

The book of Joshua tells the story of Israel as they enter into the promised land after forty years in the wilderness. It was written by Joshua himself shortly after the events took place (with the exception of the last five verses).

In Numbers 13:8 we find out that his original name was Hoshea which means salvation. But in Numbers 13:16 Moses changes it to Joshua or The Lord is salvation. We see that in many ways Joshua is a type of Jesus leading His church into the promised land of His blessings.

40 yrs. in Egyptian bondage.

*Exodus 17:9-13 And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand." (10) So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. (11) And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. (12) But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. (13) So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.*

*Exodus 24:12-13 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them." (13) So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.*

*Exodus 32:17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."*

*Exodus 33:9-11 And it came to pass, when Moses entered the tabernacle, that the pillar of cloud descended and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the LORD talked with Moses. (10) All the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the tabernacle door, and all the people rose and worshiped, each man in his tent door. (11) So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.*

*Numbers 14:6-10 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; (7) and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed*

*through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. (8) If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' (9) Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them." (10) And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.*

*Numbers 26:65 For the LORD had said of them, "They shall surely die in the wilderness." So there was not left a man of them, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.*

*Numbers 27:18-23 And the LORD said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; (19) set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and inaugurate him in their sight. (20) And you shall give some of your authority to him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. (21) He shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire before the LORD for him by the judgment of the Urim. At his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, he and all the children of Israel with him—all the congregation." (22) So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation. (23) And he laid his hands on him and inaugurated him, just as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.*

As we begin the book, Joshua is 80, he is 110 when he dies. It is interesting that Joshua gets his call in a very natural way, from a man, Moses, rather than a dramatic call from a burning bush.

Joshua very much corresponds to the book of Ephesians in the New Testament. It is not really so much about victory as it is possession.

Israel is given the promised land, the ownership is unconditional but the possession is conditional. Go to Ephesians for what we possess.

v.1-2 - Moses has died, Joshua is now the person in charge. It is interesting that Moses was referred to as the most humble man on the face of the earth in Numbers 12:3 and Joshua is referred to as a servant. God's idea of leadership is different than the world's, God seek people who have a servant's heart not those who are proud and arrogant.

v.2- the promise is given but Joshua now has to choose whether or not to venture in faith

v.3-4- The Lord again makes the promise that He has made many times to Israel that they would be given the land. He tells Joshua that every place where he puts his foot will be given to him. There is a principle here, even though God has given us promises and prepared things for us, it is still up to us to walk in them and to take possession of them.

- **not I will give you land to put your foot on- but step out**

- **bit by bit, not all at once**

**\* v.5- The Lord assures Joshua that He will be with him as he goes into the land. " I will never leave you nor forsake you" says the Lord, the same thing that Jesus tells us in the New Testament.**

v.6-7 Be strong and of good courage

- to divide the land or lead the people- Ephesians 4

- to walk in obedience

- obedience brings

- difficulties- conquering the land

- enemies- that resist or oppose God's work

- requires perseverance- usually years or a lifetime

what does it mean to walk in obedience ?

- all the law- if only partial obedience it is really disobedience

- turn not to the right or left- avoid extremes in doctrine and practice

- Book of Law in your mouth- meditate on it

see Psalm 1

v.10-11 prepare provisions- food *Amos 8:11-12(NKJV) "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, But shall not find it.*

### Three days

v.11-12 the people that choose to dwell on the other side of Jordan, this too was part of the land that was promised but the people did not cross Jordan , were not baptized into the covenant

### What prepared Joshua for this ?

**He was a man of war-** see Exodus 17:8 He was willing to fight the fight without recognition or acclaim

Who do we war against ? Satan and his forces- fallen angels- a liar- deceiver who has been defeated

*Romans 8 If God is for us, who can be against us...in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us*

- gates of hell will not prevail against church- *Matt.16:18*

**He was a man of prayer-** see (*Exo 24:13 NKJV*) *So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.*

- Ex. 33 he stayed in the tabernacle when Moses went back to the people

**He was with Moses the whole time** (*Exo 32:17 NKJV*) And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."

**He was a man of vision-** see Numbers 13

- he understood that there would be battle, it would be hard, but he saw the victory that the Lord had in mind

Close with Numbers 14:6