

Joshua 24

FIRST DAY: Introduction

Here we are at the last chapter of Joshua, and the question remains: have you moved and settled into the promises of God?

Joshua recited before the people all that God had done to bring them into the land He promised them (Joshua 24). Beginning with God's call to their ancestor Abraham, down through the patriarchs and their descendants, Joshua affirmed the faithfulness of God's promises. He reminded them of God's miraculous deliverance, preservation, protection, and victories over their enemies. Joshua then challenged the people to put away any idols or foreign gods and cling solely to the faithful God Who had done so much for them. All that remained for Israel to be sustained and blessed in the Promised Land was to faithfully serve their faithful God.

God desires to bring us into all His promises! He has dealt with every obstruction to our divine inheritance through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. All that remains for us to do is move into the allotment He has given us and faithfully serve Him alone.

Ask God to deepen your appreciation for all Christ has done to bring you into the promises.

SECOND DAY: Read Joshua 24:1–10

1. Before he died, *Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem*. When all the leaders and people came, they presented themselves before God (Joshua 24:1). Use Genesis 12:6–7 to comment on what else took place in Shechem.

- a. Why is this significant?
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2. Joshua reviewed the history of Israel. Using Joshua 24:2–10, summarize and comment on what the Lord spoke through him concerning:
 - a. Abraham (verses 2–3a)
 - (1) Where and in what condition was Abraham found?
 - (2) Read Genesis 12:1–3 and mark God's:
 - (a) Promise
 - (b) Requirements
 - b. The patriarchs (verses 3b–4)
 - c. The Exodus (verses 5–7)
 - (1) Why do you think Joshua emphasized that their *eyes saw* these things?

- d. The Amorites (verse 8)

 - e. Balak and Balaam (verses 9–10)

 - f. Why was it important that Joshua reviewed these events before the people?
3. The pronoun *I* is used fourteen times in this passage (Joshua 24:2–10) referring to God’s activity on Israel’s behalf. With this in mind, use your study today to share a way you see:
- a. God’s guidance

 - b. God’s protection

 - c. God’s plans

 - d. God’s blessing

 - e. God’s provision

 - f. God’s deliverance

4. What do you find most notable from Joshua’s account of Israel’s history?

THIRD DAY: Read Joshua 24:11–18

1. Joshua reminded the people that even after they had crossed *over the Jordan*, God continued to intervene on their behalf. Use Joshua 24:11–12 to recap what God did.

2. Use Joshua 24:13 to fill in the chart below:

<i>I HAVE GIVEN YOU</i>	<i>WHICH YOU</i>

a. Link this with Deuteronomy 8:12–18. Why was it essential to acknowledge what God had done for them?

(1) What warning do you receive from these verses?

3. Joshua exhorted the people to respond to what God had done for them. Use Joshua 24:14 to fill in his exhortations below:

a. *Now therefore, _____ the LORD,
 _____ Him in _____ and in
 _____, and _____
 _____ which your fathers served on the
 other side of the River and in Egypt. _____ the
 LORD!*

(1) How would you define the requirements of *sincerity* and *truth*?

b. Why were these exhortations reasonable?

(1) Which of these exhortations stands out to you?

4. Read Joshua 24:15 from the NLT: *But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD.* Identify the choices Joshua put before the people.

a. Link this with Matthew 6:24. Share a way you see the relevance of this choice today.

b. What do these choices convey to you about:

(1) Israel's history

(2) Man's natural inclination

c. Make Joshua's resolve your own as you print Joshua 24:15d here.

(1) What does this resolve convey to you about Joshua?

(2) Link this with John 6:66–68 and share your thoughts.

5. The people declared their allegiance to God in Joshua 24:16–18. What did they acknowledge?

a. What was their final choice? (verse 18)

6. Share what it means to you to *serve the LORD*.

FOURTH DAY: Read Joshua 24:19–28

1. Despite their claim to *serve the Lord*, what did Joshua warn *the people* about God? Joshua 24:19a

a. Joshua was cautioning the people to not take their commitment lightly. Use Joshua 24:19b to explain why this was important.

(1) Remember, the sin that would ***not*** be forgiven was to forsake or turn away from God and serve false gods. Link this with Jeremiah 2:13 and share your thoughts.

2. What would happen if Israel forsook the Lord? Joshua 24:20

3. From Joshua 24:21–22, observe the interaction between Joshua and the people. Share your insights.

4. According to Joshua 24:23, what would the people need to do in order to fulfill their commitment?

a. *Foreign gods* are anything, other than God, that people try to find their ultimate fulfillment or identity in. List a few of the *foreign gods* that people serve today.

(1) What things do you need to *put away* that you might fully *incline* your heart to the Lord?

5. Make Joshua 24:24 your prayer as you print it here.

6. As a result of Israel's confession, Joshua established a memorial in Shechem. From Joshua 24:25–26 note what Joshua:

a. *Made* (verse 25)

b. *Wrote* (verse 26a)

c. *Set up* (verse 26b)

7. Joshua gave his final words and established his last memorial before he *let the people depart* (Joshua 24:28). What did he declare about the *stone* he set up? Joshua 24:27

a. From the following verses, choose a few of Israel's other memorials to remark on:

(1) Joshua 4:8–9

(2) Joshua 4:20–24

(3) Joshua 8:30–32

(4) Joshua 22:10, 26–27, 34

8. Why is it important to have memorials of God's work in our lives?

FIFTH DAY: Read Joshua 24:29–33

1. Joshua used the last vestiges of his strength to exhort Israel. *After these things* Joshua died. From Joshua 24:29–31 cite:
 - a. Joshua's age (verse 29)
 - b. Joshua's burial site (verse 30)
 - c. Joshua's legacy (verse 31)

(1) How do these facts about Joshua increase the importance of his final exhortations to Israel?

2. Read Joshua 24:32 and connect this event with Genesis 50:25 and Hebrews 11:22. Why do you think it is significant that this event was noted at the end of the book of Joshua?

3. Joshua 24:33 records the death of Eleazar the priest. His death represented the end of the leadership who had served with Moses. How would this magnify the need for Israel to take Joshua's words to heart?

4. Joshua left a remarkable legacy. Use the following verses to note and comment on his legacy:
 - a. Joshua 4:14
 - b. Joshua 6:27
 - c. Joshua 8:35
 - d. Joshua 11:15, 23
5. How are Joshua's exhortations validated and empowered by his legacy?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. From your study of Joshua, what insights did you receive about:
 - a. God's promises
 - b. God's faithfulness
 - c. God's power
 - d. Serving the Lord
 - e. Following the Lord
 - f. Claiming God's promises

2. What promise(s) from God have you taken possession of this year?

3. God is a blessing God and desires to bring you into all His good promises. Use Romans 8:31–35 and Colossians 2:13–15 to attest to what God has already accomplished in order to bring you into all His promises.