

Law consecutive with imperfect used as pluperfect --

Josh. 4.1 Joshua & Judges, The Soncino Press, 1950. p 16 ff.

See on iii.12 (The purpose is stated in iv.1-3. God's command there must be understood as having preceded the present instruction, the narrative not being in strict chronological order.)

Perhaps in the light of what is there stated, the translation should be 'the Lord ⁷⁵²⁾ had spoken.' The first half of the verse, in that case, must be disjoined from the second and linked with the end of the previous chapter: 'And thus it was when all the tribes were clean passed over the Jordan. And the Lord had spoken,' etc. M.T., which has a hiatus in the middle of the verse, seems to indicate that a new section begins in the second half. Alternatively, the first half may be connected with verse 4: And it came to pass, when all the nation were clean passed over the Jordan . . . then Joshua called the twelve men, etc.; the intervening passage would then be in parenthesis.