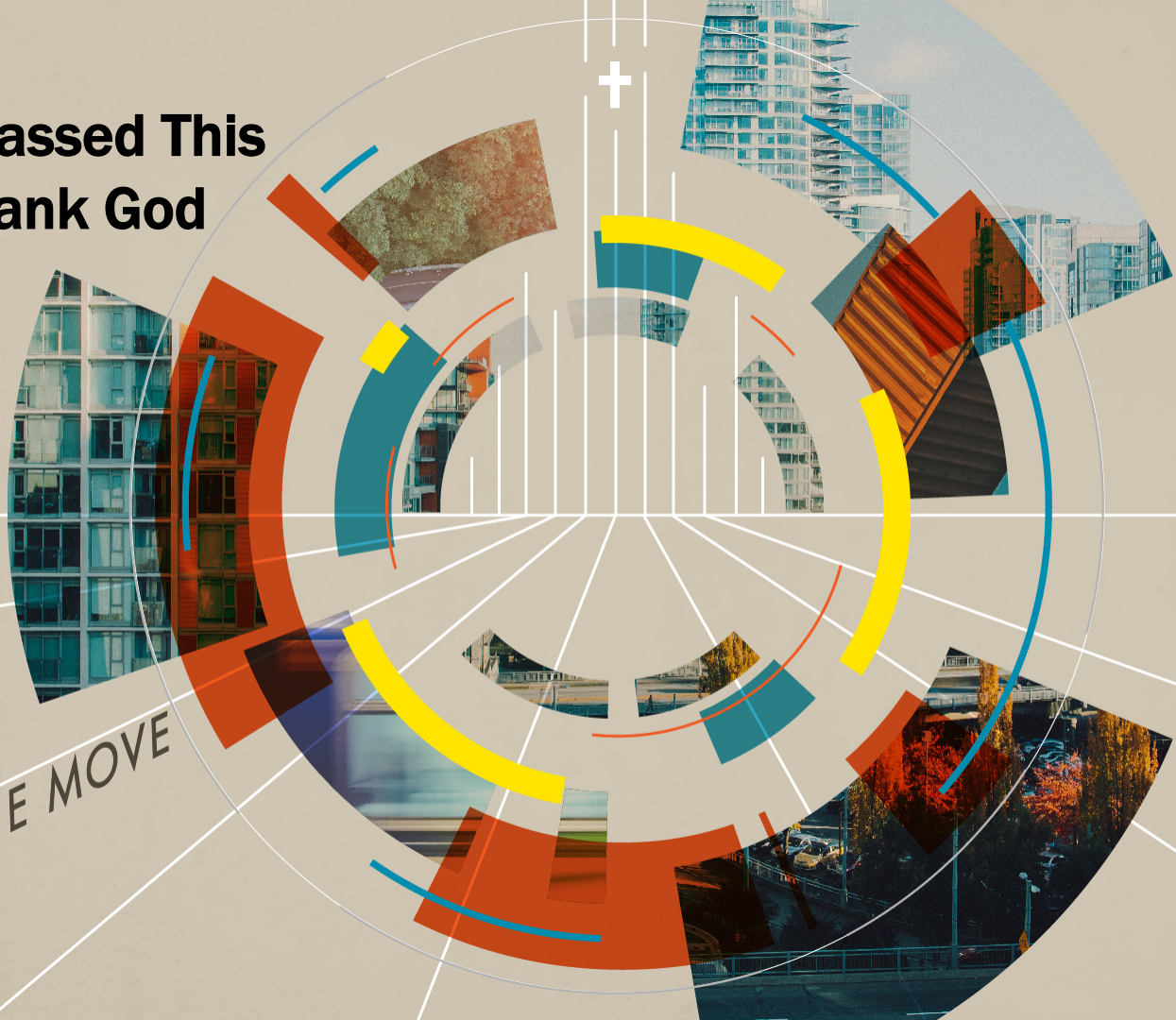



Joshua 2-4: You Have Not Passed This Way Before (Thank God For the Ark)

