

# The Book of Joshua

## Entering the Promised Land

500 and 40 years  
in the making



# Entering the Promised Land

## When it all began

Genesis 12:1-5 The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." ... He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

# The Land Registry Document

The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. Genesis 12:7



# 3 generations of the right people in the wrong place

**Abraham**



**Isaac**



**Jacob**



# Abraham and Egyptian problem 1

Genesis 12:10-13 Now there was a famine in the land, and Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine was severe. As he was about to enter Egypt, he said to his wife Sarai, "I know what a beautiful woman you are. When the Egyptians see you, they will say, 'This is his wife.' Then they will kill me but will let you live. Say you are my sister, so that I will be treated well for your sake and my life will be spared because of you."



## Abraham and Egyptian problem 2

Genesis 13:7-8 And quarrelling arose between Abram's herders and Lot's. The Canaanites and Perizzites were also living in the land at that time. So Abram said to Lot, "Let's not have any quarrelling between you and me, or between your herders and mine, for we are close relatives.



## Abraham and Egyptian problem 3

Genesis 16:1-2 Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. But she had an Egyptian slave named Hagar; so she said to Abram, "The LORD has kept me from having children. Go, sleep with my slave; perhaps I can build a family through her." Abram agreed to what Sarai said.



# Isaac and the (almost) Egyptian problem

Genesis 26:2-6 The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham." So Isaac stayed in Gerar.





# Isaac and the (almost) Egyptian problem 1

Genesis 26:1 Now there was a famine in the land--besides the previous famine in Abraham's time--and Isaac went to Abimelek king of the Philistines in Gerar.

Repeat of Abraham's deception with Rebekah



## Isaac and the (almost) Egyptian problem 2

Genesis 26:14-20 Then Abimelek said to Isaac, "Move away from us; you have become too powerful for us." So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar, where he settled. Isaac's servants dug in the valley and discovered a well of fresh water there. But the herders of Gerar quarrelled with those of Isaac and said, "The water is ours!"



# Jacob – temporary resident – for 400 years.

Genesis 45:6-11 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. ...Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay.'



# All 'good reasons' for moving away

You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me - you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'



## All 'good reasons' for moving away – but ...

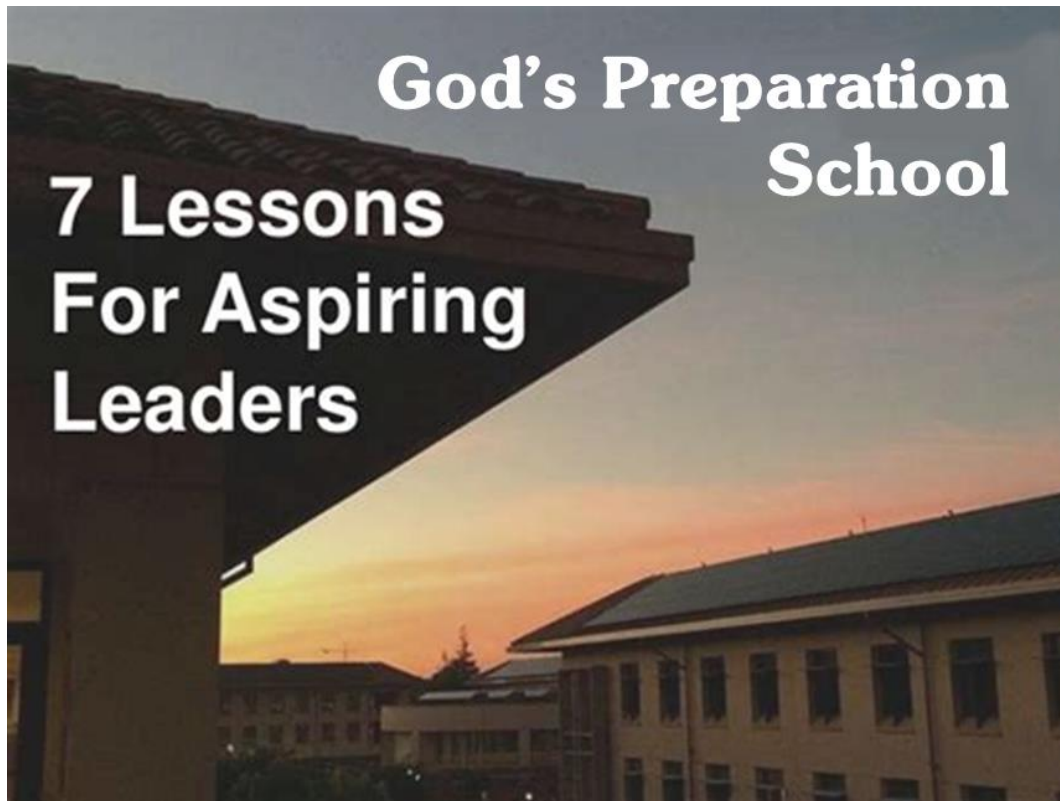
Exodus 1:8-10 Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. "Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."



