

Joshua, Judges, Ruth

...

The Kingdom of God

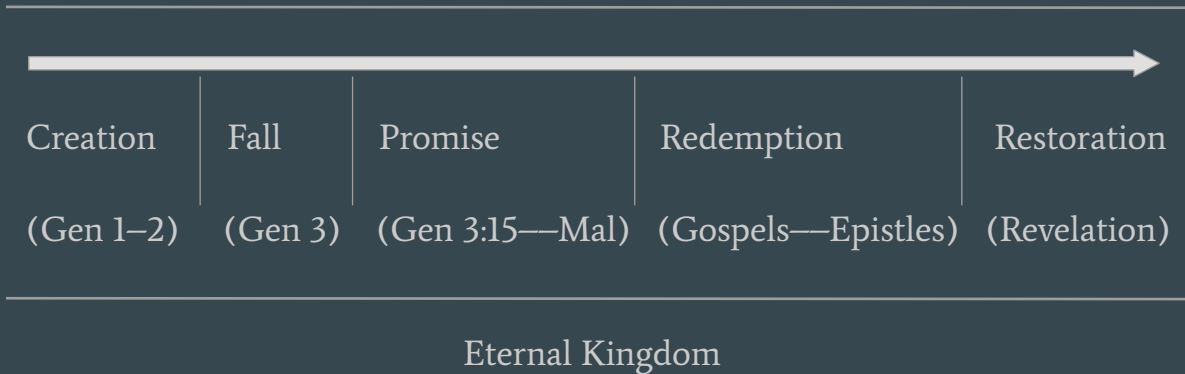
Objectives

- Relationship to the Kingdom of God
- Summary of each book
- Outlines of each book
- Key events
- Key people

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Kingdom program overview ...

Pre-Mediatorial Kingdom



- **Pre-Mediatorial Kingdom**

- Only the universal kingdom existed
- No mediatorial kingdom
 - No rulers
 - No realm
 - No rulership
- This state will never exist again

- **Timeline** (Vlach : Kingdom : 304-328)

- **Creation** - The kingdom is present with creation as God the King of creation tasks His image-bearer, man, to rule and subdue His creation.
- **Fall** - The fall marks man's failure to rule God's creation; both God's image-bearers (humans) and the creation come under the devastating effects of the fall.
- **Promise** - The promise plan guarantees the seed of the woman will eventually succeed over the power behind the serpent (Satan); the fall will be reversed and man will effectively rule over creation.
- **Redemption** - Jesus the King brings redemption through His

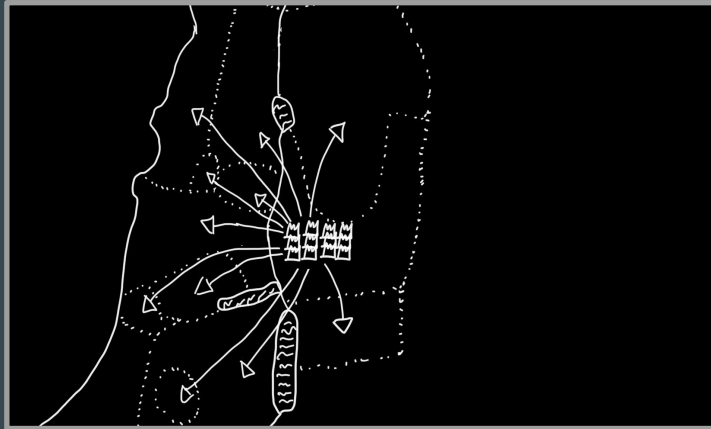
- atonement, and His death is the basis for the kingdom and reconciliation of all things.
- **Restoration** - With the restoration of all things God's kingdom plan is fulfilled as Jesus successfully reigns over the earth; this kingdom merges into the perfect kingdom of the Father.
- **Eternal Kingdom**
 - No more heaven (spirit) but a restored world (spirit + body)
 - No more hell (spirit) but the lake of fire (spirit + body)
 - Physical place
 - Body (1 Thessalonians 5:23)
 - Work (Genesis 2:15)
 - Nations (Revelation 5:9-10)
 - Never reversed
 - God limited himself through His promises never to uncreated creation/mediatorial kingdom

Joshua

- Joshua
 - Starts historical books (Joshua - Esther) in English Bible.
 - Pentateuch (Genesis - Deuteronomy)
 - **History (Joshua - Esther)**
 - Poetry (Job - Song of Solomon)
 - Prophecy (Isaiah - Malachi)
 - The official history of what happened after Moses died and before Israel's need for judges.
 - A time of general obedience and faithfulness to Yahweh.