Pastor Rich Kao
Sept. 15, 2019

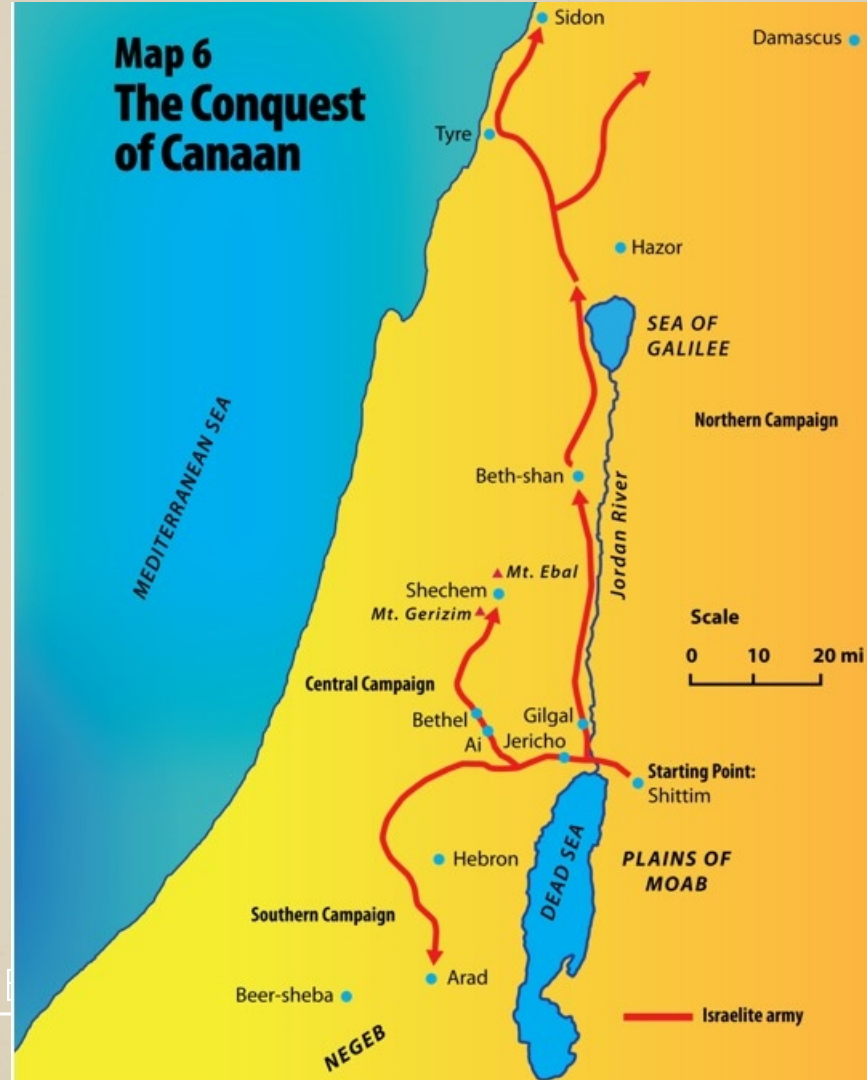
CHURCH ON THE MOVE





**Josh. 2:24 ²⁴ They (the two spies) said to Joshua,
“Surely the Lord has given all the land into our
hands; moreover, all the inhabitants of the land
have melted away before us.”**

CHURCH ON THE MOVE



Joshua Chapters 2-4: You Have Not Passed this Way Before (Thank God for the Ark)

Josh. 3:1-5 When Joshua rose early in the morning; and he and all the sons of Israel set out from Shittim and came to the Jordan, and they lodged there before they crossed. ² At the end of three days the officers went through the midst of the camp; ³ and they commanded the people, saying, “When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God with the Levitical priests carrying it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. ⁴ However, there shall be between you and it a distance of about 2,000 cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you shall go, for you have not passed this way before.” ⁵ Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.”

God Chose Israel to Possess the Ark

Deuteronomy 14:2

"For you are a holy people to the LORD your God, and the LORD has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

