



Joshua 1

Selected Old Testament Historical Events

- 4000 BC (?) — Creation of the world
- 2344 BC (?) — Noah and the ark
- 2166 BC — The birth of Abram (later Abraham)
- 2066 BC — The birth of Isaac
- 2006 BC — The birth of Jacob and Esau, twins
- 1526 BC — The birth of Moses
- 1446 BC — Israel's exodus from Egypt
- 1406 BC — Israel's entrance to the Promised Land

1 Kings 6:1

- “Now it came about in the four hundred and eightieth year after the sons of Israel came out of the land of Egypt, in the fourth year of Solomon's reign over Israel, in the month of Ziv, that is, the second month, that he began to build the house of the LORD.”
- Solomon's reign began in 970 BC.
- He began building the Temple in 966 BC.
- 480 years earlier was 1446 BC.

Death of Moses

- Age 120
- Still strong & sharp-eyed
- Viewed the Promised Land
- Died in Moab
- Apparently buried by God
- Was mourned 30 days



What We Know about Joshua

- Born in Egypt as a slave, probably 30 to 40 years old at the time of the Exodus (compare Josh.14:7)
- Moses' assistant, served from his youth (Num. 11:28)
- The leader of the army in Israel's first battle (against the Amalekites, Ex. 17:9-16)

What We Know about Joshua

- Moses' attendant on Mt. Sinai when Moses received the law & the 70 elders saw God (Ex. 24:9-15)
- Moses' attendant when they found the people worshipping the golden calf, & Moses broke the tablets of the law (Ex. 32:17-19)
- The custodian of Moses' tent of meeting (Ex. 33:11)

What We Know about Joshua

- A guardian of Moses' spiritual authority (Num. 11:24-29)
- A leader of the tribe of Ephraim, chosen as one of the 12 spies & renamed by Moses (Num. 13:1-16)
- One of two spies who said God would give them the land—a man of faith, even though the people almost stoned him (Num. 14:6-10)

What We Know about Joshua

- One of two men of his generation allowed to enter the Promised Land (Num. 14:30-31)
- One of two spies not killed by the plague God sent in judgment (Num. 14:36-38)
- A man known for following the Lord fully (Num. 32:10-13)

What We Know about Joshua

- Moses' successor as leader of the nation— Spirit-filled, commissioned by God, authorized by Moses, confirmed by Eleazar, the priest (Num. 27:15-23; Deut. 3:28; 31:14, 23)
- The man God chose & “filled with the spirit of wisdom” to lead the people into the Promised Land (Deut. 1:37-38; 31:3, 7; 34:9)

What We Know about Joshua

- The leader God chose to divide the land among the tribes, along with Eleazar the priest (Num. 34:16-17)
- A spiritual leader (Josh. 5:7, 10; 6:2; 8:30)
- Died at the age of 110 and was buried at Timnath Serah in the land of Ephraim (Josh. 24:30)

The book of Joshua has 3 main sections:

1. entering the land (chapters 1-5)
2. conquering the land (chapters 6-12)
3. dividing the land (chapters 13-24)



Strength, Success, God's Presence (Josh. 1:5, 9)

- Deut. 3:22—"Do not fear them [the Canaanite kingdoms], for the Lord your God is the One fighting for you."
- Deut. 31:3—"It is the Lord your God who is going to cross ahead of you; He Himself will destroy these nations before you, and you shall dispossess them."



Joshua 1:8

- Speak God's Word to yourself & others
- Keep your mind focused on God's truth. Mull it over. Ask God for better understanding.
- Memorize it.
- Obey it.
- Prosper & succeed—receive God's "Well done!"

Lessons

1. When a great leader dies or moves away, God's plan is not finished (1:2).
2. Learn & observe how God grows a leader (1Pet. 5:2-3).
3. We can know God and experience His strength & His presence (1:5; Mt. 28:20; Rom. 8:38).
4. Be strong & courageous by God's grace (1:6-9).
5. Be faithful to the Word of God (1:8).