

Bible Study on Joshua
JOSHUA 24: COVENANT RENEWAL AT SHECHEM

1. Joshua 24.1. Joshua gathers all Israel to Shechem

- The significance of Shechem

2. Joshua 24.2-13. The LORD reviews Israel's Redemptive History

- The call of Abraham to Canaan (vv.2-3) – Genesis 11:26-32; Genesis 12–24.
- The seed of Abraham in Egypt (vv.3-4) – Genesis 25–50
- The exodus from Egypt to the wilderness (vv.5-7) – Exodus to Numbers 20.
- Conquest east of the Jordan (vv.8-10) – Numbers 21– 24
- Conquest west of the Jordan (vv.11-13) – Joshua 1– 23

3. Joshua 24.14-25. The Covenant Agreement

- We have the same pattern in the NT (Rom. 12:1; Eph. 4:1; 2 Cor. 7:1; Phil. 2:12).
- “We were created in such a way that we cannot be satisfied without God. Just as a plant cannot grow and blossom in a dark cave without sunlight, we cannot have true life and happiness without the sunshine of God's love and companionship. ... We are like the stem of a flower cut off from its root. The stem of a flower draws moisture up from the root of the plant and sends it to the flower. A cut flower no longer has any roots for it to draw moisture from, but it still needs something moist. If you place it in red ink, it will greedily draw up the poisonous liquid; and very soon the white petals will turn completely red. Then it will die. ... We are just like that. We are separated from God because of our sin, but we still feel the need to worship something; and so, our thirsty soul drinks in greedily all the poison of sin and falsehood” (*Christian Doctrine*).

4. Joshua 24.26-28. A Record of the Covenant

- This great stone is the seventh and final monument built during the conquest and settlement of Canaan (see 4:20; 7:26; 8:28-29; 8:32; 10:27; 22:34).

APPLICATION

- Weekly worship is covenant-renewal (Heb. 12). Hess: “For the Christian, the covenant renewal recalls the need to come together regularly and to renew commitment to God and obedience to God's will (see Heb. 10:25)” (174).