Joshua - Summary

- The promised land conquered and divided



- Named after it's content, not it's author.
 - Author is unknown
 - Most likely not Joshua
 - Joshua probably didn't continually reference himself in the 3rd person
 - Joshua 1:1
 - After Moses the Lord's servant died, the Lord said **to Joshua son of Nun**
 - Joshua 1:10
 - **Joshua instructed** the leaders of the people
 - Moses didn't do this in Deuteronomy, ie. it wasn't a common practice.
 - An eyewitness of the events
 - We in Joshua 5:1
 - When all the Amorite kings on the west side of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the seacoast heard how Yahweh had dried up the water of the Jordan before the Israelites while we crossed, they lost their courage and could not even breathe for fear of the Israelites.
 - The author uses "us" to include himself in the narrative.
- Begins right after Moses' death and ends with Joshua's death

- This book describes a “holy war”
 - A war with religion as it’s core motivation
 - Seen at the beginning and end of the book
 - Joshua 1:6
 - Be strong and brave! You must lead these people in the conquest of this land that I solemnly promised their ancestors I would hand over to them.
 - Joshua 21:43
 - So Yahweh gave Israel all the land he had solemnly promised to their ancestors, and they conquered it and lived in it.
- Not just a history book
 - Answers the question of how Yahweh would keep his covenant with Abraham
- Conquest based on Yahweh’s covenant with Abraham
 - Yahweh promised
 - Land
 - People
 - Blessings
 - Genesis 12:2-3
 - Now Yahweh said to Abram, “Go out from your country, your relatives, and your father’s household to the land that I will show you. Then I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you, and I will make your name great, so that you will exemplify divine blessing. I will bless those who bless you, but the one who treats you lightly I must curse, so that all the families of the earth may receive blessing through you.”
- Kingdom of God tie-in
 - We know that the conquest of the land didn’t last
 - This is still an outstanding promise to Israel
 - The promise will be fulfilled once the Kingdom comes

Joshua - Outline

- **Entering the Land** (Joshua 1-5)
- **Conquering the Land** (Joshua 6-12)
- **Distributing the Land** (Joshua 13-22)
- **Settling the Land** (Joshua 23-24)

- Entering the land (Joshua 1 - 5)
- Conquering the land (Joshua 6 - 12)
- Distributing the land (Joshua 13 - 22)
- Settling the land (Joshua 23 -24)
- First two and last two parts are nearly equal in length
 - The Conquest (Joshua 1 - 12)
 - The Division (Joshua 12 - 24)

Joshua - Key Events

- Spies ... part two (Joshua 2)
- Fall of Jericho (Joshua 6)
- 7 Years to Conquer (Joshua 14)
 - |-----(2)-----|------(38)-----|------(7)-----|
Exodus Spies Start Conquest End Conquest
 Caleb: 40 y/o Caleb: 85 y/o
- Covenant ratification (Joshua 24)

- Spies ... part two (Joshua 2)
 - Yahweh promised them the land
 - Joshua still did what he thought was necessary to understand its layout
- Fall of Jericho (Joshua 6)
- 7 Years to Conquer (Joshua 14)
 - The conquest started in 1406 B.C. and ended in 1399 B.C.
 - Total of 7 years to conquer and divide the land
 - Caleb was 40 when spying out the promised land for the first time
 - Wilderness wandering took 38 years from that point
 - Deuteronomy 2:14-15
 - Now the length of time it took for us to go from Kadesh Barnea to the crossing of Wadi Zered was **thirty-eight years**, time for all the military men of that generation to die, just as the Lord had vowed to them. Indeed, it was the very hand of the Lord that eliminated them from within the camp until they were all gone.
 - The crossing of the Wadi Zered did not mark the entrance into the promised land.

