

Joshua 22 - 24
Division of the Promised Land – Part 2
Lesson 8

Israel had taken possession of the land and God gave them rest on every side. Having fulfilled their promise to Moses and God, the Transjordan tribes were ready to return home and settle in their inheritance.

The Eastern Tribes - 22:1 - 34

1. *“You have done all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded...”* vs. 2. What had Moses commanded and why? (Numbers 32:5, 20 – 22)

2. What was Joshua’s charge to the Transjordan tribes as they got ready to return home? (vs. 2-5)

3. Why do you think Joshua said to be very careful to do these things?

4. They went into battle empty handed. How do they return? (vs. 7,8)

5. As a final act before crossing over the Jordan, what did they do? (vs. 10)

6. What was the reaction of the other 9 ½ tribes when they found out? (vs. 11,12)

7. Israel sent a delegation across the Jordan to question the Transjordan tribes. Why were they willing to go to war against their brothers? (vs. 13-18)

8. What happened at Peor? (Numbers 25)

9. What did they suggest to the Transjordan tribes? (vs. 19)
10. Describe how you picture Reuben, Gad & ½ Manasseh's response to these accusations. (vs. 21-29)
11. Much relieved, Phinehas, the priest, spoke on behalf of Israel. What did he say? (vs. 31)
12. Describe the mood when Israel returned home? (vs. 32,33)

Joshua's Farewell - 23:1 - 16

13. Joshua was approaching 110 years of age. His life was coming to a close so he called together the leaders of Israel. Like Moses before him, he recounted God's faithfulness. What did he say in Joshua 23:3-5?
14. Joshua encouraged them to "be strong", then gave several warnings. List them. (vs. 6-8)
15. How did Joshua describe their battles? (vs. 9-10)
16. Joshua said they were to "*be very careful to love the Lord your God.*" Why do you think he emphasized this?
17. Joshua continued to remind them of God's faithfulness. What did he say about God's promises? (vs. 24:14)

18. What did he remind Israel about all of God's promises? (vs. 15-16a)
19. What is that evil or curse? (16b)

Renewal of the Covenant - 24:1 - 27

20. Joshua assembled all the people at Shechem to renew the covenant for a third time (Deuteronomy 29 & Joshua 8). What was significant about Shechem? (Genesis 12:1-7)
21. What did Joshua tell the people and why do you think he did this? (vs. 1-13)
22. What was the primary danger Israel would face in Canaan? (vs. 14)
23. Joshua issued a challenge and his choice. Explain verse 15
24. What did the people say about the Lord, what was their decision and why? (vs. 16-18)
25. The people seemed to be on one of their "mountain top" experiences. You can almost feel the electricity in the air. Explain what you think is the meaning of Joshua's words in verses 19 and 20.
26. The challenge continued as the people said, "we hear you Joshua, we will serve the Lord." Joshua then called them "witnesses against themselves". What was the purpose of a witness?

27. Joshua gave them one final instruction. What was it? (vs. 23)
28. What did the people say? (vs. 24)
29. How many times did they make this commitment? (vs. 16-24)
30. What were Joshua's final acts? (vs. 25-27)
31. Joshua's death is recorded in verses 28 - 31. What does it say about God's servant Joshua?

The book of Joshua closes with Joshua, like Moses, being called a servant of the Lord. He faithfully served God and Israel all his life. The mention of Joseph (who died 200 years before) helps to close out an era. This fulfills the promise made by the sons of Jacob to Joseph that they would bury his bones in the land of Canaan. With this promise fulfilled and with the deaths of Joshua and Eleazar, a new era begins for Israel - possession of the Promised Land.