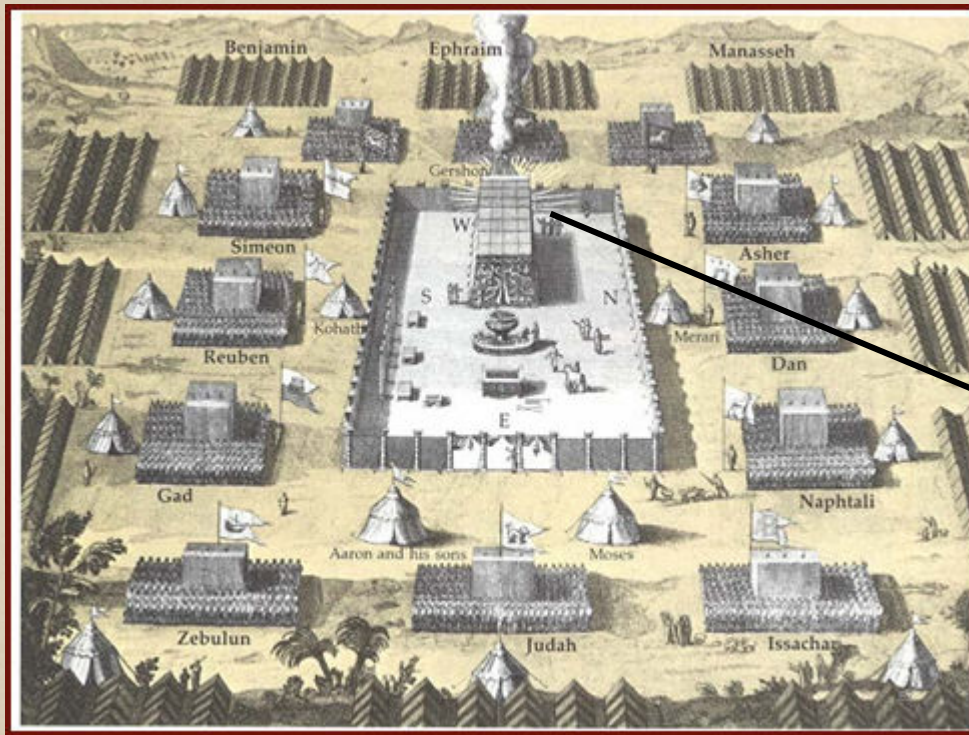
1 Kings 8:53

"For You have separated them from all the peoples of the earth as Your inheritance, as You spoke through Moses Your servant, when You brought our fathers forth from Egypt, O Lord GOD."

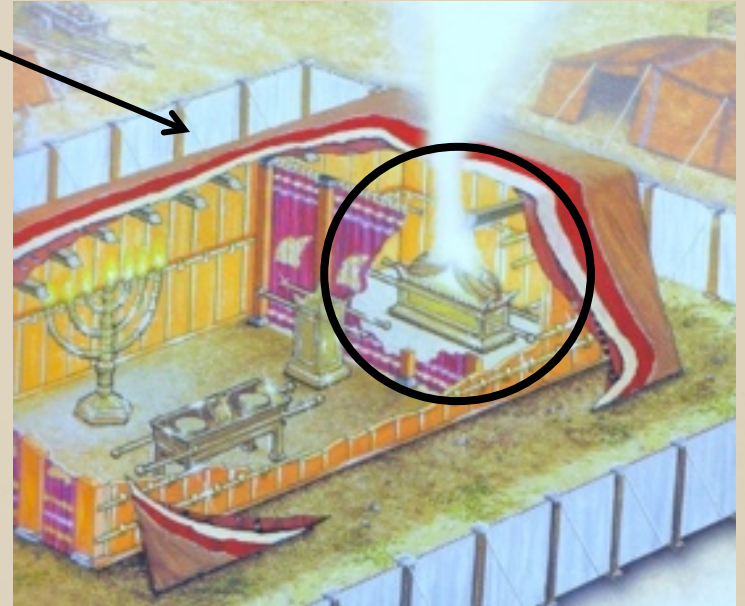


לא תרצח
לא תנאף
לא תגנב
לא תענה
לא תחמד

אנכי ה'
לא תעשה
לא תשא
זכור את
כבוד את



**Ark of the Covenant
Only Possessed by Israel**



Israel Encamped Around the Tabernacle

CHURCH ON THE MOVE



CHURCH ON THE MOVE

HOW THE ARK LEADS US IN PRACTICAL WAYS

1. Priests go first.

Josh. 3:6 And Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, “Take up the ark of the covenant and cross over ahead of the people.” So they took up the ark of the covenant and went ahead of the people.

HOW THE ARK LEADS US IN PRACTICAL WAYS

2. Stand in the water.

Josh. 3:8 You shall, moreover, command the priests who are carrying the ark of the covenant, saying, ‘When you come to the edge of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.

HOW THE ARK LEADS US IN PRACTICAL WAYS

3. Move Your Tents.

Josh. 3:14 So...the people set out from their tents to cross the Jordan with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant before the people.



CHURCH ON THE MOVE

HOW THE ARK LEADS US IN PRACTICAL WAYS

4. Act quickly.

Josh. 4:10 For the priests who carried the ark were standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything was completed that the Lord had commanded Joshua to speak to the people, according to all that Moses had commanded Joshua. And the people hurried and crossed.

HOW THE ARK LEADS US IN PRACTICAL WAYS

5. Remember the Goodness of God.

Josh. 4:3,20-22 ³ ..command them (leaders from each of the 12 tribes), saying, 'Take up for yourselves twelve stones from here out of the middle of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet are standing firm, and carry them over with you and lay them down in the lodging place where you will lodge tonight.' ...²⁰ Those twelve stones which they had taken from the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. ²¹ He said to the sons of Israel, "When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What are these stones?' ²² then you shall inform your children, saying, 'Israel crossed this Jordan on dry ground.' ²³ For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the LORD your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed.

THE WHOLE FAMILY LABORS TOGETHER

Josh. 4:12 The sons of Reuben and the sons of Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over in battle array before the sons of Israel, just as Moses had spoken to them; ¹³ about 40,000 equipped for war, crossed for battle before the Lord to the desert plains of Jericho.



The 12 Tribes in the Promise Land.

But what's wrong with this picture?

CHURCH ON THE MOVE: FOR WITNESS AND WONDER

Josh. 4:23-24 ²³ For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the Lord your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed; ²⁴ that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, so that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”

Josh. 3:5 ⁵ Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.”