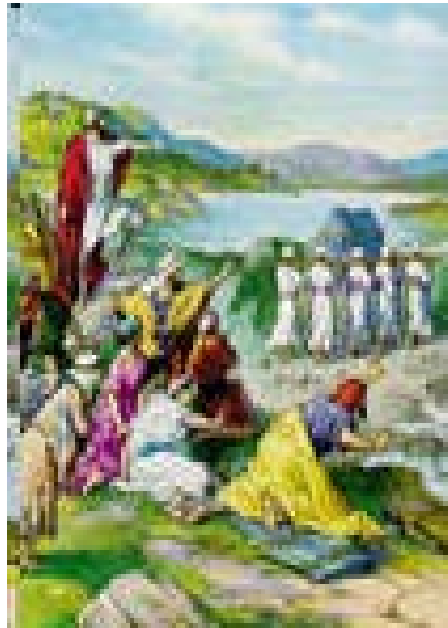


# A Study in the Book of Joshua



*By Cecilia Perh*



Entrusting the Word  
to the Faithful



# Overview of Joshua

**Joshua 1-5**  
**PREPARING**

**Joshua 6-12**  
**CONQUERING**

**Joshua 13-24**  
**DIVIDING**

**The Calling and  
Responsibility of  
Godly Leadership**

**Developing God's  
People**

Success is determined by one's ability to become and remain sensitive to the Lord's authority and methods.

**The Implementation  
of God's Strategy  
for Victory**

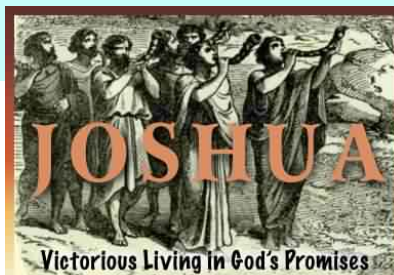
**Understanding  
God's Strategy**

Victory only arises when one fully understands temptation and wholly depends upon the Lord's means for deliverance.

**The Accountability to  
Complete God's  
Mission**

**Grasping God's  
Good Purposes**

God's full favor is found only when one both understands and diligently seeks God's complete purposes.



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# MOBILIZING GOD'S PEOPLE FOR VICTORY



## Book of Joshua

Paul J. Bucknell

**Purpose of Joshua** • God's good purposes can always be gloriously fulfilled when we faithfully trust and obey Him.

### DEVELOPING GOD'S PEOPLE

THE CALLING AND RESPONSIBILITY OF GODLY LEADERSHIP

*PREPARING*

Joshua 1-5

### UNDERSTANDING GOD'S STRATEGY

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOD'S STRATEGY FOR VICTORY

*CONQUERING*

Joshua 6-12

### GRASPING GOD'S GOOD PURPOSES

THE ACCOUNTABILITY TO COMPLETE GOD'S MISSION

*DIVIDING*

Joshua 13-24

1:1-5	The Mission
1:1-9	Developing Godly Leadership
1:10-18	Maximum Mobilization
1:12-18	The Battle Before the Conquest
2:1-24	God's Mysterious Ways
3:1-17	Signs & Wonders
4:1-24	Pauses #1: Forming Memories
5:1-9	Pauses #2: Our Step of Faith
5:10-12	Pauses #3: Communing With God
5:13-15	Pause #4: Following God's Leader
6:1-27	God's First Victory at Jericho
7:1-26	A Battle with Sin
8:1-29	Recovering From Defeat
8:30-35	Delight in God's Torah
9:1-27	Falling For A Lie
10:1-43	The Battles Against the Kings
11:1-23	Responding Strategically
12:1-24	Gaining Momentum
13:1-13	Rules for Victorious Living
14:1-15:19	Caleb: A Man Willing to Fight
15:20-17:13	Fulfilling Our Obligations
17:12-18	Escaping From Fear's Grip
18:1-19:51	Dividing the Inheritance
20:1-9	Where Can I Run?
21:1-45	Care of God's Workers
22:1-34	For Good or For Bad
23:1-16	Passing the Torch
24:1-13	Truth or Fiction
24:14-33	Declaration of our Commitment

### BEING READIED FOR GOD'S WORK

Success is determined by one's ability to become and remain sensitive to the Lord's authority and methods.

### THE RECORD OF GREAT VICTORIES

Victory only arises when one fully understands temptation and wholly depends upon the Lord's means for deliverance.

