of His blessings.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the importance of fulfilling God's purposes. The allocation of cities to the Levites was in accordance with God's command to set them apart for service in the sanctuary and the responsibilities of worship. By receiving these cities, the Levites were able to carry out their duties and fulfill the purpose for which they were set apart. This reminds us that each of us has a unique purpose and calling in God's kingdom, and it is essential to fulfill that purpose with diligence and obedience. It encourages us to seek God's guidance and to faithfully serve Him in the roles and responsibilities He has assigned to us.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 21 teaches us several important lessons. It reminds us of God's provision for His people and the importance of recognizing and being grateful for His blessings. It encourages us to be instruments of provision and care for those dedicated to God's service. It also prompts us to consider our own purpose and calling, striving to fulfill God's purposes in our lives with obedience and dedication.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own attitudes towards provision and gratitude. It prompts us to cultivate a spirit of gratitude, acknowledging God's faithfulness and provision in our lives. It also encourages us to support and care for those who are dedicated to serving God in various capacities.

Overall, Joshua chapter 21 teaches us about provision, gratitude, and fulfilling God's purposes. By reflecting on these lessons, we can recognize God's provision in our lives, cultivate gratitude, and faithfully pursue His purposes for us.

CHAPTER 22

Jo. 22:1 Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh

Jo. 22:2 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.

555

Jo. 22:3 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.

Jo. 22:4 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.

Jo. 22:5 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.”

Jo. 22:6 Then Joshua blessed them and sent them away, and they went to their homes.

Jo. 22:7 (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,

Jo. 22:8 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.”

Jo. 22:9 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.

Jo. 22:10 When they came to Geliloth 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.

Jo. 22:11 And when the Israelites heard that they had built the altar on the border of Canaan at Geliloth near the Jordan on the Israelite side,

Jo. 22:12 the whole assembly of Israel gathered at Shiloh to go to war against them.

556

Jo. 22:13 So the Israelites sent Phinehas son of Eleazar, the priest, to the land of Gilead — to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

Jo. 22:14 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.

Jo. 22:15 When they went to Gilead — to Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh — they said to them:

Jo. 22:16 “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?’

Jo. 22:17 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!

Jo. 22:18 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.

Jo. 22:19 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.

Jo. 22:20 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.”

Jo. 22:21 Then Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh replied to the heads of the clans of Israel:

Jo. 22:22 “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.

557

Jo. 22:23 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.

Jo. 22:24 “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?’

Jo. 22:25 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.

Jo. 22:26 “That is why we said, ‘Let us get ready and build an altar — but not for burnt offerings or sacrifices.’

Jo. 22:27 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.’

Jo. 22:28 “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.’

Jo. 22:29 “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.”

Jo. 22:30 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.

Jo. 22:31 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 towards the LORD in this matter. Now you have rescued the Israelites from the

LORD's hand.”

558

Jo. 22:32 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.

Jo. 22:33 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.

Jo. 22:34 And the Reubenites and the Gadites gave the altar this name: A Witness Between Us that the LORD is God.

Chapter 22 describes the return of the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh to their lands east of the Jordan River. These tribes had been granted permission by Moses to settle in this area on the condition that they help their fellow Israelites conquer the Promised Land west of the Jordan.

Before they left, the Israelites built an altar on the east side of the Jordan River as a reminder of their covenant with God. When the other tribes learned of this altar, they were concerned that it would be used for idolatrous worship and that it would lead to God's judgment upon the entire community.

In response, the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of Manasseh explained that the altar was not for sacrificial worship, but rather as a symbol of their commitment to the covenant with God. They assured the other tribes that they remained faithful to the God of Israel and that the altar was intended as a witness to their shared faith.

The other tribes were satisfied with this explanation and praised God for the unity of the community. The chapter ends with a reminder of God's faithfulness to the Israelites and the importance of remaining faithful to their covenant with him.

Overall, Chapter 22 highlights the importance of communication and understanding within the community of Israel. It also emphasizes the significance of the covenant with God and the need for all the tribes to remain faithful to him. Finally, it serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness and the importance of trust and unity within the community.

Here are some important verses from Joshua chapter 22 in the Christian Bible:

1. "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 fellow Israelites but have carried out the mission the Lord your God gave you. Now that the Lord your God has given them 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." (Joshua 22:2-4)
2. "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 obedience to him, to keep his commands, to hold fast to him and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul." (Joshua 22:5)

3. "But if your own land is defiled, cross 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." (Joshua 22:19)

These verses describe Joshua's instructions to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh, who were given land on the east side of the Jordan River. Joshua reminds them of their obedience to God's commands and instructions, and urges them to continue to follow them as they return to their own land. He also warns them to be careful not to rebel against God or the other Israelite tribes by building their own altar for worship. These verses emphasize the importance of obedience to God's commands and the need for unity among God's people.

