

Jesus said . . . ***“Search the Scriptures . . . they are they which testify of me”*** (John 5:39)



Title: **Promised Rest**

INTRODUCTION

The Old Testament is full of types or pictures of Jesus Christ, what He did, and who He is. The people mentioned in scriptures tell of Him, and the order of the books in the Bible speak of His work. Genesis ends with God’s man (Joseph) dead in Egypt. It speak of how death “passed upon all men” in Romans 5:12. Exodus begins with a redeemer and ends with a personal God making a way of escape from bondage. Leviticus, the first giving of the law, tell God’s people what He expects of them. The law is very unpersonal and authoritative. Even with the law and God’s expectations, the people sinned against God in Numbers and caused Him to lead them to the wilderness to wander for forty years. Yet God still blessed them in giving them miracles and by showing His longsuffering to them. Deuteronomy is Moses’ last words and the second giving of the law, but this time it’s focus is on love, yet none of the holiness of the law is sacrificed. Finally, we have the promised rest found in Joshua. Joshua leads the people into the promised land where they being to conquer it. Like Moses, Joshua’s final words are harrowing. These books tell our story. We were dead in sin, found by God and freed, and given a set of rules or expectations governing Christianity. When we take Christianity only as a set of rules, we begin to do things in the flesh, forsaking the personal aspect of Christ and becoming vain in religion. “My flesh and my heart faileth . . .” says David. Psalm 73:26a. We end up in the wilderness wandering around, until God reminds us that the law about love: “But God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.” Psalm 73:26b. We find that Jesus is our rest, even as David found. Psalm 23.

1. The Name and Theme of Joshua

- a. Joshua in Hebrew is Yehoshua, meaning “Jehovah is salvation”, “Jehovah delivers”, or “Jehovah saves”. Yehoshua translated to Greek is Iesous. Iesous translated to English is Jesus. Jesus means “Jehovah is salvation”, “Jehovah delivers”, or “Jehovah saves”. In the New Testament, you will not find Joshua mentioned by that name. The last mention

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of the name Joshua is Zechariah 6:11 when Joshua “whose name is The BRANCH” will build the temple of the LORD. In the New Testament you will still find reference to Joshua, but he is called Jesus. Acts 7.

b. The Theme of Joshua is “Possessing our inheritance.”

2. Historical Context – Joshua, Acts 7:45

- Joshua begins after Moses brings Israel to the brink of the promised land. Moses is a type of the law, the law giver, and Joshua is a type of Jesus Christ. Only Joshua can bring Israel into the promised land.

3. Doctrinal Application

1. Joshua 1:1-9

a. Matthew 5:17 – Jesus came to fulfill the law through His sacrifice.

2. Joshua 1:10-11 – after three days of preparations, Joshua leads the people into and through Jordan.

a. Matthew 12:40 – Jesus told his disciples that he would be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights.

3. Joshua 1: 12-14

a. Matthew 11:28-29 – Jesus offers rest to all that will come unto Him

4. Devotional Application

- Hebrews 3-4

- Joshua 24; Revelation 3:14-22

Have you entered into that Rest which only Jesus offers?
It is not a physical rest, but a spiritual rest. Revelation 14:11