

**INTRODUCTION:**

**24:1** And Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. Shechem was an important place because when Abraham arrived in Canaan, he came to Shechem (Genesis 12:7). And in this place God said to him, *'I will give this land to your people.'* Now the people owned the land. Therefore, in this place Joshua called all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem, and made all the important men stand there in front of God. These men were the leaders, officers and judges.

**LESSON:****I. JOSHUA 24:2-4**

**24:2** And Joshua said unto all the people, Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the flood in old time, even Terah, the father of Abraham, and the father of Nachor: and they served other gods. Joshua is about to speak and give all the people of Israel at Shechem, the history of their ancestors. He says, *"A long time ago, the ancestors of Israel's people lived across the river Euphrates, and they worshipped other gods. Your ancestors included Terah and his sons, Abraham and Nachor."* This is really showing the magnificent plan of God, that He would still choose those at that time while they still worshiped false gods. And He does the same for us. Another generation needs to know how we came through; how God saved and delivered us.

**24:3** And I took your father Abraham from the other side of the flood, and led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his seed, and gave him Isaac. *"But I took Abraham from that land and I brought him through all Canaan. I gave many sons and daughters to him. I gave him Isaac."* God called Abraham out of the Chaldeans to follow Him, and making a promise that he would become the father of the nation of Israel, and the seed of Abraham would be like the sand of the sea.

**24:4** And I gave unto Isaac Jacob and Esau: and I gave unto Esau mount Seir, to possess it; but Jacob and his children went down into Egypt. God continues to speak through Joshua. Abraham's son is Isaac. *"He gave to Isaac two sons, Jacob and Esau (twins). The hill country of Seir went to Esau. But Jacob and his children went down into Egypt."* <sup>1</sup>This move was orchestrated by God to preserve the family and fulfill His promise to Abraham, that his descendants would be strangers in a foreign land (Genesis 15:13). The sojourn in Egypt sets the stage for the Exodus, a pivotal event in Israel's history, symbolizing redemption and foreshadowing Christ's redemptive work. Egypt, biblically often represents bondage and sin, from which God delivers His people. *Esau and Jacob had different paths, yet both were under God's care. The unique path God has for us will not compare to others. We've come from Ur to Egypt because of God's Grace.*

<sup>1</sup> <https://biblehub.com/joshua/24-4.htm>

<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>



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## II. JOSUA 24:5-10

**24:5 I sent Moses also and Aaron, and I plagues Egypt, according to that which I did among them: and afterward I brought you out.** God's plans are now being orchestrated in Egypt where Jacob and his people had gone. *"God sends Moses and Aaron to the Israelites in Egypt. He punished Egypt's people with plagues to free the family of Jacob."* God sent 10 plagues to Egypt to get Pharaoh to release the nation of Israel. And they came out of Egypt. God's promises to Abraham were fulfilled through Isaac, Jacob, and beyond. Consider how your faithfulness can impact future generations.

**24:6 And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea.** *"When God brought the Israelites out of Egypt, they reached the Red Sea. The Egyptians followed them with men on horses and in chariots as far as the Sea."* The Israelites crossed the Red Sea for God rose the waters up on both sides for them to cross on dry land. And Pharaoh's army with all its horsemen and chariots followed them.

**24:7 And when they cried unto the Lord, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.** *"However, when the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help, He made it dark between Israel and the Egyptians. The Lord sent the waters that drowned the Egyptians, and the Israelites saw this with their own eyes of what God did to the Egyptians. Then the Israelites lived in the desert for a long time."* When His children cried out, He protected them by using darkness to separate them from their enemies, the Egyptians. God knew the plan, but the Egyptians had no clue. Joshua tells them that it was God who drowned Pharaoh's army with all its horsemen and chariots as the Red Sea covers them all. There were two climaxes: One of Deliverance, and the Other of Annihilation! Chariots and horsemen were symbols of strength and speed, but they were in no comparison to Israel's God. His Power and Strength is unmatched. Count on God to the very end! The Israelites eyes were privy to everything God did on their behalf. Then came the long 40yr season in the wilderness learning not to doubt God, in all God had provided. He provided mana from heaven; preserving clothes and shoes that didn't wear out; and provided water and meat.

**24:8 And I brought you into the land of the Amorites, which dwelt on the other side Jordan; and they fought with you: and I gave them into your hand, that ye might possess their land; and I destroyed them from before you.** *"Then God brought the Israelite nation, to the land of the Amorites, east of the river Jordan. The Amorites fought them, however God helped Israel win the fight. God gave them into Israel's hand, as they took their land."* The Amorites were a significant Canaanite tribe inhabiting the region east of the Jordan River. They were the enemy and resisted the Israelites' advance into the Promised Land, and God was faithful there in giving them the land to occupy, and also destroying their enemy before their eyes.

