

Handout 5-C

The Book of Joshua: Conquest of the Promised Land

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. The Book of Joshua describes the entry of the Israelites into the land of Canaan (Jos 1). The sixth book of the Bible is one of the great war chronicles in history. Its hero is celebrated in the military Hall of Fame at West Point. That man, who is also Moses's successor, is named _____.
2. The Book of Joshua is divided into three sections:
 - A. chapters 1–12 deal with the conquest of _____.
 - B. chapters 13–21 deal with the occupation and settlement of _____.
 - C. chapters 22–24 deal with the proper worship of God once the Israelites have settled the land of _____.
3. Joshua is the true successor to Moses but is never considered as great as Moses. Yet to strengthen his role as Moses's true successor, he performs deeds which are similar to Moses and remind us of Moses.
 - A. As Moses parted the Red Sea in Exodus 14:21–22, so Joshua parted the _____. (Jos 4:7)
 - B. As Moses was involved with God in leading the Israelites with a pillar of fire (Ex 13:21), so Joshua convinced God to make _____. (Jos 10:12–13)
 - C. As God appeared to Moses on Mount Sinai amid trumpet blasts (Ex 19:16–19), so Joshua, with a blast of ram's horns, showed God's glory by destroying _____. (Jos 6:20)
 - D. God's words to Moses were the same as God's words to Joshua in an encounter outside of Jericho. Those words are _____. (Jos 5:15)
4. Joshua is a shrewd military leader as shown by some of his tactics:
 - A. before attacking Jericho, he sends in _____. (Jos 2:1)
 - B. he defeats the city of Ai by setting an _____. (Jos 8:4–8)
 - C. his army inflicts a great defeat on five enemy kings at Gibeon (Jos 10:9–10) with a surprise attack after an all-night _____.
 - D. Joshua does not give orders to his army from a safe stronghold. In Joshua 8:10, it says that when the Israelites go up to attack, Joshua is at its _____.
 - E. In total, the number of kings defeated by Joshua is _____. (Jos 12:24)
5. Thus, if Moses is respected as a lawgiver, Joshua is remembered as a _____.

6. Describe what is meant by the ban, a practice used on enemies at this time, used even by Joshua and the Israelites. (Jos 6:21) _____
_____.
7. The main reason the Israelites practiced the ban was because if they let their enemies survive, there was the danger that they would make peace, intermarry, and adopt their enemies' _____
_____.
8. The Bible authors gradually try to show that God is against this human practice of strengthening a community or group by making victims out of other people. God begins to identify more and more with the victims of human sin, with the poor, the downtrodden, the outcasts, and finally, it will be a victim himself who will bring salvation to all the world in the person of God's own Son, _____.
9. The Book of Joshua has no poetry in it, no songs, unlike most other books of the Jewish scriptures. This book is merely factual, possibly because the authors did not want to glorify _____.
10. Chapter 24 is a final speech by Joshua to the people. He recounts to them the saving actions of God in bringing them to the Promised Land. Joshua asks them in 24:15 to make a choice and reaffirm their faith and, like Joshua himself, to serve only _____.