

ORDER OF SERVICE

February 13, 2022

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in Message
Worship in Giving

Wayne Braudrick

Prepare Yourself For Remembrance

Joshua 4:1-24

Prepare Yourself Series

Life Change: In our church & homes we prepare for remembrances of God's power & presence.

The importance of a pizza box top...

This overview holds forth two big ideas:
Remembrance is important.

1-7

Scriptural memory must be taught.

Our experience with scores of major transformation efforts, combined with research we have undertaken over the past decade suggests (that) a successful role for the CEO in a transformation... involves making the story meaningful. People will go to extraordinary lengths for causes they believe in, and a powerful transformation story will...reinforce their commitment. – Carolyn Aiken & Scott Keller, "The CEO's Role in Leading Transformation"

The dynamic details:

The 12 previously set aside begin their hard duty.

8-18

8

Joshua creates a separate cairn in the Jordan.

9

The priests stand strong while the people hurry.

10-11

The easterners set the perimeter.

12-13

God and Joshua lead.

14-18

What is the purpose of remembering all this?

19-24

The whole earth might be rocked with knowledge of God's power.

God's people might fear the Lord.

There is nothing wrong with memorials, provided they don't become religious idols that turn our hearts from God and provided they don't so link us to the past that we fail to serve God in the present. Glorifying the past is a good way to petrify the present and rob the church of power. The next generations need reminders of what God has done in history, but these reminders must draw them closer to the Lord not closer to [traditions]. – Warren Wiersbe, *Be Strong*

PREPARE YOURSELF

a study of Joshua

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE

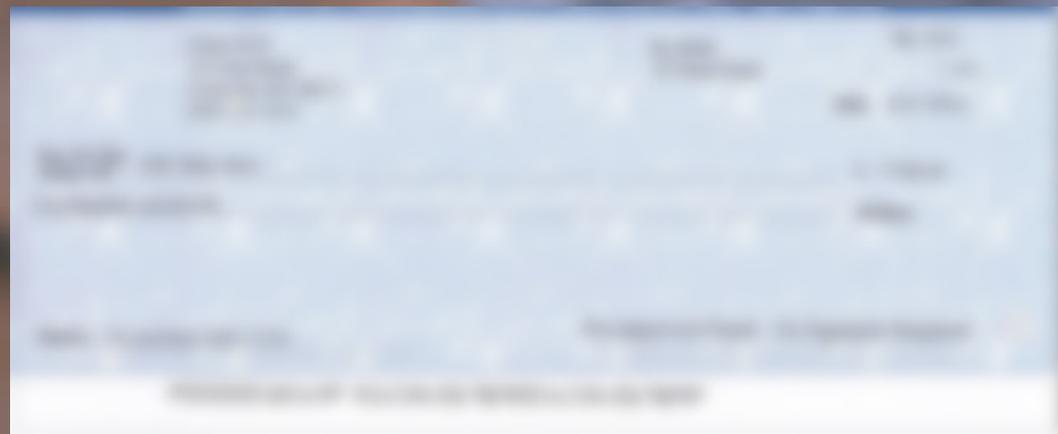


courtesy Steve Wilson



We were pretty broke in those days, and there came a week that our pantry and our bank account were simultaneously empty. We didn't know how we were going to buy food for even that day.







courtesy Steve Wilson

Joshua 4

¹ After the entire nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD spoke to Joshua: ² “Choose twelve men from the people, one man for each tribe, ³ and command them: Take twelve stones from this place in the middle of the Jordan where the priests are standing, carry them with you, and set them down at the place where you spend the night.” ⁴ So Joshua summoned the twelve men he had selected from the Israelites, one man for each tribe,

Ex

Lev

Nu

De

Joshua

Ju

Ru

1 Sa

2 Sa

Joshua 4

⁵ and said to them, “Go across to the ark of the LORD your God in the middle of the Jordan. Each of you lift a stone onto his shoulder, one for each of the Israelite tribes, ⁶ so that this will be a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ ⁷ you should tell them, ‘The water of the Jordan was cut off in front of the ark of the LORD’s covenant. When it crossed the Jordan, the Jordan’s water was cut off.’ Therefore these stones will always be a memorial for the Israelites.” ^{CSB}

Ex

Lev

Nu

De

Joshua

Ju

Ru

1 Sa

2 Sa

Chapter 4 of Joshua is literally monumental, and these first 7 verses serve as a kind of overview with two big ideas:

- Remembrance is important.**
- Spiritual memory must be taught.**





courtesy ebay



- War is hell, but it is better than the hotter hell which comes from appeasement.
- Governments that start running people's lives become insatiable.
- Serving in the military can be noble, but the food stinks.

