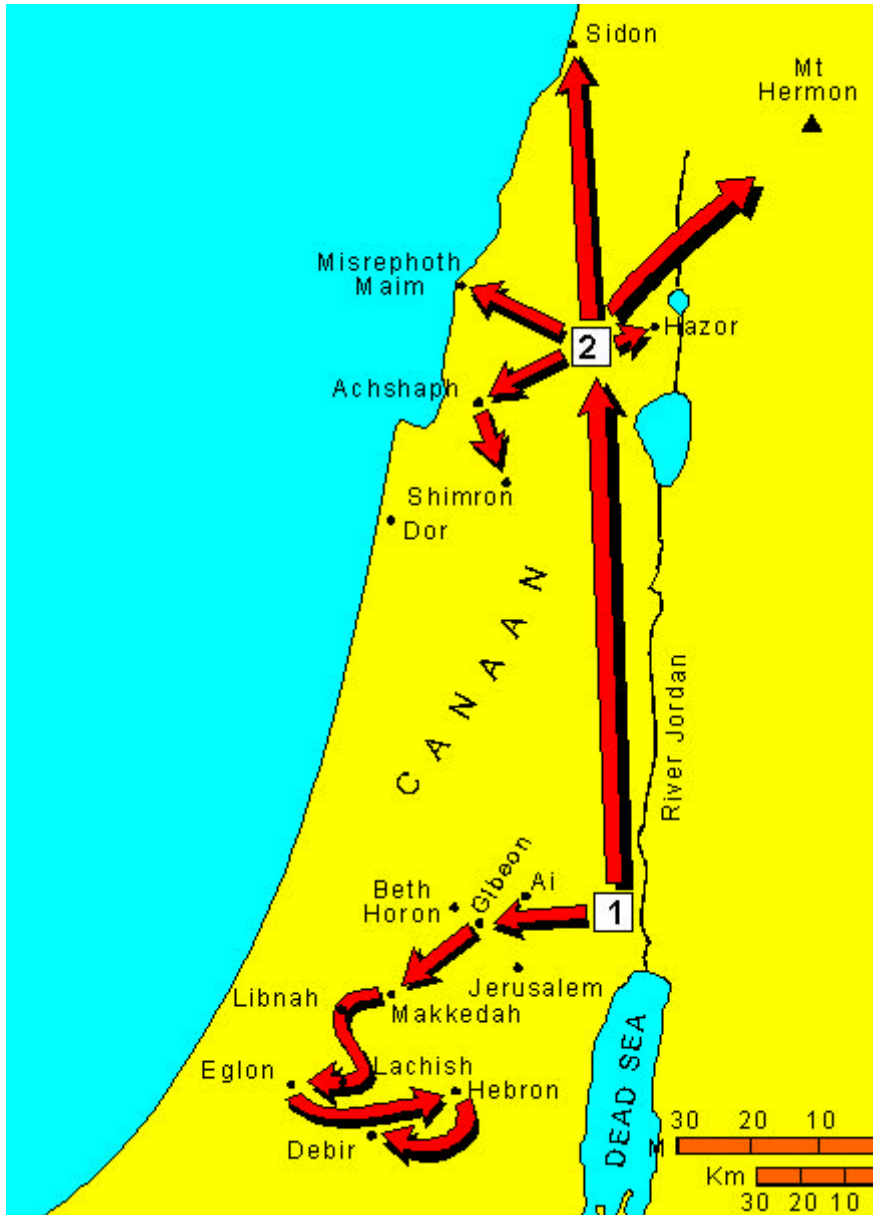
