

The Book of  
**Jesus son of Naue**

**Chapter 1**

**A**nd it came to pass after the death of Moses, that the Lord spoke to Jesus the son of Naue, the minister of Moses, saying, 2 Moses my servant is dead; now then arise, cross Jordan, thou and all this people, into the land, that I give them. 3 Every spot on which ye shall tread I will give it to you, as I said to Moses. 4 The wilderness and Antilibanus, as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, and as far as the farthest sea; your costs shall be from the setting of the sun. 5 Not a man shall stand against you all the days of thy life; and as I was with Moses, so will I also be with thee, and I will not fail thee, or neglect thee. 6 Be strong and quit thyself liking a man, for thou shall divide the land to this people, which I swore to give to your fathers, to give *unto* them. 7 Be strong, therefore, and quit thyself liking a man, to observe and do as Moses my servant commanded thee; and thou shall not turn from them to the right hand or to the left, that thou may be wise in whatever thou may do. 8 And the book of this law shall not depart out of thy mouth, and thou shall meditate on it day and night, that thou may know how to do all the things that are written; then shall thou prosper, and make thy ways prosperous, and then shall thou be wise. 9 Behold! I have commanded thee; be strong and courageous, be neither cowardly nor fearful, for the Lord thy God is with thee in all places whither thou goes.

10 And Jesus commanded the scribes of the people, saying, 11 Go into the middle of the camp of the people, and command the people, saying, Prepare provisions; for yet three days and ye will go over this Jordan, entering in to take possession of the land that the Lord God of your fathers gives to you.

12 And to Ruben, and to Gad, and to the half-tribe of Manasse, Jesus said, 13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, the Lord your God has caused you to rest, and has given you this land. 14 Let your wives and your children and your cattle live in the land, which He has given you; and ye shall go over in good order before your brothers, every one of you who is strong; and ye shall fight on their side; 15 until the Lord your God shall have given your brothers rest, as also to you, and they also shall have inherited the land that the Lord your God gives them; then ye shall depart each one to his inheritance, which Moses gave you beyond *the Jordan to the east*. 16 And they answered Jesus and said, We will do all things which thou commands us, and we will go to every place whither thou shall send us.

## **Jesus son of Naue 2**

17 Whenever we hearkened to Moses we will hearken to thee; only let the Lord our God be with thee, as he was with Moses. 18 And whoever shall disobey thee, and whoever shall not hearken to thy words as thou shall command him, let him die; but be thou strong and courageous.

## **Chapter 2**

**A**nd Jesus the son of Naue sent out of Sattin two young men to spy, saying, Go up and view the land and Jericho, and the two young men went and entered into Jericho; and they entered into the house of a female prostitute, whose name was Raab, and lodged there. 2 And it was reported to the king of Jericho, saying, Men of the sons of Israel have come in hither to spy the land. 3 And the king of Jericho sent and spoke to Raab, saying, Bring out the men that entered into thine house this night, for they are come to spy out the land. 4 And the woman took the two men and hid them; and she spoke to them, saying, The men came in to me, 5 but when the gate was shut in the dark, the men went out; I know not whither they are gone; follow after them, if ye shall overtake them. 6 But she brought them up upon the house, and hid them in the flax stalks that were spread by her on the house. 7 And the men followed after them on the way to Jordan to the fords; and the gate was shut.

8 And it came to pass when the men who pursued after them were gone forth, and before the spies had lain down to sleep, that she came up to them on the top of the house; 9 and she said to them, I know that the Lord has given you the land; for the fear of you has fallen upon us. 10 For we have heard that the Lord God dried up the Red Sea before you, when ye came out of the land of Egypt, and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites, who were beyond Jordan, to Seon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. 11 And when we heard it we were amazed in our heart, and there was no longer any spirit in any of us because of you, for the Lord your god *is* God in heaven above, and on the earth beneath. 12 And now swear to me by the Lord God; since I deal mercifully with you, so do ye also deal mercifully with the house of my father; 13 and save alive the house of my father, my mother, and my brothers, and all my house, and all that they have, and ye shall rescue my soul from death. 14 And the men said to her, Our life for yours *even* to death, and she said, When the Lord shall have delivered the city to you, ye shall deal mercifully and truly with me.