“Attic reading”

Norman Rockwell 1921

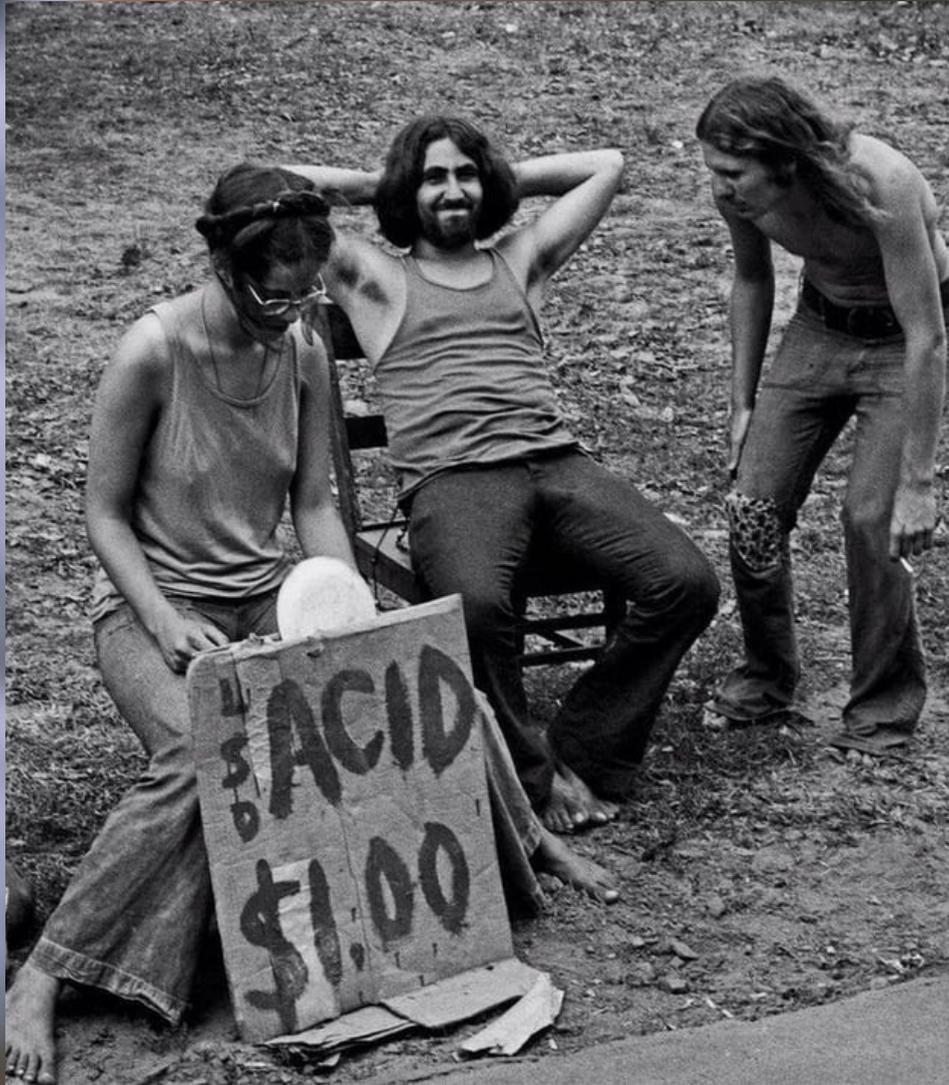


**Since 2nd c.
Rome, no nation
had ever
experienced
such growth in
prosperity and
longevity of life.**





courtesy TAMU



courtesy AP

The baby was thrown out with the bathwater in the 1960s & 70s. The most self-centered generation since



the 1830s tore up the fabric of American society. And now those short-sighted & self-righteous people are your college professors.

**Portland protestors topple
Abraham Lincoln statue
October 11, 2020**



courtesy NBC

Joshua 4

⁴ So Joshua summoned the twelve men he had selected from the Israelites, one man for each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, “Go across to the ark of the LORD your God in the middle of the Jordan. Each of you lift a stone onto his shoulder, one for each of the Israelite tribes, ⁶ so that this will be a sign among you.”