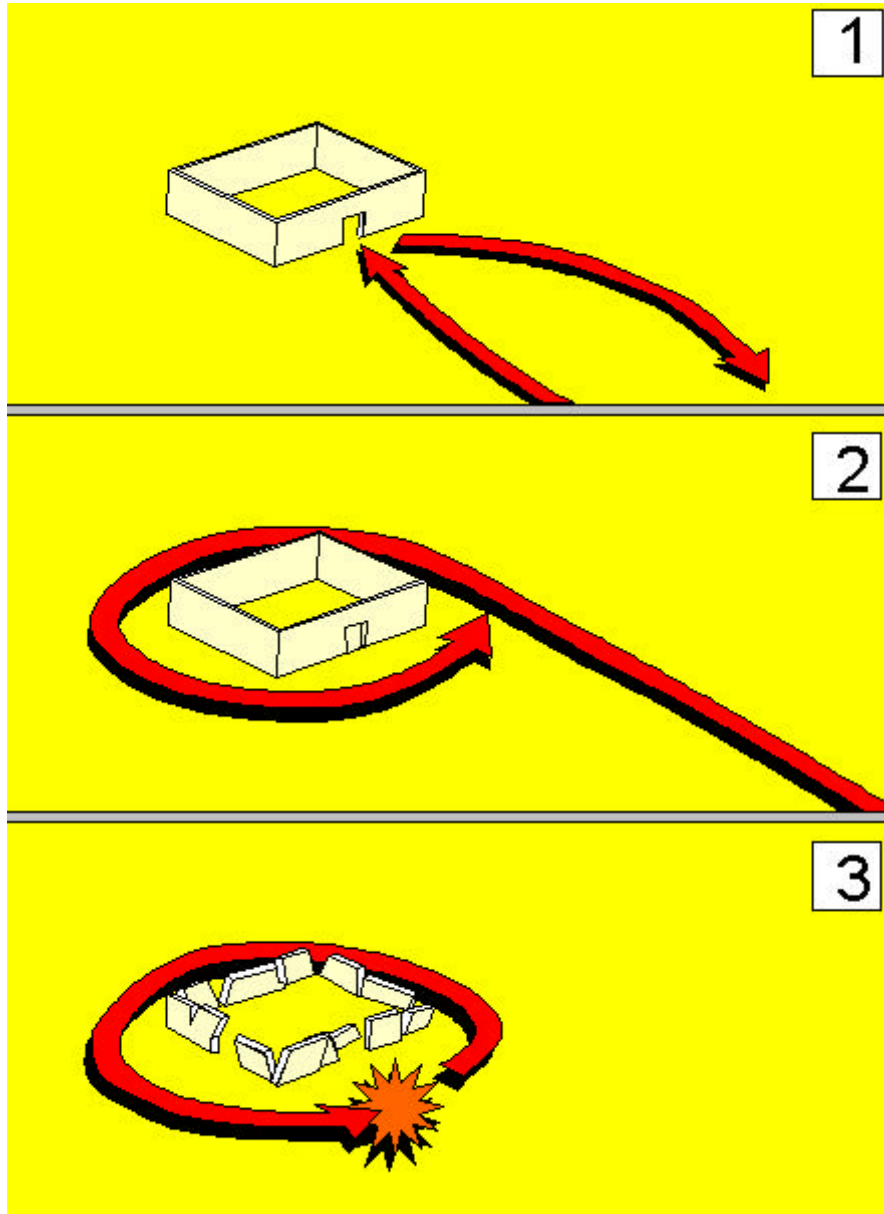


