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Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
  - We have no chronology of Joshua's life other than he died at the age of 110. We do know that he was over 20 years old at the beginning of the 40 years of wilderness wandering. The passage here speaks of his advanced age "a long time after" the land was secured and the tribes of Reuben, Dan and Manasseh were sent home. This could have been 30 to 50 years after the entrance into the land.

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Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
  - The Israelites were instruments in the hands of God to bring His wrath on the people of the promised land.
    - "For their sake". God could have wiped out the inhabitants through plagues or the destructive forces of the earth but instead the Israelites needed to experience what the judgment of God looked like executed on a rebellious people.

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Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
- Joshua allotted land that had not yet been fully secured. 23:4-5
  - This was an expression of confidence in God's promise to give them the power to overcome them.

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4

Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
- Joshua issues a plea for the Israelites to remain faithful to God. 23:6-8
  - Diligence to keep the Law of Moses
    - Do not mingle with the remaining nations
    - Do not even mention their gods
    - Do not swear by their gods
    - Do not serve their gods
    - Do not worship their gods

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5

Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
  - Another reminder that it is through the power of Yahweh (the LORD) that these great and strong nations have been defeated.
  - Another plea for faithfulness to the Lord. 23:11
  - A warning of the troubles they will endure if they do not finish the work of bringing God's judgment on these people and as a result begin to interact with them. 23:12-13
  - Remember God's faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to His people. 23:14-14

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6

Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness during the conquest and encouragement of the people to remain faithful to God. 23:1-16
- A warning of how God's judgment will come to pass on the Israelites if they break God's covenant by going after other gods. 23:14-16

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7

Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Recounting God's faithfulness in the Exodus and entrance into the Promised Land. 24:1-13
  - Joshua assembled the people at Shechem for this last appeal.
    - Shechem was located between Mounts Gerizim and Ebal. Mount Ebal was where the massive altar was built and the Law given by God was written on it. (See Deuteronomy 27:1-8; Joshua 8:30-35)
  - Joshua recounted the history of the Israelites going back to the call of Abraham and summarized how God had faithfully cared for his people from that point to bringing them into the land He promised to Abraham and his descendants.

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8

Joshua's final address to the Israelites. 23:1-24:28

- Joshua called the people to openly commit to faithfulness to Yahweh. 24:14-28
  - Joshua appeals to the people to make the choice he and his household have made to exclusively serve Yahweh.
  - The people respond that they will make this choice to serve Yahweh as their God.
  - Joshua set up a marker by the sanctuary of the LORD to serve as a reminder of their commitment.

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Joshua's death and legacy. 24:29-31

- Joshua died at 110 years old and was buried.
- Joshua's influence is seen in that the Israelites did follow Yahweh as their God during his life and the lives of the people he led.

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Burial of the bones of Joseph. 24:32

- Joseph made his brothers promise that his bones would be returned to the Promised Land and be buried there. Genesis 50:24-26
- His bones were buried at Shechem where his father Jacob had purchased land. Genesis 33:18-20

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Death and burial of Eleazar 24:33

- Eleazar was the second High Priest.
- Buried in the town of Phinehas his son.

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