Joshua 4

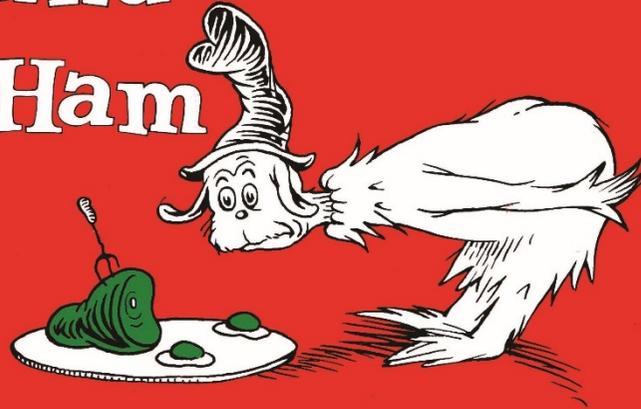
⁶ so that this will be a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ ⁷ you should tell them, ‘The water of the Jordan was cut off in front of the ark of the LORD’s covenant. When it crossed the Jordan, the Jordan’s water was cut off.’ Therefore these stones will always be a memorial for the Israelites.” CSB

Joshua 4

6 so that this will be a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ **7** you should tell them, ‘The water of the Jordan was cut off in front of the ark of the LORD’s covenant. When it crossed the Jordan, the Jordan’s water was cut off.’ Therefore these stones will always be a memorial for the Israelites.” CSB



Green
Eggs
and
Ham

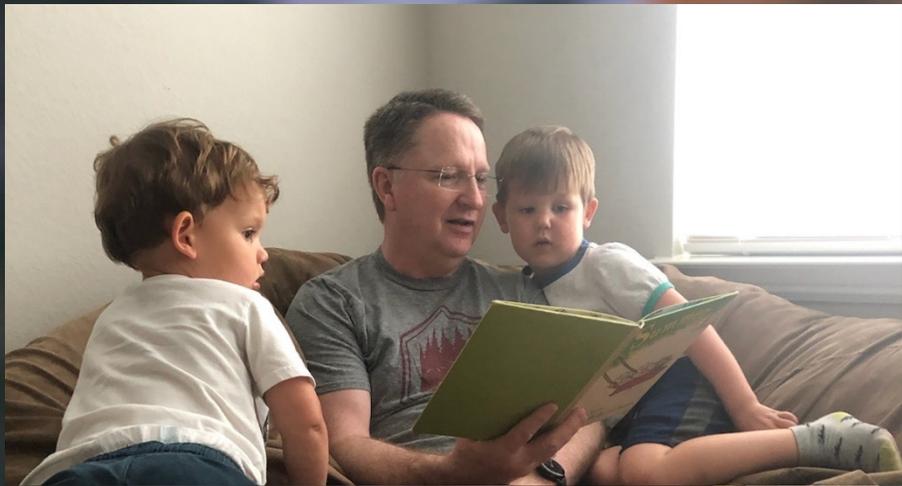


By Dr. Seuss



**“The Jordan waters were deep.”
“But the waters were cut off!”**

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courtesy Noah Sharp; Mitchell Hart; Sam Holm

Joshua 4

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Joshua 4

³ and command them: “Take twelve stones from this place in the middle of the Jordan where the priests are standing, carry them with you, and set them down at the place where you spend the night.”

⁷ ...‘The water of the Jordan was cut off in front of the ark of the LORD’s covenant.’

Deuteronomy 6

⁷ Repeat [these truths] to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.





