

Being Joshua-Part 1
(Preparation for Victory)
Joshua 1 (Joshua 1:16-17)
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what we can learn from the new role of Joshua.

Intro: 1. At different times in our lives we must step into a new role.
2. Joshua was about to step into a new role and we can learn a lot from that time in his life.

I. Words from The Great Commander

A. Replacing Moses

1. Joshua would take over for Moses.

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. (Joshua 1:1-3)

- i. Until the death of Moses Joshua was his servant.
- ii. God spoke to Moses directly, now God would be speaking directly to Joshua.
 - a. While Joshua was a faithful servant of God, until now God had not spoken directly to Him, Joshua would begin a life of leadership that would include many “firsts” for him.

2. God tells Joshua that the plan to conquer Canaan had not changed

Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel. (Joshua 1:2b)

3. Joshua is told that no one will be able to stand in front of him, so long as he remained faithful to Him

No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life (Joshua 1:5a)

4. Treatment as same as Moses

Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. (Joshua 1:3)

as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. (Joshua 1:5b)

B. Prepare yourself

Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them.

Joshua 1:6

- 1. Be strong – behave valiantly
- 2. Good courage – brave, bold, to strengthen

3. Very courageous – alert, brave, stout, solid, hard
Only be strong and very courageous, (Joshua 1:7a)

4. Be obedient – to keep
that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe 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.
(Joshua 1:7b-8)

5. Time to carry God's commands and remember I am with you
Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

II. The Mission

A. The Command (v.6b,10-15)

1. (v.6b) you will **"divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them."**

2. (v.10-11) The explanation for the command was that within 3 days they would be crossing over Jordan to possess their inheritance.

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the Lord your God is giving you to possess.'" (Joshua 1:10-11)

a. The promise was that God would give them that land as their own possession.

3. (v.12-15) Joshua reminds the people of what God has promised.

12 And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh Joshua spoke, saying, 13 "Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, 'The Lord your God is giving you rest and is giving you this land.' 14 Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side of the Jordan. But you shall pass before your brethren armed, all your mighty men of valor, and help them, 15 until the Lord has given your brethren rest, as He gave you, and they also have taken possession of the land which the Lord your God is giving them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and enjoy it, which Moses the Lord's servant gave you on this side of the Jordan toward the sunrise." (Joshua 1:12-15)

B. The Response

1. The people responded with the desire to be obedient

16 So they answered Joshua, saying, "All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17 Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you. Only the Lord your God be with you, as He was with Moses. (Joshua 1:16-17)

2. The promise to punish the disobedient and rebellious.

Whoever rebels against your command and does not heed your words, in all that you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and of good courage."
(Joshua 1:18)

III. Lessons for Us Today

- A. Every Christian must be strong, courageous and obedient (Joshua 1:6-7b)

1. 3 traits we need from Joshua

- a. Strong – behave valiantly,
- b. Courageous – alert, brave, stout, solid, hard;
- c. Obedient – to keep

2. Every Christian can accomplish this by keeping the commands of God (v.8)

- B. Every Christian also has a mission – obedience to God and teaching others to do the same (Joshua 1:16-18)

1. (v.16-17) – They were willing to follow God's servant, thereby following God.

2. (v.18) – They were willing to encourage faithfulness by warning of the punishment of wickedness and being rebellious.

Application & Conclusion:

1. Let us be like Joshua. Courageously putting God first.
2. He was a great leader by following God's command into the battles God commanded.
3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11-12, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent & Pray: James 5:16, 1 John 1:9