

Joshua	Judges	Ruth	1&2 Samuel	1&2 Kings	1&2 Chronicles	Ezra	Nehemiah	Esther
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Section 1 **Section 2** **Section 3**
Theocratic • Monarchial • Restoration

LITERARY OVERVIEW

Title: Joshua, the central human figure throughout the book. The name means "Yah is salvation."

Author: According to Jewish tradition and the book itself, it is Joshua himself (24:26). Written when Rahab is still alive (6:25). Some allowance for later editorial additions (15:13-19 19:47 24:29-33).

Purpose: Record the approximately 7 year conquest of Canaan.

Plotline: Only Joshua does not record a massive failure by Israel or its leadership.

Main Events: Three campaigns (central, southern, and northern) against 30+ enemy armies.

Main Characters: God, as the one who will give victory to those who in faith obey Him. Joshua, who was once a slave in Egypt, was one of the spies who believed God, and became Moses' right hand man.

Form/Genre: Mostly narrative, with selective story-telling of events as Israel enters the land of promise. The story is also epic, with a national hero who leads his people to victory.

Challenges:

- 1.) The communication of military strategies and tactics.
- 2.) The wholesale destruction of enemies, including civilians.
- 3.) The abundant geographic references.

OUTLINE

PREPARATION TO ENTER – 1:1-5:15

- I. Commissioning of Joshua – 1:1-18
- II. Rahab and the Spies – 2:1-24
- III. Crossing the Jordan – 3:1-17
- IV. Memorial Stones – 4:1-24
- V. Israel Circumcised – 5:1-12
- VI. The Commander of the Lord's Army – 5:13-15

CONQUERING CANAAN – 6:1-12:24

- I. Jericho Conquered – 6:1-27
- II. Defeated at Ai – 7:1-9
- III. Achan's Sin – 7:10-26
- IV. Ai Conquered – 8:1-35
- V. The Gibeonites' Deception – 9:1-27
- VI. The Long Day – 10:1-27
- VII. Southern Conquest - 10:28-43
- VIII. Northern Conquest – 11:1-15
- IX. Summary of Israel's Victories – 11:16-23

DIVIDING THE LAND – 13:1-21:45

- I. The Land Divided – 13:1-
- II. The Promise Fulfilled – 21:43-45
- III. Eastern Tribes Return – 22:1-9

THE FINAL ACTS OF JOSHUA – 22:1-24:33

- I. An Alter by the Jordan – 22:10-34
- II. Joshua's Farewell Discourse – 23:1-24:28
- III. Joshua's Death – 24:29-33

MAJOR THEMES

- 1.) When God calls His people to a task, He calls them to pursue it diligently.
- 2.) In the context of that obedience, God is faithful to keep His promises