### THE EVALUATION OF THE MISSION

God's full favor is found only when one both understands and diligently seeks God's complete purposes.



# Conquest of the Promised Land

Invasion of Canaan					Conquest of Canaan							Division of Canaan							Conclusion				
Charge to Joshua	Spying out Jericho	Crossing the Jordan	Stones Set Up	Circumcision & Passover	Central Campaign			Southern Campaign		Northern Campaign		Special Allotments		Major Allotments				Special Provisions		Altar by the Jordan	Joshua's Farewell Speech	Covenant Renewed at Shechem	
					Fall of Jericho	Achan's Sin	Restoration	Gibeon Tricks Israel	Joshua's Long Day	Northern Conquests	Defeated Kings	Transjordan Tribes	Caleb	Judah	Ephraim	Manasseh	Benjamin	Simeon, Zebulun, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, Dan	Cities of Refuge				Levitical Cities
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1-5					6-12							13-19							20-24				
Preparation					Conquest							Inheritances							Consecration				
ACTION					ALLOCATION							APPEAL											
The Promised Land					Conflict and Conquest							Dividing the Land							Joshua's Farewell				
Possessing the Land					Partitioning the Land																		
7 years (50% of Joshua)					About 18 years (50% of Joshua)																		
<p>9 ½ Tribes on the West Side of the Jordan – CANAAN</p> <p>2 ½ Tribes on the East Side of the Jordan – TRANSJORDAN</p>																							

**Author:** Joshua

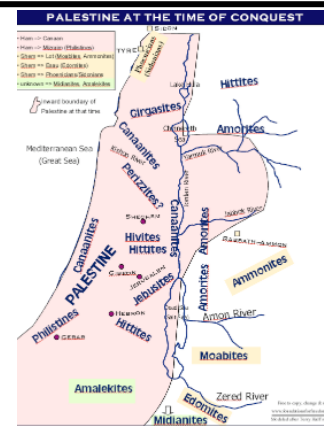
**Date:** between 1400 & 1350BC

**Key Verses:** 1:2-3; 11:23; 24:14-15

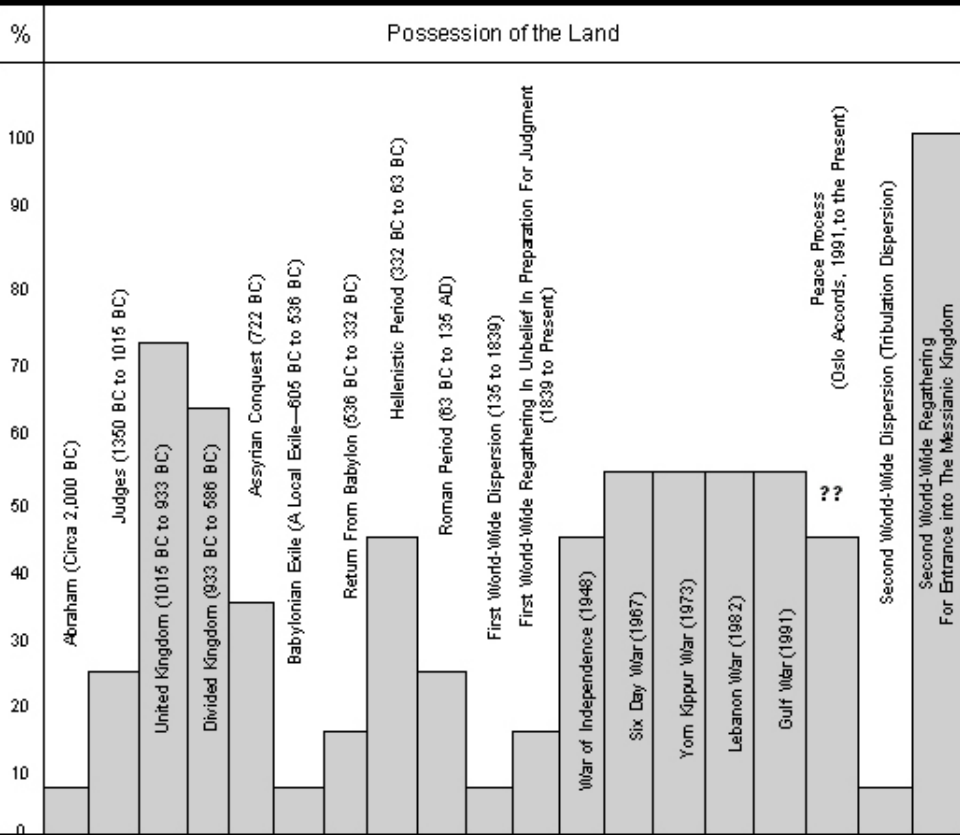
**Key Words:** possess(-ion) [27x], land (158x), inheritance (57x), king(s) [115x]

## Purpose of Writing:

- 1) To show how God fulfilled His promises by giving Israel the land promised to the forefathers.
- 2) To show how Joshua faithfully performed the work which had been entrusted to him by God.



