

Joshua 1

Verse 1 - 4

Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying, ²“Moses My servant is dead; so now arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel. ³Every place on which the sole of your footsteps, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun will be your territory.

The Lord spoke to Joshua

We are not told how God spoke to Joshua.

It could have been face to face, in a dream, or by some other means.

But the important thing here is that He did.

Joshua the son of Nun

The original name of Joshua was Hoshea

See Numbers 13:8

The Greek form of the name is Jesus

It means The Lord is deliverance or The Lord is salvation

Cross this Jordan, you and this entire people

This order came when the Jordan River was at flood stage.

See Joshua 3:15

The diversion of river water by both Israel and Jordan has significantly diminished the Jordan's flow in recent times so a picture of the river is of little value.

Verses 3 - 4

From the wilderness and this Lebanon

As far as the great river Euphrates,

See map 105



All the land of the Hittites,

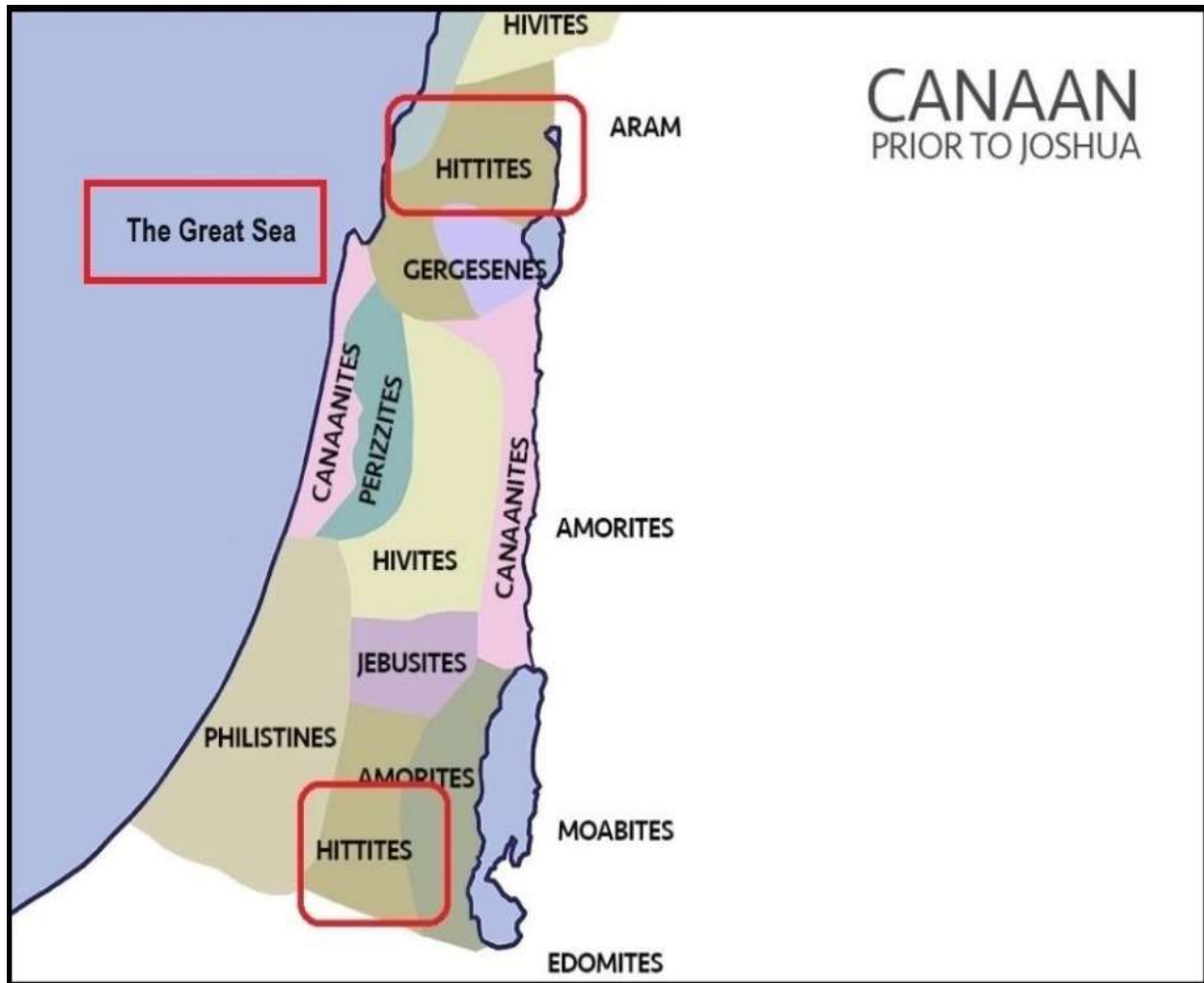
The land of the Hittites was a general name for all of Palestine

It was like saying from Dan to Beersheba (from the north to the south)

And as far as the Great Sea

The Great Sea is another name for the Mediterranean Sea

See map 110



Verses 5 - 9

⁵ No one will *be able to* oppose you all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not desert you nor abandon you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the Law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may achieve success wherever you go. 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 achieve success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not be terrified nor dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

⁵ **No one will *be able to* oppose you all the days of your life.**

Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you;

I will not desert you nor abandon you.

