

Major Event: CONQUEST

Lesson #1: God Commissions Joshua

Scriptures: Joshua Chapter 1

Central Text: Joshua 1:1-10; 1:16

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

God intervening again in human history (v. 1 “... the LORD spoke...”). God fulfilling promise of land made to the Patriarchs (Abraham- Gen. 15:18-21; Isaac and Jacob- Genesis 35:12). God’s servant, as Moses before him, humbly obeying God’s Word.

Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:

1. Of God: Veracity, Sovereignty, Omnipotence
2. Of Man: Responsibility before God to obey His revelation. Of Joshua in particular- faith, courage, obedient devotion to the law of God. (Joshua 1:6 -9; 1:13, 19)

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home:

Romans Chapters 9-11 (Especially 9:6, 1; 10:1,16 [cf. Isa. 53:1], 11:1, 18, 23, 26)
Genesis 15:18-21; Genesis 28:12,13; Genesis 35:12

Notes: The name Joshua means “Yahweh is Salvation” (cf. Numbers 13:16). Of the three divisions of Hebrew Bible- The Law, the Prophets and The Writings- Joshua was placed in The Prophets. This reveals the ancient Jews viewed this book, not merely as a historical record, but as the record of Yahweh fulfilling covenant promise. Remind students that under Moses, Joshua (along with Caleb) opposed the fearful majority report when sent to spy out the land in Numbers 14:6-9.

Four Major Theological Themes in Joshua:

1. Land
2. Rest
3. Keeping Covenant
4. Purity of Worship (as opposed to pagan idolatry of Canaanites)