



## JOSHUA

# LOOKING BACK ... LOOKING FORWARD

With God's help and guidance, the Israelites took the land that God had promised them. Moses led the Israelites to victory over two kings east of the Jordan – giving the land to the Reubenites, Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh. Joshua led the Israelites to victory over 31 kings west of the Jordan – now the time had come to divide this land . . .

Read Joshua 12:1-24

*Joshua 12:1-6*

1. *Numbers 21:21-24, 33-35*. LOOKING BACK. What happened when the people of Israel wanted to pass through the land of King Sihon? And of King Og?

2. What was the Israelites response to this? Who was the leader of the people at this time?

*Joshua 12:7-24*

3. *Joshua 9:1-2; 10:1-5; 11:1-5* Were the Israelites on the attack or on the defence in the battles referred to in these readings? Which two cities were the exceptions?

4. How many kings had the Israelites conquered at this stage?

Read Joshua 13:1-14:5

*Joshua 13:1-7*

5. LOOKING FORWARD. What did the Lord tell Joshua?

6. What was he to do next?

7. Have you ever been led by the Lord to do something?

*Joshua 13:8-14, 33; 14:4*

8. What did the Levites not receive?

9. What did they receive?

10. *Numbers 35:2-4; Deuteronomy 18:1-8* Why did the Levites not receive land like the rest of the tribes?

11. *Numbers 18:8-20* What promises did God give to Aaron and his descendants (the Levites) in the days of Moses?

12. What are some of the promises that God has given to us today?

*Joshua 14:1-5*

13. Who divided up the land west of the Jordan and how was it done?

14. *Hebrews 6:11-12* How does God want us to live so that we, too, can receive what He has promised?

### The End Bit

Joshua is looking back, recording what has already been achieved: great things, victories over formidable enemies, territory gained. Surely it would have been understandable if he had sat back and said, "We're in the Promised Land . . . We've arrived!"

It is good for us as Christians to look back on what the Lord has done for us. He died for us, He redeemed us and He has brought us into a personal relationship with Himself.

But this isn't God's purpose for His people. He stands by us as He stood by Joshua and says, "There is still much land to be taken!"

God told Joshua exactly what territories remained to be possessed. What areas of land need to be 'sorted out' in your life?

Is your Quiet Time all you would like it to be?

Do you want to learn more about prayer?

Do you long for power over temptation?

Are you unsure about how to share your faith?

Do you want to be more effective in your service for the Lord?

Search the bible for the blessings God has promised you in Christ and ask Him to reveal them to you, for there are many. Then, looking forward, claim those blessings and possess that land, in His strength, so that you may be of service to Him to the very end.

### Verses to Remember

"So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

Luke 11:9-10