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Daily Bible Notes/Highlights Genesis through Revelation 2014

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Joshua

3/1

C2-4

2- 1-23 Spies told scout out the land on other side of Jordan, someone told king of Jericho spies from Israel, the king sent to Rahabs. Rahab misleads, the kings men went looking. Rahab hid them on roof and went up to them, I know The Lord has given you this land, we have heard, swear to me you will be kind to me and my family, leave this scarlet rope outside, The Lord has given us the land.

Commentary: Joshua selects two spy as opposed to twelve. This is an obvious result of his personal experience forty years previous when he and Caleb returned with a faithful report.

Once in the city it is noteworthy that someone tells the king about the presence of the spies. Satan is always operating to foil God's program. Rahab a woman of the world mediates for her family and becomes vital to Israel's success. She tells about a lie about the whereabouts of the spies. While it is not teaching lying as a principle, this incident and other's like it shows how God uses on occasion to accomplish His will.

The scarlet lifeline is symbolic and prophetic. It is symbolic of the line of Christ and His function as Savior. It's prophetic of His coming.

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"Investing in People for Eternity"*

Because of Rahab's testimony the spies could share in great detail that the inhabitants were scared.

C-3 1-17 early the next morning they arrived at the bank of the Jordan, let the priest and Ark go first, take a few steps in the Jordan and stop, the water stacked up, riverbed became dried, all the people crossed over, priest stood still until all the people

Commentary: Preparing for war another extraordinary event assures Israel of God's might. Crossing the Jordan the water is abated to allow them to cross over. The priests stand in the waters until all the people cross. The priest representing God leading the way, and thereafter stand in the middle of the river representing the presence of God in midst of a campaign.

C-4 1-24 once overall select 12 men/stones from where the priest are standing, pile them in the camp, Reminder that the Jordan stopped flowing, that the Lord made Joshua great in the eyes of the people, The Lord told Joshua to command the priests out of the river, the waters returned and overflowed the river banks. It was at Gilgal Joshua piled up the stones, God dried up the river bed to show nations the Lord's hand is powerful and you to fear

Commentary: God gives another illustration that He wants His people to remember His works. The rocks are piled at Gilgal as a reminder of His presence and works among them.

3/2

C-5-7

C-5 1-15 the Canaanite kings on the West of the Jordan lost heart, they had to be circumcised, rolled away the shame of too slavery, the celebrated Passover. No manna appeared on the day they are from the crops, never seen again, Joshua pulls of sandals on holy ground

Commentary: The new generation had not been circumcised. So the campaign is paused. They celebrated the Passover and it marks the point where no more manna will be needed. Note, once they had the ability to gather food for themselves God stops His provision.

Joshua has a personal encounter with the Captain of The Lord of Hosts often shared as a manifestation or foreshadow of Christ. While angels are not objects of worship, Joshua bows that this was no simple manifestation of an angel. It's holy ground both figuratively and literally.

C6 1-27 Gates of Jericho tight, The Lord said I have given you Jericho, march around the town six times for six days, 7 priests will walk ahead of you, on the seventh they blow their horns, priests continually blowing (persistence), not a single word, early the next

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morning, 7 priest marched in front of the Ark, armed men in front and back of Ark, they followed the pattern six days on the 7 th, the marched around 7 times, on 7th time shout! Destroy everything but Rahab and others in her house, do not take anything, everything bronze silver gold iron brought into the Lord's treasury, they destroyed everything. Joshua said to two spies, keep your promise, they moved Rahab and her family, they burned the town down, May the curse of The Lord be on anyone who tries to rebuild the town,

Commentary: Now it is a series of sevens, horn blowing and shouts that bring the walls of Jericho down. Some scientists try to give scientific reasons for the walls collapse. Whatever the case God knew precisely what to do to make it happen, and it just so happened the series of sevens or completeness was involved. Too coincidental! They destroy the city, but with all the destruction Joshua remembers Rahab. When all others are forgotten, God remembers faithfulness. Finally, there were not to take any spoils from Jericho.