**Three Altars**  
**Altar Memorial 4:7**  
**Altar Offering 8:30**  
**Altar Witness 22:34**



### Empires of David and Solomon

This map is a broad view of the extent of the domain which God had promised to give to David and his seed (1 Kgs. 4:20).

**EMPIRES OF DAVID AND SOLOMON**

- Saul's Kingdom
- David's Kingdom
- Area under Solomon's control
- Solomon's Kingdom

# The Book of Joshua

## Conquest of the Promised Land

- I. The Invasion of Canaan (1:1-5:12)
- II. The Conquest of Canaan (5:13-12:24)
- III. The Division of Canaan (13:1-21:45)
  - A. The portions for the two and one-half tribes (chap. 13)
    - B. The portion for Caleb (chap. 14)
    - C. The Allotment for Judah (chap. 15)
  - D. The Allotment for the Sons of Joseph (chap. 16-17)

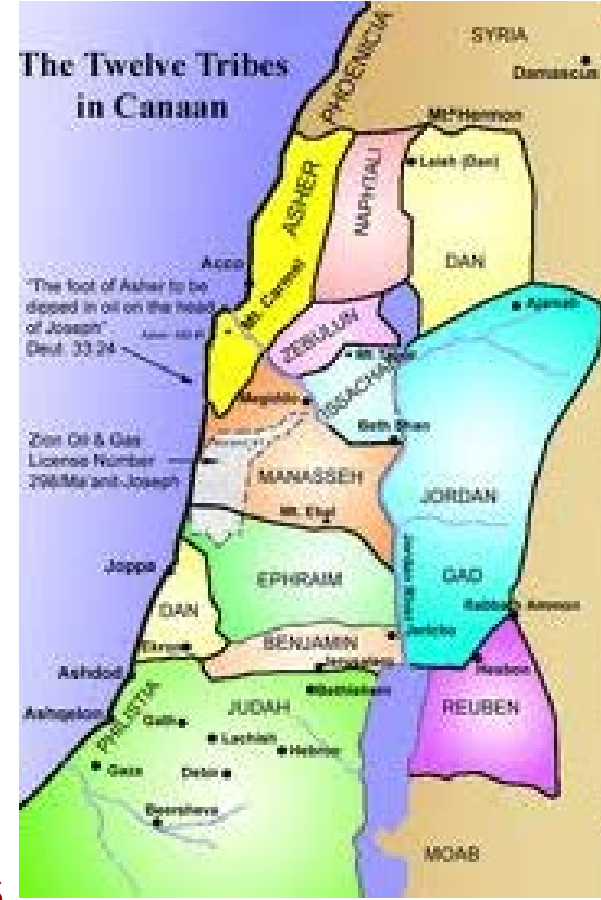
# The Allotment for the Sons of Joseph (16:1-17:18)

## The General Description (v1-5)

<sup>1</sup>Then the lot for the sons of Joseph went from the Jordan at Jericho to the waters of Jericho on the east into the wilderness, going up from Jericho through the hill country to Bethel. <sup>2</sup>And it went from Bethel to Luz, and continued to the border of the Archites at Ataroth. <sup>3</sup>And it went down westward to the territory of the Japhletites, as far as the territory of lower Beth-horon even to Gezer, and it ended at the sea. <sup>4</sup>And the sons of Joseph, Manasseh and Ephraim, received their inheritance.

**BKC** - Because Joseph kept the whole family alive during the famine in Egypt, the patriarch Jacob ordained that Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, should be made founders and heads of tribes with their uncles (cf. Gen\_48:5). Their territory in Canaan was in many respects the most beautiful and fertile.

**JFB** - 16:1 the lot of the children of Joseph fell - The first four verses describe the territory allotted to the family of Joseph in the rich domains of central Palestine. It was drawn in one lot, that the brethren might be contiguously situated; but it was afterwards divided. The southern boundary only is described here; that on the north being irregular and less defined (Jos\_17:10, 11), is not mentioned.



