

## B. Enactment of conquest (6-12)

### 1. The central campaign (6-8)

#### i. Jericho (6)

- a. The Lord told Joshua that he was going to deliver Jericho to him.
- b. He gave him instructions about how to conquer Jericho.
- c. The instructions:
  - 1) Take the ark of the covenant and have 7 priests blow ram's horns and take your army and march around Jericho once a day for six days.
  - 2) On the 7th day, march around it 7 times, blow the trumpet, have a war cry and the walls will fall.
- d. Joshua is going to follow the instructions to the letter.
  - 1) Joshua takes half of his army and puts it in front of the ark with the 7 priests and the ram's horns.
  - 2) The other half of the army he puts behind the ark carried by the Levites.
  - 3) After ~~they~~<sup>they</sup> circle Jericho 7 times on the 7th day, there is a loud trumpet blast, a war cry and then the walls of Jericho came down.
- e. The people of Jericho are completely surrounded by the Israelites.
- f. The people of Israel were not to take any spoil from Jericho.
  - 1) Why?
  - 2) Jericho is the firstfruits of the land so it belongs to the Lord.
  - 3) So the gold, silver, bronze, and the iron are taken and put in the treasury of the Lord.
- g. The people and animals are all killed.
- h. Notice the military strategy of Joshua.
  - 1) He is headed ~~to~~<sup>for</sup> the middle of Canaan.
  - 2) He is going to divide the forces.
  - 3) Then he is going to go south and then go north.

#### ii. Ai: an abortive attack (7)

- a. After they conquer Jericho, Joshua sends up several spies to Ai.
- b. The spies come back and say, "Ai is a piece of cake. It is nothing like Jericho. We only need to send two or three thousand men, not the whole army."
- c. Joshua sends 3000 men up to Ai, but the king of Ai comes out and puts the army of 3000 to flight and kills 36 Israelites.