# Joshua's Campaigns

- 1 **In the south** (Joshua 10). Joshua's southern campaign was triggered by the treaty he made with the city of Gibeon. Five local kings went to war against Gibeon for its defection to the Israelites. Joshua conquered all their cities (except Jerusalem) using speedy marches and surprise attacks.
- 2 **In the north** (Joshua 11). The collapse of the south to Joshua spurred the powerful King Jabin of Hazor to assemble a large army for war. Again Joshua's shock tactics demolished the enemy. But these quick victories had to be followed up by a slower guerilla war, rooting out pockets of resistance (Joshua 11:18).

These two campaigns were only the beginning of the conquest and settlement of Canaan. Many cities and territories were still outside Israelite control (Judges 1). But Joshua's campaigns were the foundation for building the nation in Canaan.





## The Defeat of Jericho

1. Jericho is the first city of Canaan chosen for attack by Joshua, because it will give the Israelites a base in the country. It has good supplies of water and food. While still beyond the Jordan, Joshua sends spies to reconnoitre Jericho. Rahab hides them in her house in the city. They escape to make a full report to Joshua after hiding in the hills.

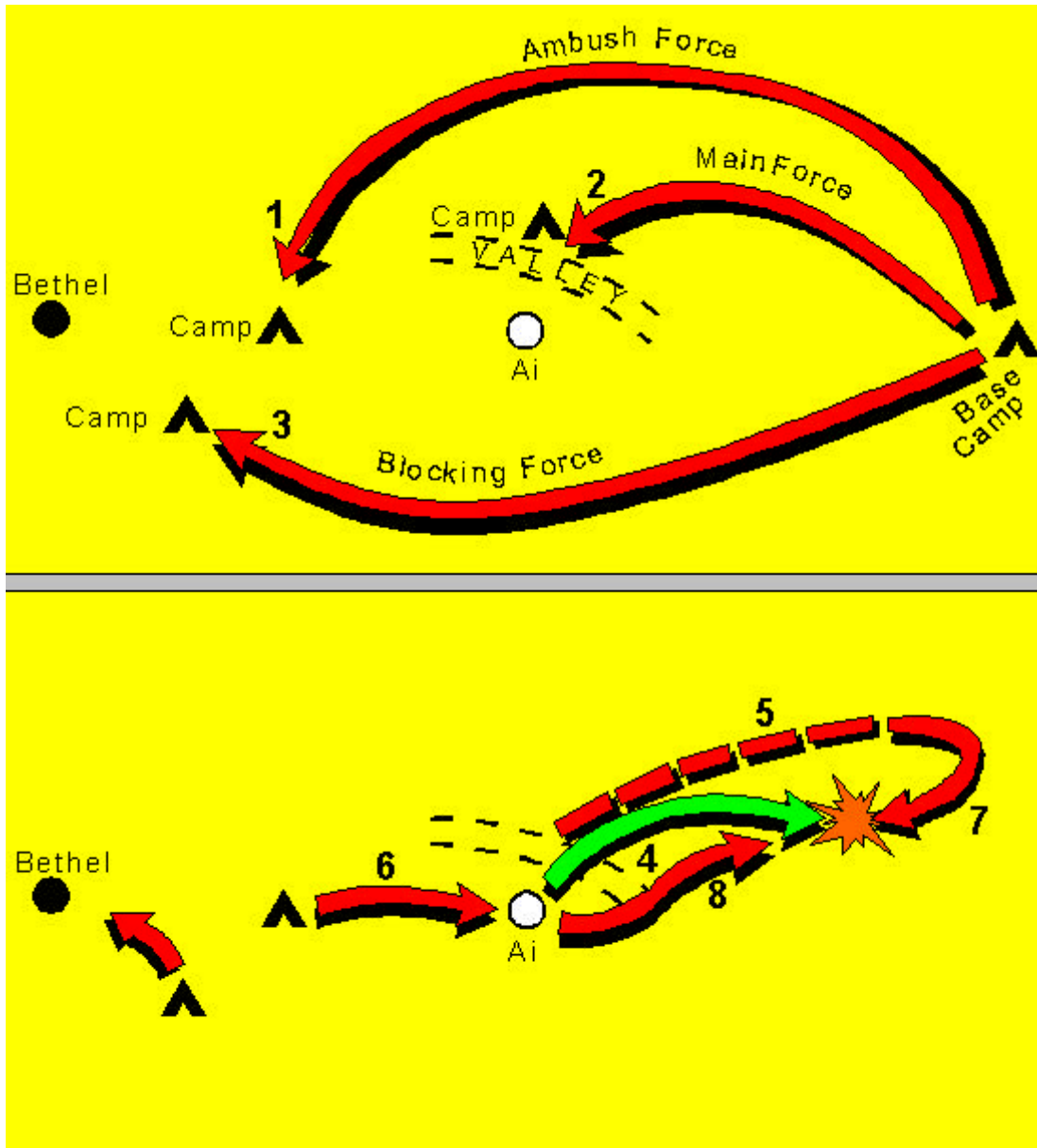
2. The Israelites cross the river, camp at Gilgal and then move to Jericho. Each day for 6 days they march once around the city. The order of procession at the front: advanced guard; 7 priests with trumpets; priests carrying the ark; rearguard. The trumpets are blown continuously.

3. Day 7. The Israelites march around the city 7 times. Then they all shout while the trumpets sound one long note. The city walls collapse and the city is taken. As agreed by the spies, Rahab and her family are spared.

