

# Agenda for ENGL 115: March 4

## 1. Announcements/Clarifications: Regarding Key Quotes and Essays:

- use first person – don't generalize about “readers” “we” “the audience” “you”;
- use present tense verbs
- \*\*\*build your comments on the text reading for “subject” not “object” (see the Terms to Know handout) AND writing about the text without layering “on it” \*\*\*
- You will submit Key Quotes for March 4, but not on March 11 as it says on the syllabus  
\*\*Even if you are late, just submit your Key Quotes\*\*
- \*\*\*Remember that compilers/redactors have put together the books of the Bible; so “the God says” or “the God wants” are not really accurate

## 2. Oral presentation dates/clarifications—**3:00 – 3:10**

## 3. Recap from Deuteronomy – the style of “the farewell address,” hortatory/exhortation/exhort; and Moses’ discourse; Ch. 1 – examples of historical

text: specific names of kings/leaders/places;  
 vs. 9 and following: replay of advice of  
 Jethro, now relayed in 1<sup>st</sup> person; vs. 23 &  
 following: replay of “spying the land”; vs.  
 30-32; Caleb honored/Moses criticized; Ch  
 2 – more about descendants of Esau and of  
 Lot, references to King Og and King Sihon;  
 Ch 3:23ff – Moses’ plea to get into the land;  
 Ch 4 – among the many references to  
 remembering God’s commands/reprise of  
 the 10 commandments (in Ch 5 as well);  
 cautions against syncretism; 4:41: cities of  
 refuge; Ch 6: 4-5 – the Shema and the  
 imagery of Ch 6; Ch 10:16 – “circumcise  
 your heart”; “if/then” passages; 11:26  
 “blessing and curse...”; Ch 19—cities of  
 refuge; Ch 20 “holy war”; **3:10 – 3:30**  
 4. Presentation of Ch. 8 “The Promised Land”  
 from *The Bible and Its Influence* – Micaela  
 Veglia --**3:30—3:40**

5. Chs 30-34: read/review together – another song and more blessings; Moses’ death—  
**3:40 – 3:50**

6. Joshua 1—13, 20-24

For Joshua

1. The note on “historical books” – p. 319
2. Ch. 3 – about carrying the ark of the covenant into the Jordan/the people sanctifying themselves
  - The priests will carry the ark
  - 3.4 – boundaries
  - The covenant reinforced vs. 9-13
  - Parallels to the Red (Reed) Sea – the Jordan waters “cut off” for Israelites to pass through on dry ground
3. Ch. 4 – the stones – frequent reference in Joshua – as markers and means of remembrance
4. Ch. 5 – second circumcision (for those who hadn’t been in the Wilderness/after the escape from Egypt); these being circumcised are those who didn’t “perish, not having listened to the voice of the Lord” (5:6)
  - A theophany for Joshua (5.13-17) parallels to Moses and the burning bush
5. Ch. 6 – the siege of Jericho
  - Priestly-like directions: on the 7<sup>th</sup> day – 7 times...

- Rahab and family are allowed to escape 6:17, 22-25
- “devoted to destruction” (language of Holy War)—objects not to be coveted
- An oath/curse – 6:26

#### 6. Ch. 7

- Fears about going against Ai (Joshua pleading/complaining to God – another Moses parallel – vs. 6-15)
- Repeated phrase: “the hearts of the people melted...”
- The problems of “coveting” – breaking the covenant; Achan (of the tribe of Judah) and his failures

#### 7. Ch. 8 – military ploy in the taking of Ai

#### 8. Ch. 9 – the cunning of the Gibeonites; they save their lives, but become perpetual indentured servants to the Israelites

#### 9. Ch. 10 – the 5 Kings of the Amorites

#### 10. Chs. 11-13 – descriptions of the total and rapid destruction; the “subject” of these chapters or the broader motif – the God of the covenant is giving this land to the Israelites; yes, this is problematic – but the dominant motive of covenant theology emphasizes that the God, having promised to Abraham and all the descendants of Abraham, the land is fulfilling God’s part. The people have to carry through on theirs; this

means absolute and total fidelity to the covenant and all God asks

11. Ch. 20 – establishing cities of refuge in the land now taken for the various tribes of Israelites
12. Ch. 23-24 – Joshua’s farewell address references to all the God has done for them (vs. 3), remaining steadfast/avoiding syncretism (vs. 6-16); Ch. 24 – reviews the “history” from Abraham on; key dialogue about “choosing the Lord” – vs. 14-25; quotable quote “but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” -- **3:50 – 4:15**