15 And she let them down by the window; 16 and she said to them, Depart into the hill country, lest the pursuers meet you, and ye shall be hidden there three days until your pursuers return from after you, and afterwards ye shall depart on your way. 17 And the men said to her, We are clear of this thy oath.

### Jesus son of Naue 3

18 Behold, we will enter into a part of the city, and thou shall set the sign; thou shall bind this red cord in the window, by which thou has let us down, and thou shall bring in to thyself, into thy house, thy father, and thy mother, and thy brothers, and all the family of thy father. 19 And it shall come to pass that whoever shall go outside the door of thy house, his guilt shall be upon him, and we shall be finished of this thine oath; and we will be responsible for all that shall be found with thee in thy house. 20 But if any one should injure us, or betray these our matters, we shall be finished of this thine oath. 21 And she said to them, Let it be according to your word; and she sent them out, and they departed.

22 And they came to the hill country, and remained there three days; and the pursuers searched all the roads, and did not find them. 23 And the two young men returned, and came down out of the mountain; and they went over to Jesus the son of Naue, and told him all things that had happened to them. 24 And they said to Jesus, The Lord has delivered all the land into our power, and all the inhabitants of that land tremble because of us.

## Chapter 3

And Jesus arose early in the morning, and departed from Sattin; and they came as far as Jordan, and lodged there before they crossed over. 2 And it came to pass after three days, the scribes went through the camp; 3 and they charged the people, saying, When ye shall see the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord our God, and our priests and the Levites bearing it, ye shall depart from your places, and ye shall go after it. 4 But let there be a distance between you and it; ye shall stand as much as two thousand cubits *from it*. Do not draw near to it, that ye may know the way that ye are to go, for ye have not gone this way since yesterday and three days. 5 And Jesus said to the people, Sanctify yourselves against tomorrow, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you. 6 And Jesus said to the priests, Take up the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord, and go before the people; and the priests took up the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord, and went before the people.

\* 7 And the Lord said to Jesus, This day do I begin to exalt thee in the sight of all the sons of Israel that they may know that as I was with Moses, so will I also be with thee. 8 And now charge the priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant, saying, As soon as ye shall come to a part of the water of *the* Jordan, then ye shall stand still in *the* Jordan. 9 And Jesus said to the sons of Israel, Come hither, and hearken to the word of the Lord our God. 10 Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and will utterly destroy from before our face the Canaanite, and the Hittite and Pherezite, and the Evite, and the Amorite, and the Gergesite, and the Jebusite.

## Jesus son of Naue 4

11 Behold, the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord of all the earth crosses Jordan. 12 Choose for you twelve men of the sons of Israel, one of each tribe. 13 And it shall come to pass, when the feet of the priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord of the whole earth rest in the water of Jordan, the water of Jordan shall fail, and the water coming down from above shall stop. 14 And the people removed from their tents to cross Jordan, and the priests bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord before the people. \* 15 And when the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord had come to *the* Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord were dipped in part of the water of *the* Jordan; now *the* Jordan overflowed its entire channel as on the days of *the* wheat harvest; 16 And the waters that came down from above stopped and there arose in a solid heap very far off, as far as the region of Kariathiarim, and that which came down to the sea of Araba, the Salt Sea, till it completely ended; and the people stood opposite Jericho. 17 And the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord stood on dry land in the midst of *the* Jordan; and all the sons of Israel crossed through on dry land, until all the people had completely crossed over *the* Jordan.