# The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## The Allotment for Ephraim (v5-10)

<sup>5</sup>Now *this* was the territory of the sons of Ephraim according to their families: **the border** of their inheritance **eastward** was Ataroth-addar, **as far as** upper Beth-horon. <sup>6</sup>Then the **border** went **westward** at Michmethath on the **north**, and **the border** turned about **eastward** to Taanath-shiloh, and continued *beyond* it to **the east** of Janoah. <sup>7</sup>And it went down from Janoah to Ataroth and to Naarah, **then** reached Jericho and came out at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>From Tappuah **the border** continued **westward** to the brook of Kanah, and it ended at the sea. This is the inheritance of the tribe of the sons of Ephraim according to their families, <sup>9</sup>*together* with the cities which were set apart for the sons of Ephraim in the midst of the inheritance of the sons of Manasseh, all the cities with their villages.



Located immediately north of the territory to be assigned to Dan and Benjamin, the allotment of Ephraim stretched from the Jordan to the Mediterranean and included the sites of some of Joshua's battles as well as Shiloh where the tabernacle would remain for about 300 years. To encourage unity some of Ephraim's towns were located in the territory of Manasseh (Jos\_16:9).

# The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## The Allotment for Ephraim (v5-10)

<sup>10</sup> **But** they did not drive out the Canaanites who lived in Gezer, so the Canaanites live in the midst of Ephraim to this day, and they became forced laborers.

**BKC** - But the men of Ephraim, like those of Judah, **did not** completely drive out **the Canaanites** from their region. Motivated by a materialistic attitude, they chose to put the Canaanites in Gezer under tribute to gain additional wealth. That proved to be a fatal mistake for in later centuries, in the time of the Judges, the arrangement was reversed as the Canaanites rose up and enslaved the Israelites. In addition to the historical lesson there is a spiritual principle here. It is all too easy for a believer to tolerate and excuse some pet sin only to wake up some day to the grim realization that it has risen up to possess and drive him to spiritual defeat. It pays to deal with sin decisively and harshly.



# The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## The Allotment for Manasseh (17:1-18)

<sup>1</sup> **Now** *this* was the lot for the tribe of Manasseh, **for** he was the first-born of Joseph. To Machir the first-born of Manasseh, the father of Gilead, was allotted Gilead and Bashan, **because** he was a man of war.

*JFB - These Machirites had their portion on the east side of Jordan.*

<sup>2</sup> **So** *the lot was made* for the rest of the sons of Manasseh according to their families: for the sons of Abiezer and for the sons of Helek and for the sons of Asriel and for the sons of Shechem and for the sons of Hephher and for the sons of Shemida; *these were the male descendants of Manasseh the son of Joseph according to their families.*

*JFB - The western portion of land, allotted to the tribe of Manasseh, was divided into ten portions because the male descendants who had sons consisted of five families, to which, consequently, five shares were given; and the sixth family, namely, the posterity of Hephher, being all women, the five daughters of Zelophehad were, on application to the valuers, endowed each with an inheritance in land (see on Num\_27:4).*



# The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## The Allotment for Manasseh (17:1-18)

<sup>3</sup>**However**, Zelophehad, the son of Hopher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, had no sons, only daughters; and these are the names of his daughters: Mahlah and Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah.

<sup>4</sup>And they came near before Eleazar the priest and before Joshua the son of Nun and before the leaders, saying, "The LORD commanded Moses to give us an inheritance among our brothers." **So** according to the command of the LORD he gave them an inheritance among their father's brothers.

<sup>5</sup>**Thus** there fell ten portions to Manasseh, besides the land of Gilead and Bashan, which is beyond the Jordan, <sup>6</sup>**because** the daughters of Manasseh received an inheritance among his sons. And the land of Gilead belonged to the rest of the sons of Manasseh.

**Preacher - Women's Rights** - Four verses in the midst of these archives - Jos\_17:3-6- tell us that women have their inheritance rights too. This may not seem like much today, but it was revolutionary in that society because male chauvinism was supreme....As modest as it seems in contemporary terms, this had expansive, radical implications for that day. And it gives us an insight into how God views women....In God's eyes, male and female are equal, and both have their rights. Neither is by arbitrary power to Lord it over the other or by clever manipulation to selfishly get his or her way.

