

Joshua

Study Questions

Lesson 2

Rev. Barlow
Grace Lutheran Banning

The Conquest of Canaan – Southern & Central

The Israelite conquest of the 'promised land' of **Canaan** took at least two years. The first year was occupied with a campaign to destroy the southern cities of **Canaan**. The Israelites moved west from their camp on the **Plains of Moab**, crossed the **River Jordan** and attacked **Jericho** in April in c.1406BC. After seven days of noisy marching round the city (to intimidate the inhabitants and perhaps to distract them from the Israeli tunnellers who were secretly undermining the city walls) **Jericho** fell and was burnt to the ground.

The next target was the city of **Ai**. The first approach, a pitched battle outside the city, was a disaster, but a second, more subtle, approach succeeded in luring the defenders away from the city – which was then successfully destroyed in a commando raid.

After making a treaty with the people of **Gibeon**, the Israelites then confronted the five Amorite kings of **Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish** and **Eglon** when these Canaanite kings besieged **Gibeon**. The five kings were killed in a surprise attack, and the city of **Makedah** was captured. Joshua then took advantage of the situation to destroy the southern cities of **Libnah, Lachish, Eglon, Hebron** and **Debir** – though the well-fortified city of **Jerusalem** remained an independent Canaanite enclave until it was captured by King David in 1004 BC.

Gezer also appears to have maintained its independence as a Canaanite stronghold, and was only handed over to the Israelites by Pharaoh Haremheb of **Egypt** when King Solomon married his daughter in c.970BC.

By the end of c.1406BC, the Israelites had conquered much of the southern region from **Kadesh Barnea** in the **Negev Desert** to **Gaza** on the **Mediterranean** coast, and from **Goshen** on the southern border with **Egypt** to **Gibeon** in the north.

Source: [The Bible Journey](#)

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1. What instructions were Israel's officers to give to the people – 1:10,11?
2. What tribes had already inherited east of Jordan? Where does the Bible record this –1:12-15?
3. What special command had these tribes received? Why?
4. What commitment did the people make to Joshua – 1:16,17? (Think: How well had the people kept the commitment to obey Moses?)
5. What would happen to anyone who rebelled against Joshua – 1:18?

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Please read Joshua 2, then answer the following questions.

1. What task did Joshua assign to two men – 2:1 (see map)?
2. Who received the spies and hid them?
3. Describe how she hid the spies – 2:6.
4. What command did the king of Jericho give her – 2:2,3?
5. What did she say about it to the king – 2:4,5?

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6. Where does the New Testament refer to this woman? What does it say about her?

7. Did Rahab tell the truth or a lie? Did the New Testament commend her for lying? (Think: What can we conclude from this story about lying?)

8. List the things the people of Jericho had heard about Israel – 2:9,10.

9. What effect did this have on the people of Jericho and on Rahab – 2:11?

10. What request did Rahab make of the two spies – 2:12,13?

11. What agreement did they make with her – 2:14?

12. How did the spies escape the city – 2:15?

13. Where did she tell them to go and what were they to do – 2:16? Why?

14. What was the sign of the agreement between Rahab and the spies – 2:17,18?

15. Where did Rahab's family have to go in order to be spared – 2:19?

16. What would happen if Rahab or her family did not keep their part of the agreement –

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2:20,21?

17. Application: List lessons we can learn from Rahab about our own salvation from sin.

18. What report did the spies give to Joshua – 2:22-24?