

Session 4: Conquest and Settlement

Apprentice Track Workshop

Conquest and Settlement: Joshua (Act 1, Scene 3)

Context

- 12) The book of Joshua was probably written by Joshua himself within the first 15 years of the 14th century BC.
- 13) At the start of the book, the nation of Israel is outside the land of Canaan. But by the end of the book they will have taken and occupied the land. Joshua is all about _____.
- 14) This scene in the narrative of redemption adds another crucial piece of Abrahamic Covenant: _____. God's promise to Abraham (at least on paper) is nearly complete.

Overview

1) _____ the Promised Land (Joshua 1-5)

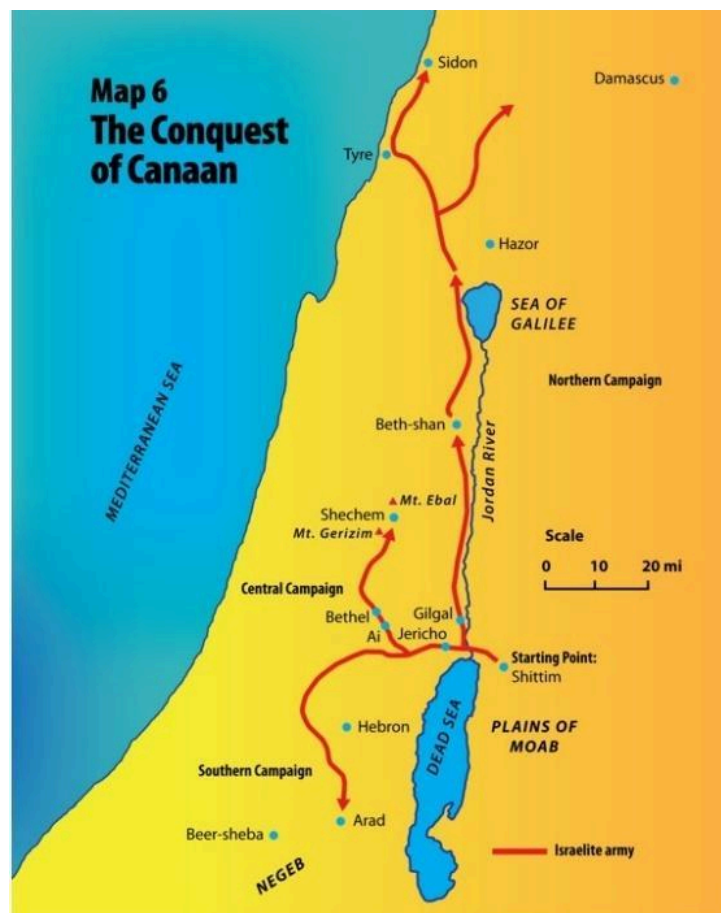
- a. Plains of Moab (chapter 1)
- b. Spy the Land (chapter 2),
- c. Cross the Jordan (chapters 3 & 4).
- d. Renew the Covenant (chapter 5)

2) _____ the Promised Land (6-13).

- a. The Israelites employ a timeless battle strategy: _____ and _____.

 - i. The _____ Campaign – Jericho and Ai
 - ii. The _____ Campaign – Philistines, Canaanites, Jebusites, the 5 kings
 - iii. The _____ Campaign – Phoenicians, Hamor, Giliad, etc.

- b. Summary:
 - i. Joshua 10:40-41 – “Joshua subdued the whole regain... from Kadesh-Barnea to Gaza, and from the whole regen of Goshen to Gibeon.”
 - ii. The land was taken but not yet _____.



3) _____ **the Promised Land** (Joshua 13-21)

4) _____ **promised rest** (Joshua 22-24)

- a. Joshua leads God's people _____ on how they are to _____ this rest – rest from war, from wandering, and from their enemies.
- b. Before Joshua's final speech to Israel's leaders, we are told "the Lord had given rest to Israel from all their _____ enemies."
- c. The journey was over, the fight was over, now they could serve the Lord in perfect "_____".



Main Theme: Trusting God for _____ and _____

Biblical Theme of Land: What Eden was, New Heavens & Earth will be. (Joshua 5.13-15)

A Peak at Redemption History: Joshua 21.43-45, Revelation 21.3-4

Time of the Judges

Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel 1-8 (Act 1, Scene 4)