Getting an assurance like this from God was dramatic because Moses was aided by many miracles in order to defeat the enemy.

⁶ **Be strong and courageous**

⁷ **Only be strong and very courageous**

God tells Joshua to be strong and courageous because going to war is filled with all kinds of dangers and unknowns.

And most importantly, the army will not follow a fearful leader.

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 all that is written in it;

Do not turn from it to the right or to the left,

For then you will make your way prosperous,

And then you will achieve success.

The success of Joshua was conditional.

And the conditions for his success were spelled out quite clearly.

1. He had to know the law.

Thinking about it whenever he could find the time was not good enough. He needed to do it daily.

2. He also had to follow the law.

Turning to the right or to the left means not obeying all of the law.

No one can do that perfectly but the goal is to know and keep all of the law.

Verses 10 - 11

¹⁰ Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, ¹¹ “Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you are going to cross this Jordan, to go in to take possession of the land which the Lord your God is giving you, to possess it.’”

Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people

This order by Joshua reveals that Israel was well organized considering it was a community of 2.5 million people.

Prepare provisions for yourselves

The people needed to get packed and ready to go because they would be leaving Shittim and making the journey to the Jordan River.

See chart 115

Chapter	Event	Year	Other
Deut 34:5	Death of Moses	11 - 1407	Caleb is 78
Deut 34:8	Mourn for Moses	12 - 1407	30 days
Deut 34:9	Joshua Installed as leader		
Joshua 1:10	Command to get ready	1-4-1406	
2:1	Spies sent out		Sent from Shittim
3:1	People go from Shittim to the Jordan	1-6-1406	
	Crossing the Jordan delayed 3 days	1-7-1406	See Joshua 2:20
3:2	Officers went thru the camp	1-7-1406	Will cross in 3 days
3:14-17	Crossing the Jordan	1-10-1406	See 4:19
4:1-3	12 stones at Gilgal	1-10-1406	
5:2-7	Sons of Israel circumcised	1-11 thru 1-13	Time for healing

For within three days you are going to cross this Jordan

Joshua gave this command on 1-4 and Israel should have crossed on 1-7 but they were delayed 3 days and crossed on 1-10. The spies had not made it back yet.

See Joshua 2:20.

Verses 12 - 18

¹² But to the Reubenites, to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, ¹³ “Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, ‘The Lord your God is giving you rest, and will give you this land.’

¹⁴ Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land which Moses gave you beyond the Jordan, but you shall cross ahead of your brothers in battle formation, all your valiant warriors, and shall help them, ¹⁵ until the Lord gives your brothers rest, as *He is giving* you, and they also possess the land which the Lord your God is giving them. Then you may return to your own land, and take possession of that which Moses the servant of the Lord gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise.”

¹⁶ They answered Joshua, saying, “All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. ¹⁷ Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you; only may the Lord your God be with you as He was with Moses.

¹⁸ Anyone who rebels against your command and does not obey your words in all that you command him, shall be put to death; only be strong and courageous.”

¹² But to the Reubenites, to the Gadites, and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said,

The 2 and 1/2 tribes that took their inheritance east of the Jordan River promised Moses that they would help the other tribes conquer Canaan.

See Numbers 32

¹⁴ Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land which Moses gave you beyond the Jordan, but you shall cross ahead of your brothers in battle formation, all your valiant warriors, and shall help them, ¹⁵ until the Lord gives your brothers rest,

This was exactly what the eastern tribes had promised. They would lead the charge against the nations in the land of Canaan.

See numbers 32:17

But we ourselves will be armed, hurrying ahead of the sons of Israel, until we have brought them to their place

And they kept their word.

¹⁷ **Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you; only may the Lord your God be with you as He was with Moses.**

Did these tribes obey Moses in all things?

That statement seems a bit optimistic but they did take their commitment concerning helping the other tribes very seriously.

They not only fought the war in Canaan for 7 years but they stuck around until all of the land was divided amongst the 9 and 1/2 tribes.

See chart 120

Joshua time line

Chapter	Event	Year	Other
3:14-17	Crossing the Jordan	1-10-1406	See 4:19
6:6-21	The march around Jericho	1-22 thru 1-28	7 Days
7	Israel defeated at Ai	1406	
8	Ai destroyed	1406	
9	Gibeonite Deception	1406	
10	Sothern cities conquered	1406 - 1403	
10	Sun stands still	1403	
11	Northern Kings defeated	1403 - 1400	
12	List of Kings defeated	1400	7 years of war
13	Still a lot of land to be taken over	1400	Joshua is very old
14	Hebron given to Caleb	1400	Caleb is 85
14 - 19	Land allotted in Canaan	1400 - 1393	Took 7 years
20	Cities of Refuge	1392	
21	Towns for Levites	1392	
22	Eastern tribes return home	1392	14 years from home
23	Joshua's farewell	1375	vs 1 - a long time had passed
24	Covenant Renewed	1375	110 years old
24	Joshua dies	1375	