Joshua 4

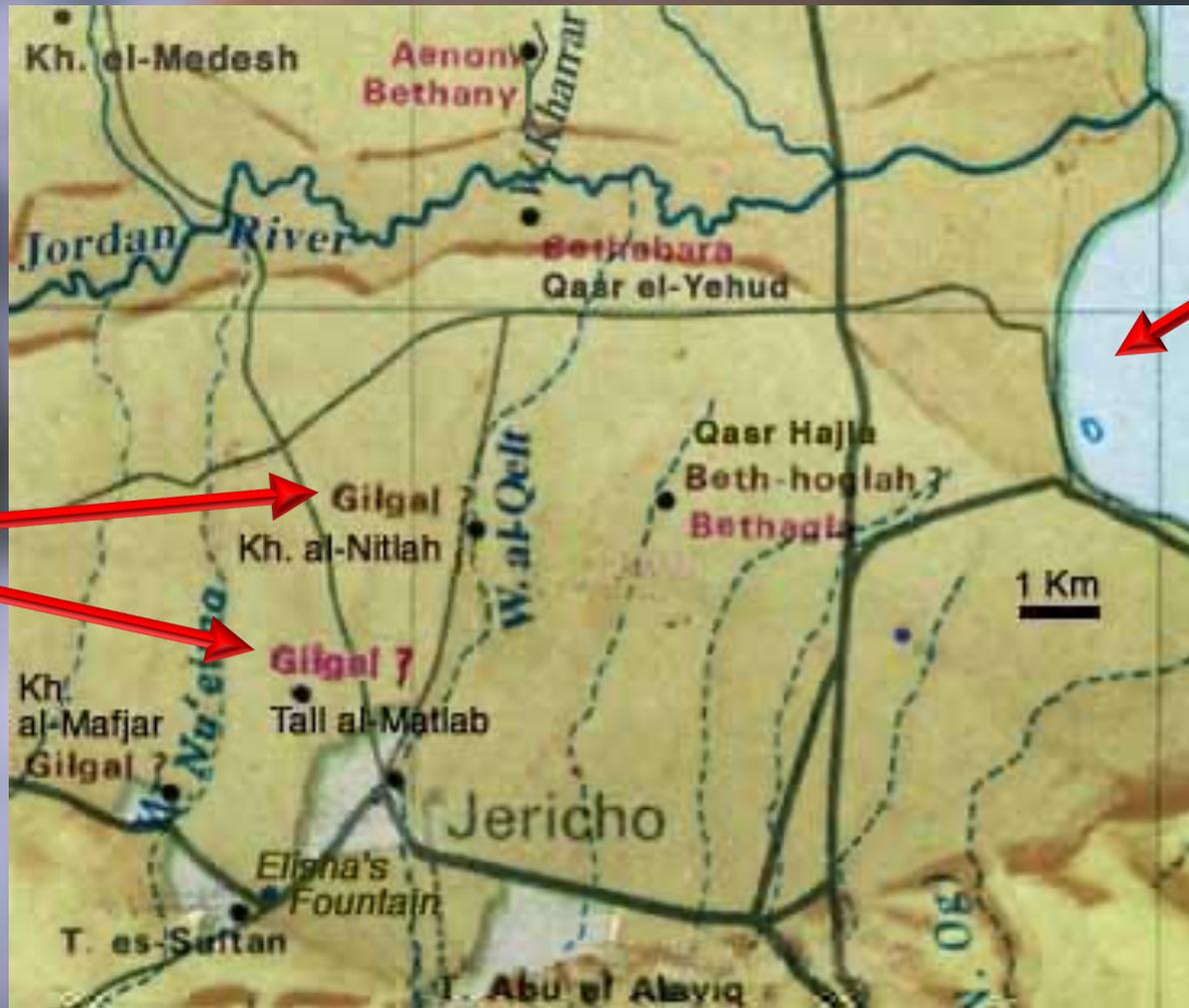
⁸ The Israelites did just as Joshua had commanded them. The twelve men took stones from the middle of the Jordan, one for each of the Israelite tribes, just as the LORD had told Joshua. They carried them to the camp and set them down there. ⁹ Joshua also set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant were standing. The stones are still there today.

Joshua 4

¹⁰ The priests carrying the ark continued standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything was completed that the LORD had commanded Joshua to tell the people, in keeping with all that Moses had commanded Joshua. The people hurried across, ¹¹ and after everyone had finished crossing, the priests with the ark of the LORD crossed in the sight of the people.

Joshua 4

¹² The Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh went in battle formation in front of the Israelites, as Moses had instructed them. ¹³ About forty thousand equipped for war crossed to the plains of Jericho in the LORD's presence. ^{CSB}



Jordan

Gilgal?