In Joshua chapter 22, we encounter the account of the Eastern tribes of Israel returning to their allotted land on the other side of the Jordan River. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of unity, communication, and avoiding misunderstandings among God's people.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of unity among the tribes of Israel. The Eastern tribes, who had received their inheritance on the east side of the Jordan River, returned to their families and tribes after the conquest of the Promised Land. Upon their return, they built an altar near the Jordan River, which raised concerns among the other tribes. The other tribes initially assumed that the altar was an act of rebellion against the Lord and a replication of the forbidden altars. This led to potential division and conflict within the Israelite community. However, before jumping to conclusions or taking hasty action, they decided to send a delegation to seek clarification from the Eastern tribes. This shows the importance of maintaining unity among God's people and the need for open communication to address any misunderstandings or potential conflicts.

The chapter also emphasizes the significance of communication in avoiding misunderstandings. The other tribes demonstrated wisdom by sending a delegation to the Eastern tribes to understand the reason behind the altar. They chose dialogue over confrontation and sought to resolve the situation peacefully. Through communication, the misunderstanding was cleared, and it was revealed that the altar was not intended for sacrificial purposes but as a symbol of their shared faith and unity with the rest of Israel. This highlights the importance of open and honest communication among believers, as it allows for clarity, understanding, and the prevention of unnecessary division or conflicts.

Furthermore, the chapter serves as a reminder of the importance of remaining faithful to the Lord and His commandments. The Eastern tribes built the altar as a witness and reminder of their devotion to the Lord and their connection to the rest of Israel. They affirmed their commitment to worship the Lord in unity with their fellow Israelites. This encourages us to stay faithful to God's Word, to seek unity among believers, and to be diligent in our worship and obedience to the Lord.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 22 teaches us several important lessons. It emphasizes the importance of unity among God's people and the need for open communication to address misunderstandings and prevent division. It prompts us to approach potential conflicts with wisdom and seek clarification through dialogue and understanding. It also reminds us of the significance of remaining faithful to the Lord's commandments and cultivating a spirit of unity and worship among believers.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own attitudes towards unity and communication. It prompts us to prioritize unity among believers, to be proactive in addressing misunderstandings, and to remain faithful to God's Word in our actions and worship.

Overall, Joshua chapter 22 teaches us about the importance of unity, communication, and avoiding misunderstandings among God's people. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive to maintain unity, foster open communication, and remain faithful to God's commands in our relationships and interactions with fellow believers.

CHAPTER 23

Jo. 23:1 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,

Jo. 23:2 summoned all Israel — their elders, leaders, judges and officials — and said to them: “I am old and well advanced in years.

Jo. 23:3 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.

Jo. 23:4 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.

Jo. 23:5 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.

Jo. 23:6 “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.

559

Jo. 23:7 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.

Jo. 23:8 But you are to hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have until now.

Jo. 23:9 “The LORD has driven out before you great and powerful

nations; to this day no-one has been able to withstand you.

Jo. 23:10 One of you routs a thousand, because the LORD your God fights for you, just as he promised.

Jo. 23:11 So be very careful to love the LORD your God.

Jo. 23:12 “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,

Jo. 23:13 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.

Jo. 23:14 “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.

Jo. 23:15 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.

Jo. 23:16 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.”

Chapter 23 consists of Joshua's final address to the leaders and elders of Israel. In his speech, Joshua reminds them of God's faithfulness to his promises and of the victories that the Israelites have won with God's help. He exhorts them to continue to follow God's commands and to love and serve him with all their hearts and souls.

Joshua warns the Israelites not to make alliances or intermarry with the remaining Canaanite nations, but to remain separate and distinct as God's chosen people. He also cautions them that if they turn away from God and worship other gods, they will be punished and suffer the consequences.

Finally, Joshua encourages the Israelites to be strong and courageous, and to trust in God's protection and guidance as they continue to live in the land that God has given them.

Overall, Chapter 23 serves as a reminder of the importance of remaining faithful to God and of the consequences of turning away from him. It also emphasizes the need for the Israelites to remain separate and distinct as God's chosen people, and to continue to trust in God's protection and guidance in their daily lives.

Joshua 23 contains Joshua's farewell address to the Israelites before his death, and he emphasizes the importance of obeying God and keeping His commands as they settle in the Promised Land.

