



## Joshua – Take the Land – Be the Man

The Book of Joshua is the book of conquest. The battlefield is Canaan, and it is where God keeps His promise that He made with Abraham. In this study, we will use the land possessed by Joshua and the People of Israel as a metaphor to understand how we take possession of what it means to be a Christian man. We will exam 10 issues that men face every day. Every day is a battle to be fought. You must fight! Will you?

**A Man will fight for what God promised.**

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable  
[www.MensTable.com](http://www.MensTable.com)

Work – How Should I Think about My Work?  
 Joshua 1:6-9; 24:15

June 10, 2021

**Bible Verses:** Joshua 1:1-18; Joshua 24:15; Joshua 10:1-25; 40-42; Ecclesiastes 2:24-26; Ecclesiastes 5:18-20; Genesis 1:27, 28; Genesis 2:15  
**Videos:** HARD WORK - Denzel Washington Motivational Speech  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUah4Ysphpw>

**Resources:** Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History by Francis A. Schaeffer.  
 The Christian Man – A Conversation About the 10 Issues Men Say Matter Most by Patrick Morley.  
**Music:** Alan Jackson - Hard Hat And A Hammer, Truckers Tribute  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2R4ILDVQL4>

**JOSHUA: "We Conquer When God Fights for Us!" – Matthew Henry – Joshua 10:1-25; 40-42.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ → Five Amorite kings joined together to destroy Joshua and the Israelites and prevent them from conquering all of Canaan. However, Israel defeated these kings and their armies **because God** was on their side to work miracles and to work through their military strategy (Josh. 10:1-15).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ → The Bible often uses phenomenological language, as in today's passage where we read that the sun stood still during a battle (Josh. 10:13a). Scientifically speaking, God must have caused the earth to stop moving briefly, not the sun, in order for this to happen, but the intent of the text is not to give a science lesson about solar movements but to describe an incredible act of God that enabled the Israelites to win their fight.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ → In Joshua 10:1, there appears another Jerusalem king called Adoni-zedek (the name means the same as Melchizedek, "my king is righteous"). This seems to indicate that there existed in Jerusalem (Salem) a line of priest-kings so that when David conquered the city he "became" the effective priest-king or "melchizedek." Just as the first Melchizedek was a priest-king, this second Melchizedek will also be a priest-king, and most of Psalm 110 describes the nature of his righteous rule. First, it will be absolute. The imagery of the Davidic priest-king having his enemies as a footstool (v. 1) is based on events such as the one described in Joshua 10:24, where the ancient Israelites placed their feet on the necks of their defeated foes. Complete subjugation is pictured here—there will be no opponent whom the Davidic priest-king will not vanquish. Today we see that Jesus Christ fulfills this psalm as the King of kings and High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.

**The Land—Manhood: Work – How Should I Think About My Work? – Eccl. 2:24-25.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ → Nothing is more normal than for you to find satisfaction in your work (Eccl. 5:18-19). And nothing is more excruciating than a job we don't like. Is work something we do to earn money so that we can do what's really important, or is there intrinsic spiritual value in the work itself?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ → Consider the following:
  1. You were created to do real work that makes a real difference. There is intrinsic value in work. God has delegated dominion over creation to us as a sacred trust (Genesis 1:27-28).
  2. Work is a calling for which you are ordained by God (Genesis 2:15). God calls us to be responsible and to take charge, to work with authority.
  3. Every vocation has dignity. There is dignity in every job, because every job makes a difference.
  4. Every vocation is sacred to the Lord. There is no such thing as a secular job. The Bible affirms the holiness and sanctity of vocation.

**ACTION: Journal This!**

1. Do you feel "this is what I'm supposed to be doing?"
2. What is your "Theology of Work?"
3. Assuming time and money were no object, what would you do if you could do anything you wanted?

### "HARD HAT & A HAMMER" by Alan Jackson

Lace-up boots and faded jeans A homemade sandwich, a half jug of tea Average Joe, average pay Same old end and same old day But there's nothing wrong with a hard hat and a hammer Kind of glue that sticks this world together Hands of steel and cradle of the Promised Land God bless the working man All week long making a living Life keeps takin', he keeps giving Behind the scene, below the grade	Hardly noticed but part of everything But there's nothing wrong with a hard hat and a hammer Kind of glue that sticks this world together Hands of steel and cradle of the Promised Land God bless the working man He gives his life then fades away Another young man takes his place Average Joe, average pay Same old end, same old day But there's nothing wrong with a hard...
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## Bible Verses – The Message

**Joshua 1:1-18** - 1 After the death of Moses the servant of God, God spoke to Joshua, Moses' assistant: 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Get going. Cross this Jordan River, you and all the people. Cross to the country I'm giving to the People of Israel. 3 I'm giving you every square inch of the land you set your foot on - just as I promised Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon east to the Great River, the Euphrates River - all the Hittite country - and then west to the Great Sea. It's all yours. 5 All your life, no one will be able to hold out against you. In the same way I was with Moses, I'll be with you. I won't give up on you; I won't leave you. 6 Strength! Courage! You are going to lead this people to inherit the land that I promised to give their ancestors. 7 Give it everything you have, heart and soul. Make sure you carry out The Revelation that Moses commanded you, every bit of it. Don't get off track, either left or right, so as to make sure you get to where you're going. 8 And don't for a minute let this Book of The Revelation be out of mind. Ponder and meditate on it day and night, making sure you practice everything written in it. Then you'll get where you're going; then you'll succeed. 9 Haven't I commanded you? Strength! Courage! Don't be timid; don't get discouraged. God, your God, is with you every step you take." The Taking of the Land 10 Then Joshua gave orders to the people's leaders: 11 "Go through the camp and give this order to the people: 'Pack your bags. In three days you will cross this Jordan River to enter and take the land God, your God, is giving you to possess.'" 12 Then Joshua addressed the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. He said, 13 "Remember what Moses the servant of God commanded you: God, your God, gives you rest and he gives you this land. 14 Your wives, your children, and your livestock can stay here east of the Jordan, the country Moses gave you; but you, tough soldiers all, must cross the River in battle formation, leading your brothers, helping them 15 until God, your God, gives your brothers a place of rest just as he has done for you. They also will take possession of the land that God, your God, is giving them. Then you will be free to return to your possession, given to you by Moses the servant of God, across the Jordan to the east." 16 They answered Joshua: "Everything you commanded us, we'll do. Wherever you send us, we'll go. 17 We obeyed Moses to the letter; we'll also obey you - we just pray that God, your God, will be with you as he was with Moses. 18 Anyone who questions what you say and refuses to obey whatever you command him will be put to death. Strength! Courage!"