- Moses was still with Israel, according to Deuteronomy 4:23-28
 - Moreover, at that time I [Moses] pleaded with Yahweh, 24 “O, Sovereign Lord, you have begun to show me your greatness and strength. (What god in heaven or earth can rival your works and mighty deeds?) Let me please cross over to see the good land on the other side of the Jordan River—this good hill country and the Lebanon!” But Yahweh was angry at me because of you and would not listen to me. Instead, he said to me, “Enough of that! Do not speak to me anymore about this matter. Go up to the top of Pisgah and take a good look to the west, north, south, and east, for you will not be allowed to cross the Jordan. Commission Joshua, and encourage and strengthen him, because he will lead these people over and will enable them to inherit the land you will see.”
- The time between the crossing of the Wadi Zered (at 38 years) and the entrance of the land must have been 2 years, since Yahweh promised a 40 year wandering.
- Caleb was 78 when the conquest began
- Caleb was 85 at the end of the conquest
- Joshua 14:6-15
 - The men of Judah approached Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, “You know what Yahweh said about you and me to Moses, the man of God, at Kadesh Barnea. I was **forty years old** when Moses, Yahweh’s servant, sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy on the land and I brought back to him an honest report. My countrymen who accompanied me frightened the people, but I remained loyal to Yahweh my God. That day Moses made this solemn promise: ‘Surely the land on which you walked will belong to you and your descendants permanently, for you remained loyal to Yahweh your God.’ So now, look, Yahweh has preserved my life, just as he promised, these past forty-five years since Yahweh spoke

- these words to Moses, while Israel traveled through the wilderness. See here, I am today **eighty-five years old!** Today I am still as strong as when Moses sent me out. I can fight and go about my daily activities with the same energy I had then. Now, assign me this hill country that Yahweh promised me at that time! No doubt you heard then that the Anakites live there in large, fortified cities. But assuming Yahweh is with me, I will conquer them, as Yahweh promised.” Joshua asked God to empower Caleb son of Jephunneh and assigned him Hebron. So Hebron remains the assigned land of Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this very day because he remained loyal to Yahweh God of Israel. (Hebron used to be called Kiriath Arba. Arba was a famous Anakite.) Then the land was free of war.
- Covenant ratification (Joshua 24)
 - Joshua 24:25-28
 - That day Joshua drew up an agreement for the people, and he established rules and regulations for them in Shechem. Joshua wrote these words in the Law Scroll of God. He then took a large stone and set it up there under the oak tree near the Lord’s sanctuary. Joshua said to all the people, “Look, this stone will be a witness against us, for it has heard everything the Lord said to us. It will be a witness against you if you deny your God.” When Joshua dismissed the people, they went to their allotted portions of land.
 - Not a replacement to the Covenant God made with Moses
 - A re-affirmation involving people who didn’t hear the original

Joshua - Key People

- **Joshua** (Joshua 1:1-2, 24:29)
- **Rahab** (Joshua 2:8-9, 2:11)

