

SAMPLE OF THE BOOK OF JOSHUA by MC CONTI

Actor 4: Are you sure this is a good idea? All the other kings are joining a coalition to fight Israel together.

Actor 5: Yeah, and together they will all lose.

Actor 3: He's right. This is the best way.

Actor 4: Fine. Tell me the plan again.

Actor 5: We dress up in tattered clothes with crumbs of bread and torn wineskins to trick the Israelites into thinking we are from far far away.

Actor 3: Then we make a pinky promise peace pact with them.

Actor 5: Then BAM! We tell them, just kidding, we're your neighbors!

Actor 3: And they won't be able to touch us!

Actor 4: But won't then make us like servants and water carriers and stuff.

Actor 3: Better that than being dead!

Actor 4: Good point. So how do the wineskins and breadcrumbs fool them?

Actor 5: Shh... just watch.

Joshua (*entering, God right behind him*): Oh. Hello.

Actor 5: Hello... (*overacting this part*) We are from a land far faaar away.

Actor 4: We are definitely not the people of Gibeon which is right next door. (*They shush him*)

Joshua: That's a weird thing to say. But I'm listening.

God VO: Make sure you check with me before you make any sort of pact.

Actor 3: We would like to make a pact.

Joshua: I'll need to hear the pact and you'll need to prove you are from far away.

God VO: And you'll need to check with me.

Actor 5 (*pulling breadcrumbs out of his bag*): Right before we left, we pulled this bread off the fire and now look at it.

Joshua: That is very compelling evidence. What else ya got?

Actor 3: Our wineskins were brand new when we left.

Joshua: They are definitely cracked and old now.

Actor 4: And look at us?? Don't we look terrible??

Joshua: You really do. Let me just run this by someone.

God VO: Good job, and I'll tell you right now -

Joshua: Steve - you got a minute?

Steve: What's up?

Joshua: Do those guys look like weary travelers from a far away land to you?

Steve: Yup!

Joshua: Cool. (*He walks back to the actors and holds out his hand.*) You can be our servants. Deal?

Actor 4 (*Shaking his hand aggressively*): Deal!! I can't believe that worked! (*Actor 1 takes off his fake rags and has a shirt on that says Go Gibeonites!*)

Joshua: Can't believe what worked? Gibeonites?? Hey, wait a minute!!

God VO: Always check with me.

Actor 4 (*breaking character*): Ok, folks. Have a great night.

Actor 3 (*breaking character*): Thanks for coming to the show.

Actor 5 (*dropping his character*): What are you guys doing?

Spy 2 (*also dropping his character*): Hello... we're acting here.

Joshua (*dropping his character*): Well, some of us are. (*Spy 2 glares at him*) Kidding!!

Actor 5: There are still like 15 chapters left.

Actor 4: Yeah, but the next 10 chapters are just about all the lands that Joshua took and all the people he killed (*actor shudders*) We don't really need to go into detail about that.

Actor 3: It's like 40 years of death and destruction. And then there is a whole lot about how Joshua split the lands between the tribes. Here, look Chapter 15 v. **20-32** This is the inheritance of the tribe of the people of Judah, clan by clan.

Actor 4: The southern towns of the tribe of Judah in the Negev were near the boundary of Edom: Kabzeel, Eder, Jagur, Kinah, Dimonah, Adadah, Kedesh, Hazor, Ithnan, Ziph, Telem, Bealoth,.. I mean this goes on for 7 chapters. He makes the cities of refuge.

Actor 5: That's kind of interesting.

Actor 4: But then Look here... Chapter 21... **9-10** They assigned from the tribes of Judah, Simeon, and Benjamin the following towns, here named individually (clears his/her throat) -

Actor 3: Ok, you've made your point.

Actor 2: Then Joshua sends the Rubenites and such back to their side of the Jordan with a pat on the back and a thanks for helping all these years.

Actor 3: Then they built that altar and the Israelites lost their minds.

Joshua: That's right. They said it was against God!

God VO: And I decided it wasn't. (*Everyone except Joshua reacts to hearing the voice from nowhere.*)

Actor 4: There, that's Chapter 22 done. It's looking like we can all go home early tonight.

Joshua: But the end of the book is me giving my speeches. I don't think we should skip that part.

Actor 4 (under his breath): Ok, diva.

God VO: No, he's right. That's a pretty important part of the book

Actor 4: Fine (*They all groan and exit, all except for Joshua. As Joshua says the next line, Actor 4 grabs a sign that says "MANY years later, Actor 5 grabs a grey wig, Actor 6 grabs a chair, Actor 3 grabs a cane. They also all grab their name signs - Moses, Issac, Abraham, Jacob - if you have the actors, also add Joseph and Aaron. They quickly go back on stage.*) **Joshua 23**

Joshua: I am an old man. I have lived a long life.

Actor 4: Hold on there, tiger. (*He holds the sign up as Actor 5 puts the chair down behind Joshua and pulls him down to sit, then puts the wig on him. Actor 3 puts the cane in his hand and pushes him so he's slightly slumped over. They all stand SL and admire their work*)

Actor 5 (*Runs to fix the wig a bit*): There we go. Carry on. (*They sit, as if they are the people Joshua is talking to. Their backs are to the audience so they can go ahead and put their name signs on*) **Joshua 24**

Joshua: I am an old man (*Actor 3 clears his throat*) Fine. (*He makes his voice like that of a very old man*): I'm an old man. I've lived a long time. Together we have seen our God do some amazing things. And He will continue to do so for you. All you have to do is follow the rules that our Moses wrote down in the book. Every detail. Stay alert. Do that and you'll be set., If you don't, well... it won't be pretty. It's really that easy, guys. (*He slowly stands up*) Alright, I'm about to make my exit. 110 years is long enough. Just... please remember everything. Remember Abraham, Issac, Jacob and Esau, Moses, Aaron and the plagues; the part of the sea, all the kings we defeated, all the land we have known... remember it all.

All: We will remember!

Joshua: Yeah, I don't believe that. I feel like you're going to fail.

All: No we won't.

Joshua: Promise?

All: Promise!

Joshua: Ok. Then go home. (*Actors 3-6 stand up and turn around each wearing a name sign.*)

Angel Dude: And so Joshua dies and joins his place amongst these other great names. (*All but Angel Dude stand together, center stage, talking and patting Joshua on the back*) That part isn't actually in the bible.

Joshua: It's called creative license. (*Pause*) You should get in on this!

Angel Dude: Abraham, Issac, Jacob, Moses. I guess it is kind of the end of an era. (*He walks - almost skips - over and they are all in a semi circle talking and laughing as the lights go down. They should be talking out loud and telling stories from the first books of the bible, in case any one hears part of the conversation. It's very much a happy high school reunion vibe with God and all His big players from the beginning of the bible welcoming Joshua to Heaven.*)

END SHOW