Micah 6

**⁵ My people,
remember what King Balak of Moab proposed,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from the Acacia Grove to Gilgal
so that you may acknowledge
the LORD's righteous acts. ^{CSB}**



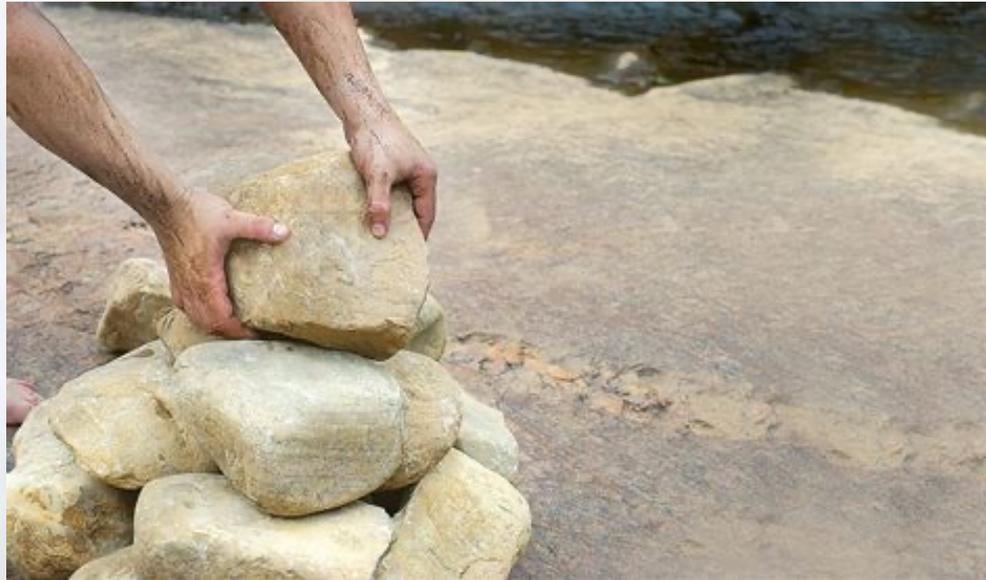


**Grab the
photo books
and the dog!**



Joshua 4

⁹ Joshua also set up twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant were standing. The stones are still there today.





courtesy Word Press

Inscribed on a stone in the lake near Geneva is the message, 'When you read this, weep.' Someone carved this because when the water gets that low the territory is in drought. When you read the words, then cry, because the country is in trouble. The memorial in Jordan was exactly the opposite. Someone could have written upon it, 'When you see this, rejoice and remember.' Occasionally, the Jordan gets very low, and the Israelites were able from time to time to see these twelve stones and to recall the great things God had done for them. – Francis Schaeffer, *Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History*





courtesy Daily Mail

Philippians 4

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. ^{NIV}



Joshua 4

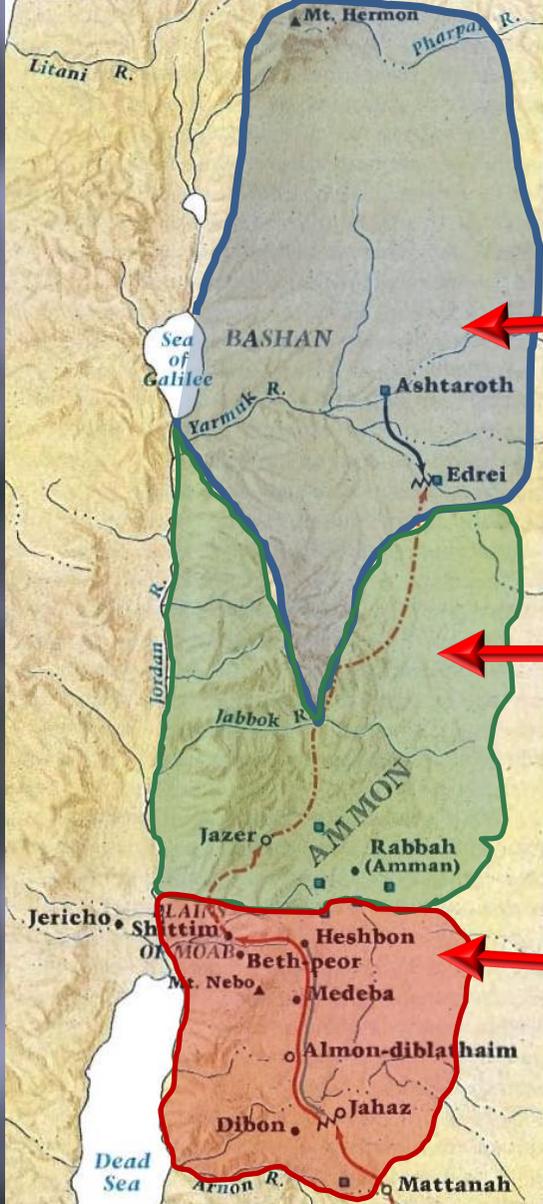
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courtesy shuttledirect

Joshua 4

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**Manasseh
east**

Gad

Reuben

Set Perimeter
Darrold Peters
2004



courtesy US Dept. of Defense; This is just like Israel 3500 years earlier.