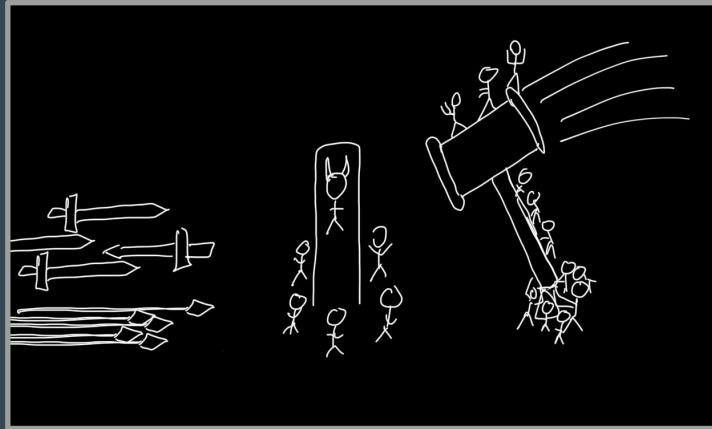
- **Joshua**
 - Joshua 1:1-2 “After Moses Yahweh’s servant died, Yahweh said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ assistant: “Moses my servant is dead. Get ready! Cross the Jordan River! Lead these people into the land which I am ready to hand over to them.”
 - Joshua 24:29 “After all this Joshua son of Nun, Yahweh’s servant, died at the age of one hundred ten.”
- **Rahab**
 - She exercised faith in Yahweh
 - Joshua 2:8-9 “Now before the spies went to sleep, Rahab went up to the roof. She said to the men, “I know Yahweh is handing this land over to you. We are absolutely terrified of you, and all who live in the land are cringing before you.”
 - Joshua 2:11 “When we heard the news we lost our courage and no one could even breathe for fear of you. For Yahweh your God is God in heaven above and on earth below!”
 - James 2:25
 - And similarly, was not Rahab the prostitute also

- justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by another way?
- In David's line
 - Spared and lived in Israel
 - Joshua 6:25
 - Yet Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, her father's family, and all who belonged to her. She lives in Israel to this very day because she hid the messengers Joshua sent to spy on Jericho.
 - Rahab became part of David's line, part of the lineage of Jesus
 - Matthew 1:5a
 - Salmon the father of Boaz (by Rahab)
- She lied
 - Is a lie always a sin?
 - Even a "white" lie?
 - Yes to both questions
 - Rahab allowed herself to be succumb to weakness of faith and tell the lie
 - Scripture doesn't ever applaud the lie, the author of Joshua states it as a matter of fact
 - Yahweh could have protected the spies without the lie

Judges

Judges - Summary

- Spirit-filled leaders condemn disobedient Israel



- Summary
 - Spirit-filled leaders condemn disobedient Israel
- Image
 - Left to right
 - Military failure
 - Religious failure
 - 12 spirit-filled leaders judge, make war, and administer
- The judges/spirit-filled leaders
 - Judges 2:16-19
 - Yahweh raised up leaders who delivered them from these robbers. But they did not obey their leaders. Instead they prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned aside from the path their ancestors had walked. Their ancestors had obeyed Yahweh's commands, but they did not. When Yahweh raised up **leaders** for them, Yahweh was with each leader and delivered the people from their enemies while the leader remained alive. Yahweh felt sorry for them when they cried out in agony because of what their harsh oppressors did to them. When a leader died, the next generation would again act more wickedly than the previous one.

- They would follow after other gods, worshiping them and bowing down to them. They did not give up their practices or their stubborn ways.
- “Leaders”
 - NET note:
 - These figures carried out more than a judicial function, also serving as rulers and (in several instances) as military commanders, the translation uses the term “leaders.”
- A sandwich book
 - Spans the time between
 - Joshua (Yahweh’s leader over Israel)
 - Israel’s kingly line

Judges - Outline

- Israel's Military Failure (Judges 1:1 - 3:6)
- Yahweh's Rescue Through Judges (Judges 3:7 - 16:31)
- Israel's Moral Failure (Judges 17:1 -21:25)

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 - Israel's Military Failure (Judges 1:1 - 3:6)
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 - Israel's Moral Failure (Judges 17:1 - 21:25)
- 350 years of Israelite history
 - From the death of Joshua
 - To the death of Samson
 - The tone of the book/where it all started
 - Judges 2:1-5
 - The angel of Yahweh went up from Gilgal to Bokim. He said, "I brought you up from Egypt and led you into the land I had solemnly promised to give to your ancestors. I said, 'I will never break my covenant with you, but you must not make an agreement with the people who live in this land. You should tear down the altars where they worship.'But you have disobeyed me. Why would you do such a thing? At that time I also warned you, 'If you disobey, I will not drive out the Canaanites before you. They will ensnare you and their gods will lure you away.'" When the angel of

