

JOSHUA CHAPTER 24

¹ And Joshua gathered all the tribe of Israel to Shiloh, and called their elders, and their officers, and their judges, and set them before God. ² And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Your fathers at first sojourned beyond the river, *even* Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor; and they served other gods. ³ And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the river, and I guided him through all the land, and I multiplied his seed; ⁴ and I gave to him Isaac, and to Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave to Esau Mount Seir for him to inherit. And Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt, and became there a great and populous and mighty nation, and the Egyptians afflicted them. ⁵ And I struck Egypt with the wonders that I wrought among them.' ⁶ And afterwards *God* brought out our fathers from Egypt, and you entered into the Red Sea; and the Egyptians pursued after our fathers with chariots and horses into the Red Sea. ⁷ And we cried aloud to the Lord, and He put a cloud and darkness between us and the Egyptians, and He brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen all that the Lord did in the land of Egypt; and you were in the wilderness many days. ⁸ And He brought us into the land of the Amorites that dwelt beyond the Jordan, and the Lord delivered them into our hands; and you inherited their land, and utterly destroyed them from before you. ⁹ And Balak, king of Moab, son of Siphor, rose up, and made war against Israel, and sent and called Balaam to curse us. ¹⁰ But the Lord your God would not destroy you; and He greatly blessed us, and rescued us out of their hands, and delivered them *to us*. ¹¹ And you crossed over the Jordan, and came to Jericho; and the inhabitants of Jericho fought against us, the Amorite, the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, the Jebusite, the Hittite, and the Girgashite, and the Lord delivered them into our hands. ¹² And He sent forth the hornet before you; and He drove them out from before you, *even* twelve kings of the Amorites, not with your sword, nor with your bow. ¹³ And He gave you a land on which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you were settled in them; and you eat *of* vineyards and olive yards which you did not plant.

¹⁴ "And now fear the Lord, and serve Him in righteousness and justice; and remove the strange gods, which our fathers served beyond the river, and in Egypt; and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ But if it does not seem good to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods of your fathers that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, among whom you dwell upon their land. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord, for He is holy." ¹⁶ And the people answered and said, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord, so as to serve other gods. ¹⁷ The Lord our God, He is God; He brought up us and our fathers from Egypt, and kept us in all the way in which we walked, and among all the nations through whom we passed. ¹⁸ And the Lord cast out the Amorite, and all the nations that inhabited the land from before us: indeed, we will serve the Lord, for He is our God." ¹⁹ And Joshua said to the people, "Indeed you will not be able to serve the Lord, for God is holy; and He being jealous will not forgive your sins and your transgressions. ²⁰ Whenever you shall forsake the Lord and serve other gods, then He shall come

upon you and afflict you, and consume you, because He has done you good."

²¹ And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the Lord!" ²² And Joshua said to the people, "You *are* witnesses against yourselves, that you have chosen the Lord, to serve Him. ²³ And now take away the strange gods that are among you, and set your heart right toward the Lord God of Israel." ²⁴ And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord, and we will listen to His voice." ²⁵ So Joshua made a covenant with the people on that day, and gave them a law and an ordinance in Shiloh before the tabernacle of the God of Israel.

²⁶ And he wrote these words in the Book of the Laws of God. And Joshua took a great stone, and set it up under the oak before the Lord. ²⁷ And Joshua said to the people, "Behold, this stone shall be among you for a witness, for it has heard all the words that have been spoken to it by the Lord; for He has spoken to you this day; and this *stone* shall be among you for a witness in the last days, whenever you shall deal falsely with the Lord my God." ²⁸ And Joshua dismissed the people, and they went every man to his place.

²⁹ And it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun the servant of the Lord died, *at the age* of a hundred and ten years. ³⁰ And they buried him by the borders of his inheritance in Timnath Serah in the mount of Ephraim, northward of the mount of Gilead. There they put with him into the tomb in which they buried him, the knives of stone with which he circumcised the children of Israel in Gilgal, when he brought them out of Egypt, as the Lord appointed them; and there they are to this day. ³¹ And Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that lived as long as Joshua, and all that knew all the works of the Lord which He had done for Israel.

³² And the children of Israel brought up the bones of Joseph out of Egypt, and buried *them* in Shechem, in the portion of the land which Jacob bought of the Amorites who dwelt in Shechem for a hundred ewe lambs; and he gave it to Joseph for a portion. ³³ And it came to pass afterwards that Eleazar the high priest the son of Aaron died, and was buried in Gibeah of Phinehas his son, which he gave him in Mount Ephraim. In that day the children of Israel took the ark of God, and carried it about among them. And Phinehas exercised the priest's office in the place of Eleazar his father till he died, and he was buried in his own place Gibeah. But the children of Israel departed everyone to their place, and to their own city: and the children of Israel worshipped Astarte, and Astaroth, and the gods of the nations round about them; and the Lord delivered them into the hands of Eglom king of Moab, and he ruled over them eighteen years.