

Joshua ch 1

Living a life of Victory series

Book of Joshua is first of 12 historical books up thru Esther—OT consists of Law, History, Poetry & Prophets -- Joshua connects to Pentateuch (Law) to Israel's history up to the prophet Elijah w/ prophecy of coming Messiah (Malachi).

Instruction in how to enter & live in the promises of God by faith. When determined to live in victory & abundance the enemy will seek to hold you back. Book of Joshua deals w/ more than 30 enemies, armies needed to be defeated in order to gain victory. Adversaries stronger & more powerful than Israel (us). But we find it's not military might or physical ability but trust in the Lord. ***'Not by might nor by power but by my spirit.'***

Original name is Hoshea (**salvation**). Moses changed it to Yehoshua (**Yah is salvation**) – Hebrew corresponds to Grk Jesus ***lésous***-- ee-ay-sooce'
Septuagint calls Joshua ***'Book of Jesus'***

Two parts to the book **first**: Conquest of Canaan Ch 1:1 - ch 13:7. **Second** Settling in Canaan ch 13:8 - 24:33 – Misapplication ***'I crossed over Jordan & what did I see a band of angels coming after me'***...Canaan-land is not a reference to heaven – We don't fight enemies or have battles in heaven. Taking possession of Canaan is possessing our spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. Hebrews says we enter in 'by faith'. Ephesians says 'all spiritual blessings in heavenly places' belong to us & are attained by faith in the finished work of Christ.

There are enemies that want to keep us from all that God has for us—the world, the flesh & the devil seek to hind the full blessings in our life. By faith we enter Gods rest & victory.

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1 Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying, 2 "Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel.

Moses is called *'the servant of the Lord'* --good epitaph'--He represents the Law which can't bring a person into rest or God's promises. Law is a **revealer** not a **redeemer**. Joshua, Moses servant. Often it's more caught than taught—watch a leader & see if they serve or not.

The men & women God uses cannot lead until they are led--Cannot be in authority unless they are willing to be under authority. Joshua was faithful *'Moses minister' (servant)*. For 40 years he endured hardship & abuse in Egypt. Another 40 years wandering in wilderness putting up w/ a chronic complaining people. Gave good report as spy in land (**minority report**)—Declared God is bigger than the giants in the land (**matter of perspective**). 80 years faithful & now called to lead Hebrews into promise land-**be a nation**.

A great challenge to change leadership—sometimes new critical of former to make look good. But praise of former getting people to place they're at is sign of good leadership. *Isaiah 6:1 'In the year king Uzziah died I saw the Lord'* – Moses is gone, now do work of faith & follow the Lord, move the people forward. A place never been before *'cross over Jordan'*

God's purpose for his people is always upward & onward—days ahead better than days behind. God brings us out of bondage of Egypt to bring us into promises of God—**promise land**.

Curious thing; not all want to go in—not want warfare, not want to exercise faith. First generation wandered in wilderness because had no faith.

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Allen Redpath “The majority of Christians are content w/ the wilderness experience”. Legitimate journey thru wilderness would last 11 days but for some it’s a lifetime.

3 “Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses. 4 “From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun, will be your territory.

Promise first made to Abraham Gen 13:14,15 and he believed God and it was counted to him as righteousness. And also to Moses “whose eye was not dim nor his vigor abated” who is a type of the Law & represents a work of the flesh did not enter the promises of God. The eyes of faith believe w/o seeing God’s promises even when they see giants in the land. ‘I have given’ dominates all other fears and hindrances.

They never did possess all God had promised nor do we. From God’s point of view it is finished, a done deal but they only possessed about 10% by their faith. 30,60,100 fold

5 “No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. 6 “Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 “Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go.

Nothing to stand before you ‘all the days of your life’ the calling—what you saw I did thru Moses I will do thru you—I’ll not fail you or forsake you’ God’s promise to Joshua & us. Faith begets faith, fear begets fear. You become those you hang out w/. If doubters, complainers, carnal people then you will descend to their level. But if following & fellowshiping w/ those pressing into the promises who are believing God for His best Matt

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11:12 Your faith level will rise and you will be living in the promises and abundance God provides.

Joshua exhorts to do what not naturally inclined to do—be strong, because aware of weakness—be courageous because of timidity. Joshua had been 2nd string to Moses—comfortable w/o a lot of responsibility—now out of comfort zone into responsible leadership role. Says this 2 x's – secret strength to do is God's word, law revealing the Gods character

Ps 19:7-9 The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.

