

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson 25: JOSHUA & The 2nd Generation

Enter the Promised Land

Aim: To understand how Joshua, the 2nd leader of Israel, is a type of Jesus Christ at His 2nd Advent. At different times, they both take the nation of Israel into the Land of their Inheritance, whilst destroying the Gentile powers of their days.

Key Scriptures: Exodus 17:8-14. 33:11. Numbers chapter 14. Joshua chapters 2, 6, 10 & 24. Luke 24: 44-45.

We have been studying what Jesus may have chosen to reveal from the OT about Himself to the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus. He described these men as 'foolish and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets had spoken' concerning His suffering that must precede His glory (Lk.24:25).

Q: What did Jesus do to correct the two disciples' thinking and open their understanding concerning Himself?

A:

Then later that day, Jesus appeared to all the disciples in Jerusalem:

Luke 24:44 *Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me."*

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Q: Compare these verses to **Luke 24:25-27**. What further details do they add?

A:

As we have worked through these lessons, Jesus has been using His Word and His Spirit to open our understanding about how all the OT reveals some facet of His life and work. He has to be seen in all the OT because we know from John 1:14 that *‘Jesus is the Word (which includes all of the OT) made flesh’*.

From the very beginning of our study, we know that the name **Jesus** is not seen in the Old Testament. Jesus is the English version of the **Greek** name *Iesous*, which we get from the New Testament Greek. The Old Testament, on the other hand, was written in **Hebrew**, the language of the Jews, and *Iesous* is the ancient Greek form of the Hebrew name *Yeshua* which is closely related to the Hebrew name **Joshua**. So, although the name Jesus is not there, Joshua is. Look at the following table:

Hebrew (OT)	Greek (NT)	English
Yeshua/Joshua	Iesous	Jesus

The name **Yeshua/Joshua** (Jesus) means: **‘Jehovah is salvation’**.

We know that there are at least 2 significant individuals named ‘Joshua’ in the OT. There was Joshua who was Moses’ assistant, who led the 2nd generation of the Children of Israel into the Promised Land. Then there was Joshua who led a group of captives back into the land after the Babylonian captivity. Both men picture an event yet future when Christ will lead the

Children of Israel back into the Land of their inheritance, never to be scattered again.

In today's lesson, we will be looking at Moses' right-hand man, **Joshua the son of Nun**, to confirm how he was a Type of Christ. He was Moses' faithful servant throughout the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the wilderness.

In our previous 4 lessons we studied the Tabernacle in the wilderness, and we learned that Moses would go in there to speak with God. Here is an interesting Scripture that pertains to Joshua and Moses:

Exodus 33:11 So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

These verses occur prior to the construction of the Tabernacle that God showed Moses on the mountain and following the golden calf incident when Moses and Joshua were up the mountain. The preceding verses 7 to 10 reveal that Moses established a place to meet and speak with God before the actual Tabernacle was built: *Ex 33:7 Moses took his tent and pitched it outside the camp, far from the camp, and called it the tabernacle of meeting (See vv.7-10).*

Q: After God finished speaking with Moses face to face in the Tabernacle and Moses left, what does it say Joshua did, and why might that be significant?

A:

Joshua Defeated the Amalekites

Let's look at the very first mention of Joshua in the Old Testament. Within 3 months of Israel leaving Egypt, and before they arrived at God's holy mountain of Sinai, they were attacked by the Amalekites, a nomadic tribe.

Q: From recent studies what do you recall about the Amalekites?

A:

Notes:

Read and make notes on the following:

Exodus 17:8 *Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.*

9 And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."

10 So Joshua did as Moses said to him and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.

11 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.

12 But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

13 So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."

15 And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-Is-My-Banner;

16 for he said, "Because the LORD has sworn: the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation."

We see that Moses chose Joshua to lead the battle against the Amalekites. When Moses stood on the hilltop and he held up the rod of God, Joshua and Israel prevailed in the battle. But when Moses' arms became heavy and he let down his hands, the Amalekites prevailed.

Q: What did Aaron and Hur do to ensure that Israel and Joshua had the victory?

A:

Q: How does it say Joshua defeated Amalek and is that significant?

A:

Q: What would be the significance of 'the rod of God'?

A:

Any other observations you want to mention?