**24:9 Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose and warred against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you:—** Joshua tells them of another enemy of Israel, that of *"Balak, son of Zippor, king of Moab, got ready to fight Israel, but asked Balaam, son of Beor, to curse Israel. He wanted God to hurt them."* God's intervention happens when Balaam was



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summoned by king Balak, king of Moab to curse Israel, for he feared their numbers and victories.

**24:10 But I would not hearken unto Balaam; therefore he blessed you still: so I delivered you out of his hand.** *“But God wouldn’t listen to Balaam. So, Balaam blessed Israel, and it was many times he blessed them, and it was God who saved Israel from the king of Moab.”* Balaam was ultimately used by God to bless the Israelites instead. This demonstrates God’s ultimate control over all situations, and His protective nature towards His people. God can use anyone to fulfill His purposes. We’ve come from Egypt to Moab because of God’s Grace.

### III. JOSHUA 24:11-13

**24:11 And you went over Jordan, and came unto Jericho: and the men of Jericho fought against you, the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; and I delivered them into your hand.** The story goes on to say *“Then you went across the Jordan and you came to Jericho. The people in Jericho fought you as did the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites and Jebusites. I helped you to win all those fights.”* God through Joshua only wants the people to know all that **GOD** has done for His people. **GOD** is the One who delivered them through every battle, every difficult place and enemy that went up against them. Every place symbolized something.

- The Red Sea symbolized God’s ultimate deliverance from Egyptian slavery, marking their transition from bondage to freedom.
- The Crossing over Jordan symbolized the transition from the Wilderness to the Promised Land.
- The Battle of Jericho represented that victory comes through obedience and divine intervention rather than military strength.
- These 7 nations in this verse represent the various nations that were inhabiting Canaan, and in opposition of Israel settling in the land.
- The Conquest of Canaan symbolized the purging of wickedness and the establishment of a holy nation.
- Their Kings and Cities represented strongholds, and their Battles acted as acts of divine judgment.

**24:12 And I sent the hornet before you, which drave them out from before you, even the two kings of the Amorites; but not with thy sword, nor with thy bow.** *“God made them very afraid of Israel so that they ran away from you. And so did the two kings of the Amorites. God lets them know that they did not do this on their own.”*<sup>2</sup> In the conquest of Canaan, the **“hornet”** is often interpreted as a metaphor for fear or panic that God instilled in the hearts of Israel’s enemies, causing them to flee. It was a force they couldn’t fight against! Israel had to recognize that God often works in ways beyond human understanding or capability. The two kings of the Amorites didn’t stand a chance even though they were known for their power. This was a spiritual battle without the use of human effort. God’s hornet drove the Amorites out without a blow of a sword or bow!

<sup>22</sup> <https://biblehub.com/joshua/24-12.htm>  
<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





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**24:13** And I have given you a land for which ye did not labour, and cities which ye built not, and ye dwell in them; of the vineyards and oliveyards which ye planted not do ye eat. God still lets the people know through Joshua that *“He gave them a land that they had not worked for. He gave them houses that they did not build. They lived in the houses. They ate fruit from plants and trees that they did not plant.”* Wow, this tops it! I can see why God didn’t allow the Israelites to fight with their weapons. Everything would have been in shambles by the time they conquered the land. But God! The enemies ran off and left everything in tack for the Israelites to walk right in and take over land they didn’t work for; cities that were already built; houses they didn’t build; and live in them; and eat the fruit of the land of vineyards and oliveyards they didn’t plant, just eat! These things were taken from a people who did not know God, and God gave all this to His people! This is gracious love, and a great responsibility to manage what was given to you freely. It’s something not to take lightly! These were unearned gifts; free blessings! How do you pay back something like that? Well, for one thing: by being a good steward. This is a big transition when you’ve never had anything. We’ve come from Moab to the Promised Land because of God’s Grace.

## NOT APART OF THE LESSON: VERSE 14

**24:14** Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. Josua says, *‘Now you must give honour to the \*Lord, and serve Him. Do only what He says. Throw away the gods your families used to \*worship across the Euphrates and in Egypt. \*Worship the \*Lord. After Joshua informed them of all of God’s goodness and mercy toward them, they needed to get back in right standing with Him, and that is by coming into covenant agreement with Him.*

- Give honour to the Lord.
- Serve Him.
- Only do what He says.
- Do not worship the false gods that your fathers used to worship.
- Worship the LORD! This is the last chapter, so this is Joshua’s farewell speech to God’s people. It’s time to get it right!

## SUMMARY:

<sup>3</sup>Verses 1–13 – Covenant Review at Shechem

Joshua gathers every tribe to Shechem, the ancient meeting place of their fathers. Speaking for the LORD, he sketches Israel’s story—from Abraham’s call out of idolatry, through Egypt, the Exodus, the wilderness, and their conquests—underscoring that every victory was the LORD’s doing.

<sup>3</sup> <https://biblehub.com/chaptersummaries/joshua/24.htm>  
<https://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>