\* The reading from Chapter Five of the Book of Jesus son of Naue verses seven through eight and fifteen through seventeen as found in the fourth reading for Vespers for January 8<sup>h</sup> from the *Greek Menaion* is somewhat different from what is present in the Biblical text as published by the Apostoliki Diakonia and the Zoe Brotherhood. The reading is translated as follows:

“And the Lord said to Jesus, This day do I begin to exalt thee in the sight of all the sons of Israel that they may know that as I was with Moses, so will I also be with thee. And now charge the priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant, saying, As soon as ye shall come to a part of the water of *the* Jordan, then ye shall stand still in *the* Jordan. And when the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord had come to *the* Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord were dipped in part of the water of *the* Jordan; (*the* Jordan overflowed its entire channel as on the days of *the* wheat harvest), and the waters that came down from above stopped and there arose in a solid heap very far off, from the city of Adami, as far as the region of Kariathiarim, and that which came down to the Sea of Araba, , as far as the Salt Sea, till it completely ended; and the people stood opposite Jericho. And the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord stood on dry land in the midst of *the* Jordan; and all the sons of Israel crossed through on dry land, until all the people had completely crossed over *the* Jordan.”

## Chapter 4

**A**nd when the people had completely crossed *the* Jordan, the Lord spoke to Jesus, saying, 2 Take men from the people, one of each tribe, 3 and charge them; and ye shall take out of the middle of Jordan twelve ready stones, and having carried them across together with yourselves, place them in your camp, where ye shall encamp for the night.

## Jesus son of Naue 4

4 And Jesus, having called twelve men of those distinguished among the sons of Israel, one of each tribe, 5 said to them, Advance before me in the presence of the Lord into the middle of *the* Jordan, and each having taken up a stone from thence, let him carry it on his shoulders, according to the number of the twelve tribes of Israel; 6 that these may be to you continually for an appointed sign, that when thy son asks thee tomorrow, saying, What are these stones to us? 7 then thou may explain to thy son, saying, The River Jordan failed from before the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord of the whole earth, when it passed it; and these stones shall be for a memorial for you for the sons of Israel forever.

8 And the son of Israel did so, as the Lord commanded Jesus; and they took up twelve stones out of the middle of *the* Jordan, as the Lord commanded Jesus, when the sons of Israel had completely crossed, and carried these stones with them into the camp, and laid them down there. 9 And Jesus set also other twelve stones in Jordan itself, in the place that was under the feet of the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord; and there they are to this day. 10 And the priests that bore the Ark of the Covenant stood in *the* Jordan, until Joshua finished all that the Lord commanded him to report to the people; and the people hurried and crossed.

11 And it came to pass when all the people had crossed, that the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord crossed, and the stones before them. 12 And the sons of Ruben, and the sons of Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasse crossed over equipped before the sons of Israel, as Moses commanded them. 13 Forty thousand in good order for battle went over before the Lord to war, to the city of Jericho. 14 In that day the Lord magnified Jesus before all the people of Israel; and they feared him, as *they did* Moses, as long as he lived.

15 And the Lord spoke to Jesus, saying, 16 Charge the priests that bear the Ark of the Covenant of the testimony of the Lord, to go up out of Jordan. 17 And Jesus charged the priests, saying, Go up out of Jordan. 18 And it came to pass when the priests who bore the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord were gone up out of Jordan, and set their feet upon the land, the water of Jordan returned impetuously to its place, and went as before over all its banks.

19 And the people went up out of Jordan on the tenth day of the first month; and the sons of Israel encamped in Galgala in the region east from Jericho. 20 And Jesus set these twelve stones which he took out of Jordan, in Galgala, 21 saying, When your sons ask you, saying, What are these stones? 22 Tell your sons, that Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land, 23 when the Lord our God had dried up the water of Jordan from before them, until they had crossed; as the Lord our God did to the Red Sea, which the Lord our God dried up from before us, until we crossed.

## Jesus son of Naue 5

24 That all the nations of the earth might know, that the power of the Lord is mighty, and that ye might worship the Lord our God in every work.

## Chapter 5

And it came to pass when the kings of the Amorites who were beyond Jordan heard, and the kings of Phoenicia by the sea, that the Lord God had dried up the river Jordan from before the sons of Israel when they crossed, that their hearts failed, and their minds melted, and there was no sense in them from the face of the sons of Israel.

