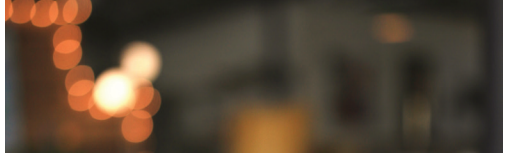
JOSHUA

HISTORICAL



Author: Unknown, ascribed to Joshua

Date: Editing done in exilic period , original composition earlier (second millennium)

Main events: Israel's capture and settlement of Canaan (The Promise Land)

Themes: The fulfillment of the patriarchal promises / part 2 of God's grand work of redemption

"have I not commanded you? be strong and courageous. do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Crossing into the Land
Joshua's charge
Joshua and the spies
Crossing the Jordan
Ritual renewal

Taking the Land
Jericho falls
Israel fails
Israel's renewal
Conquest of North + South

Dividing the Land
Taking the land
Western territories
A land of justice and worship

Serving the Lord in the Land
Joshua's charges to Israel's leaders
Covenant renewal at Shechem

The book of Joshua shows the process of Israel taking the Promise Land and learning how to live in YHWH's holiness. They stumble and fail several times, but God is committed to renewing His covenant with Israel in order to keep the ball rolling towards Redemption.

Part of the purpose of Joshua is to continue telling the story of Israel so that the generations to come would know their foundations and continue in the way of the Lord, a perfect segway for the next book, judges, where we will see if the generation who entered the Promise Land succeeded or failed in telling their children of YHWH's great love.