Ps 1 1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 And he will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, Which yields its fruit in its season, And its leaf does not wither; And in whatever he does, he prospers.

God uses, blesses, gives His promises to those strong in the word. Live out of this book, believe His promises and by faith enter in to all He has for you.

8 "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. 9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Power comes from doing God's will it the secret to Jesus power and can be ours ***"I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Jn 5:19,20 NIV***

No power in agreeing w/ God's word, only in doing God's word. Not a feeling or emotion but the secret is in the doing. ***Jer 15:16 Thy words were found and I ate them, And Thy words became for me a joy and the delight of my heart; For I have been called by Thy name, O LORD God of hosts.***

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Let the word of God dwell richly in your hearts by faith Col 3 So it is the Spirit of God working thru the word of God giving victory to the child of God. God's word is the fuel the HS uses to ignite power to believers to conquer flesh life & replace w/ the Christ life.

3 x's strong, courageous – not tremble or be dismayed. Left to himself Joshua would easily give up and quit. Strong in ourselves we less dependant on Lord. So to Joshua's sense of weakness conquered by 'Lord your God is w/ you wherever you go'. A great comfort asked to do a work for the Lord when aware we don't have the ability or strength to do on own.

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 "Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you are to cross this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you, to possess it.'"

Romans 12:8 describes spiritual gifts, those of leadership he says 'Let him who leads, lead w/ all diligence'. Nothing worse than weak leadership, worse yet is arrogant weak leadership making wrong decision and not willing to admit it or listen to wise counsel.

So Joshua now called to exercise his calling as a leader. He commands officers to command the people—prepare to cross and conquer. But 3 days wait. Hebrews tells us 'thru faith and patience we inherit the promises 6:12. Hardest thing for us to do is wait...I hate to wait...commercial. 17 years for KLHT FM; 20 years for property to do school. 1 year for Danita's salvation.

Why? Souls saved; Put fear in hearts of enemy; God's mercy & grace; Harlot to faith in Messiah genealogy; Witness to pagans—we are living letter known and read of all people.

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12 And to the Reubenites and to the Gadites and to the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, 13 "Remember the word which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God gives you rest, and will give you this land.' 14 "Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle shall remain in the land which Moses gave you beyond the Jordan, but you shall cross before your brothers in battle array, all your valiant warriors, and shall help them, 15 until the LORD gives your brothers rest, as He gives you, and they also possess the land which the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to your own land, and possess that which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise."

Two and half tribe wanted to stay on eastern side(wilderness wandering side) of Jordan because stumbled upon a lush piece of land but at same time willing to go over and with rest of tribes to help conquer Canaan & afterward then go back. And example of the Christians going just so far in their faith and not all the way. Wanting to keep part of the old life, secure portion of flesh life—drinking only drunk on New Years or occasions—I only flirt on line, nothing serious, no revealing photos—etc.. So Joshua had them lead out in battle, to get taste of victory and blessings of promise land. Yet afterward they went back to wilderness side of Jordan—It's easier there—get tired of contending w/ enemy. Content to settle for less, second best. We daily make decisions on what level of promises in Christ do we want to live on. Some start strong, get tired of warfare, shrink back and give in to compromise. It is not how you start the race but how you finish. Seed sow yield crop Lk 100 fold; Matt 100,60,30; Mk 30,60,100.

Outcome: They were first to be conquered in Assyrian conquest of land 722 BC never to return to land. Judges 5:16 'Among the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart'

16 And they answered Joshua, saying, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17 "Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you; only may the LORD your God be with you, as He was with Moses. 18 "Anyone who rebels against your command and does not obey

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your words in all that you command him, shall be put to death; only be strong and courageous.”

Response to leadership—to those God appoints to lead...Moses now Joshua. We will obey and pray for God's presence, anointing, be w/ you as He was w/ Moses. Flicker of maturity when people of God respond to will of God, His plans and purposes no matter who the leader is, as long as He is God's leader. Not a personality cult...I'm of Paul, Apollos, Peter, Christ.

Important to protect the reputation & leadership against murmuring, gossip, criticism 'Joshua is nothing like Moses' 'I detect fraud in the leader' label fraudulent w/o substantiation—by presumption comes nothing but strife. Good ministries ruined by accusations w/o taking time to understand.