C7 1-26 But Israel violated the things to be set apart for The Lord, A man named Achan had stolen things dedicated to The Lord, Jericho sent men to spy out Ai, spies said no need for all to go. Just a few men needed,

Commentary: Moving beyond Jericho Israel is thrashed by the small clan of Ai. It was because Achan took spoils. Note, his sin caused the death and pause of God's program. Sin is a life and death issue and his decision caused lives and encouraged the enemies of God. his whole family was burned to death.

3/3

C8-10

C8 1-15

The Lord said do not be afraid or discouraged: I have given you Ai, this time keep the plunder, set an ambush behind, Joshua and his men fled as if beaten, all the men chased them, The Lord said point your hand in the sky, all the men in the rear poured into the city, they came out of the town and attacked from the rear, they killed the entire population, impaled the king on a pole, Joshua built an altar on Mount Ebal, Joshua used Moses instructions and made a altar of uncut stones, Joshua copied the instructions in the stones, two groups faced each other with priests in the middle, this arrangement was for blessing the people (blessing arrangement), Joshua read every thing Moses wrote to everyone,

Commentary: The Lord's anger ceases with obedience and ensuring the problem does not happen again. This is very similar to when Lott departs from Abraham in the sense that complete obedience was required before Abraham could see all the land before him as his. Once Lott departed, Abraham's blessings enlarge. Likewise once the Achan spirit was eliminated Joshua could advance the campaign.

C 9 Vss 1-27 now all the kings west heard what happened, they combined armies, but the

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people of Gibeon resorted to deception, they question the Hivites how do we not know you live nearby, they lied, Israel examined their evidence but did not consult with The Lord, Joshua made a peace treaty, three days later they discovered they lived nearby, they did not attack their towns because of the treaty, the people of Israel grumbled, he made them would cutters

Commentary: Satan will mount his forces, and if he cannot do that he can use the surrender strategy. Many a person has invaded the lives of believers as servants or in-need. The key here is that Joshua did not consult The Lord. Three days later they discover the deception. It appears that they made a snap- decision. No doubt there are times when an immediate decision is needed, but this was not one of them. We learn to go to The Lord, and give some time where time is available.

C-10 Vss 1-15 adonizedek and other kings mobilize to attack Gibeon, Gibeons send for Joshua, Do not be afraid The Lord said, Joshua traveled all night, The Lord threw them into panic, as they retreated the Lord destroyed them with a hailstorm, Joshua prayed in front of all the people, let the sun stand still and moon, the sun and moon stood still till until the enemies were defeated.

Commentary: Moving forward the kings began to rally together. The fact that there were many kings in the same region means they were split in some way. But to survive they joined forces. When Satan is desperate he'll puff himself up to look invincible. This is half the battle and why God repeatedly warns Joshua, his men and every believer not to fear, be courageous. As he moved forward Joshua ask the sun and moon to stop until they win. Unlike today, often fighting was not conducted during the night and winter. Later, we'll see Gideon in a night campaign. Nevertheless, imagine the enemy praying for night and night never comes. What a God we serve!

16-45 5 kings escaped in a cave, Joshua order the cave covered with rocks, Joshua and army completely slaughter the armies, put your feet on the kings necks, don't ever be afraid or discouraged he told his men, Joshua killed each king, they were thrown into the caves were they were hiding

Same day he destroyed Makkedah and killed everyone in it, killed everyone Libnah, killed everyone in Lachish, killed everyone in Eglon, onto Hebron killed everyone there, did the same thing to all the surrounding villages, Debir destroyed everyone there. So Joshua conquered the whole region, from Kadesh Barnea - Gaza, he conquered all their enemies and lands in a single campaign.

Commentary: This is an incredible series of victories in one campaign. It clears all the living space Israel will need to clear the remaining kingdoms. Note, Joshua wants to demonstrate to his soldiers not to fear or be discouraged in the same way that he had to be encouraged. Courage installs courage!

