

Joshua 12 - Canaanite Kings Conquered by Moses & Joshua

I. Israel's conquest of Canaan (Joshua 1:1—12:24)

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Joshua 12

(D) Summary of conquests (12:1-24)

(a) Transjordan kings and land (12:1-6)

1 Now these are the kings of the land whom the sons of Israel defeated, and they took possession of their land beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise, from the Valley of the Arnon as far as Mount Hermon, and all the Arabah to the east:

1 Now these are the kings of the land whom the sons of Israel defeated, and whose land they possessed beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise, from the valley of the Arnon as far as Mount Hermon, and all the Arabah to the east:

1 This is a list of the kings who ruled the land that the Israelis conquered, and whose territories they took on the other side of the Jordan River toward the east, from the Arnon River to Mount Hermon, along with the entire eastern Jordan plain.

1 Now these [are] the kings of the land, which the children of Israel smote, and possessed their land on the other side Jordan toward the rising of the sun, from the river Arnon unto mount Hermon, and all the plain on the east:

- Kings to the East (Cf. Rev 16:12)

2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon *and* ruled from Aroer, which is on the edge of the Valley of the Arnon, both the middle of the valley and half of Gilead, even as far as the brook Jabbok, the border of the sons of Ammon;

2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived in Heshbon, *and* ruled from Aroer, which is on the edge of the valley of the Arnon, both the middle of the valley and half of Gilead, even as far as the brook Jabbok, the border of the sons of Ammon;

2 Sihon king of the Amorites lived in Heshbon and ruled from Aroer, which is located on the edge of the Arnon River from the middle of the valley, including half of Gilead as far as Wadi Jabbok, the border of the Ammonites,

2 Sihon king of the Amorites, who dwelt in Heshbon, [and] ruled from Aroer, which [is] upon the bank of the river Arnon, and from the middle of the river, and from half Gilead, even unto the river Jabbok, [which is] the border of the children of Ammon;

- Engagement prior to crossing the Jordan (Num 21:21-35)

3 and the Arabah as far as the Sea of Chinneroth toward the east, and as far as the Sea of the Arabah, *that is*, the Salt Sea, eastward toward Beth-jeshimoth, and on the south, at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah;

3 and the Arabah as far as the Sea of Chinneroth toward the east, and as far as the sea of the Arabah, *even* the Salt Sea, eastward toward Beth-jeshimoth, and on the south, at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah;

3 and toward the Arabah as far as the Sea of Galilee to the east, as far as the Arabah Sea (that is, the Dead Sea) to the east as one travels in the direction of Beth-jeshimoth, and to the south as far as the foothills of Pisgah.

3 And from the plain to the sea of Chinneroth on the east, and unto the sea of the plain, [even] the salt sea on the east, the way to Bethjeshimoth; and from the south, under Ashdothpisgah:

4 and the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the remnant of Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

4 and the territory of Og king of Bashan, one of the remnant of Rephaim, who lived at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

4 The territory of Og king of Bashan was conquered. He was one of the last of the Rephaim, and lived at Ashtaroth and Edrei,

4 And the coast of Og king of Bashan, [which was] of the remnant of the giants, that dwelt at Ashtaroth and at Edrei,

- Sihon (v2) and Og were the first two Canaanite kings that the Israelites conquered (under Moses)

5 and ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, and all Bashan, as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and half of Gilead, *as far as* the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

5 and ruled over Mount Hermon and Salecah and all Bashan, as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and half of Gilead, *as far as* the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

5 ruling over Mount Hermon, Salecah, and all of Bashan as far as the border of the descendants of Geshur, the descendants of Maacath, and half of Gilead to the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

5 And reigned in mount Hermon, and in Salcah, and in all Bashan, unto the border of the Geshurites and the Maachathites, and half Gilead, the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.

6 Moses the servant of the LORD and the sons of Israel defeated them; and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh as a possession.

6 Moses the servant of the LORD and the sons of Israel defeated them; and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it to the Reubenites and the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh as a possession.

6 Moses, the servant of the LORD, and the Israelis defeated them. Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, gave it to the descendants of Reuben, the descendants of Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh as their inheritance.

6 Them did Moses the servant of the LORD and the children of Israel smite: and Moses the servant of the LORD gave it [for] a possession unto the Reubenites, and the Gadites, and the half tribe of Manasseh.

