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THE LIFE OF JOSHUA – LESSON 12 OF 12

CONCLUSION

Joshua Chapter 11 tells how he waged war victoriously over much of Canaan. From Jericho to his last battle was a period of seven years. He defeated many kings who each ruled over a city with its surrounding villages.

He also destroyed most of the Anakim, the giants. He cut off the giants from Hebron, Debir, the mountains of Judah, and the mountains throughout Canaan, except for three places. The Anakim remained in Gath, Gaza, and Ashdod. It was over 400 years later that King David finally got rid of the giants where Goliath and his relatives lived.

There were also pockets of pagans unconquered in various parts of Canaan. After Joshua died at age 110, the Book of Judges tells how the tribes of Judah and Simeon had to continue fighting them. Joshua had left the conquest of Canaan incomplete. This failure, from the careless league with Gibeon to the unconquered tribes, became a huge stumbling block to Israel for centuries to come.

Yes, Joshua's heart was unto God. He loved the LORD. He was blessed by God with military victories for seven long years. But his men had grown battle weary and longed to get back to their families and to the inheritance of land that Joshua had given them. Joshua sent them home and retired from war.

Was that a failure? He did not complete the charge given to him by Moses who had received it from God. Christians always speak high praises about Joshua. How much better would things have been if he had completed the task?

What about you? What has God asked of you? Whatever it is, please be sure to do it to the fullest degree. God rewards obedience.

If you are unsure of what He asks of you, read the gospel account of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. That will tell you what you are to do or how you are to be if you've had no other specific leading.

Don't be a Joshua by failing to live out what God has asked of you through to the end. Joshua was a godly and righteous man, but he didn't see it through to the end.