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C11-13

C11 Vss 1-23 when king Jabin of Hazor heard, he sent messages to kings of: Madon, Shimron, Jordan Valley, Galilean foothills, Naphothdor, others they combined to form a vast horde, established their camp, The Lord said do not be afraid, this time tomorrow i will give them to you, cripple their horses and burn their chariots, Joshua captured Hazor (at one time the capital of all the these kingdoms), Joshua slaughtered all the other kings, Israelites took plunder, Joshua did as he was told, Joshua killed all the kings waging war over a long time, no one made peace but the Hivites, the others were completely destroyed without mercy, Joshua took control of the whole land

Commentary: Now, with a base they can continue to enlarge their territory. As believers grow and conquer they need to stretch themselves. Share the gospel with others . Pray for others. Encourage others. There is no mercy in Joshua's pursuit of the Lord's will.

C12 Vss 1-24

These are the kings east of the Jordan River who had been killed and whose land was taken, the kings on the west side of the Jordan, in all thirty-one kings defeated.

Commentary: Imagine any sports, or other area of life where your record is untarnished. Thirty one victories and no defeats. Yes there was a set back at Ai, and there will be set backs. There is a saying. "a setback is a setup for a blessing"(Author Imunknown).

C 13 Vss 1-32

You are an old man (Joshua) and much land remains to be conquered, I myself will drive these people out, give this to Israel as a special possession, tribes of Rueben, Gad, Mannassah east of Jordan, failed to drive out the people of Geshur-Maacah, no allotment for Levi, Reuben-Aroer to the plain beyond Medeba, Gad-Heshbon to Losebar.Manasseh-Mahanaim to all of Bashan

Commentary: Joshua like Moses has done his part. He's old now and is Israel's first military conqueror.

3/5

C14-16

C14 1-15 9 and 1/2 tribes receive their grants of land by sacred lots. Moses had already given land to two and a half tribes east of Jordan, land distributed in strict accordance with the Lord's command, Caleb requests hill country, Joshua blessed Caleb, gave him Hebron
C-15 1-20 Allotments: Judah the largest, Caleb assigned some of Judah's territory, Othniel marries Caleb's daughter, Judah could not drive out Jebusites,

C16 Allotments: Joseph, Ephraim, they did not drive out the Canaanites in Gezer

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Commentary: The writer takes the time to describe in detail the land possessed by each clan according to the instructions God gave to Moses. However, some of the tribes had difficulty driving out the enemies.

Caleb in his eighties reminds Joshua of God's/Moses' promise to him because of His faithfulness at Kadesh-Barnea. Caleb chooses the choice hill country. There are enemies there, but he is still strong enough and faithful enough to lead a war campaign. God honors faithfulness. And God blesses with compound interest when people show courageous faith.

3/6

C17-19

C17 1-17. Makir the first born of Manasseh was father of Gilead, Zoleophehad's daughter receives grants of land as agreed, Manasseh's boundary ran from north side of ravine to Mediterranean Sea. They could not drive out inhabitants,

C18 1-28 there remained seven tribes who had not claimed land. Map out the land return with a report and we will cast sacred lots. The men did as told, at Shiloh Joshua cast sacred lots, first went to Benjamin,

C19 1-51 Second allotment to Simeon, third- Zebulun, fourth-Issachar, fifth-Asher, sixth-Naphtali, seventh-Dan, Dan had trouble taking over the land, Israelites gave a piece of land to Joshua, The Lord said he could have any land he desired, these allotments were made in the entrance of the tabernacle.

Commentary: Manasseh was the first to have difficulty driving out the inhabitants. It's noteworthy that Zoleophehad's daughters receive their allotment of land as promised. God's program is never halted because of gender or any other human factor.

Other than those on the east of the Jordan, Judah, Joseph and his sons receive allotments first. The first three sons Reuben, Simeon and Levi lost their birth-right places due to their conduct. Judah becomes the birth-right holder and Joseph the family's savior. As a result they were honored first. As with Caleb, Joshua is honored with choice land. Both the people and The Lord encouraged the distinction.

As with Caleb we see the return for courageous faithfulness. All faith requires a degree of persistence and resolve but not necessarily courage. Courageous-faithfulness is when the odds are life or death. The greater the faith the greater the reward. It must be noted their (Caleb and Joshua's) faith was not presumption. Their faith had a specific purpose in kingdom building sanctioned by God. Some exhibit faith for personal pleasure and it may be successful, but it is not with richness and endurance.

