



Joshua and Jericho

(Joshua 1-6)

Joshua was now the leader of the Israelites now that Moses had died. God put him in charge of leading the people into the land God had **promised** them.

One day God spoke to Joshua and said "The time has come for you to lead the Israelites across the river into the land I am giving them. Wherever you set foot you will be on land I have given you. No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. **Be strong and courageous!** Do not be afraid because I am with you wherever you go."

So Joshua commanded that the people of Israel get ready to **cross the river** to take possession of the land that God had promised them.

Secretly Joshua sent out **two spies** and he spoke to them and said "Go and spy on the land on the other side of the river especially around Jericho". So the spies did just as Joshua asked and went on their way. When they arrived at Jericho they stayed the night at the house of a woman called **Rahab**. Rahab lived in a house built in **the walls of the city**. Someone told the king of Jericho that spies were in the land. So he sent orders to Rahab to bring out the men who had stayed at her house but Rahab hid the two men **on the roof** and so the king's men went looking for the spies elsewhere.

That night Rahab went to the roof to talk to the spies. She told them how she knew that God had given them the land and how everyone was **afraid** of them because of what they had heard that God had done.

Rahab let the spies down from **a rope** through the window. Before the spies left they agreed with Rahab that when the Israelites conquered Jericho they would save Rahab and her family because she had helped them. They told her to leave a **red rope** hanging from her window so that they would keep everyone who stayed inside her house **safe**.

When the spies returned and crossed back over the river to the Israelites they told Joshua everything that had happened. They said "God has given us the **whole land**, for everyone is afraid of us".



Joshua and Jericho

(Joshua 1-6)

Early in the morning, Joshua and all the Israelites moved to the banks of the river and camped there. When it was time for the Israelites to cross the river **God stopped the water** flowing from up the river. It continued to flow down the river until it **dried up** for them to cross. The Israelites **crossed the river** and camped at a place near Jericho.

The people of Jericho were afraid of the Israelites so they had **shut the gates** to the city. **No one was allowed to go in and no one was allowed to go out** but God spoke to Joshua and said "I have given you Jericho. You and your fighting men should march around the city once a day for 6 days. Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark of the Covenant and each shall carry a ram's horn. On the 7th day you are to march around the city seven times and the priests shall **blow their horns**. When you hear the priests play one long note get all the people to **shout** as loud as they can. Then the walls of **Jericho will fall down** and you'll be able to get inside."

So Joshua told the people what God had told them to do. On the first day Joshua, the priests and the armed men **marched** around the city once. This happened every day for **6 days**.

On the Seventh day they marched around the city again. Not once, not twice, not three times but **seven times!** As the priests gave one long blast on their horns, Joshua commanded the people "**SHOUT!** For God has given you the city". The people shouted as loud as they could and **the walls of Jericho fell down** allowing the Israelites to enter the city and capture it. The spies went and **saved Rahab** and her family and brought them to a place near the camp.

So God was with Joshua and he was known of throughout the land.