- All east of the Jordan, two and half tribes chose to remain over there (Reuben, Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh)

(b) Canaanite kings and land (12:7-24)

7 Now these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated beyond the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the Valley of Lebanon even as far as Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir; and Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their divisions,

7 Now these are the kings of the land whom Joshua and the sons of Israel defeated beyond the Jordan toward the west, from Baal-gad in the valley of Lebanon even as far as Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir; and Joshua gave it to the tribes of Israel as a possession according to their divisions,

7 This is a list of the kings of the land whom Joshua and the Israelis defeated beyond the Jordan River toward the west, from Baal-gad in the Lebanon valley as far as Mount Halak, which rises in the direction of Seir. Joshua gave it to Israel, distributing it according to their tribal divisions as their inheritance,

7 And these [are] the kings of the country which Joshua and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west, from Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon even unto the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir; which Joshua gave unto the tribes of Israel [for] a possession according to their divisions;

8 in the hill country, in the lowland, in the Arabah, on the slopes, in the wilderness, and in the Negev; the Hittite, the Amorite and the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the

Jebusite:

8 in the hill country, in the lowland, in the Arabah, on the slopes, and in the wilderness, and in the Negev; the Hittite, the Amorite and the Canaanite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite:

8 in the mountain regions, in the Arabah, on the foothills, in the wilderness, in the Negev; that is, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

8 In the mountains, and in the valleys, and in the plains, and in the springs, and in the wilderness, and in the south country; the Hittites, the Amorites, and the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites:

9 the king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one;

9 the king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, which is beside Bethel, one;

9 The king of Jericho: 1

The king of Ai, which is near Bethel: 1

9 The king of Jericho, one; the king of Ai, which [is] beside Bethel, one;

10 the king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

10 the king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

10 The king of Jerusalem: 1

The king of Hebron: 1

10 The king of Jerusalem, one; the king of Hebron, one;

11 the king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

11 the king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

11 The king of Jarmuth: 1

The king of Lachish: 1

11 The king of Jarmuth, one; the king of Lachish, one;

12 the king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

12 the king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

12 The king of Eglon: 1

The king of Gezer: 1

12 The king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

13 the king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

13 the king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

13 The king of Debir: 1

The king of Geder: 1

13 The king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

14 the king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

14 the king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

14 The king of Hormah: 1

The king of Arad: 1

14 The king of Hormah, one; the king of Arad, one;

15 the king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

15 the king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

15 The king of Libnah: 1

The king of Adullam: 1

15 The king of Libnah, one; the king of Adullam, one;

16 the king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one;

16 the king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one;

16 The king of Makkedah: 1

The king of Bethel: 1

16 The king of Makkedah, one; the king of Bethel, one;

17 the king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hopher, one;

17 the king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hopher, one;

17 The king of Tappuah: 1

The king of Hopher: 1

17 The king of Tappuah, one; the king of Hopher, one;

18 the king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

18 the king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

18 The king of Aphek: 1

The king of Lasharon: 1

18 The king of Aphek, one; the king of Lasharon, one;

19 the king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

19 the king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

19 The king of Madon: 1

The king of Hazor: 1

19 The king of Madon, one; the king of Hazor, one;

20 the king of Shimron-meron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

20 the king of Shimron-meron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

20 The king of Shimron-meron: 1

The king of Achshaph: 1

20 The king of Shimronmeron, one; the king of Achshaph, one;

21 the king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

21 the king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

21 The king of Taanach: 1

The king of Megiddo: 1

21 The king of Taanach, one; the king of Megiddo, one;

22 the king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam in Carmel, one;

22 the king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam in Carmel, one;

22 The king of Kedesh: 1

The king of Jokneam in Carmel: 1

22 The king of Kedesh, one; the king of Jokneam of Carmel, one;

23 the king of Dor in the heights of Dor, one; the king of Goliim in Gilgal, one;

23 the king of Dor in the heights of Dor, one; the king of Goliim in Gilgal, one;

23 The king of Dor in the Dor heights: 1

The king of various gentiles in Gilgal: 1

23 The king of Dor in the coast of Dor, one; the king of the nations of Gilgal, one;

24 the king of Tirzah, one: in all, thirty-one kings.

24 the king of Tirzah, one: in all, thirty-one kings.

24 The king of Tirzah: 1

Total number of all kings: 31

24 The king of Tirzah, one: all the kings thirty and one.

- Total: 2 East of Jordan; 31 on the "West Bank." The basic conquest of the land is done.

- God's record in battle: 31-0

— God has never lost a battle, and He's not planning on losing your next one

The writer here identified 31 more kings that were conquered, in the essential order in which Joshua defeated them. Many of the same names appear in the Amarna letters, thus confirming the historicity of the Biblical text.

The nations that had been in possession of Canaan descended from Canaan, the accursed son of Ham (Gen 10:15-18). They are numbered as seven nations (Deut 7:1), but here only six only are mentioned, the Girgashites being lost or left out, though we find them elsewhere (Gen 10:16; 15:21). Either they were incorporated with some other of these nations, or, as the tradition of the Jews is, upon the approach of Israel under Joshua they all withdrew and went into Africa.

The description here was not complete. Shechem is not mentioned, and the hills of Ephraim are sparsely represented, as is the territory north of Hazor. Completeness is not the object. The writer seeks to compile a list that will impress the readers with the greatness of the feat of God in working for Israel and of the greatness of the leadership of Joshua in following the example of Moses and completing the task first given to Moses. Still, the writer is aware that much remains to be done.