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3/7

C 20-22

20 Vss 1-9. Tell the Israelites to designate Cities of Refuge, upon reaching the city the slayer presents himself to the elders, must stay in the city till the death if the high priest, Cities of Refuge: Kadesh-Galilee, Kariath-Arba, East: Bezer, Ramon, Golath,

Commentary: The Cities of Refuge are an institution The Lord encourages as soon as they enter the land. God advances the principle of mercy.

21 1-16 Leaders of Levi consult with Joshua, by command of The Lord they needed land, the Levite clans were given towns, Judah, Simeon, Benjamin, Dan, Manasseh, Issachar, Asher, Naphtali, Reuben, Gad, all gave 48 towns and pastureland, not a promise was unfulfilled.

Commentary: The Levites don't receive land as a matter of Law, but they are provided land offered from the allotments of the other clans. God's approval is required first.

22 vs 1-15 Joshua calls Reuben, Gad, Manasseh, they have fulfilled their war vow, be careful to obey, go back with great wealth, they build a large altar, the other tribes prepare to go to war, send a delegation to talk, we have not rebelled, we are concerned your descendants will not let us return, we built it not for offerings but for a memorial, the other clans were satisfied, Reuben and Gad names the altar witness.

Commentary: This experience shows that God honors His promises. Three tribes are encouraged to return to the east of the Jordan after the war campaign as promised. However, the distance becomes an issue when they feel compelled to to build an altar. The other tribes are concerned about rebellion among them that will affect everyone. They have every right to confront the three clans. The alarm was abated.

What a major principle concerning mutual accountability. Failures affect everyone. This certainly true in the Church Age.

3/8

C23 - Judges 1

23:1-16 years past and The Lord gave Israel peace, I am old now, be careful to do everything Moses wrote, do not associate with people remaining in the land, The Lord has driven out great and powerful nations, be careful to love The Lord, if you cling to their customs and marry their women The Lord will no longer drive them out, they will be a snare and trap to you, every promise of The Lord has come true, if you disobey he will destroy you from this land,

Commentary: Joshua prepared to die. His final word is the major concern follow Moses'

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instructions. He further had cautions. These cautions were not based on human convention like gender and race. His concern was faith contamination. Israel had to establish his after Egypt to turn their backs.

Their blessings would cease if they did not succeed. Ultimately He would destroy them or remove them from the land.

24: 1-33

Joshua summoned the people, Terah and Nahor worshipped other Gods
I took Abraham and led him to Canaan, I gave him many descendants, I sent Moses and Aaron, I brought you out of Egypt, I brought you to the land of the Amorites east of the Jordan, I gave you victories, it was not swords or bows, I gave you vineyards and olive groves, so fear The Lord, as for me and my family we will serve The Lord, the people replied we will never abandon The Lord, we will not turn from The Lord the people said, you are witnesses to yourselves, this stone has heard everything, it will be a witness, after this Joshua died 110, Eleazar also died.

Commentary: This is a summary of events leading to their place at this time. As stated earlier, believers cannot live in the past, but they must remember the past, particularly events where God showed Himself marvelously. The people promise they will obey.

Judges 1

1-36 after Joshua's death. The people asked who should attack first, Judah, Judah asked Simeon, The Lord gave them victory, upon defeat Adoni-bezel admitted I once cut the thumbs and toes of 70 kings now I am being paid back, Judah attacked the men of Jerusalem, Caleb offered his daughter, Judah failed to drive out people in the plains, Benjamin, Manasseh, Ephraim, Zebulun, Asher, Naphtali all failed to drive out the inhabitants, Dan forced back into the hill country

Commentary: Continuing the conquest the people seem leaderless but they are victorious. Judah asked Simeon to help them. This is a noteworthy arrangement. Recall Judah took Simeon's place in the heirship. It is further noteworthy that across the board tribes were unsuccessful driving out the inhabitants. It is not clear why. But based on the promise they would have difficulty driving out the inhabitants if they disobeyed. This inability to remove the inhabitants was the first indication they were already beginning to become disobedient.

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