**Joshua**

Chapter 12

*List of Defeated Kings*

**These are the kings of the land whom the Israelites had defeated and whose territory they took over east of the Jordan, from the Arnon Gorge to Mount Hermon, including all the eastern side of the Arabah:**

**2 Sihon king of the Amorites,**

**who reigned in Heshbon. He ruled from Aroer on the rim of the Arnon Gorge—from the middle of the gorge—to the Jabbok River, which is the border of the Ammonites. This included half of Gilead. 3 He also ruled over the eastern Arabah from the Sea of Kinnereth to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea), to Beth Jeshimoth, and then southward below the slopes of Pisgah.**

**4 And the territory of Og king of Bashan,**

**one of the last of the Rephaites, who reigned in Ashtaroth and Edrei. 5 He ruled over Mount Hermon, Salecah, all of Bashan to the border of the people of Geshur and Maacah, and half of Gilead to the border of Sihon king of Heshbon.**

**6 Moses, the servant of the Lord, and the Israelites conquered them. And Moses the servant of the Lord gave their land to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh to be their possession. 7 These are the kings of the land that Joshua and the Israelites conquered on the west side of the Jordan, from Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon to Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir (their lands Joshua gave as an inheritance to the tribes of Israel according to their tribal divisions— 8 the hill country, the western foothills, the Arabah, the mountain slopes, the desert and the Negev—the lands of the Hittites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites):**

**9 the king of Jericho one**

**the king of Ai (near Bethel) one**

**10 the king of Jerusalem one**

**the king of Hebron one**

**11 the king of Jarmuth one**

**the king of Lachish one**

**12 the king of Eglon one**

**the king of Gezer one**

**13 the king of Debir one**

**the king of Geder one**

**14 the king of Hormah one**

**the king of Arad one**

**15 the king of Libnah one**

**the king of Adullam one**

**16 the king of Makkedah one**

**the king of Bethel one**

**17 the king of Tappuah one**

**the king of Hepher one**

**18 the king of Aphek one**

**the king of Lasharon one**

**19 the king of Madon one**

**the king of Hazor one**

**20 the king of Shimron Meron one**

**the king of Acshaph one**

**21 the king of Taanach one**

**the king of Megiddo one**

**22 the king of Kedesh one**

**the king of Jokneam in Carmel one**

**23 the king of Dor (in Naphoth Dor) one**

**the king of Goyim in Gilgal one**

**24 the king of Tirzah one thirty-one kings in all.**

**12:1–24** A conclusion to the first section of Joshua, and a summary of the victories of the Israelites and the cities whose kings had been defeated (see map No. 3 at the end of the Study Bible). (CSB)

**12:1** *territory … east of the Jordan.* The unity of the nation is reaffirmed by the inclusion of these lands in Transjordan. (CSB)

Lands to the east of the Jordan. (TLSB)

*Arnon Gorge.* Marked the border with Moab to the south. (CSB)

*Mount Hermon.* The upper limits of Israel’s land to the north. (CSB)

**12:3** *Sea of Chinneroth*. Also spelled “Chinnereth.” Canaanite name for the Sea of Galilee. (TLSB)

**12:4** *Og king of Bashan.* Og and Sihon (v. 2) met defeat under the command of Moses, a long-remembered tribute to God’s mighty power (see Ne 9:22; Ps 135:11). (CSB)

**12:6** *Moses* … *gave*. Stresses the legitimacy of the Reubenite and Gadite claims to this land. (TLSB)

*Manasseh*. Half the tribe of Manasseh was given land on the eastern side of the Jordan. The other half was given land on the western side (13:8–13). (TLSB)

**12:1–6** This list of defeated enemies serves as a reminder that no power, no matter how great or glorious, can withstand the power of the Lord. Through the power of God, Moses gave the land to the Lord’s chosen. So Christ, the Son of God, by His power hidden in the cross, gives us the promised land of the new heavens and the new earth. • May the Lord work in us a faith that looks not to the powers as they are now but to His eternal power to save. Amen. (TLSB)

**12:7–24** *west side of the Jordan*. A second tabulation repeats the names of kings whom Joshua defeated (chs 2–7) and adds a considerable number not mentioned previously. This summary credits Joshua with victories over the Canaanite rulers. It does not claim that he “took possession of their land,” as Moses had done east of the Jordan (v 1). These victories took seven years. (TLSB)

**12:7–8** *(and Joshua … Jebusites)*. Parenthetic note anticipates the following chapters. Joshua was commanded to take this action, even though “there remains yet very much land to possess” (13:1). The detailed catalog of the division of the land shows its importance, for the land symbolized that better country that God has prepared for His people (Heb 11:16; Rv 11:15). (TLSB)

**12:7** *the land … on the west side.* Canaan proper (9:1; 11:16–17; 24:11; Ge 15:18–19). (CSB)

**12:12** *king of Gezer.* Had been defeated in the siege of Lachish (10:33), but the city itself was not captured by Joshua, nor were the cities of Aphek, Taanach, Megiddo or Dor (vv. 18–23; see Jdg 1:27–31).

**12:7–24** How remarkable that Joshua, once a slave in Egypt, becomes a conqueror of all of these kings! It is because the Lord is with him. How remarkable that the Lord is also with you and will strengthen you to overcome all that would enslave you. • May the Lord keep us faithful to the one true King, who reigns in grace. Amen. (TLSB)