

**Circumcision at Gilgal**

3 So Joshua made sharp stone knives and circumcised the sons of Israel at the place called the Hill of Foreskins. 4 In this manner, Joshua completely purified the sons of Israel, as many as were born at any time along the way and as many as were uncircumcised after they came out of Egypt. 5 Joshua circumcised all these. 6 For Israel lived in the Madbarite desert for forty-two years; therefore, most of their fighting men who came out of Egypt and who disobeyed the commandments of God were uncircumcised. Concerning these, He also determined that they would not see the land which the Lord swore to give to their fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey. 7 But in their place, He raised up their sons, whom Joshua circumcised because they were born during the journey and thus were uncircumcised. 8 So when they were circumcised, they rested there and stayed in the camp until they were healed. 9 Then the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, “Today I have removed the disgrace of Egypt from you.” Thus he called the name of that place Gilgal. 10 Then the children of Israel kept Pascha on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, to the west of Jericho, across the Jordan in the plain. 11 They ate of the unleavened and new wheat of the land. 12 On this day, the manna ceased, after they ate from the wheat of the land. Thus, the children of Israel no longer had manna, for they enjoyed the fruits in the land of the Phoenicians in that year.

**Captain of the Lord’s Hosts**

13 Then it came to pass, when Joshua was at Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a sword drawn in his hand. So Joshua came near and said to him, “Are you for us or on the side of our adversaries?” 14 He said to him, “I am now come, the chief captain of the host of the Lord.” Then Joshua fell on his face upon the earth and said to him, “O Master, what do you command your servant?” 15 The chief captain of the Lord said to Joshua, “Loose the shoe from your feet; for the place on which you stand is holy.”

**Joshua 6****The Defeat of Jericho**

1 Jericho was enclosed and fortified, and no one went out of or into it. 2 Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Behold, I will deliver Jericho into your hand, its king and its army of soldiers who are mighty. 3 But place your soldiers around it, 4 and it shall come to pass that when you sound with the trumpet, let all the people shout together, and when they shout, the walls of the city shall fall by themselves; and all the people will enter, each rushing throughout the entire area of the city.” 5 So Joshua the son of Nun went to the priests 6 and he spoke to them, saying, “Command the people to go around and surround the city, and let the men of war pass on armed before the Lord. 7 Let seven priests holding seven holy trumpets likewise pass by before the Lord, and let

them signal vigorously; and let the ark of the covenant of the Lord follow after them. 8 Let the men of war go in front; and let the priests be the rear guard behind the ark of the covenant of the Lord as they proceed, and sound the trumpets.” 9 Now Joshua gave a command to the people, saying, “Do not shout, nor let anyone hear your voice, until the day I myself tell you to shout, and then shout.” 10 So when the ark of the covenant of God went around the city, it immediately returned into the camp and lodged there. 11 Then on the second day, Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the covenant of the Lord. 12 Seven priests carried seven trumpets and went on before the Lord. The armed men followed after with the rest of the multitude behind the ark of the covenant of the Lord. Then the priests sounded the trumpets, and all the rest of the multitude encircled the city from close by, 13 then again went back to the camp. They did this for six days. 14 On the seventh day, they rose early in the morning and went around the city six times. 15 Then it came to pass that as they marched around the seventh time, the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua said to the sons of Israel, “Shout, for indeed the Lord has handed over the city to you. 16 For the city shall be accursed by the Lord, it and whatever is in it. However, preserve Rahab the harlot and whatever is in her house. 17 But be very careful to keep yourself from what is accursed, lest you yourself consider to take from it what is accursed, and then you shall make the camp of the children of Israel a curse and destroy us. 18 But all the silver, the gold, the bronze or the iron shall be holy to the Lord and brought in to the treasury of the Lord.” 19 So the priests sounded the trumpets, and when the people heard the sound of the trumpets, all the people shouted together with a great and mighty shout. Then the entire wall fell round about, and all the people went into the city. 20 Joshua put the city under a curse with the edge of the sword, and whatever was in it: from man to woman, from young man to old man, and from calf to donkey. 21 Then Joshua said to the two young men who acted as spies, “Go into the house of the woman, and bring her out from there, and whatever she has.” 22 So the two young men who had spied out the city went into the house of the woman and brought out Rahab the harlot, her father and mother, and her brothers and kindred, and all she possessed. They set her outside the camp of Israel, 23 and the city, with everyone in it, was set on fire; but the silver, the gold, the bronze, and the iron they brought into the treasury of the Lord. 24 Thus Joshua kept alive Rahab the harlot and all the house of her father, and caused her to dwell in Israel to this very day, because she hid the spies Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. 25 Joshua adjured Israel on that day before the Lord, saying, “Cursed be the man who rebuilds that city. He shall lay its foundation in his firstborn son, and he shall set up its gates with his youngest son.” Thus did Hiel from Bethel. He laid its foundation in Abiram, his firstborn son, and he set up its gates with Segub, his youngest surviving son. 26 So the Lord was with Joshua, and his name was known throughout all the land.