- Yahweh finished speaking these words to all the Israelites, the people wept loudly. They named that place Bokim and offered sacrifices to Yahweh there.
- Note left by Keil
 - Yahweh left those Canaanites who had not been exterminated by Joshua still in the land, to prove to Israel through them whether it would obey His commandments, and that He chastised and punished His people through them for their disobedience and idolatry; but that as soon as they recognized His chastening hand in the punishment, and returned to Him with penitence and implored His help, He had compassion upon them again in His gracious love, and helped them to victory over their foes, so that, notwithstanding the repeated acts of faithlessness on the part of His people, Yahweh remained ever faithful in His deeds, and steadfastly maintained His covenant.
- Note left by Alain
 - This is a picture of people trying to be holy without the indwelling Holy Spirit. They can't. But when a Spirit-filled judge enters the space, things turn around.
 - This will not be the case when the Kingdom of God comes

Judges - Key Events

- The “they didn’t conquer list” (Judges 1:19 - 1:36)
- Joshua dies (Judges 2:6 - 2:8)
- Nations left as a test (Judges 3:4)

- The “they didn’t conquer list”
 - Judges 1:19 - 1:36
 - 19: They conquered[ad] the hill country, but they could not conquer the people living in the coastal plain
 - 21: The men of Benjamin, however, did not conquer the Jebusites living in Jerusalem.
 - 27: The men of Manasseh did not conquer Beth Shean, Taanach, or their surrounding towns.
 - 29: The men of Ephraim did not conquer the Canaanites living in Gezer.
 - 30: The men of Zebulun did not conquer the people living in Kitron and Nahal
 - etc.
 - Total extermination of Israel’s enemy didn’t happen.
 - They key verse here is 1:28
 - “Whenever Israel was strong militarily, they forced the Canaanites to do hard labor, but they never totally conquered them.”
- Joshua dies
 - Judges 2:6 - 2:8

- “When Joshua dismissed the people, the Israelites went to their allotted portions of territory, intending to take possession of the land. The people worshiped Yahweh throughout Joshua’s lifetime and as long as the elderly men who outlived him remained alive. These men had witnessed all the great things Yahweh had done for Israel. Joshua son of Nun, Yahweh’s servant, died at the age of 110.”
- Nations left as a test
 - Judges 3:4
 - “They were left to test Israel, so Yahweh would know if his people would obey the commands he gave their ancestors through Moses.”
 - Success in driving out the nations was not dependent on the military might of Israel, but on their obedience to God. Think of Psalm 33.
 - For us today, the same principle applies, if you are God’s chosen the number of hours you spend reading the Bible, praying, going to church, or doing the good works God has laid out before you don’t matter.

Judges - Key People

- **Othniel** (Judges 3:7-11)
- **Ehud** (Judges 3:12-30)
- **Shamgar** (Judges 3:32)
- **Deborah/Barak** (Judges 4-5)
- **Gideon** (Judges 6-8)
- **Tolah** (Judges 10:1-2)
- **Jair** (Judges 10:3-5)
- **Jephthah** (Judges 10:6-12:7)
- **Ibzan** (Judges 12:8-10)
- **Elon** (Judges 12:11-12)
- **Abdon** (Judges 12:13-15)
- **Samson** (Judges 13-16)

