

# March 23/Day 82

Congratulations! You have completed the Torah (Greek: Pentateuch), Job, and a couple of Psalms. Welcome to Joshua. Welcome to the Promised Land.

## Joshua 1

Verses 1-9

- If we picked up the Bible right here and had not studied the earlier books, would we still have a time frame, a historical setting for the book of Joshua? Which time phrase gives us the historical setting?
- To whom did God speak? Does God still speak to man (mankind)?
- Moses had led the people through the wilderness for 40 years after leading them out of Egypt at God's instruction. He could not cross into the land of promise because he disobeyed God in his anger and disrespected Him in the sight of all the people, but also because Moses represents the Law and the Promised Land represents grace. The Law is a tutor that shows us our sin and brings us to Christ (Galatians 3:24). Law cannot pass over into grace. While it seems a punishment to Moses, the picture is that Moses represents the Law and the Law leads us to the promise, but the Law is not the promise. The Law can't pass over into the Promised Land.
- What kinds of promises does God make to Joshua?
- What does he tell him to be in verse 6? Is this a finger-wagging from God to man-up or is this an encouragement by letting Joshua know He understands he may be fearful at times but to remember He is with him?
- How would Joshua find success? What does this mean?
- What does God repeat in verse 9? Though Joshua has shown his courage and faith in the past back when he and Caleb presented a good report about the Promised Land, he is human and is as susceptible to fear as any of us. Why do you think God repeats His words to Joshua? To us?

Verses 10-11

- What were the important instructions Joshua commanded the officers; specifically the first two words he said?

Verses 12-15

- I don't know if you remember, but the tribe of Reuben, the tribe of Gad, and half of the tribe of Manassah decided they didn't want to cross the Jordan, they wanted to stay behind and let their livestock spread out where they were camped opposite the Promised Land.
- What were they supposed to do before they settled in though?

Verses 16-18

- How did the people of Reuben, Gad, and ½ tribe of Manasseh respond to Joshua?
- Were they willing to cooperate?
- What would they do to anyone who rebelled against Joshua's leadership?

## Joshua 2

### Verses 1-7

- Who was Joshua's dad?
- What was the name of the harlot (prostitute) in Jericho? Remember her name.
- Did you know there were prostitutes all the way back in the beginning? If you've been with me long, you may remember the story of Judah and Tamar. There were prostitutes who served in the temples of the false gods in those days, whose temple worship involved sexual acts in favor of fertility.
- What had the king of Jericho heard about the two men?
- Does verse 5 give you any information about Jericho as a city? What did they do at night? Why do you think they did this?
- In what ways did Rahab help the spies?
- Are lies okay? God hates lies and loves truth. I remember reading about how Corrie ten Boom had to lie to protect the Jews during WWII. She was in quite a conundrum over what to do, lie or take the risk of their capture.

### Verses 8-14

- According to this passage, what did Rahab believe about God and His people? Why, what had she heard?
- Verse 12 reveals her interest in helping the spied. What was it?
- What was the pledge between Rahab and the men?
- What is the application for us in regard to supporting and protecting the Jews?
- Again, remember her name.

### Verses 15-21

- What more do you learn about the city walls in this passage?
- How did the men escape?
- What was Rahab supposed to do in preparation for their return?
- What would relieve them of their oath?

### Verses 22-24

- Did the two spies deliver a good report or a bad report to Joshua?
- Do you find it interesting that Joshua was one of the two spied sent in before? He was a faithful spy who brought a good word from the LORD and now the report was being delivered to him.

## Joshua 3

Verses 1-4

- When would the people know it was their turn to fall in line and start the journey over the Jordan?

Verses 5-6

- To consecrate means to dedicate for a specific purpose.
- What was the LORD going to do for them? Would you be excited if you had been there to hear this after wandering for 40 years in the wilderness?
- What would go before the people? What does this represent, do you remember? What is in it?
- The movie character, Indy, could have saved a great deal of time and trouble by referring to Revelation 11:19.

Verses 7-13

- To exalt means to be lifted or raised up. We would do well to be careful about exalting ourselves. Matthew 23:12, “Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.”
- Who would be with Joshua while he leads the people?
- What will happen to the Jordan when the priest who carry the ark step inside? Does this sound like anything we’ve studied before?

Verses 14-17

- What happens to the Jordan River in the days of harvest?
- What do we call the salt sea these days? Think about it. (Seeing this is on my bucket list.)

## Joshua 4

Verses 1-7

- What were the twelve men supposed to do with the twelve stones?
- What were they to say when the children ask?
- Memorial stones are reminders of what God has done. We set up memorial stones all over our nation’s capital and cities across America as reminders of what our founding fathers and soldiers have done. This is the same thing.

- Are there any figurative memorial stones in your life? Anything waters God has delivered you through? Have you told your children about it to encourage them on their journey to the Promised Land?

Verses 8-13

- Did the priests and the people do as Joshua had told them?
- What about the two and ½ tribes who were going to live opposite the Jordan, did they keep their word to Joshua?

Verse 14

- To revere means to admire or respect.

Verses 15-18

- What happened to the waters of the Jordan once everyone had crossed?

Verses 19-24

- What time reference is mentioned in verse 19?
- Where did they camp after they crossed the Jordan?
- What did they do with the stones at Gilgal? What did they represent? To whom would they tell this?
- What would this reveal about God's character to the nations?
- To fear means to honor and respect.

Meaty! See you tomorrow.