

COURAGEOUS WARRIOR – Serve the Lord!
Joshua 24

(24:1-2)

Terah, *the father of Abraham*, “worshipped other gods!”

Do not do what your fathers did.

(v.3-13)

The Lord defeated *all* of Israel’s enemies before them.

(v.13) “I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.”

(v.14-15)

“But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord!”

Everyone “bows” at the “altar,” of “something!”

Christ the only altar offering forgiveness!

(Isaiah 43:25-26) "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions for My own sake; And I will not remember your sins. Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together; State your case, that you may be acquitted.

Jesus the only profitable altar.

(Mark 8:36-38) "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

"Serve the Lord!"

Begins at home!

Conformity - autocracy – a system of government by one person with absolute power.

However, scripture commands, that we be "transformed."

(Romans 12: 2) "*Be not conformed, but be transformed, by the renewing of our minds.*"

Renewal begins at home.

"The philosophy of the school room in one generation becomes the philosophy of government, in the next." – President Abraham Lincoln

Best course of action - "cultivate" a God honoring, "home life."

“Without careful cultivation our kids have every reason to conform.” - Peter Hegseth

(1 Peter 3:15) But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear.

Tell your children, “Your story.”

After his “personal” declaration, and an overview of God’s “historic” faithfulness, Joshua concludes. (v.14) “Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth...”

Sincerity – *tamim* – complete, whole, entire.

Truth - *emet* – firmness, reliability, faithfulness.

(Psalm 119:58-59) I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word. I thought about my ways, And turned my feet to Your testimonies.

“Half-hearted” – Personality service,” service, *unto the Lord*, is no service at all! (v.31)

(v. 16-25) Joshua’s dialogue with the people.

Joshua wanted to “dispel” any notion, they could “worship” the Lord with a divided heart.
David’s lesson.

(Psalm 32:4-5) For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

EVERYTHING! The only “acceptable,” and “reasonable service!”

(Romans 12:1) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

(v.29-33) Death of Joshua, and Eleazer.

(v.32) Bones of Joseph buried at Shechem.

CONCLUSION:

Courage through “faith,” and “humility!”

(2 Corinthians 12:9) “And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.”

In His sufficiency we find our “courage.”