# Attack on Ai

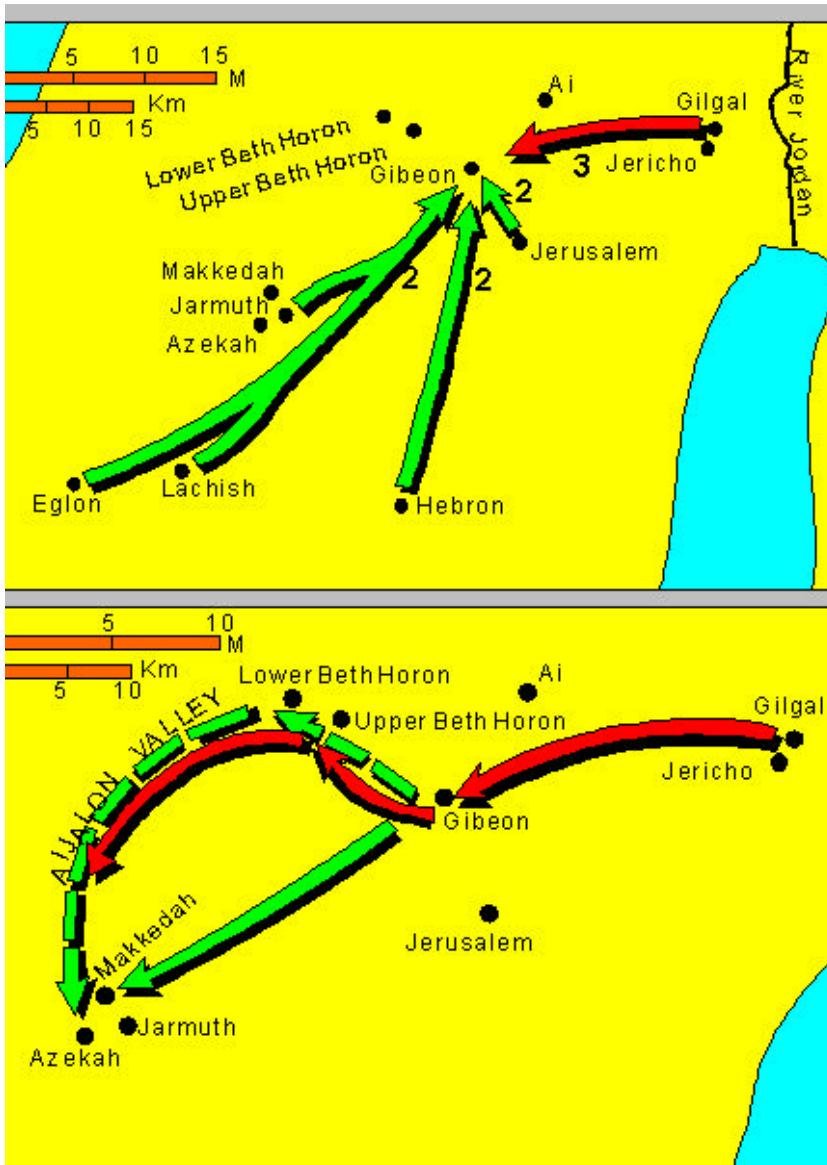
The first attack on Ai had ended in defeat for Israel because of one man's sin. But now, because of their obedience, God had promised victory...

1. Joshua sends out an ambush force at night to hide on the far side of Ai.
2. Next morning Joshua leads the main force to camp opposite the gate of Ai.
3. A third force is sent out to hide between Ai and Bethel, to block any intervention (Joshua 8:12).
4. The king of Ai leads his men out.
5. Joshua's main force pretends to retreat, the men of Ai pursue, as in the previous battle.
6. The ambush force enters unprotected Ai and sets it on fire.
7. Joshua's force turns to attack the men of Ai.
8. The ambush force joins the battle and overcomes the enemy.