## The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## The Allotment for Manasseh (17:1-18)

<sup>7</sup>And **the border of Manasseh** ran from Asher to Michmethath which was east of Shechem; **then the border** went southward to the inhabitants of Entappuah. <sup>8</sup>The land of Tappuah belonged to Manasseh, **but** Tappuah on **the border of Manasseh** *belonged* to the sons of Ephraim. <sup>9</sup>And **the border** went down to the brook of Kanah, southward of the brook (these cities *belonged* to Ephraim among the cities of Manasseh), and **the border of Manasseh** *was* on the north side of the brook, and it ended at the sea.

<sup>10</sup>**The south side** *belonged* to Ephraim and **the north side to Manasseh**, and **the sea was their border**; and they reached to Asher on the north and to Issachar on the east. <sup>11</sup>And in Issachar and in Asher, Manasseh had Beth-shean and its towns and Ibleam and its towns, and the inhabitants of Dor and its towns, and the inhabitants of En-dor and its towns, and the inhabitants of Taanach and its towns, and the inhabitants of Megiddo and its towns, **the third is Napheth.**

**JFB - 17:11 - Beth-shean and her towns** - Greek, "Scythopolis" (now Beisan), in the valley of the Jordan, towards the east end of the plain of Jezreel. "Beth-shean" means "house of rest," so called from its being the halting place for caravans travelling between Syria or Midian, and Egypt, and the great station for the commerce between these countries for many centuries. **Ibleam and her towns** - in the neighborhood of Megiddo (2Ki\_9:27)...**Taanach and ... Megiddo** - These were near to each other, and they are generally mentioned in Scripture together. They were both royal and strongly fortified places (see on Jdg\_1:27).

## The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)



## The Allotment for Manasseh (17:1-18)

<sup>12</sup>**But** the sons of Manasseh could not take possession of these cities, because the Canaanites persisted in living in that land. <sup>13</sup>And it came about **when** the sons of Israel became strong, they put the Canaanites to forced labor, but they did not drive them out completely.

**BKC - 17:11-13** Several cities located in the tribes of **Issachar and Asher** were given to **Manasseh**. These were the Canaanite fortresses of Beth Shan, Ibleam... Dor, Endor, Taanach, and Megiddo.... Apparently it was considered necessary for military purposes that these cities be held by a strong tribe. The decision, however, was in vain for the sons of Manasseh, like the Ephraimites, chose tribute over triumph.

**JFB - 17:12-13** Yet the children of Manasseh could not drive out those cities - probably due to indolence, a love of ease. Perhaps a mistaken humanity, arising from a disregard or forgetfulness of the divine command, and a decreasing principle of faith and zeal in the service of God, were the causes of their failure.

# The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)



## The Allotment for Manasseh (17:1-18)

<sup>17</sup>And Joshua spoke to the house of Joseph, to Ephraim and Manasseh, saying, "You are a numerous people and have great power; you shall not have one lot *only*, <sup>18</sup>**but** the hill country shall be yours. **For though** it is a forest, you shall clear it, and to its farthest borders it shall be yours; for you shall drive out the Canaanites, **even though** they have chariots of iron *and though* they are strong."

**IVPBBC - iron chariots.** As in Jdg\_1:19, the use of iron chariots by the enemy is given as the reason for the Israelites' failure to completely conquer areas of Canaan. Iron technology was introduced by the Hittites and the Sea Peoples in the twelfth century B.C. However, it did not become widespread in Syro-Palestinian culture until the tenth century. References to iron chariots in the conquest narrative most likely refer to the use of iron fittings to strengthen the chariot basket or iron-shod wheels. It is possible that studs or projectile points were added to make this engine of warfare heavier and more of a factor when rammed into lines of infantry. However, maneuverability and the strength and size of the horses pulling the chariots would have limited the actual amount of iron employed.



## The Division of Canaan (chs 13-21)

## Joshua 17:14-18 - The Alternative to Complaining About One's Lot in Life

Many a contemporary analogy could be made here. How often we have complained to God that we have not really been given fair treatment. We want something more or different than God has seen fit to give us. How many times I, in my own whimpering way, have made my complaints to God, and He has given me the same word Joshua gave to the tribe of Joseph. He has told me to use faithfully the resources He has given me and to quit complaining about my lot in life. God has made it clear that if half the energy I spent in complaining would be spent in doing something constructive about my circumstances, they would radically improve.

I am forced to contrast my own complaining ways, as one graciously gifted by God, with that very special woman, **Joni Eareckson Tada**. Imagine diving into the Chesapeake Bay as a lively teenager but surfacing to spend the rest of your life as a quadriplegic. Whenever I am tempted to complain about my circumstances, I think of her. She must have her low days and her periodic struggles, but she has done something about her life. She has taken charge, refusing to let her bed confine her. Taking an initiative, Joni has picked up a paint brush with her teeth and created works of great art under the most impossible of circumstances. She has refused to become preoccupied with her limitations and has developed her personality over these decades of paralysis. She has made herself so attractive that a very special man considered it a privilege for her to say yes to his marriage proposal. And they've built a healthy life together. **Far from uttering drab sounds of complaint, Joni sings beautiful music of faith, hope, and God's faithfulness in all circumstances.**

# Preacher

 **Entrusting the Word to the Faithful**

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## I. The Invasion of Canaan (1:1-5:12)

- A. The commissioning of Joshua (chap. 1)
  - 1. Joshua's listening to the Lord (1:1-9)
  - 2. Joshua's commanding the officers (1:10-15)
  - 3. Joshua's receiving support from the people (1:16-18)
- B. The spying out of Jericho (chap. 2)
  - 1. The spies' commission to Jericho (2:1)
  - 2. The spies' shielding by Rahab (2:2-7)
  - 3. The spies' intelligence information from Rahab (2:8-11)
  - 4. The spies' promise to Rahab (2:12-21)
  - 5. The spies' return to Joshua (2:22-24)
- C. The crossing of the Jordan (chap. 3)
  - 1. Preparation for the crossing (3:1-4)
  - 2. Consecration for the crossing (3:5-13)
  - 3. Completion of the crossing (3:14-17)
- D. The erecting of memorials (chap. 4)
- E. The consecration of the Israelites (5:1-12)
  - 1. The renewal of circumcision (5:1-9)
  - 2. The celebration of the Passover (5:10)
  - 3. The appropriation of the land's produce (5:11-12)

## II. The Conquest of Canaan (5:13-12:24)

- A. Introduction: The divine Commander (5:13-15)
- B. The central campaign (chaps. 6-8)
  - 1. The conquest of Jericho (chap. 6)
  - 2. The defeat at Ai (chap. 7)
  - 3. The victory at Ai (chap. 8)
- C. The southern campaign (chaps. 9-10)
  - 1. The alliance with the Gibeonites (chap. 9)
  - 2. The defense of the Gibeonites (chap. 10)
- D. The northern campaign (11:1-15)
  - 1. The confederation (11:1-5)
  - 2. The conflict (11:6-15)
- E. The review of the victories (11:16-12:24)
  - 1. The conquered areas (11:16-23)
  - 2. The conquered kings (chap. 12)

## III. The Division of Canaan (chaps. 13-21)

- A. The portions for the two and one-half tribes (chap. 13)
  - 1. The divine command to divide the land (13:1-7)
  - 2. The special grant to the Eastern tribes (13:8-33)
- B. The portion for Caleb (chap. 14)
  - 1. Introduction (14:1-5)
  - 2. Caleb at Kadesh Barnea (14:6-9)
  - 3. Caleb during the wilderness wanderings and the Conquest (14:10-11)
  - 4. Caleb at Hebron (14:12-15)
- C. The portions for the nine and one-half tribes (15:1-19:48)
  - 1. The allotment for the tribe of Judah (chap. 15)
  - 2. The allotments for the Joseph tribes (chaps. 16-17)
  - 3. The allotments for the remaining tribes (18:1-19:48)
- D. The portions for Joshua, manslayers, and Levites (19:49-21:45)
  - 1. The special provision for Joshua (19:49-51)
  - 2. The assignment of cities of refuge (chap. 20)
  - 3. The appointment of Levitical cities (21:1-42)
  - 4. Summary of the Conquest and distribution (21:43-45)

## IV. Conclusion (chaps. 22-24)

- A. A border dispute (chap. 22)
  - 1. The admonition of Joshua (22:1-8)
  - 2. The symbolic action of the Eastern tribes (22:9-11)
  - 3. The threat of war (22:12-20)
  - 4. The defense of the Eastern tribes (22:21-29)
  - 5. The reconciliation of the tribes (22:30-34)
- B. The last days of Joshua (23:1-24:28)
  - 1. Joshua's final challenge to the leaders (chap. 23)
  - 2. Joshua's final charge to the people (24:1-28)
- C. The appendix (24:29-33)

