

The Promised Land Series covers the books in the Bible from *Exodus* to *Judges*. These books describe events from the birth of Moses to the end of the era of the judges of Israel.

In *Genesis*, God promised Abraham that his descendants would inherit the land of Canaan, so Canaan became known as The Promised Land. Modern Israel and Palestine encompass the majority of Canaan.

Abraham's grandson was Jacob, whose name was changed to "Israel" by God. His descendants became known as the Hebrews or Israelites. During the later life of Jacob, the Hebrews moved to Egypt during a famine. The book of *Exodus* opens about four centuries later with the Hebrews still in Egypt, having become slaves of the Pharaoh.

The book of *Exodus* is primarily about Moses leading the Hebrews out of Egypt and into the wilderness, their covenant with God, and the construction of the Tabernacle.

*Leviticus*, *Numbers*, and *Deuteronomy* tell of the Hebrews wandering in the wilderness, the laws given to them Hebrews by God, and their adventures on the way to the Promised Land. These books end with the Israelites poised to enter the Promised Land, and the death of Moses.

*Joshua* recounts the entry of the Hebrews into the Promised Land under the leadership of Joshua. He led the Hebrews as they conquered and took control of most of the Promised Land, and distributed it among the twelve tribes of Israel.

*Judges* is a compilation of stories of the leaders of Israel after the death of Joshua. These leaders were called judges. The times of the judges was quite volatile since the Israelite tribes had to contend with powerful enemies, and deal with their own unfaithfulness to God.

During the time of Moses, the Hebrew people made a far-reaching covenant, or promise, with God. Among other things, they agreed to worship God...and ONLY God. From almost the first day they made this promise, the Hebrews started breaking it. *Judges* describes cycles of: worshiping God only, worshiping other gods, getting punished, and repenting.

Altogether, the Promised Land Series covers a time span of more than four centuries. When it is over, God gives the people what they want.