The 12 Spies

In Numbers chapter 13 the children of Israel arrived at the border of the Promised Land 18 months after leaving Egypt. God told Moses to select a leader from each of the 12 tribes to go and spy out the land. Forty days later, the 12 spies returned with some of the fruits from the land. They agreed it was a land flowing with milk and honey just as God had said. However, 10 of the

12 spies gave a bad report because they were fearful of the inhabitants and the giants that inhabited the land. They said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than us." As a result of the bad report given by 10 of the 12 spies, the whole congregation of Israel fell into despair and complained bitterly against God and Moses, something they had done frequently since leaving Egypt:

Numbers 14:6 *But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; [a sign of deep anguish]*

7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.

8 "If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.'

9 "Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them."

10 And all the congregation said to stone them with stones...

Joshua and Caleb urged the people 'not to rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land' because the Lord was with them, and the protection that the inhabitants of the land had was no longer there. Despite that, the congregation was ready to stone them to death. As a result God was very angry and ready to wipe out the whole nation and start again, if not for the intervention of Moses. And although God did listen to Moses and resisted killing the whole nation, there were consequences for their complaining and disobedience:

Numbers 14:22 *"because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, 23 "they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it...*

14:36 Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, 37 those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

Joshua and Caleb were the only 2 of that whole generation over the age of twenty years who would enter the Promised Land under Joshua's leadership 40 years later.

Q: What might the actions of the 10 spies and that whole generation who perished teach us? What parallels can we draw for ourselves? Discuss.

A:

Joshua Succeeds Moses

Joshua and Caleb were the only 2 that remained of that whole generation over the age of twenty years. After wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, the unfaithful disobedient 1st generation had died, and their children were ready to enter. Before Moses died, God chose Joshua to succeed him as Israel's leader. It was to be Joshua who would lead the 2nd generation of the Children of Israel into the Land. The nation arrived on the east side of the Jordan river, across from Jericho.



Joshua 2:1 Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab who lived in the walled city of Jericho and lodged there...

8 Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof,

9 and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you.

10 "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

11 "And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath...

24 And they [the 2 spies on their return] said to Joshua, "Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us."

Q: What was the condition of the inhabitants of the land after hearing what the Lord had done for Israel since leaving Egypt?

A:

Q: How does Rahab, a Gentile, describe Israel's God in v.11?

A:

Did you notice how the belief of the 2 spies matches the report and belief of Joshua and Caleb almost 40 years earlier?

The Battle of Jericho

Notes:

Joshua 6:1 Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in.

2 And the LORD said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor.

3 "You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days.

4 "And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.

5 "It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him."...

16 And the seventh time it happened, when the priests blew the trumpets, that Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the LORD has given you the city!

20 So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

21 And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, both man and woman, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.

So we can see that after crossing the Jordan River, Joshua led his warriors to attack Jericho using trumpets of rams' horns blown by the priests, the Ark of

the Covenant carried by the priests, and their own voices. On the 7th day of marching around Jericho, the walls fell flat from God's power, and He gave Israel the victory. Notice the destruction of the people and animals was once again 'with the edge of the sword'.

Q: What is the destruction of Jericho on the 7th day a picture of? And how does it fit into the chronology of 'the time of the end'?

A:

Q: What Scriptures can you find that show Christ taking Israel into the Promised Land following His second Advent?

A:

Following the victory at Jericho, Joshua went on to do other exploits to conquer the Land. At one point Israel, led by Joshua, fought with the king of Jerusalem and his allies. During that battle, Joshua asked the Lord to make the sun stand still in the sky until they had fully conquered their enemies, and He did!

We can read in **Joshua 10:14** that *"there has never been a day like it, before or since, a day when the Lord listened to a human being."*

Joshua would go on to renew Israel's covenant with God and write a copy of the Law of Moses, yet another example of him as a type of Jesus, who on His return will make a new covenant with the House of Israel.

When Joshua was old, he divided the land with each of the 12 tribes of Israel receiving their inheritance just as Moses had previously commanded. Before he died, Joshua charged the people to obey God.

Joshua 24:15 *"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on*

the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:31 *Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.*

At Christ's return, following the destruction of the kingdom of Antichrist and the Gentile world powers, the 12 tribes of Israel will receive their inheritance within the Land. And just as Israel served the Lord throughout Joshua's lifetime, so Israel will serve the Lord throughout the Millennial Kingdom.

Let's pray...