

# The Book of Joshua

Bible Study – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – Collinsville, Illinois

## Chapter Four

### The Twelve Memorial Stones (4.1-9)

#### 1. The Three-fold Sequence: The LORD Commands Joshua / Joshua Commands Israel / Israel Complies

#### **Why is this sequence important?**

One of the important themes of Joshua is the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua. Just as the LORD spoke to Moses, so the LORD speaks to Joshua.

#### 2. All of Israel crosses the Jordan. The ark remains in the middle. The stones are picked up from the very spot where the priests are standing.

The sixth century Madaba Mosaic Map identifies the location of "Galgala" (Gilgal) where the twelve stones were erected. Lit. *Galgala to kai dwdekalithon*



#### **In what other ways are we reminded that God is present with us in the midst of all trials and troubles?**

Deut. 31.6-7

Psalm 23.4

Psalm 46.4-7

Isaiah 43.1-3

Matthew 28:19-20

2 Tim 4.17-18

3. Memorials have been used before.

Gen 28:18

Num 15:37

**How can tangible reminders of God's Word help us?**

4. "To this day"

**The Priests Come Up and the River Flows**

5. Reuben, Gad, and the Half Tribe of Manasseh

6. We are told that the people "feared" Joshua in 4.14

**What does it mean to fear God? What does it mean to fear  
God's leaders?**

**What about the old "Herr Pastor" custom?**

7. In 4.20 the twelve stones are finally erected for the memorial.

8. The children are to ask about the memorial stones in 4.21.

9. Note the final purpose of the miracle: