

## Notes for Joshua

### Land Ideologies

- Herem – noun “devoted things” and verb “devote to destruction” or “utterly destroy”
- West of Jordan vs. Transjordan
- expansionist-“promised” all the way to Euphrates
- rituals associated with conquest (circumcision, Passover, etc.)

### Deuteronomistic History

- DT chapter 28—Obedience = success; disobedience = failure. Achan (Trouble) / Achor (valley of Trouble) exemplifies.

### Joshua as a “type” of Moses

- Parting of Jordan (competing versions of story)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> writing of tablets
- circumcision
- theopanies
- raising of hands

### Archeological evidence for this event (400 years of silence in the record)

- lack of destroyed cities leads to competing theories (“Ai” or “Ruin” is an etiological myth?)
  - social revolution. Disenfranchised (“Rahab”) rebels against the power.
  - peaceful infiltration. Accounts for taking of names “El” and “Elohim” and persistence of other Canaanite gods
  - conservative—conquest.
  - possible merging of all? Perhaps working classes (i.e. Rahab) allied themselves with invading Hebrews.

### Composition

- set 13<sup>th</sup> century
- written (redacted) 7<sup>th</sup> century (Jeremiah/ Baruch). Emphasis on purification may reflect Josiah’s reforms.
- “doublets” and repetition; older fragments of JE?
  - possible competing versions of circumcision story
  - competing versions of parting Jordan
  - “” 12 stones (in and out of Jordan)
- oldest fragments are verse; may date from 13<sup>th</sup> century.