# **Which brings us to Joshua ....**

God wants to get the right man to the right place so as to get the right people to the right place.

We can see God was at work – through Joshua over 40 years!



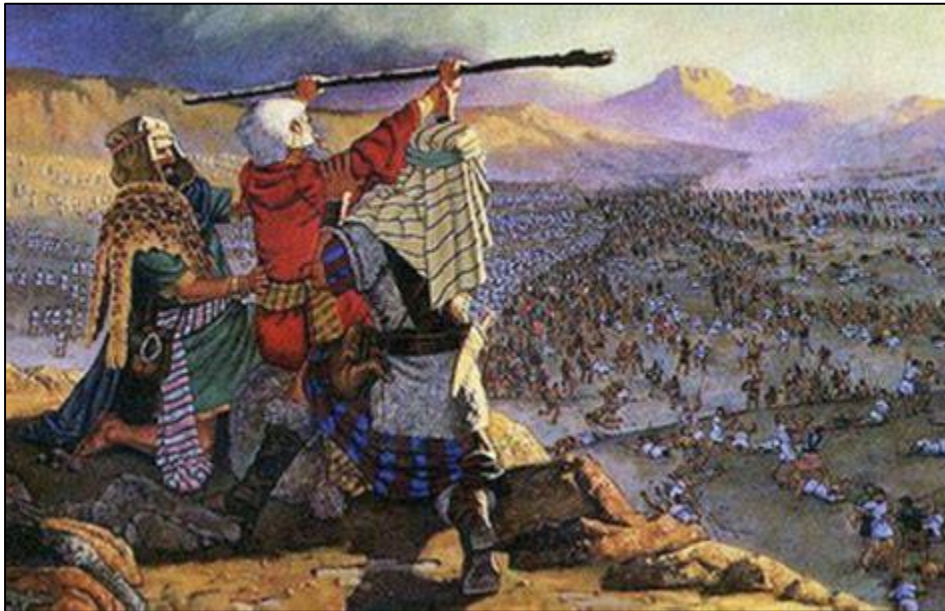
## On the battle field with the Amalekites –

Exodus 17:8-13 The Amalekites came and attacked the Israelites at Rephidim. Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites. Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands."



## On the battle field with the Amalekites –

As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ..Aaron and Hur held his hands up-.. till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.



**Lesson 1: Victory is God's gift**



# Up the mountain

Exodus 24:13-18 Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. .. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. ...Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain.



**Lesson 2: Get your instructions from God**

# The golden calf

Exodus 32:1-38 Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. ..." He took what they handed him and made it into an idol cast in the shape of a calf,.. the next day the people rose early and sacrificed burnt offerings ... Then they sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.



# The golden calf

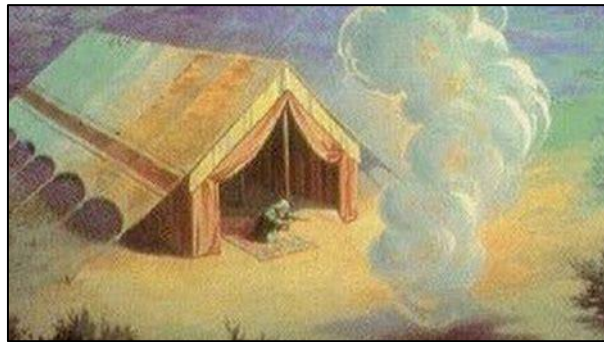
Exodus 32:17-19 When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, "There is the sound of war in the camp." Moses replied: "It is not the sound of victory, it is not the sound of defeat; it is the sound of singing that I hear." When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain.



**Lesson 3: No one can serve 2 masters**

# In the Tent of Meeting

Exodus 33:7-11 Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the "tent of meeting." ... As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the LORD spoke with Moses. ...face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.



**Lesson 4: Communion with God is necessary for service**

# Prophets in the camp

Numbers 11:25-29 Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with Moses, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied--but did not do so again. However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp.



