

# JOURNEY THE THE PROMISE LAND

## JOSHUA 1:1-9

Text:

Introduction:

Often in our lives we can come to a crossroads—a point of decision.

### **1 Kings 18:21**

<sup>21</sup> And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD *be* God, follow him: but if Baal, *then* follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

Joshua 1 shows Israel at a crossroads. Moses, the servant of the Lord was now dead. Which way would they go? “Golden calf or God’s promises”

Why was Joshua able to enter the Promised Land when so many from his generation were unable?

### **Psalms 75:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> For promotion *cometh* neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. <sup>7</sup> But God *is* the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

How did Joshua get to the Promised Land? Why did God use Joshua?

# 1 JOSHUA'S RESUME

## A. He was Proven

### **Exodus 17:8-13**

<sup>8</sup> Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. <sup>9</sup> And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. <sup>10</sup> So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup> And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup> But Moses' hands *were* heavy; and they took a stone, and put *it* under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. <sup>13</sup> And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

Quote:

A faith that is not worth testing is not worth trusting.

## B. He was a Servant

### **Exodus 24:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. <sup>13</sup> And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Note:

The measure of a man's greatness is not how many people serve him, but how many he serves.

### C. He was Patient

#### **Exodus 24:18**

<sup>18</sup> And Moses went into the midst of the cloud, and gat him up into the mount: and Moses was in the mount forty days and forty nights.

#### **Exodus 32:15-17**

<sup>15</sup> And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony *were* in his hand: the tables *were* written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other *were* they written. <sup>16</sup> And the tables *were* the work of God, and the writing *was* the writing of God, graven upon the tables. <sup>17</sup> And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said unto Moses, *There is a noise of war in the camp.*

Joshua's patience paid off when he received the blessing later.

#### **Psalm 27:14**

<sup>14</sup> Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

### D. He had Vision

(Numbers 13 – (12 spies)

#### **Numbers 14:6-10**

<sup>6</sup> And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh,

*which were* of them that searched the land, rent their clothes: <sup>7</sup> And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, *is* an exceeding good land. <sup>8</sup> If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup> Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they *are* bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us: fear them not. <sup>10</sup> But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

## 2. JOSHUA'S RESPONSIBILITY

### A. To Provide Leadership (Conquest)

#### 1. He leads his family

Note:

Joshua was a leader of his family— many times a man may be a leader in his work but not in his home.

#### **Joshua 24:15**

<sup>15</sup> And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

#### 2. He leads the people

#### **Joshua 1:10**

<sup>10</sup> Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

Note:

He was to lead the next generation

Quote:

"What is the difference between an obstacle and an opportunity? Our attitude toward it. Every opportunity has a difficulty, and every difficulty has an opportunity."

## B. To Claim the Promises (vs. 4-5)

### **Joshua 1:4-5**

<sup>4</sup>From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. <sup>5</sup> There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

### 1. To claim the land (300,000 sq. miles)

Note:

Israel never claimed more than 10% of the land—typical of most Christians regarding God's promises!

### **Jeremiah 29:11**

<sup>11</sup>For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Note:

God promised Joshua complete victory.

**1 Corinthians 15:57**

<sup>57</sup> But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Romans 8:36-37**

<sup>36</sup> As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. <sup>37</sup> Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

### **3. JOSHUA'S RESOURCES (5-8)**

**Joshua 1:5-8**

<sup>5</sup> There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. <sup>6</sup> Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them. <sup>7</sup> Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *to* the right hand or *to* the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest. <sup>8</sup> This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

How will he fulfill his responsibility?

A. God's Presence (vs. 5)

### **Numbers 27:18**

<sup>18</sup> And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom *is* the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;

### **Hebrews 13:5-6**

<sup>5</sup> *Let your conversation be* without covetousness; *and be* content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. <sup>6</sup> So that we may boldly say, The Lord *is* my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

### **Zechariah 4:6**

<sup>6</sup> Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This *is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

- To Moses He said He would be with his mouth
- To Joshua He said I will be with thee
- To us God says “Lo I am with the eye always.”

### B. God’s Preserved Word (vs. 8)

### **Matthew 5:18**

<sup>18</sup> For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

- Meditate on it
- Obey it

Close:

In what area is God leading you to provide leadership

and make a difference?

Joshua was faithful to lead the people into the promised land.