

- e. The ark of the Lord went before them. Right behind them was Reuben Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh and then Judah, Issachar, Zebulum, etc.
- f. The ark of the Lord goes with the priests carrying it to the Jordan River.
- g. The Jordan River is in flood stage.
- ii. The crossing (3:13-17)
  - a. As soon as those priests stepped their foot into the Jordan River, the Jordan River way back up stream rolls up in a heap.
  - b. The Jordan River is cut off from the waters that are flowing down to the Salt Sea and the ground suddenly becomes dry and some 2 million people cross the Jordan River on dry ground.
  - c. The priests who carried the ark stood right in the middle of the Jordan River while 2 million people cross.
- iii. The memorial stones (4)
  - a. When the people were across the Jordan River, Joshua said that a leader from each tribe was to go back and get a stone from where the priests stood in the Jordan River and they were to pile those stones up at Gilgal as a memorial to what happened.
  - b. They were also to pile stones up in the middle of the Jordan River where the priest stood as a memorial.
  - c. After the Israelites were all across, the priests carrying the ark came out and as soon they came out, the Jordan River went back as it was and when the people of Israel saw that, they knew God had given them the land.
  - d. The Lord had opened the Jordan River for Joshua just like he opened the Red Sea for Moses.
  - e. Joshua was exalted as the leader of the people so that the people knew that as the Lord was with Moses so would he be with Joshua.
  - f. Joshua said to the people, "In the future if any of your children say, 'What are these stones doing here?' what you are to do is to say, 'These stones are to remind us of the day that the Lord opened the Jordan River and let 2 million people go across.'"
- 4. Ethnic preparation (5)
  - i. The people of the land hear about what God had done for the children of Israel at the Jordan River.
  - ii. Moses had said that the fear of the people of Israel would be upon the people of the land.