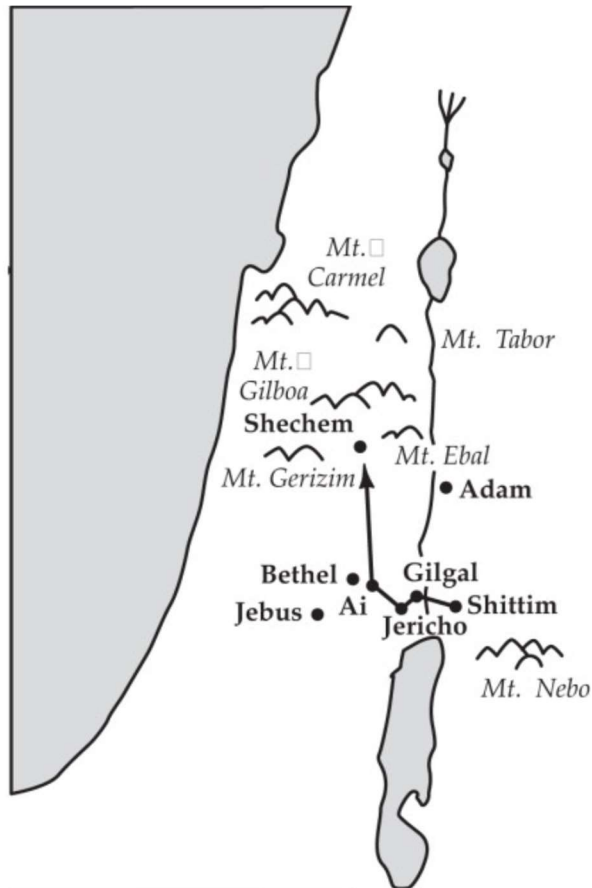


JOSHUA (15) – Joshua 7:1–26 (2)

Covenant Fellowship Church
Wednesday, September 2, 2026
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Important question: Why did Joshua and Israel travel *this* route into Canaan—northward, toward Mount Gerizim and Mount Ebal?

Read Deuteronomy 27:1–8 and 11–13 in connection with Joshua 8:30–35.

There is a significant covenantal point here: Joshua 7–8, in the background of entering the promised land and traveling (and battling) northward to Gerizim and Ebal was a *destination*: Israel was placed formally under the covenant Word – blessing and curse. ***But so too was the land of Canaan!***

Now, read Matthew 28:19–20, and consider the typology (= symbolism) of taking the gospel to the nations. ***Revelation 11:15!!***

Moses → Joshua → Israel → Canaan ~ Christ → apostles/church → all nations → the world

(over, please)

Joshua 7:1–5

“So one expositor blames Joshua for acting without prayer while another commends him for acting with haste; one says it was bad that action was taken without prayer, yet the other claims it was good to have action without sloth. We are at hermeneutical sea unless we take seriously the writer’s own intention as expressed in verse 1.

The framing of the narrative in terms of Yahweh’s wrath (vv. 1, 26) supplies the theme and major category for the chapter; which means that verses 2–5 must be interpreted in light of verse 1. Therefore, verses 2–5 cannot be regarded as furnishing the reasons for Israel’s failure at Ai. They failed because of Yahweh’s anger” (Dale Ralph Davis).

Overconfidence and prayerlessness are surely “preachable,” but THE TEXT (v. 1) says that God’s people failed because they were under God’s wrath.

Joshua 7:6–9

Again, many expositors (Bible explainers) claim that Joshua’s complaining was wrong (note: complaining TO God is not the same as complaining ABOUT God). This is a *lament* in biblical style.

V. 9 is key, especially: “What will you do for your great name?”

Joshua 7:10–15

Find the KEY (v. 12b).

Joshua 7:16–26

God’s wrath is severe because sin is so serious.

BUT . . . v. 24c ~ Hosea 2:14–15!!