

The Bible Jesus Used

A Gospel-Centered Glance at the Old Testament

Bethlehem Baptist Church, 2011–2012
Jason S. DeRouchie

Joshua at a Glance

Yahweh's Strategy for Taking the Land	1:1–8:29
Yahweh's Faithfulness in Giving the Land	8:30–21:45
Israel's Future in Yahweh's Land	22:1–24:33

Two Key Aspects

- ❖ **God's people must keep God's Word**

- ❖ **Josh. 1:8. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.**

Two Key Aspects

- ❖ **God's people must keep God's Word**
- ❖ **God always keeps his Word**
 - ❖ **Josh. 21:43–45. Thus Yahweh gave to Israel all the land that he swore to give to their fathers. And they took possession of it, and they settled there. And Yahweh gave them rest on every side just as he had sworn to their fathers. Not one of all their enemies had withstood them, for Yahweh had given all their enemies into their hands. **Not one word of all the good promises that Yahweh had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.****

- ❖ **Josh. 24:31–32. Israel served Yahweh all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua and had known all the work that Yahweh did for Israel. ³²As for the bones of Joseph, which the people of Israel brought up from Egypt, they buried them at Shechem, in the piece of land that Jacob bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for a hundred pieces of money. It became an inheritance of the descendants of Joseph. (See Gen. 50:24–26.)**

Yahweh's Strategy for Taking the Land (1:1–8:29)

- ❖ **Backdrop: Destroy all obstacles to God-centered living!**
 - ❖ **Deut. 20:16–18. But in the cities of these peoples that Yahweh your God is giving you for an inheritance, you shall save alive nothing that breathes, ¹⁷but you shall devote them to complete destruction, the Hittites and the Amorites, the Canaanites and the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, as Yahweh your God has commanded, ¹⁸that they may not teach you to do according to all their abominable practices that they have done for their gods, and so you sin against Yahweh your God.**

- ❖ Deut. 7:1–5, 25–26. When Yahweh your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you,... ²...then **you must devote them to complete destruction**. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. ³You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, ⁴for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of Yahweh would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. ⁵But thus shall you deal with them: you shall break down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and chop down their Asherim and burn their carved images with fire....

²⁵The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to Yahweh your God. ²⁶And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is devoted to destruction.

❖ **Overview of Strategy for Taking Yahweh's Land:**

- ❖ **Perspectives on the Fulfillment of the Land Promise (1:1–3:1)**
 - ❖ **Yahweh's Commissioning of Joshua (1:1–9)**
 - ❖ **Joshua's Call to Readiness and Unity (1:10–18)**
 - ❖ **The Reconnaissance of the Enemy in Jericho (2:1–3:1)**

- ❖ **Josh. 2:9–11**. And [Rahab] said to the men, “I know that Yahweh has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you. ¹⁰For we have heard how Yahweh dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction. ¹¹And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for Yahweh your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath.
- ❖ See **Exod. 9:16; 15:13–18**

❖ **Overview of Strategy for Taking Yahweh's Land:**

- ❖ **Perspectives on the Fulfillment of the Land Promise (1:1–3:1)**
- ❖ **Yahweh's Presence and the Birth of New Israel (3:2–5:12)**
 - ❖ **Yahweh's Triumphant Entry into Canaan (3:2–17)**
 - ❖ **Memorials of Yahweh's Power (4:1–24)**
 - ❖ **The Spiritual Renewal of the Troops (5:1–12)**

❖ **Overview of Strategy for Taking Yahweh's Land:**

- ❖ **Perspectives on the Fulfillment of the Land Promise (1:1–3:1)**
- ❖ **Yahweh's Presence and the Birth of New Israel (3:2–5:12)**
- ❖ **Yahweh's Holiness and the Taking of the Land (5:13–8:29)**

- ❖ **Yahweh's holiness and the taking of the Land (5:13–8:29)**
- ❖ **God's people must take God's holiness seriously (5:13–15).**
- ❖ **God's wars of judgment are about his holiness and his faithfulness.**
- ❖ **Deut. 9:5. Not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart are you going in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations Yahweh your God is driving them out from before you, and that he may confirm the word that Yahweh swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.**

- ❖ **Israel's lesson is God's holiness:**
 - ❖ **Yahweh's Holiness and Progress on Jericho (5:13–6:14)**
 - ❖ **Yahweh's Holiness in Victory and Defeat (6:15–7:26)**
 - ❖ **Holiness in Victory (6:15–27)**
 - ❖ **Holiness in Defeat (7:1–26): Corporate solidarity**
 - ❖ **Yahweh's Holiness and the Taking of Ai (8:1–29)**

Yahweh's Faithfulness in Giving the Land (8:30–21:45)

❖ **Overview:**

- ❖ **Yahweh's Covenant Renewal with His People (8:30–35)**
- ❖ **Yahweh's Victory in the South and North (9:1–11:23)**
 - ❖ **11:21–23 Epilogue**
- ❖ **The Scope and Spoils of Yahweh's War of Judgment (12:1–21:45)**
 - ❖ **21:43–45 Epilogue**

Israel's Future in Yahweh's Land (22:1–24:33)

❖ **Overview:**

- ❖ **The Need for Unity (22:1–34)**
- ❖ **The Need for Loyalty (23:1–24:33)**
- ❖ *To Be Seen*

Synthesis: God keeps his Word; so should we!

- ❖ Josh. 23:14–16. And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that **not one word has failed of all the good things that Yahweh your God promised concerning you**. All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed. But just as all the good things that Yahweh your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so Yahweh will bring upon you all the evil things, until he has destroyed you from off this good land that Yahweh your God has given you, **if you transgress the covenant of Yahweh your God, which he commanded you**, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them. Then the anger of Yahweh will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from off the good land that he has given to you.

❖ Josh. 24:14–18. [Joshua said:] “Now therefore fear Yahweh and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve Yahweh . ¹⁵And if it is evil in your eyes to serve Yahweh, **choose this day whom you will serve**, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But **as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh.**”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake Yahweh to serve other gods, ¹⁷for **it is Yahweh our God who brought** us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and **who did** those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed. ¹⁸And **Yahweh drove** out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve Yahweh, for he is our God.”