



MESSAGE/SERIES:

Series: *Joshua: Strong & Courageous*

Message: *“PREPARING FOR VICTORY”*

DATE: 2/20-27/22

SCRIPTURE FOR THIS WEEK:

(These verses will help you understand themes within as you read our core text as scripture proves scripture)

Joshua 1:1-9, Exodus 17:9-16 (Moses' minister), Deuteronomy 11:25, **Deuteronomy 31:3-23** (Joshua appointed Successor), Leviticus 18:3-28 (Abominations of the Amorites), Numbers 13:25-14:30, 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 31:3-8 (Promise of God), Acts 13:19 (Conquer & receive), Hebrews 13:5 (Never Leave You), Hebrews 11:6-40 (Faith of our forefathers)

OPENING SCRIPTURE:

[JOSHUA 1:1-9]

*“After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, ²“Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, **go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them**, to the people of Israel. ³Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. ⁴From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. ⁵**No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.** ⁶Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷Only **be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you.** Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸This 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 good*

success. ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Jos 1:1–9.

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth... meditate on it day and night... For then you will make your way prosperous”

TERMS & BACKGROUND:

[AUTHOR OF JOSHUA] Most theologians believe the author is Joshua himself, but some believe it was someone close to Joshua and it is most likely that someone close, possibly Eleazar, wrote the last portion of the book.

[ABOMINATION] “Repugnant or detestable act, person, or thing. The idea of abomination derives from the specific demands God’s holiness makes upon his people. Adjectives frequently used for abominations in the OT are “abhorrent,” “loathsome,” “unclean,” and “rejected.”

Of the four major Hebrew words translated “abomination,” the one most frequently used indicates [a] violation of an established custom or ritual which, in turn, draws the judgment of God. Examples range from defective sacrifices (Dt 17:1) to magic and divination (Dt 18:12) or idolatrous practices (2 Kgs 16:3). A second Hebrew word refers to the meat of certain kinds of animals that were ritually defiling, whether touched or eaten (Lv 11:10–13). A third word designates three-day-old sacrificial meat (Lv 7:18). A fourth word refers almost exclusively to idolatrous objects of pagan origin (Jer 4:1; 7:30). The Greek OT, particularly in the Book of Ezekiel, associates the term “lawlessness” with abomination, thus adding ethical and moral content to the term. Apart from the specialized usage of “abomination of desolation,” the Greek word for “abomination” is used only infrequently in the NT (Lk 16:15; Rom 2:22; Ti 1:16; Rv 17:4, 5; 21:8, 27) and is translated by many English words. The primary connotation is anything that is abhorrent to a holy God.”

Morris A. Weigelt, “Abomination,” *Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1988), 10.

[REASONS FOR CONQUEST] God allowed the Israelites to conquer Canaan because He had promised the land to them In Genesis 15:17-18 (Abrahamic covenant) and because God was judging the Amorites (Genesis 15:15-16). God always had a plan to bring the Children of Abraham back to Canaan to live in the promised land and in His time they possessed the land. In the shadows of the wilderness, we are reminded that we are responsible to do our part and God will do His.

[HEREM] This Hebrew word means spoil of war and it was God who won the battles for the Israelites and it was God who had the ultimate say over the spoils of war. These spoils of war will be in focus at several points in our study.

[THE BOOK OF THE LAW] We tend to think of a book as having pages, a binding, and a cover. Books of that sort did not exist in the ancient world. The term used here can refer to any document: from inscription to scroll, from papyrus to clay tablet to stone. The Book of the Law is the copy of instructions given to Moses in Deuteronomy and put in front of the ark (see comment on Deut 31:26).

Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*, electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Jos 1:8.