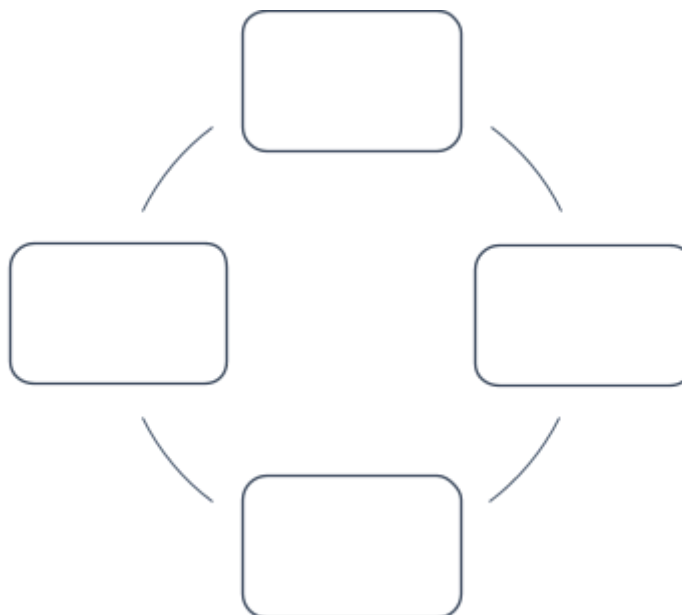
Context:

- 1) Everything that happens in this part of the bible falls into the “Time of the _____” (Ruth 1:1). Whereas Joshua is like the capstone for the Pentateuch. The period of the Judges anticipates the formation of the monarchy.
- 2) The book of Judges picks up right where Joshua leaves off. The events told in Judges and 1 Samuel 1-8 take place over a period of roughly 350 years, from the time Joshua died until the time of Israel’s first king. Israel has taken the land, but now the question is whether or not they’ll be able to keep it. God’s people come under pressure from a number of surrounding nations.
- 3) If Joshua was all about land, conquest and rest, Judges is all about _____ (or the lack thereof).
 - a. Judges starts with the death of Joshua. The tribes of Israel stop resembling a nation and are at best a loose _____.
 - i. No central _____
 - ii. Brief periods of _____ under _____ deliverers.
 - iii. Failure to fully _____ their enemies .
 - iv. Disunity: There was no _____ in the land (17:6, 18:1; 19:1; 21:25).
 - v. _____ Civilization: “Everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (17:6)
 - b. This material really looks forward to the coming of a king. By the end of the book we’ll see that self-rule has put the federation in dire straits.

Overview of Judges

1) Failure to _____ the Job (Ch. 1-2)

2) The _____ of Judges (3-16)



This cycle repeats _____ times through _____ chapters.

It's a _____ spiral that gets worse and worse all the time.

The Judges:

- _____ – the judges exercised authority only in limited areas where they were fighting battles over specific enemies, they didn't exercise authority over all 12 tribes.
- _____ – The judges were raised up in response to specific problems
- _____ – The judges only last until the current enemy was defeated, they weren't lifelong rulers.

3) Complete _____ (17-21) - By chapter 17, we Israel is at the depth of their sin.

- a. **Gross** _____: Chapters 17-18 reveal their religious corruption. We're told that a priest is hired out for personal use, and these Levites even tolerate the worship of carved images.

- b. Gross _____** : Then chapters 19-21 reveal their moral and social corruption. And these are the darkest, most perverse scenes painted in all of Scripture. As the book concludes the author sadly reflects on the Israelites' plight and their desperate need for a perfect savior and true rest in the land.

4) **The Final Judge:** _____

Conclusion: Samuel paved the way for the _____. Samuel was the last in the line of judges but he was different than the rest of the judges. Remember, the judges were Local, Occasional, and Temporary. But...

- 1) Samuel brought _____. All Israel was united against the Philistines under Samuel.
- 2) Samuel brought _____. He "reigned all the days of his life." The rest of the Judges lost their authority as soon as the crisis was over.
- 3) The Problem: there was no suitable _____ to Samuel.
 - a. The people loved the benefits of Samuel's leadership and wanted the blessing to continue. The question was, who would lead after Samuel?
 - b. His sons did not walk in his ways.
 - c. So, the people asked for a king.

Three Central Themes of Scripture

1) **God's** _____

- a. Thus far in our story God has entered into 3 covenants:
 - 1) Adam (be fruitful and multiply- spread my reign across the whole globe)
 - 2) Abraham (I will begin to spread my reign through one man's descendants who will become a great nation)
 - 3) Mosaic (specifically, this nation will represent my reign by living out the national covenant of the Law of Moses).

- b. God has been faithful to his promise to Abraham – the Israelites now have a population, a law, and a land.
- c. The Israelites, however, have been unfaithful to their end of the covenant.

2) God's _____

- a. God continued to dwell with his people through the tabernacle and Ark of the Covenant.
- b. Joshua and the Judges were successful in battle – because “God was with them.”
- c. Yet, God’s presence was not to be taken for granted or treated as a tool.

3) God's _____

- a. Every cycle in Judges reminds us that God’s people need a perfect Savior & faithful King!
“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” Judges 21.25
- b. Right in the center of the book, Israel actually does get a king!
“all the leaders of Shechem came together, and all Beth-millo, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.” Judges 9.6
- c. Israel needs the serpent crusher promised in Genesis 3:15
The eternal scepter wielder in Genesis 49.10
The kind of king that would sit under God’s rule in Deuteronomy 17