

## MEMORIAL STONES

### Joshua 4:5-6a and 20-24 NIV

"Joshua said to them, 'Go over before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder according to the number of tribes of the Israelites, to serve as a sign among you.' And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan. He said to the Israelites, 'In the future when your descendants ask their fathers, 'What do these stones mean?' tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.' For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God."

I Samuel 7:10, 12 NIV

"While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in the battle. But that day the Lord thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites. Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, 'Thus far has the Lord helped us.' "

This stone is symbolic of these two passages in Scripture. Let it be for you a reminder of all the times in the past when you have seen God do mighty things for you, and as a reminder to share those things with the generations to come that they may reverence and trust the Lord. When you're discouraged and the odds seem to be against you, look at this stone and remember that "Thus far has the Lord helped us." and continue to look to Him, to trust in Him, and to praise Him.