OUTLINE

I. (Numbers 13:25-14:30, 20:8-12) (Deuteronomy 34:4-7) **A LEADER & PEOPLE DISQUALIFIED**

[Synopsis]: We are responsible in our walk with the Lord and there are repercussions when we don't

A. The People- Numbers 13:25-14:30

1. **(Omnipotent)** *The Lord had led the children of Israel out of Egypt and had performed many miracles in their lives proving He was*
 - a) God is able to meet all of our needs (example: Manna)
 - b) They should have known that there was nothing too big for God (example: Parting of the Red Sea)
2. **(Never Satisfied/Complainers)** *In this text, the children of Israel complained constantly about the provisions that God had given to them. It was never enough for them.*
3. **(They Desired Egypt)** *They spent most of their time missing Egypt even though they were slaves there. They compared everything they were given in the temporary to the past luxuries they had.*
4. **(They had no forward Vision)** *They could not trust God just a little further to get to the land of plenty*

B. The Leaders- Numbers 20:8-12

1. **(Provident God)** *God was providing water for the people and the livestock and Moses knew God would do what He said.*
2. **(Disobedient/irreverent towards God)** *Moses chose to disobey a direct order from God and do it His own way (striking the rock 2 times/ instead of speaking to the rock). We should always do exactly as the Lord commands us.*

- a) How many times do we know what God has asked and yet we think we know better and act upon the command in slightly different ways?
- b) How many times do we not listen close for detail when God is directing us
- c) How many times do we want to look like the big man on campus and do more than is needed (taking God's glory He deserves)
 - (1) *If we pursue glory here we will miss the blessings God gives*
 - (2) *If we pursue glory here we will lose reward there (in heaven)*

C. The Leader- Deuteronomy 34:4-7

- 1. *(Disciplined) Moses was allowed to see the promised land but was not allowed to enter it (God's Grace & fatherly discipline)*
- 2. *(Lost of Right to lead) Moses' right to lead God's people was removed from Moses*
- 3. *(In His Prime) v7 lets us know that Moses did not die of old age and was not in a useless physical state...*
 - a) Moses was no good to God in the Spiritual state to lead His people any further
 - b) How many times will God remove your privilege to lead because your faith is too weak and you will not trust God long enough to see the mission through

Application:

When God's leaders and the people who follow those leaders will not trust God, God must deal with those people, and sometimes that means He must use someone else!

II. (Deuteronomy 31:1-8) (Joshua 1:1-9) **OUR GOD FAITHFUL & SUPREME**

[Synopsis]: God is Sovereign and we are still responsible to do it His way

- A. (Deuteronomy 31:1-8) God had spoken to Moses now Moses must prepare the people and Joshua to do what He could not
 - a. First, Moses announced He could not go with them (v1-6)
 - b. Secondly, Moses announced God had appointed Joshua (v3)
 - c. Thirdly, Moses informs Joshua God has appointed him as the new leader (v7-8)

- B. Moses had already started preparing Joshua to lead as He knew the day was fast approaching due to His Sin and God's instructions about the promised land
 - a. *Leaders must be ever preparing the next group of leaders to lead well...*
 - i. Share failures and successes
 - ii. Teach God's commands

- A. (Joshua 1v2) **OUR GOD** Called Joshua to move in faith
 - 1. *Moses was taken out of the way*
 - 2. *Moses had been honored for His service and now it was time to Honor God*

- B. (v3-4) OUR GOD Re-stated the promise He had made to Abraham, Issac, and Jacob to give them the promised land
 - 1. *God would not withhold anything from them if they would just move in faith*

- C. (v5) The Same promises He had made Moses He was making to Joshua
 - 1. *Joshua had learned from His leaders' mistakes (we should always teach in the times of failure to empower the next generation)*
 - 2. *God will not ever forsake His people (even though we can not see Him)*

- D. (v6) Joshua was commanded to be strong and courageous
 - 1. *His courage would "cause" the people to inherit the promised land*
 - a) Faithful leaders following a Faithful God will Produce faithful followers of Christ
 - b) God will follow through with blessings as we obey
 - c) God's promises are often tied to our obedience and our disobedience is the only thing that holds back those blessings

- E. (v7) Joshua was commanded to be strong and very courageous which included obeying the Law God had given Moses (Keeping God first as they moved forward to conquer)
 - 1. *If we move forward and forget along the way to keep God first we will fail to reach the goals He has for us*

- F. (v8) "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 good success."
 - 1. *Success is always tied closely to doing it God's way*
 - 2. *The law of God that is written on our heart and put into remembrance must be the necessity of every day of our lives*