## Prophets in the camp

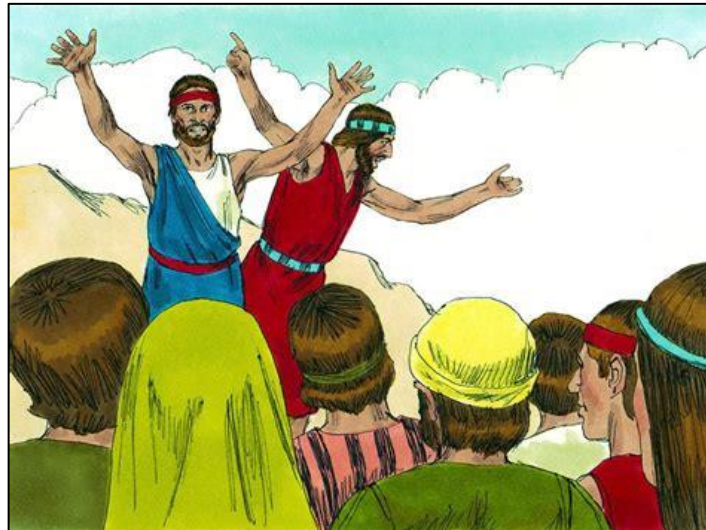


They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!" But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

**Lesson 5: God uses people He chooses and we must not feel threatened by it. (and the art of delegation)**

# Spying out the land

Numbers 14:3-5 Why is the LORD bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?" And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt." Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there.



# Spying out the land

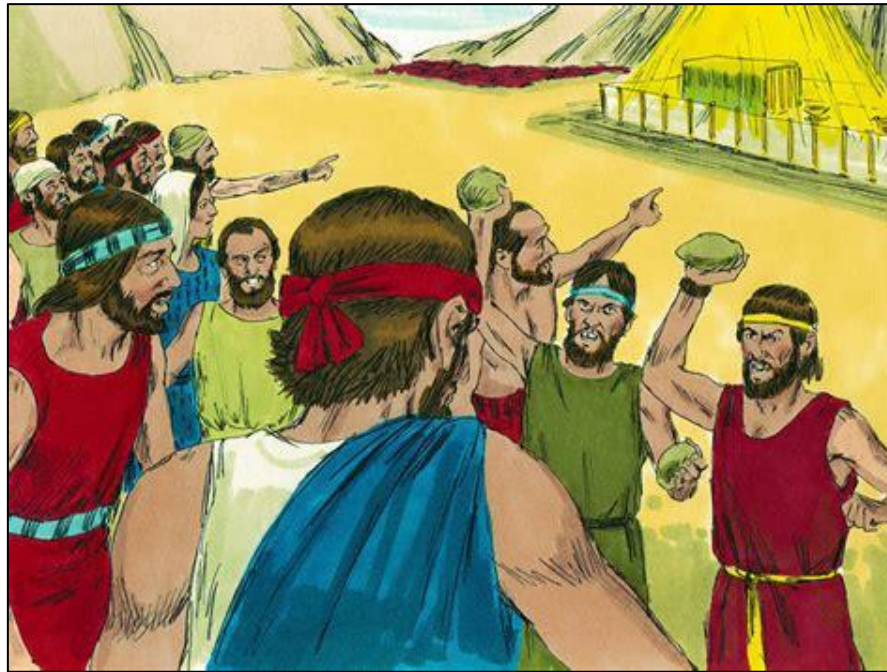
Numbers 14:6-10 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes and said to the entire Israelite assembly ...

**"The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them."**



# Spying out the land

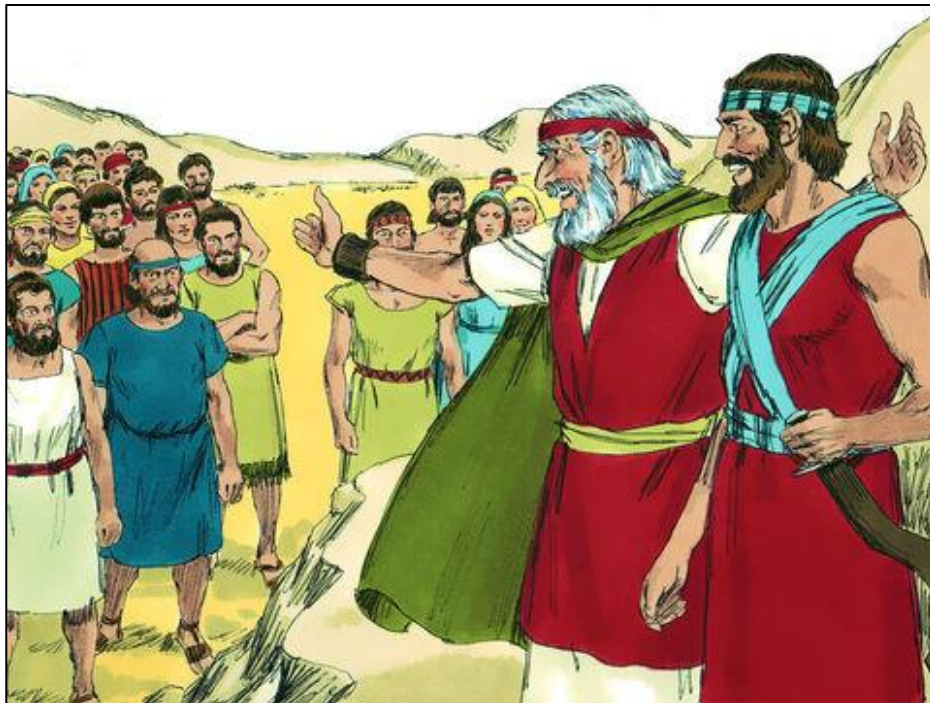
But the whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the Israelites.



