

INTRODUCTION

There are many transitions in the life of Israel as the book of Joshua begins. Israel is no longer a nation of slaves, but a nation about to conquer their Promise Land. Moses is no longer their leader, Joshua is.

In preparing Joshua to lead his nation, God gives him crystal clear reassurance of his victory over the people of the Land and of His continued presence: as God was with Moses, so He will be with Joshua. How should God's tremendous faithfulness to His servant Joshua impact our lives?

ISRAEL'S HISTORY BEFORE THE BOOK OF JOSHUA

- God frees Israel from Egypt. (Ex. 12:29-41)
- God leads Israel to the Promise Land, but they fail to enter (Num. 13:1-14:12)
- Israel made to wonder in the wilderness for 40yrs (Num. 14:20-35)
- Moses is not allowed to enter the Promise Land (Num. 20:5-12)
- Joshua is appointed by God to replace Moses (Deut. 31:14)
- God brings Israel back to the Promise Land (Num. 33:40-56)

WHO IS JOSHUA?

He was one of the 12 spies who spied out the Land (Num. 13:8). His name was "Hoshea," which means "Salvation," (Num. 13:8), but Moses changes it to Yehoshua (*Joshua*), which means "Yahweh [or the Lord] Is Salvation," Num. 13:16. He was Moses' Assistant (Ex. 24:12-13) and a military hero against Amalek (Ex. 17). He's appointed by God to replace Moses (Deut. 31:14).

JOSHUA CHAPTER ONE: VICTORY BEFORE ENTERING THE LAND

Joshua 1:1-6: GOD PROMISES ISRAEL VICTORY OVER THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND AND GUARANTEES JOSHUA'S IMMORTALITY ON THE BATTLEFIELD

Joshua 1:7-8: GOD GIVES THE KEY TO PROSPERITY

We must do three things with God's Word:

1. "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth" it must constantly be on your lips, which means reading it and talking about it with others.
2. "but you shall meditate in it day and night," you're to always be thinking about it and reflecting on it.
3. "that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it," Why are you supposed to meditate in it day and night, so that you will obey it, so that you will do it.

Joshua 1:9: GOD REASSURES JOSHUA ONCE AGAIN

Joshua 1:10-11: JOSHUA TAKES GOD AT HIS WORD

Joshua 1:12-15: THE TRANSJORDANIAN TRIBES

The background to this section is found in Numbers chapter 32.

Joshua 1:16-18: RECOGNITION OF JOSHUA'S AUTHORITY AND TRUST IN GOD