**Joshua 24:15** - 15 "If you decide that it's a bad thing to worship God, then choose a god you'd rather serve - and do it today. Choose one of the gods your ancestors worshiped from the country beyond The River, or one of the gods of the Amorites, on whose land you're now living. As for me and my family, we'll worship God."

**Joshua 10:1-25; 40-42** - 1 It wasn't long before My-Master-Zedek king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had taken Ai and destroyed it and its king under a holy curse, just as he had done to Jericho and its king. He also learned that the people of Gibeon had come to terms with Israel and were living as neighbors. 2 He and his people were alarmed: Gibeon was a big city - as big as any with a king and bigger than Ai - and all its men were seasoned fighters. 3 Adoni-Zedek king of Jerusalem sent word to Hoham king of Hebron, Piram king of Jarmuth, Japhia king of Lachish, and Debir king of Eglon: 4 "Come and help me. Let's attack Gibeon; they've joined up with Joshua and the People of Israel." 5 So the five Amorite (Western) kings - the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon - combined their armies and set out to attack Gibeon. 6 The men of Gibeon sent word to Joshua camped at Gilgal, "Don't let us down now! Come up here quickly! Save us! Help us! All the Amorite kings who live up in the hills have ganged up on us." 7 So Joshua set out from Gilgal, his whole army with him - all those tough soldiers! 8 God told him, "Don't give them a second thought. I've put them under your thumb - not one of them will stand up to you."

9 Joshua marched all night from Gilgal and took them by total surprise. 10 God threw them into total confusion before Israel, a major victory at Gibeon. Israel chased them along the ridge to Beth Horon and fought them all the way down to Azekah and Makkedah. 11 As they ran from the People of Israel, down from the Beth Horon ridge and all the way to Azekah, God pitched huge stones on them out of the sky and many died. More died from the hailstones than the People of Israel killed with the sword. 12 The day God gave the Amorites up to Israel, Joshua spoke to God, with all Israel listening: "Stop, Sun, over Gibeon; Halt, Moon, over Aijalon Valley." 13 And Sun stopped, Moon stood stock still Until he defeated his enemies. 14 There's never been a day like that before or since - God took orders from a human voice! Truly, God fought for Israel. 15 Then Joshua returned, all Israel with him, to the camp at Gilgal. 16 Meanwhile the five kings had hidden in the cave at Makkedah. 17 Joshua was told, "The five kings have been found, hidden in the cave at Makkedah." 18 Joshua said, "Roll big stones against the mouth of the cave and post guards to keep watch. 19 But don't you hang around - go after your enemies. Cut off their retreat. Don't let them back into their cities. God has given them to you." 20 Joshua and the People of Israel then finished them off, total devastation. Only a few got away to the fortified towns. 21 The whole army then returned intact to the camp and to Joshua at Makkedah. There was no criticism that day from the People of Israel! 22 Then Joshua said, "Open the mouth of the cave and bring me those five kings." 23 They did it. They brought him the five kings from the cave: the king of Jerusalem, the king of Hebron, the king of Jarmuth, the king of Lachish, and the king of Eglon. 24 When they had them all there in front of Joshua, he called up the army and told the field commanders who had been with him, "Come here. Put your feet on the necks of these kings." They stepped up and put their feet on their necks. 25 Joshua told them, "Don't hold back. Don't be timid. Be strong! Be confident! This is what God will do to all your enemies when you fight them." 40 Joshua took the whole country: hills, desert, foothills, and mountain slopes, including all kings. He left no survivors. He carried out the holy curse on everything that breathed, just as God, the God of Israel, had commanded. 41 Joshua's conquest stretched from Kadesh Barnea to Gaza and from the entire region of Goshen to Gibeon. 42 Joshua took all these kings and their lands in a single campaign because God, the God of Israel, fought for Israel.

**Ecclesiastes 2:24-26** - 24 The best you can do with your life is have a good time and get by the best you can. The way I see it, that's it - divine fate. 25 Whether we feast or fast, it's up to God. 26 God may give wisdom and knowledge and joy to his favorites, but sinners are assigned a life of hard labor, and end up turning their wages over to God's favorites. Nothing but smoke - and spitting into the wind.

**Ecclesiastes 5:18-20** - 18 After looking at the way things are on this earth, here's what I've decided is the best way to live: Take care of yourself, have a good time, and make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life. And that's about it. That's the human lot. 19 Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work. It's God's gift! 20 God deals out joy in the present, the now. It's useless to brood over how long we might live.

**Genesis 1:27, 28** - 27 God created human beings; he created them godlike, Reflecting God's nature. He created them male and female. 28 God blessed them: "Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth."

**Genesis 2:15** - 15 God took the Man and set him down in the Garden of Eden to work the ground and keep it in order.

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