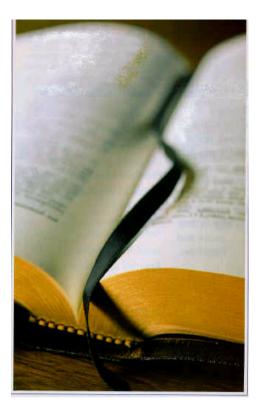
# The Book of Joshua

**Bible Basics Conference** 

12-13. November 2015

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www.biblecentre.org

### Joshua: Intro



- The Book of Joshua tells us about
  - the people of Israel
    - Crossing the Jordan
    - Entering the land of Canaan
    - Conquering the land
    - Possessing the land

### Joshua: Intro



- Canaan speaks of spiritual blessings
- These belong to every true Christian
- But do we enjoy them as much as we could?

# Joshua: Division of the Book



- 1. Chapters 1-5: Crossing Jordan
- 2. Chapters 6-12: Conquest
- 3. Chapters 13 24: Possess the land!

## Joshua 1: Be strong



#### • The Lord

- encourages Joshua to be strong
- Promises to subdue the enemies
- States that, above all, Joshua needs to obey and to be strong
- The 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tribes
  - Had chosen to stay 'east of Jordan'
  - Are exhorted to join their brethren in battle

# Joshua 2: Spared



- Rahab
- The Canaanites had heard about the God of Israel
- Rahab believes and is spared

# Joshua 3: Crossing Jordan



- Israel crosses the Jordan
  - The ark first
  - The waters stopped
  - The people followed
- Spiritual meaning
  - Identified with Christ in His death and resurrection
  - Red Sea: deliverance from bondage (Rom. 6, 1. Cor. 10:2).

### **Joshua 4: Twelve Stones**



- Memorial stones
  - 12 stones in Jordan: believers have died with Christ
  - 12 stones at the shore: believers are risen with Christ
- God had only spoken about the 12 stones on the shore
- The emphasis is on resurrection



# **Joshua 5: Preparation for battle**

- 1. Circumcision
- 2. Passover
- 3. Old corn of the land
- 4. Unleavened loaves
- 5. Manna
- 6. The Lord of the hosts

#### Joshua 6: Jericho



- The first thing you encounter in the land: → the stronghold of the enemy
- Conquered by faith

### Joshua 7-8: Ai



- Complacency
- Lack of self judgement
- Defeat
- Only after the people return to Gilgal and obey the Lord is Ai conquered

#### Joshua 9: Gibeon



- Deceit
- The wiles of the enemy
- Lack of dependence
- A forbidden alliance
- The result: loss of territory

# Joshua 10: Conquest (S)



- Joshua goes up from Gilgal
- Defeat of the kings of the south



# Joshua 11-12: Conquests (N)

- Further Conquests
- Conflict remains

### Joshua 13: Possess



- Part 3: ch. 13-24: possessing the land
- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tribes receive their inheritance

# Joshua 14-19: Division of the Land



- The division of the land
- Every tribe receives an inheritance (now the remaining 7)
- Borders defined in detail
- A good land

# Joshua 20-21: City



- The cities of refuge and the cities of the Levites
- Cities of refuge
  - Illustrate the Gospel
  - Show God's ways with Israel (prophetic picture)

# **Joshua 22: Altar of Witness**



- 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tribes East of Jordan
- One wrong step triggers new problems
- They built an altar of witness
- Well meant, but laid them open to misunderstanding
- Inadvertently formed an independent centre

## Joshua 23-24: Final Plea



- Consider what God has done for you
- Love Him
- Serve and obey Him
- Steer clear of what dishonours Him

"As for me and my house..."