

Adult Class
Wednesday, April 6, 2011

The Story of the Bible
Connecting the Dots

The Time Periods...

- Before the Flood
- The Flood
- The Scattering of the People
- The Patriarchs
- The Exodus
- Wandering in the Wilderness
- Invasion and Conquest of the Land

The Time Periods...

Before the Flood – Loss of perfect fellowship with God
Genesis 1 – Creation
Genesis 5 – Generations

The Flood – People leave God completely and must be destroyed
Genesis 6 – Warning of the Flood
Genesis 8 – Ending of the Flood

Scattering of the People – God's will always be done
Genesis 9 – Command to fill the earth
Genesis 11 – Tower of Babel, forced scattering – Generations of Shem to Abraham

The Patriarchs – God's makes and keeps promises to those who are faithful
Genesis 12 – Abraham introduced, promise given to him
Genesis 50 – Joseph dies in Egypt

The Exodus – Complaining leads to rebellion
Exodus 1 – People in bondage in Egypt
Numbers 13 – People lose their faith (spy incident)

Wandering in the Wilderness – A new generation receives a new chance
Numbers 14 – God curses the people to wander for 40 years.
Deuteronomy 8 – destroy everything
Deuteronomy 31 – Joshua appointed leader, God prophesies that Israel will once again commit idolatry against him.
Deuteronomy 34 – Moses' death

Invasion and Conquest of the Land – God is the one who fights and takes care of us
The Judges
The United Kingdom
The Divided Kingdom
Judah Alone
The Captivity
Return from Captivity
Years of Silence

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

- ⦿ This time period covers the time where Joshua led the people into Canaan and destroyed many of the nations that lived there.
- ⦿ In the Bible, it is described from Joshua 6 through Joshua 23 (the remainder of the book).
- ⦿ Numerous stories of battles and conquests are told in this book – generally an “entertaining” time period.

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Note Deuteronomy 20:1-9 (focus on God being the one going forth), 10-15(cities far away can make peace with Israel), 16-18 (utterly destroy all the nearby evil people)

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

◉ Joshua 6

- The people of Israel march into Canaan controlling no major city, no major resources, etc., yet Jericho, one of the, if not the, most powerful cities is shut up because of them.
- Command given to march around the city for seven days, with specific instructions on what to do and when.
- Israel follows the commands exactly and the walls fall.
- Additional commandments:
 - All must be killed except for Rahab
 - Stay away from the idol-related things
 - Put all of the valuables of the city into the treasury

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

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Point of these commands? To focus on the fact that it is God's power that is making them victorious/blessing them, not their own.

Israel follows the commands exactly and the walls fall.

Additional commandments: (17-21)

All must be killed except for Rahab

Stay away from the idol-related things

Put all of the valuables of the city into the treasury

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

◉ Joshua 7

- Israel did not obey exactly what the Lord instructed
- Spies sent to check out the outpost of Ai – turns out to be a very small, poorly defended city.
- Ai forces Israel to run away, and several are killed – Israel becomes upset and faint-hearted because of the loss.
- Joshua is upset, but God rebukes him.
- Achan turns out to have stolen wealth from Jericho in spite of the Lord's command
- The punishment is death – Israel gathers together and stones all of Achan's family, then burns the whole lot.

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

Joshua 7

Israel did not obey exactly what the Lord instructed – v 1
Spies sent to check out the outpost of Ai – turns out to be a very small, poorly defended city. – v 2-3
Ai forces Israel to run away, and several are killed – Israel becomes upset and faint-hearted because of the loss. – v 4-5
Joshua is upset, but God rebukes him.
Achan turns out to have stolen wealth from Jericho in spite of the Lord's command
The punishment is death – Israel gathers together and stones all of Achan's family, then burns the whole lot.

Why was this fair? (they did not fully rely on God, and did not seek his counsel before they attacked Ai, see Joshua 9)

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

◉ Joshua 8

- God reassures Joshua that his anger has turned from them
- Command is given to attack Ai, and using an ambush, burn the city to the ground, taking some spoil for themselves
- A small force begins to attack Ai, causing the army in Ai to come out and defend the city.
- The Israelite attacking force pretends to retreat, goading the army of Ai to pursue them (as they had done before)
- The ambushing force strikes, burning the city.
- The main army turns around and crushes Ai.

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Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

- ◉ Joshua 9-10
 - Gibeonites deceptively makes an alliance with Israel
 - Southern kings plan to attack Gibeon – Israel is called to its rescue and God destroys the Canaanite enemies
 - During the battle, the sun stands still while the Israelites crush the southern tribes of Canaan
 - The five kings of the southern nations hide in a cave, but later are executed by Joshua
- ◉ Joshua 11 – Conquest of the northern kingdoms
- ◉ Joshua 12 – Summary of the rest of the kingdoms taken

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

Joshua 9-10 - Conquest of the Southern Kingdoms

Gibeonites deceptively become allies with Israel

Pretend to be from a faraway land, but really dwell very near to them. V 1-13

Joshua 9.14-15 – what about oaths is important here?

When Israel goes to attack Gibeon, they realize that they have already promised to be an ally to the Gibeonites → they had not asked counsel of God. (note 16-20)

Everyone is upset → Joshua is angry with the Gibeonites → The only thing they can do is force the Gibeonites into servitude (v. 23-27)

Southern kings plan to attack Gibeon – Israel is called to its rescue and is delivered (10.1-5)

During the battle, the sun stands still while the Israelites crush the southern tribes of Canaan

10.8-14 – sun stands still, hailstones, etc.

Take-away lesson from the battle – the Lord is the one fighting for Israel

The five kings of the southern nations hide in a cave, but later are executed by Joshua – v 22-27

Important for later: Israel had allowed some nations to dwell among them – nations that they were supposed to annihilate

Joshua 11 – Conquest of the northern kingdoms

Joshua 12 – Summary of the rest of the kingdoms taken

Much bloodshed – many battles where no survivor is left, etc.

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

- ◉ Joshua 13-22 – Dividing the land of Canaan
 - Joshua 14 – Caleb's inheritance – time reference
 - Compare the conclusion of Joshua 14 with those of chapters 15, 16, and 17 – why couldn't these tribes fully take the land?
 - Joshua 18 – Tabernacle set up in Shiloh - final division of the Promised Land

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15:63 – Judah fails

16:9-10 – Ephraim and Manasseh fail

17:12

(17:12 to the end – note the iron chariots)

Joshua 18 – Tabernacle set up in Shiloh - final division of the Promised Land (Joshua 18:1)

- What do you remember about Shiloh? Genesis 49:10

Nations remain in the Promised Land – the Israelites are to drive them all out as they had done so far – unfortunately, as we will see later, they fail in this regard.

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

- ◉ Joshua 23-24
 - Joshua 23 – Joshua’s farewell address
 - Verse 6 – Do all that is in the law
 - Verses 12-13 – Do not intermarry or associate with the Canaanites – they are a snare and a trap to Israel
 - Verses 15-16 – God will keep His promises and His threats
 - Joshua 24 – Recount of the history of Israel before his death
 - Verses 14-15 – “...but as for me and for my house, we will serve the Lord.”
 - Verses 16-28 – Another is covenant is made with the people

Invasion and Conquest of the Land...

Joshua 23-24

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What does this covenant remind you of? Covenant in Exodus 19?

Be strong and courageous: Joshua 1:6-9, 18; Joshua 10:25; Joshua 17:18

Whole dedication to God is necessary – note Joshua 14:14
Philippians 4:13
1 Corinthians 16:13

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- The Judges

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