

A Farewell and a Covenant **Joshua 24**

After a farewell aimed at Israel's leaders, Joshua gives a farewell message to all Israel, resulting in a national pledge to serve God.

Recalling God's continual help in behalf of His people, 1-13

- ❖ 17x = 1st person singular. Why at Shechem? 8:31-35, Gen. 12:6,7
- ❖ Focus = three crisis points (Egypt, east of Jordan, west of Jordan)
The "hornet" (Ex. 23:27, Dt. 7:20) doubtfully refers to Egypt and more likely = insect invasions or panic, 2:9, Dt. 1:44, Ex. 15:16.

Rededication to faithfully serve God, 14-24

- ❖ 7x = "serve" in vss. 14,15 and 18x in chapter 24!
Their choices: (1) serve former eastern gods, 2,14,15; (2) Amorite gods, 15,23; or (3) Yahweh, who is Joshua's and his family's choice.
- ❖ Why is Joshua so pessimistic about their pledge? Dt. 31:16-29, 32.

Rocky reminder that serves as a witness, 25-28

- ❖ The "Oak at Shechem": Gen. 12:6, 35:4, Jdgs. 9:6
- ❖ Recall earlier monuments in 4:9,20, 7:26, 8:29, 32, 10:27, 22:27.
- ❖ How well do these people serve God? See Jdgs. 2:7ff.

RIP to three greats, 29-33

The book ends as it began. What is emphasized about the burial of these three? Recall Joseph, Gen. 50:25. It's the end of an era.



*What does
God's choice
of Israel show
us about Him-
self?*

*What choice
have I made
about whom I
will serve?*

*Do I need to
rededicate my-
self to serving
the Lord?*