



Introduction

The crossing of the river Jordan.



Questions

1. What did the officers command the people?
2. Why was it a bad time of year to cross the Jordan?
3. Where did the priests carrying the ark stand until all the people had crossed over?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 6** The people follow the priests carrying the ark of the covenant (see information), towards the river Jordan leaving a space of about 900 metres (about half a mile)
- **v 7 to 13** God tells the people what will happen, to convince them that he is with Joshua as he was with Moses
- **v 14 to 17** The people set off, following the priests. When the priests' feet reach the water's edge, the waters are held back to allow all the people to cross

Timeline 1400 BC (see below)



Information

The ark of the covenant

A replica of the ark of the covenant can be seen in the Timna Park in Israel:



A selection of verses about the ark of the covenant.

The ark contains the two tablets having the ten commandments written on them, together with the pot of manna and Aaron's rod:

Hebrews 9 verses 3 and 4



The ark is the place where God says he will meet with and speak to Moses and give commandments for the Israelites:

Exodus 25 verses 21 and 22

The Levites carry the ark, and the book of the law is put beside it:

Deuteronomy 31 verses 25 and 26

The ark goes before the Israelites as they travel:

Joshua 3 verse 3

The priests carrying the ark stand in the Jordan while the Israelites cross over:

Joshua 3 verse 17

The ark is captured by the Philistines when the Israelites think it will help them win a battle:

1 Samuel 4 verses 10 and 11

It is later put in the house of the LORD built by Solomon:

1 Kings 8 verse 6

Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 3, Q 2: v 15, Q 3: v 17



Bible timeline