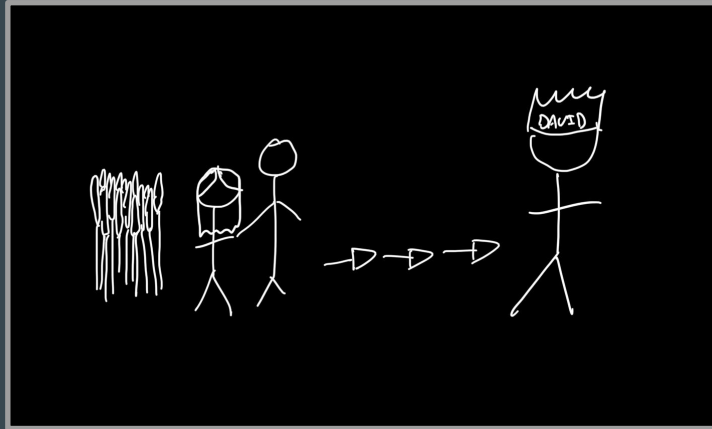
- Eight judges are described as performing acts by which Israel obtained deliverance from oppression
 - Othniel
 - Delivered from Mesopotamian oppression
 - Ehud
 - Delivered from Moabite oppression
 - Shamgar
 - Delivered from Philistine oppression
 - Deborah/Barak (a prophetess and judge)
 - Delivered from Canaanite oppression
 - Gideon
 - Delivered from Midianite oppression
 - Jephthah
 - Delivered from Ammonite oppression
 - Samson
 - Delivered from Philistine oppression
- Five judges are just described by how long they served, they waged no wars and conquered no enemies
 - Tolah
 - Jair

- Ibzan
- Elon
- Abdon

Ruth

Ruth - Summary

- Boaz and Ruth, the pious ancestors of David.



- Summary
 - Boaz and Ruth, the pious ancestors of David
- Image
 - Wheat, Boaz and Ruth, David
- Why important?
 - This book seems a bit strange to have in Scripture, it's just a slice of life in Old Testament Israel, what's the point
 - The point is the summary
 - The genealogy of David is critical, which is a large part of why this book is in the OT
 - The genealogy of Jesus is also critical (Matthew 1:3, 5)
- These events happen in the times of the Judges
 - Ruth 1:1 says this

Ruth - Outline

- Return from Moab (Ruth 1)
- Ruth Meets Boaz (Ruth 2)
- Ruth's Redemption Assured (Ruth 3)
- Boaz Redeems Ruth (Ruth 4)

- Return from Moab (Ruth 1)
 - Ruth 1:16 -17 gives the main point
 - Ruth replied, "Stop urging me to abandon you! For wherever you go, I will go. Wherever you live, I will live. Your people will become my people, and your God will become my God. Wherever you die, I will die—and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I do not keep my promise! Only death will be able to separate me from you!"
 - Evangelism was happening
- Ruth Meets Boaz (Ruth 2)
 - Ruth 2:3-5
 - So Ruth went and gathered grain in the fields behind the harvesters. Now she **just happened** to end up in the portion of the field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech. Now **at that very moment**, Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, "May Yahweh be with you!" They replied, "May Yahweh bless you!" Boaz asked his servant in charge of the harvesters, "To whom does **this young woman** belong?"
 - Look at the words
 - Just happened

- At that very moment
 - This young woman
 - There were other young women there as well
 - Ruth 2:8-9 mentions other female workers
 - There are no such things as coincidences
 - Ruth's Redemption Assured (Ruth 3)
 - Ruth 3:13
 - Remain here tonight. Then in the morning, if he agrees to marry you, fine, let him do so. But if he does not want to do so, I promise, as surely as Yahweh lives, to marry you. Sleep here until morning."
 - Ruth would be redeemed either way
 - But only through Boaz would she be in David's line
 - Boaz Redeems Ruth (Ruth 4)
 - Ruth 4:8-10
 - So the guardian said to Boaz, "You may acquire it," and he removed his sandal. Then Boaz said to the leaders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have acquired from Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech, Kilion, and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, as my wife to raise up a descendant who will inherit his property so the name of the deceased might not disappear from among his relatives and from his village. You are witnesses today."

Ruth - Key Events

- Return to Bethlehem (Ruth 1:19 - 22)
- Ruth Gleans in the Fields (Ruth 2:1 - 7)
- The Kinsman-Redeemer (Ruth 3:6 - 15)
- The Line of David (Ruth 4:18 - 22)

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Ruth - Key People

- Naomi
- Ruth
- Boaz

- Naomi
 - An evangelist for Yahweh
- Ruth
 - Shows that God's redemption extends to Gentiles
- Boaz
 - Type of Christ
 - Kinsman Redeemer (4:6)

The End