2 About this time the Lord said to Jesus, Make thee stone knives of sharp stone, and sit down and circumcise the sons of Israel a second time. 3 And Joshua made sharp knives of stone, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the place called the Hill of Foreskins. 4 And *this is* the way in which Jesus purified the sons of Israel; as many as were born in the way, and as many as were uncircumcised of them that came out of Egypt, all these Jesus circumcised; 5 for forty and two years Israel wondered in the wilderness of Mabdaris 6 Wherefore most of the fighting men that came out of the land of Egypt, were uncircumcised, who disobeyed the commands of God; concerning whom also he determined that they should not see the land, which the Lord swore to give to their fathers, a land flowing with milk and honey. 7 In their place he raised up their sons, whom Jesus circumcised, because they were uncircumcised, having been born by the way. 8 When they had been circumcised they rested sitting there in the camp till they were healed. 9 And the Lord said to Jesus the son of Naue, On this day have I removed the reproach of Egypt from you; and he called the name of that place Galgala.

\* 10 And the sons of Israel kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, to the west of Jericho on the opposite side of the Jordan in the plain. 11 And they ate of the corn of the earth unleavened and new. 12 In this day the manna stopped, after they had eaten of the corn of the land, and the sons of Israel no longer had manna; and they harvested the land of the Phoenicians in that year.

\* 13 And it came to pass when Jesus was in Jericho, that he looked up with his eyes and saw a man standing before him, and *with* a drawn broadsword in his hand; and Jesus drew near and said to him, Art thou for us or on the side of our enemies? 14 He said to him, I am the commanding soldier of the power of the Lord, and now I have come here. And Jesus fell on his face upon the earth, and said to him, Master, what commands thou thy servant? 15 And the commanding soldier of the Lord spoke to Jesus, Loose thy sandals from thy feet, for the place whereon thou now stands is holy.

## Jesus *son* of Naue 6

\* The reading from Chapter Five of the Book of Jesus *son* of Naue verses thirteen through fifteen as found in the November 8<sup>h</sup> vesper reading from the *Greek Menaion* is slightly different from what is present in the biblical text as published by the Apostoliki Diakonia and the Zoe Brotherhood. The reading is translated as follows:

“It came to pass when Jesus was in Jericho, that he looked up with his eyes and saw a man standing before him, and his drawn broadsword in his hand; and Jesus drew near and said to him, Art thou one of us, or are ye one of the enemy’s? He said to him, I am the commanding soldier of the power of the Lord, and now I have come here. And Jesus fell on his face upon the earth, and said to him, Master, what commands thou thy servant? And the commanding soldier of the Lord said to Jesus, Loose thy sandals from thy feet, for the place whereon thou now stands is holy. And Jesus did so”.

\* The third reading for vespers on Holy and Great Saturday for the Great Holy Week of *Pascha* from Chapter Five verses ten through fifteen of the Book of Jesus *son* of Naue is again slightly different from what is present in the biblical text as published by the Apostoliki Diakonia and the Zoe Brotherhood. The reading is translated as follows:

“The sons of Israel encamped in Galgala and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at evening, to the west of Jericho, on the opposite side of the Jordan in the plain. And they ate of the corn of the earth on the morning of Passover, unleavened and new. In this day the manna stopped, after they had eaten of the corn of the land, and the sons of Israel no longer had manna; they harvested the land of the Phoenicians in that year. And it came to pass when Jesus was in Jericho, that he looked up with his eyes and saw a man standing before him, and a drawn broadsword was in his hand; and Jesus drew near and said to him, Art thou one of us, or are ye one of the enemy’s? He said to him, I, the commanding soldier of the power of the Lord, and now I have come here. And Jesus fell on his face upon the earth, and worshipped, and said to him, Master, what commands thou thy servant? And the commanding soldier of the Lord said to Jesus, Loose thy sandals from thy feet, for the place whereon thou now stands is holy. And Jesus did so”.