Some important verses from Joshua 23 in the Christian Bible include:

- "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." (Joshua 23:6)
- "But as surely as the Lord your God has given you the good things he promised you, he will also bring disaster on you if you disobey him. He will not leave you until he has destroyed you." (Joshua 23:15-16)
- "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." (Joshua 23:14)

These verses emphasize the importance of obedience to God's commands, the consequences of disobedience, and God's faithfulness in keeping His promises to His people.

In Joshua chapter 23, we encounter Joshua's farewell address to the leaders and people of Israel. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of faithfulness, obedience to God's commands, and the faithfulness of God.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the call to faithfulness. Joshua reminds the people of Israel of all that God has done for them, emphasizing His faithfulness in fulfilling His promises and driving out their enemies from the land. He encourages them to remain faithful to God, to love Him, and to walk in His ways. This highlights the importance of unwavering commitment and loyalty to God in our own lives. It prompts us to reflect on God's faithfulness throughout history and in our personal experiences, inspiring us to remain faithful to Him in all circumstances.

The chapter also emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commands. Joshua reminds the people of the covenant they made with God and urges them to keep His commandments, not turning aside to worship other gods or intermarrying with the inhabitants of the land. He warns them of the consequences of disobedience and encourages them to choose obedience and loyalty to God. This reminds us of the significance of obedience in our relationship with God. It prompts us to prioritize His commands, to avoid compromise with the values and practices of the world, and to live lives that are pleasing to Him.

Furthermore, the chapter highlights the faithfulness of God. Joshua testifies to the faithfulness of God in fulfilling His promises and driving out their enemies. He assures the people that God will continue to be with them as long as they remain faithful and obedient. This serves as a powerful reminder of God's faithfulness in our own lives. It reassures us that He is always present, guiding and protecting us, and that He will fulfill His promises to us as we trust and obey Him.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 23 teaches us several important lessons. It emphasizes the call to faithfulness, urging us to remain steadfast in our commitment to God. It underscores the importance of obedience to God's commands, prompting us to prioritize His will and avoid compromise with worldly influences. It also reminds us of the faithfulness of God, encouraging us to trust in His presence, guidance, and the fulfillment of His promises.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own faithfulness and obedience. It prompts us to evaluate our commitment to God, our willingness to follow His commands, and our trust in His faithfulness.

Overall, Joshua chapter 23 teaches us about faithfulness, obedience, and the faithfulness of God. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive to remain faithful and obedient to God, trusting in His faithfulness and relying on His guidance in our lives.

CHAPTER 24

Jo. 24:1 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.

Jo. 24:2 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 worshipped other gods.

Jo. 24:3 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,

Jo. 24:4 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.

Jo. 24:5 “Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and I afflicted the Egyptians by what I did there, and I brought you out.

Jo. 24:6 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.

Jo. 24:7 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.

Jo. 24:8 “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.

Jo. 24:9 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.

Jo. 24:10 But I would not listen to Balaam, so he blessed you again and again, and I delivered you out of his hand.

561

Jo. 24:11 “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.

Jo. 24:12 I sent the hornet ahead of you, which drove them out before you — also the two Amorite kings. You did not do it with your own sword and bow.

Jo. 24:13 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.’

Jo. 24:14 “Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshipped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.

Jo. 24:15 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.”

Jo. 24:16 Then the people answered, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods!

Jo. 24:17 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 travelled.

Jo. 24:18 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.”

Jo. 24:19 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.

Jo. 24:20 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.”

562

Jo. 24:21 But the people said to Joshua, “No! We will serve the LORD.”

Jo. 24:22 Then Joshua said, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the LORD.” “Yes, we are witnesses,” they replied.

Jo. 24:23 “Now then,” said Joshua, “throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.”

Jo. 24:24 And the people said to Joshua, “We will serve the LORD our God and obey him.”

Jo. 24:25 On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he drew up for them decrees and laws.

Jo. 24:26 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.

Jo. 24:27 “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.”

Jo. 24:28 Then Joshua sent the people away, each to his own inheritance.

Jo. 24:29 After these things, Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten.

Jo. 24:30 And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Serah in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.

Jo. 24:31 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.

Jo. 24:32 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.

563

Jo. 24:33 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

Chapter 24 begins with Joshua assembling all the tribes of Israel at Shechem to renew the covenant with God. He reminds them of God's faithfulness to their ancestors, including Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of the miracles God performed on their behalf, such as the parting of the Red Sea and the conquest of the Canaanite nations.