**Lesson 6: Do what is right (leave the rest to Him) .  
Leadership can be a lonely place**

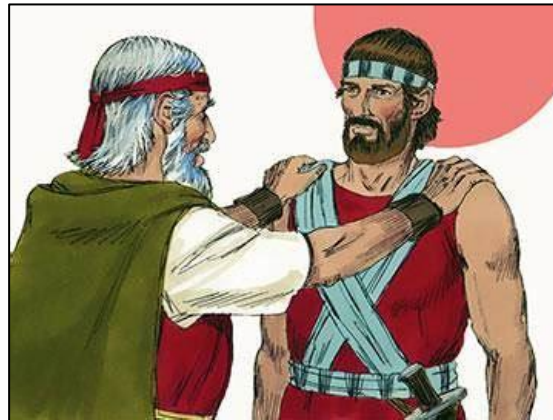
# Joshua Commissioned by Moses

Numbers 27:18-23 So the LORD said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit of leadership, and lay your hand on him. Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence.



# Joshua Commissioned by Moses

Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him. ...At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in." Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole assembly. Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, as the LORD instructed through Moses.



# Joshua Commissioned by Moses

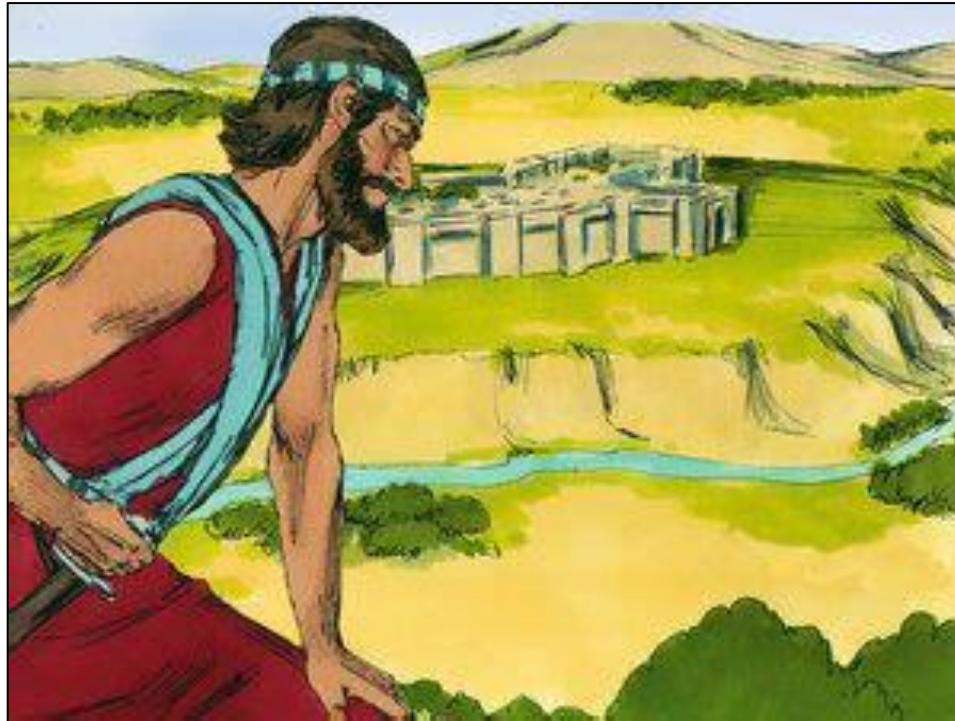
Deuteronomy 31:7-8 Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."



**Lesson 7: Without Him we can do nothing.**


# Joshua – ready to go!

Deuteronomy 34:9 Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses.



# Ready to go ?

It's the right person at the right time using the right resources that accomplishes the right end (God's will).



*I can do all things through  
Christ who strengthens me.*

Philippians 4:13