



**Course:** A Survey of the Bible: Genesis to Revelation

**Lesson:** 11 (Part 4)

**Passage:** Joshua - Survey

**Joshua "Rose Early"** (Joshua 3:1)

- Those who rise early or stay up late believe is what they are doing.
- Joshua believed God and doing His will was Joshua's "food".  
→ John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38; Psalm 40:8; Hebrews 10:7-9; John 17:4
- "they set out" - 40 years after leaving Egypt.
- Was the 40 years in the wilderness a waste of time? **NO**, God has purpose for **everything**.
  - ① It was a reminder that God was **serious** about His Word and His commands. The **new** generation had to learn this and pass it unto their children.
  - ② It prepared the **new** generation to **trust** God. See Deuteronomy 29:5.  
- It showed this **new** generation that God was faithful to His word – after all HE fed them and protected them every day of those 40 years!
  - ③ It should have taught them that God's promises were for the faithful and obedient. See Hebrews 6:11-12.

**Three Days** (Joshua 3:2)

- Why wait three days?
- Consider 2 Corinthians 1:8-10 and Isaiah 30:18

**When You See the Ark** (Joshua 3:3-5)

- The ARK is mentioned or alluded to 21 times in Chapters 3 and 4.
- God was with them! Remember His promise in Joshua 1:5. Remember Matthew 1:23; 28:20; John 14:18-23; Hebrews 13:5.

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- "the way you must go" – for 40 years it was the cloud and now it was the ark.
- "Sanctify yourselves" - "Prepare to meet your God." (Amos 4:12)
  - 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 John 3:3
  - ★ Do NOT come just as your are!!!!!!

**The Priest - The Example** (Joshua 3:6-8)

- The priests were to set the example of trusting and believing God.
  - ALL Christians are priests. (1 Peter 2:5, 9)

**Joshua Assures the People** (Joshua 3:9-13)

- MEDITATE on these verses.

**The Jordan Stopped** (Joshua 3:14-17)

- Meditate on verse 15.
- This was NO natural event!!!!
  - ① The event came to pass **as** predicted.
  - ② The timing was **exact**.
  - ③ The event took place while the river was at **flood** stage. God did not wait for the summer when the Jordan was the lowest but the spring when the snow of Mount Lebanon was melting.
  - ④ The wall of water was held in place for **many** hours – probably for at least a day.
  - ⑤ The soft, wet river bottom became **dry** at once.
  - ⑥ The water returned **immediately** as soon as the people had crossed over and the priests came up out of the river!

**Two Memorials** (Joshua 4:1-24)

- The First (Joshua 4:1-5, 20) - note the timing - "when all the people had completely crossed over"
- Out of the Jordan to Gilgal - 13km's away! - NOT 9 ½!
- "What do these stones mean?" (Joshua 4:6-8, 21-23)
  - (Joshua 4: 6) This memorial was to be a **sign** to your children.
  - ★ To an unbeliever these stones would only be a pile of stones.
  - ★ BUT to the believer they signified at least five things:
    - ① It would remind them how they crossed the River – **not** by their own power **but** by the power of God!
    - ② It would be a memorial of leaving the **old** behind and the **start** of something **new**.

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- ③ It was also a testimony of what God had done **and** an earnest of what He would do! It was a testimony of God's faithfulness.
- ④ It would be a reminder to the people of God that they were to testify to the world of God's greatness.
- ⑤ It was a reminder that God's people are to **fear** (take serious) God.

- The Second (Joshua 4:9) - See John 1:28 - "*Bethabara*" (*house of passage*).
- (Joshua 4:10-11, 15-17) Only when everything was **finished** did God give the command! It reminds us of Christ on the Cross – see John 19:28-30.
- ★★★ **GOD ALWAYS FINISHES WHAT HE BEGINS!** (Philippians 1:6; Psalm 138:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

### The 10<sup>th</sup> Day of the 1<sup>st</sup> Month (Joshua 4:19)

- This is the day that **preparations** were to begin for the **celebration** of the Passover which was a reminder of God delivering them out of Egypt.
- On the **14<sup>th</sup>** day the Passover lamb was to be killed and Passover **celebrated**.

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