

A Tour Through the Divine Library  
(Joshua)

I. General Introduction to Joshua

-Title: Joshua (“Jehovah is salvation”), the son of Nun; originally named Hoshea (“salvation”) (Num. 13:8, 16; Deut. 32:44)

-Author/Date: For the most part, Joshua (Ex. 17:9-14), Moses’ personal servant (Ex. 24:13; 33:11 Josh. 1:1) from his youth (Num. 11:28); Later additions (15:15-17; 19:47; 24:29, 30); Early date (6:25; 15:63 with 2 Sam. 5:6-9)

-Theme/Purpose: To describe Israel’s conquest of the land of promise; To demonstrate God’s faithfulness to keep His covenant promises

-Basic Structure:

- I. Entrance Into the Promised Land (chs. 1–5)
- II. Conquest of the Promised Land (chs. 6–12)
- III. Division of the Promised Land (chs. 13–22)
- IV. Joshua’s Farewell Addresses and Death (chs. 23, 24)

II. General Overview of Joshua

-Joshua’s Commission (1:1-9); Israel’s Entrance into Canaan (1:10-5:15); Israel’s Conquest of Canaan (6:1-12:24); Israel’s Allotments in Canaan (13:1-22:34); Joshua’s Farewell Addresses (23:1-24:28); Postscript (24:29-33)

III. Prominent People, Events, and Themes in Joshua

-People: Joshua (Ex. 17:10, 13; Num. 27:18-23; Deut. 34:9); Caleb (14:1-15; 15:13-19); Rahab (2:1-24; 6:17, 22-25); Achan (7:1-26; 22:20); Eleazar (14:1; 17:4; 19:51; 21:1–3; 22:13–33; 24:33); Phinehas (22:13,31–34; 24:33)

-Events: Rahab (chs. 2, 6); Crossing Jordan (ch. 3); Jericho (ch. 6); Achan (ch. 7); Gibeonites (ch. 9); Sun Standing Still (ch. 10); Offensive Altar (ch. 22)

-Themes: God’s character: holiness (24:19), jealousy (24:19), faithfulness (5:14–6:2; 11:23; 21:45; 22:4; Gen. 12:7; 15:18–21; 17:8; Ex. 33:2; Num. 34:2–15; Deut. 12:9–10; 25:19; Heb. 4:8), providence (7:14; 21:25), wrath (10:25; 23:16); justice (Gen. 15:16; Lev. 18:24-30; Deut. 9:4, 5; 18:9-14)

IV. Christ in Joshua

-Christ is seen in God’s providential dealings with the nation of Israel (Rom. 9:4, 5).

-Christ is seen in Joshua himself.

Practical Lessons

1) God’s encouragements to Joshua are available to all believers today.

2) God is faithful to carry out all His threats, and to keep all His promises.