Q: How could those easterners have made such a great sacrifice, leaving families and unfinished homes to fight?

A: It's not really a sacrifice if it isn't yours to begin with.



Dr. Paul Cedar



One evening, while I was driving alone in my car en route to a ministry engagement, I cried out to God in pain and frustration...I rehearsed for Him all of the sacrifices that we had made for Him in obedience to Him...Finally, in utter despair I cried out, 'Lord, why don't You just take my life!' Immediately, I sensed He was speaking to me...I sensed Him saying to me, 'Son, I already have your life.' I heard and was broken before God. I pulled over to the side of the road and sobbed uncontrollably in praise and adoration before God.

He had indeed saved me. I was His to do with whatever He chose to do. – Paul Cedar



Joshua 4

¹² The Reubenites, Gadites, and half the tribe of Manasseh went in battle formation in front of the Israelites, as Moses had instructed them. ¹³ About forty thousand equipped for war crossed to the plains of Jericho in the LORD's presence. ^{CSB}

Joshua 4

¹⁴ On that day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel, and they revered him throughout his life, as they had revered Moses. ¹⁵ The LORD told Joshua, ¹⁶ “Command the priests who carry the ark of the testimony to come up from the Jordan.” ¹⁷ So Joshua commanded the priests, “Come up from the Jordan.” ¹⁸ When the priests carrying the ark of the LORD’s covenant came up from the middle of the Jordan, and their feet stepped out on solid ground, the water of the Jordan resumed its course, flowing over all the banks as before. CSB

Flow of 4:14-18

Joshua is faithful and He follows the Lord.



The priests & people follow Joshua's commands.



Creation follows the people.



**What is the
purpose of
remembering
all this?**

Joshua 4

¹⁹ The people came up from the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and camped at Gilgal on the eastern limits of Jericho. ²⁰ Then Joshua set up in Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken from the Jordan, ²¹ and he said to the Israelites, “In the future, when your children ask their fathers, ‘What is the meaning of these stones?’ ²² you should tell your children, ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.’

Joshua 4

23 For the LORD your God dried up the water of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, just as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up before us until we had crossed over. 24 This is so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD's hand is strong, and so that you may always fear the LORD your God.” ^{CSB}



courtesy saturn



© LEE FISHER

Joshua 4

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*Ripples of
Memory*
Marcos Rios
2018