# Gibeon Rescued

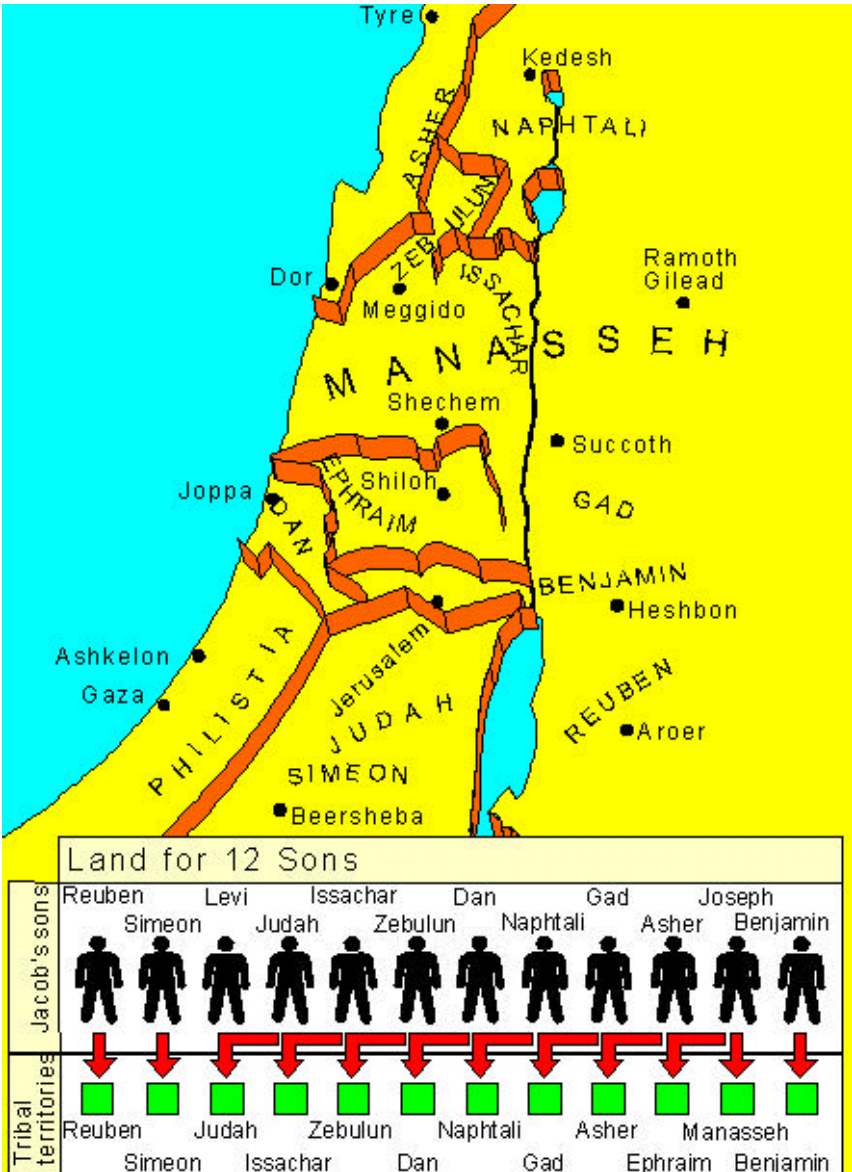
- 1 The people of Gibeon, frightened by what had happened at Jericho and Ai, trick Joshua into making a treaty with them.
- 2 Five local kings (Amorites) hear about this. They besiege Gibeon. The town calls for help from Joshua.
- 3 Joshua's troops march 24 km/15 miles by night, using the wooded country for cover.
- 4 The Amorite armies are completely surprised by Joshua's sudden attack. They panic and run down the mountain pass of Beth Horon.
- 5 The five kings escape secretly but are found hiding in a cave at Makkedah.
- 6 Joshua's objective is not just to rescue Gibeon, but to break the power of the local kings. He seizes the opportunity and pursues the fleeing Amorite forces.
- 7 Joshua's soldiers and a killer-hailstorm finish off the Amorites.



# Fixing the Boundaries

The people of Israel were divided into 12 tribes. The people of each tribe were descendants of one of Jacob's 12 sons. All the sons had been at their father's deathbed when he prophesied their future (Genesis 49). However, the names of Jacob's 12 sons differ in 2 ways from the names of Israel's 12 tribal territories.

- Levi does not appear on the map. Soon after the exodus the Levites became a tribe of priests. They were not given a part of the land, but instead received 48 cities with land around them.
- Joseph is also missing from the map. The descendants of his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, formed two tribes, each inheriting territory in the promised land.



Because the conquest of Joshua was incomplete, many of the tribes faced problems in settling into their new territories.

# Cities of Refuge

After the initial conquest, the Israelites named 6 cities as special 'cities of refuge.' A person who accidentally killed another was told to run to the nearest city of refuge. He or she would there be given shelter from avenging relatives until a fair trial could be arranged. This was an important provision in an age of blood feuds.

The circles on this map show approximately one day's journey in all directions from each city. It also shows Jokneam, one of the places

