

FOR
TEENS
AGES
15-17

SENIOR HIGH BIBLE CLASS

FALL QUARTER | SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER 2023



Senior High Bible Class

FALL QUARTER

Success and Failure

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LOOKING AHEAD

This quarter we will be looking at what success and failure means for the follower of God. In our first unit we will see examples of how faith and obedience lead to spiritual success. Lessons from the books of Joshua and Judges will illustrate our theme by featuring Joshua, Rahab and the spies, the nation of Israel as a whole, Ehud, and Gideon.

The second unit, covering passages in Joshua, Judges, and I Samuel, illustrates the darker truth that disobedience leads to failure in God’s service. Beginning with the costly sin of Achan at Jericho (lesson 6), we then move on in the next two lessons to show Israel’s pattern of disobedience, culminating in their rejection of God’s kingship.

Our final unit draws from various Old Testament passages to provide warnings and lessons concerning life as God’s people. We will examine Joshua’s exhortation to Israel, an example of national repentance, a sad lapse into sin by King David, a dire warning from the prophet Amos, and a sobering description of how national sin led to exile for Judah.

May this quarter’s lessons encourage you to faithfully serve God.

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SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

JOSH. 1:1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

11:16 So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the

mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same;

17 Even from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them.

18 Joshua made war a long time with all those kings.

19 There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle.

21 And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the Anakims from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities.

22 There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

23 So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD said unto Moses; and Joshua gave it for an inheritance unto Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. And the land rested from war.

NOTES

PLEASE NOTE: Fundamental, sound doctrine is the objective of The Incorporated Trustees of The Gospel Worker Society, Union Gospel Press Division. The writers are prayerfully selected for their Bible knowledge and yieldedness to the Spirit of Truth, each writing in his own style as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. At best we know in part only. "They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

Be Strong and Courageous

Lesson Text: Joshua 1:1-6; 11:16-19, 21-23

Related Scriptures: Numbers 27:15-23;
Deuteronomy 11:22-25; 31:7-15, 22-23; 34:5-9; Joshua 22:1-9

TIME: 1405 B.C.

PLACES: Shittim; Canaan

GOLDEN TEXT—“Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord said unto Moses” (Joshua 11:23).

ANALYZING

Things change when a new leader takes over. Every year you most likely have new teachers to teach new subjects. What difference does having new teachers make? How do you think the new teachers feel about having to deal with a new batch of teens every year?

If you play on a sports team, maybe you have been through a coaching change. What changes did the new coach make? How stressful was it?

Maybe you are part of a blended family as a result of divorce and remarriage. What issues did you face in trying to adjust to a stepparent?

Joshua was a new man in a new job. But amid all the change, there was one constant—the call to obedience.

1. New man, same mission (Josh. 1:1-6). Possibly, Moses was the greatest leader the world had ever known. He liberated the Israelites from servitude and oppression in Egypt. He formed a mixed multitude into a nation. He received the law from the hand of God. He organized a

judicial system with the help of his father-in-law, Jethro. He led a stubborn and rebellious nation for forty years.

Now Moses was dead, and God chose Joshua to take his place.

Joshua was a man of faith. Thirty-eight years earlier, Moses had sent Joshua and Caleb and ten other men into Canaan, the land God had promised to give the Israelites, to see what had to be done to conquer it. Ten faithless spies had reported that the enemy was too strong. The Israelites could not conquer them. Joshua and Caleb had said the Lord would give them the victory if the people would put their trust in Him.

Joshua was also a soldier. Before God chose him to take Moses' place as leader of the Israelites, he was the commander of Israel's army.

Even though the Israelites had a new leader, their mission had not changed. They were to cross the Jordan River and take possession of the land God had promised to give them. This was the same promise that He had made to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses.

Pastors and church leaders change,