

"The Battle Begins"

Chapter 7



Deuteronomy ends with a very special scene as God permits Moses to see the promised land from afar, then Moses dies and God buries him.

Joshua begins with these words. "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give them..."

Joshua receives God's blessing to be the leader of is people.



Joshua is to be strong and courageous.

God promises to be with Joshua.

No man shall be able to stand against Joshua.

Live according to the laws God had given Moses.

Do this, and Israel will be successful.



The Battle Begins with crossing the Jordan.

Joshua 3 gives us the details of the crossing.

Had to bring back memories of the crossing of the Red Sea.

Jericho must of heard of their crossing.

Just as the ark had gone before them in their wanderings, now, the ark leads them through the Jordan.



Consider Joshua 5:1

"As soon as all the kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan to the west, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan for the people of Israel until they had crossed over, their hearts melted and there was no longer any spirit in them because of the people of Israel."



The Battle for Jericho God delivered Jericho into the hands of the Israelites.

Once Jericho is destroyed, imagine the fear throughout the land upon learning the fate of Jericho. (Pages 92-93)

Sin enters into the story once again. The sin of one individual (Achan) leads to defeat, once exposed, God provides for victory. (Pages 94-95)

Once again the destruction of Ai is complete devastation.



As their enemies try to combine forces, they are no match for the advance of Israel, as God leads them into battle.

After marching all night, they attack and confuse their enemies. However, as they flee God hurls down large hailstones, killing more had been killed by the hands of the Israelites.

The Amorites were defeated when the Sun stopped in the middle of the day and didn't go down for a full day.



What is described in Joshua had to bring terror throughout the land.

Many of the kings knew they were no match for Israel, so they even tried uniting forces. At the waters of Merom Israel attacks and defeats the united army.

Finally, Joshua and the Israelites capture Hazor, putting it's king to death. Hazor had been the head of all of these kingdoms.



The descriptions in Joshua tell how the Israelites took much of the promised land, a land promised to Abraham long before.

Chapters 23 and 24 describe the farewell of Joshua.

He summons the leaders to give them a recap of their history and a charge for their future in 23. (p.100-101)



Joshua's farewell address

Covenant with the people of Israel.

A recounting of their history.

A charge to the people.

A promise to serve the Lord.

A proclamation from the people.

A writing in the book of the Law of God.

At 110 years the Lord called him home.