

# COURSE SYLLABUS FOR JOSHUA (BL 380) Spring 1999

Kevin C. Peacock, Ph.D., Instructor

Office:  
Box 512, Cochrane, AB T0L 0W0  
(403) 932-6622, ext. 226  
e-mail: kpeacock@csbs.ca

Home:  
6 Glenhill Crescent, Cochrane, AB T0L 0W3  
(403) 932-7528  
e-mail: kpeacock@cadvision.com

## Course Description:

An intensive study of the Old Testament book of Joshua.

## Course Objectives:

The student will:

1. Develop an appreciation for the spiritual value of the Old Testament Former Prophets.
2. Understand the lasting message of the book of Joshua.
3. Become familiar with the basic content of the book of Joshua.
4. Become familiar with scholarly thinking on the book of Joshua.
5. Relate the message of Joshua to his/her own life and work.

## Textbooks:

Woudstra, Marten H. *The Book of Joshua*. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.

The Bible.

## Suggested Reading:

Butler, Trent C. *Joshua*. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 1983.

Hess, Richard S. *Joshua: Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity, 1996.

## Evaluation:

1. **Daily quizzes.** The student should be prepared for a daily quiz over the assigned reading for that day (biblical text and commentary). The readings will enable the student to take part in the class discussion. The average of the daily quizzes will constitute 20% of the student's final grade.
2. **Exams.** There will be two major exams, each of which will constitute 20% of the student's final grade. Each exam will cover the reading material, class lectures, class discussion, and any written homework assigned. Each exam will be complete within itself (i.e. non-comprehensive). The student will need to provide his/her own writing paper (stapled) for each exam.
3. **Map Project.** Each student will turn in a letter-size outline map of the land of Palestine. The map should be hand-sketched, and consideration will be taken for effort and beauty of the project. This assignment will count 20% towards the student's final grade. The student should consult Bible maps and atlases for the following items to be included on the map.
  - The location of the twelve tribes settled in Palestine and the Transjordan.
  - Major Topographical features: Dead Sea, Jordan River, Sea of Galilee, Huleh Basin, Mt. Carmel, Valley of Jezreel, Mt. Gerizim, Mt. Ebal, Mt. Hermon, Shephelah, Western Highlands
  - Important Cities:

- Jericho, Ai, Bethel, Gibeon
- Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, Eglon, Azekah, Makkedah, Libnah, Gezer, Debir
- Hazor, Sidon, Misrephoth-maim, Mizpah, Megiddo, Jezreel
- Religious Sites: Shittim, Gilgal, Shechem, Shiloh, Beersheba

4. **Research Paper.** The student will write a 10-12 page (double-spaced typed) research paper on one of the topics taken from the assignment list. This paper should include a bibliography of at least ten sources, of both books and journal articles. The paper will constitute 20% of the student's final grade.

**Memory Work.** One of the ways the student will become familiar with the book of Joshua is by memorizing verses from the book. The memory work will be done from one of the following translations: NASV, NIV, KJV, NRSV. Each exam will include a section for memory verses in which the verses will be written verbatim.

Exam 1: Josh 1:8-9  
Josh 10:7-8

Exam 2: Josh 14:10-12  
Josh 24:14-15

### Research Paper Topics:

Reflections of Exodus in Joshua  
 Joshua as Leader of God's People  
 Jericho in History and Archaeology  
 Rahab, the Harlot of Jericho  
 Caleb: A Hero of Faith  
 Achan and the Ban  
 The Ethical Problem of Holy War  
 Joshua and Biblical Archaeology  
 Joshua in the New Testament  
 Covenants and Covenant Renewal in Joshua  
 The Conquest of Canaan: Proposed Models  
 Dating the Conquest of Canaan  
 Miracles in Joshua  
 Land as God's Gift in Joshua  
 The Role of Leader in Joshua  
 "The Sun Stood Still" (10:1-27)  
 Joshua and Ancient Warfare  
 Yahweh as Warrior in Joshua  
 Priests, Levites, and Levitical Cities  
 The Ark of the Covenant  
 The Cities of Refuge  
 Altars and Their Significance in Joshua  
 "What Do These Stones Mean?"  
 "To This Day"  
 God's Gift of "Rest"

### **Selected English Commentaries on Joshua.**

- Auld, A. Graeme. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Daily Study Bible. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1984.
- Boling, Robert G., and G. E. Wright. *Joshua*. The Anchor Bible. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1982.
- Bratcher, Robert G. and Barclay M. Newman. *Translator's Handbook on the Book of Joshua*. New York: United Bible Societies, 1983.
- Bright, John. "Joshua." *The Interpreter's Bible*, Vol. 2. New York: Abingdon, 1953.
- Butler, Trent. *Joshua*. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 1983.
- Calvin, John. *Commentaries on the Book of Joshua*. Translated by Henry Beveridge. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1949.
- Davis, Dale Ralph. *No Falling Words: Expositions of the Book of Joshua*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.
- Enns, Paul P. *Joshua*. Bible Study Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.
- Freedman, H. "Joshua." In *Joshua-Judges: Hebrew Text and English Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. London: Soncino, 1950.
- Goslinga, C. J. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Bible Student's Commentary. Translated by Ray Togtman. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.
- Gray, John. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*, rev. ed. New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
- Hamlin, E. J. *Joshua: Inheriting the Land*. International Theological Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983.
- Hess, Richard S. *Joshua: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentary. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.
- Huffman, John A. *Joshua*. Word Communicator's Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 1986.
- Keil, C. F., and F. Delitzsch. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Biblical Commentary on the Old Testament, Vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1950.
- Kent, Dan G. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Layman's Bible Book Commentary. Nashville: Broadman, 1980.
- Madvig, Donald H. "Joshua." In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Vol. 3. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992.
- Miller, J. Maxwell, and Gene M. Tucker. *The Book of Joshua*. Cambridge Bible Commentary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1974.
- Morton, William H. "Joshua." *Broadman Bible Commentary*, Vol. 2. Nashville: Broadman, 1970.
- Nelson, Richard. *Joshua: A Commentary*. Old Testament Library. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1997.
- Soggin, J. Alberto. *Joshua: A Commentary*. Old Testament Library. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1972.
- Woudstra, Marten H. *The Book of Joshua*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.

## JOSHUA CLASS SCHEDULE

<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Passage</b>	<b>Text</b>	<b>Written</b>
1/11	Introduction to the Course Introduction to Joshua			
1/18	Introduction & Spies Sent	1:1-2:24	W 3-76	
1/25	Crossing & Covenant Renewal	3:1-5:12	W 76-103	
2/1	Jericho	5:13-6:27	W 103-17	
2/8	Ai & Shechem	7:1-8:35	W 117-50	
2/15	NO CLASS			
2/22	Southern Campaign	9:1-10:43	W 151-85	<b>Map Project</b>
3/1	NO CLASS			
3/8	Northern Campaign & Conquest Summary	11:1-12:24	W 185-207	
3/15	<b>Exam 1</b> Distributing the Land & Caleb's Portion	13:1-14:15	W 208-32	
3/22	Judah & Joseph's Allotment	15:1-17:18	W 232-69	
3/29	Other Tribal Allotments	18:1-20:9	W 269-302	<b>Research Paper</b>
4/5	Levitical Cities & Transjordan Tribes	21:1-22:34	W 303-30	
4/12	Covenant Renewal at Shechem	23:1-24:33	W 331-62	
4/19	<b>Exam 2</b>			