

Judges Session 2

The Transition from Joshua's Rule 1:1-3:8

"After the Death of Joshua"

What happens when a visionary leader dies? Sometimes the loss is so profound that it can paralyse a nation. Their great works are remembered fondly, but without someone to pick up where they left off, that's all there is – memories of the "good old days."

While nostalgia is entertaining for a while, it doesn't carry any momentum. That's where the tribes of Israel found themselves when Joshua died. They had plenty of "good old days" but lacked the resolve to stay on track and finish the job.

- A. Overview of the Victories in Canaan Under Joshua 1:1-26
 - 1. Judah and Simeon defeated Adoni-Bezek at Bezek
 - 2. Judah *hassled* Jerusalem
 - 3. Judah took the Negev and Hebron
 - 4. Judah and Caleb took Debir (with Othniel)
 - 5. Judah and Simeon took Zephath (*Hormah*)
 - 6. Judah took the Gaza strip and the Shephelah
 - 7. Benjamin *hassled* Jerusalem
 - 8. "Joseph" took Bethel (Ephraim and Manasseh)
- B. Overview of the Conquest Left Incomplete Under Joshua 1:27-36
 - 1. Manasseh's not quite
 - 2. Ephraim's not quite
 - 3. Zebulun's not quite
 - 4. Asher's not quite
 - 5. Naphtali's not quite
 - 6. Dan's not quite
- C. The Angel of God Confronts Israel 2:1-5
- D. Joshua Dies 2:6-10
- E. Overview of Israel's Apostasy after Joshua 2:11-13
 - 1. They abandoned the God who had delivered them
 - 2. They followed the Canaanite gods
- F. Overview of God's Judgment against Israel's Apostasy 2:14-3:8
 - 1. He gave them over to be plundered
 - 2. He raised up judges to restore them from time to time
 - 3. He no longer drove the nations before them
 - 4. He taught them the jeopardy of going it alone