Joshua then challenges the Israelites to choose whom they will serve, either the gods of the surrounding nations or the Lord God of Israel. The people respond that they will serve the Lord, acknowledging that he is the only true God who has done great things for them. After reaffirming the covenant, Joshua sets up a stone as a witness to the covenant and delivers a final exhortation to the people to remain faithful to God and to serve him with all their hearts and souls. He also warns them of the consequences of disobedience and of turning away from God.

The chapter ends with the death of Joshua and the burial of Joseph's bones in Shechem, as well as a reminder of the continuing presence of the tabernacle at Shiloh, where the priests and Levites continue to serve the Lord.

Overall, Chapter 24 serves as a conclusion to the Book of Joshua, highlighting the importance of remaining faithful to God and reaffirming the covenant between God and the Israelites. It also provides closure to the narrative by describing the death of Joshua and the burial of Joseph's bones, while also setting the stage for the continuation of Israel's story under new leadership.

Joshua 24 contains Joshua's final address to the Israelites before his death, in which he reminds them of all that God has done for them and urges them to serve Him faithfully. Some important verses from Joshua 24 in the Christian Bible include:

- "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15)
- "The Lord our God made a covenant with us at Horeb. It was not with our ancestors that the Lord made this covenant, but with us, with all of us who are alive here today." (Joshua 24:25-26)
- "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." (Joshua 24:31)

These verses emphasize the importance of making a deliberate choice to serve God, the significance of the covenant between God and His people, and the faithfulness of God and the Israelites' commitment to serve Him during the time of Joshua's leadership.

In Joshua chapter 24, we encounter Joshua's final address to the people of Israel before his death. This chapter provides us with insights into the importance of choosing to serve and worship the Lord, remembering His faithfulness, and making a personal commitment to follow Him.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the call to choose the Lord. Joshua gathers all the tribes of Israel and recounts the history of God's faithfulness to them, from the time of Abraham to their current possession of the Promised Land. He reminds them of the idols and false gods their ancestors worshiped and challenges them to choose whom they will serve. He declares, "But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). This highlights the importance of personal choice and commitment to follow and worship the one true God. It prompts us to examine our own hearts and make a deliberate decision to serve and worship the Lord wholeheartedly.

The chapter also emphasizes the remembrance of God's faithfulness. Joshua recounts how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt, led them through the wilderness, and gave them victory over their enemies. He reminds them of the miracles God performed on their behalf and the blessings He bestowed upon them. This serves as a reminder to the people of Israel to never forget the faithfulness of God throughout their history. It prompts us to reflect on God's faithfulness in our own lives, remembering the ways He has provided, protected, and guided us. It encourages us to maintain a heart of gratitude and trust in God's faithfulness as we face new challenges and decisions.

Furthermore, the chapter calls for a personal commitment to follow the Lord. Joshua challenges the people to put away the foreign gods and serve the Lord with sincerity and faithfulness. He warns them of the consequences of turning away from God and the blessings that come from walking in His ways. The people respond by reaffirming their commitment to serve the Lord and making a covenant with Him. This highlights the importance of personal dedication and commitment to God. It prompts us to examine our

own lives and make a renewed commitment to follow Him, putting away anything that hinders our relationship with Him and choosing to live in obedience to His commands.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 24 teaches us several important lessons. It emphasizes the call to choose the Lord, urging us to make a deliberate decision to serve and worship Him. It reminds us to remember God's faithfulness in our lives, cultivating a heart of gratitude and trust. It also calls for a personal commitment to follow the Lord, challenging us to put away anything that hinders our relationship with Him and to walk in obedience to His commands.

Moreover, the chapter challenges us to examine our own choices, remembrance of God's faithfulness, and personal commitment. It prompts us to evaluate our priorities, to reflect on the ways God has been faithful to us, and to renew our commitment to follow Him wholeheartedly.

Overall, Joshua chapter 24 teaches us about the importance of choosing to serve and worship the Lord, remembering His faithfulness, and making a personal commitment to follow Him. By reflecting on these lessons, we can strive to make intentional choices to honor God, to remember His faithfulness in our lives, and to live in devoted obedience to Him.

Notes:

Some of the most difficult questions in the Book of Joshua include:

1. The morality of the Israelites' conquest of Canaan, including the killing of men, women, and children in the cities they conquered.
2. The accuracy and historicity of the account of the Israelites crossing the Jordan River on dry ground and the fall of Jericho.
3. The exact location of some of the places mentioned in the book, such as Ai and Gilgal.
4. The meaning and significance of the covenant renewal ceremony described in chapter 8.
5. The role of the miraculous events, such as the stopping of the sun and the moon in the sky, in the Israelites' victory over their enemies.

These questions have been the subject of much debate and discussion among scholars and theologians, with no clear consensus or definitive answers.