Ephesians 2

**12 You were...without hope and
without God in the world.**

**13 But now in Christ Jesus,
you who were far away
have been brought near
by the blood of Christ.** ^{CSB}

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Hunter Beless

illustrated by Hsuiyann Fang

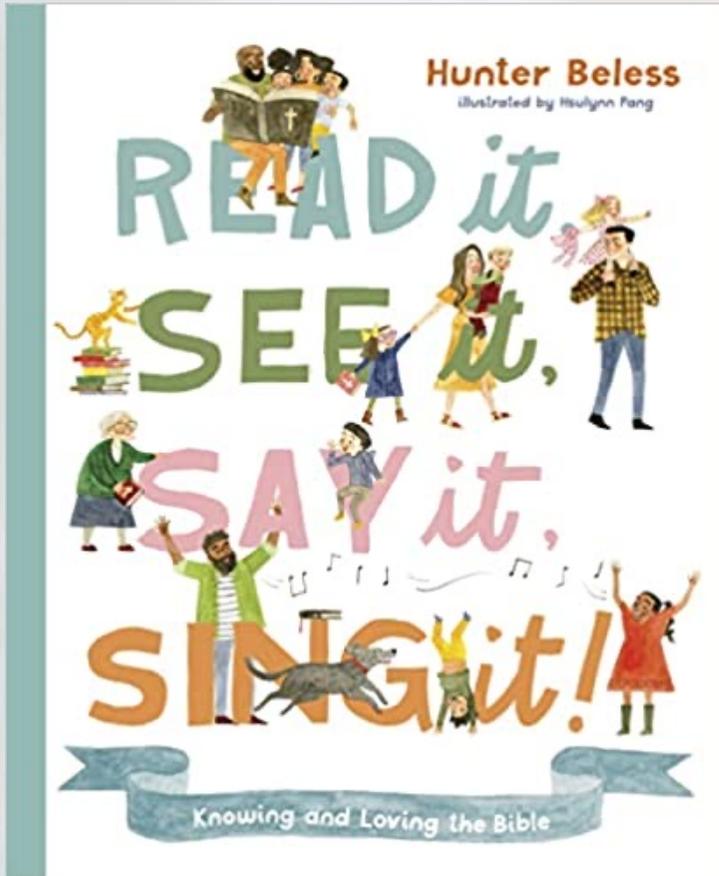
READ *it*

SEE *it,*

SAY *it,*

SING *it!*

Knowing and Loving the Bible



Have you heard of the special Book God gave to us? If not, this is something that we should discuss! This Book is the Bible. It's timeless and true. It's God's written word, for me and for you.

Joshua 4

24 This is so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD's hand is strong, and so that you may always fear the LORD your God. ^{CSB}

Joshua 4

¹³ About forty thousand equipped for war crossed to the plains of Jericho in the LORD's presence.

CSB

It could be useful here to remind people how God has led us in the past 25 years. It would be especially beneficial to have a link to the celebration message from Frisco Bible's 25th anniversary. Such a reminder can help us rejoice in God's presence even when we face an unknown future!
– Ken Bergstedt



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Check the link at www.friscobible.com for September 1, 2019 "Building to last – 25 years of FBC" ["It Takes Work" series]



Hosea 9

**¹⁵ All their evil is at
Gilgal;
Indeed, I came to hate
them there! ^{NASB}**



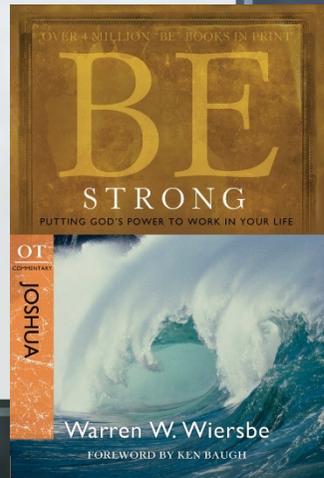
courtesy crosstalk

**Tradition is the living faith of the dead.
Traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.**

– Jaroslav Pelikan



There is nothing wrong with memorials, provided they don't become religious idols that turn our hearts from God, and provided they don't so link us to the past that we fail to serve God in the present. Glorifying the past is a good way to petrify the present and rob the church of power. The next generations need reminders of what God has done in history, but these reminders must draw them closer to the Lord not closer to [traditions]. – Warren Wiersbe, *Be Strong*



Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I am often unwilling to expend the hard work necessary for building family & friend traditions.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I am often unwilling to expend the hard work necessary for building family & friend traditions.

If True, I am in danger of missing the power of traditions.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I suspect all church traditions of being popery or manipulation.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I suspect all church traditions of being popery or manipulation.

If True, my cynicism will cause me to miss healthy opportunities.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I am uncomfortable celebrating blessings.

As I piloted these questions, these reasons were shared by people who answered “True”:

- It feels prideful.**
- It tempts fate.**
- It sounds like false prosperity teaching.**

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I am uncomfortable celebrating blessings.

If True, I am likely missing the joy of spiritual memory.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I do certain holiday things for no other reason that “That’s how we’ve always done it.”

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I do certain holiday things for no other reason that “That’s how we’ve always done it.”

If True, I am practicing traditionalism, not tradition.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I feel pressured to do something new, bigger, better each year for Valentine's Day.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I feel pressured to do something new, bigger, better each year for Valentine's Day.

If True, I am likely being pushed by cultural traditionalism, not healthy tradition.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I feel guilty if our family devotions aren't enchanting to each member.

Building memorable traditions? Petrifying in traditionalism?

[T/F] I feel guilty if our family devotions aren't enchanting to each member.

If True, likely focusing on myself more than God – which is a sure path to traditionalism.



PREPARE YOURSELF

a study of Joshua