

Promise Land  
Stones of Remembrance  
February 16, 2020

**Joshua 21:43-45** So the Lord gave Israel **all the land** he had sworn to give their ancestors, and they took possession of it and settled there. The Lord gave them **rest on every side**, just as he had sworn to their **ancestors**. **Not one of their enemies withstood them**; the Lord gave **all their enemies into their hands**. **Not one** of all the Lord's good **promises to Israel failed**; everyone was **fulfilled**.

**Remember:** To call to mind, to recollect, to ponder or think about.

**Joshua 3:14-16** So the people left their camp to cross the Jordan, and the priests who were carrying the **Ark of the Covenant** went ahead of them. It was the harvest season, and the Jordan was **overflowing its banks**. But as soon as the **feet** of the priests who were carrying the Ark **touched the water at the river's edge**, the water above that point began backing up a great distance away at a town called Adam, which is near Zarethan. And the water below that point flowed on to the Dead Sea **until the riverbed was dry**. Then all the people crossed over near the town of Jericho.

**Key Thought:** The miracle happens after the step of faith. It is not the miracle then the step, it is the step then the miracle.

**Joshua 4:1-7** When all the people had crossed the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, “Now choose twelve men, one from each tribe. Tell them, ‘Take **twelve stones** from the very place where the priests are standing in the middle of the Jordan. Carry them out and pile them up at the place where you will camp tonight.’” So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel. He told them, “Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the Lord your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, ‘**What do these stones mean?**’ Then you can tell them, ‘They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's Covenant went across.’ These stones will stand as a **memorial** among the people of Israel forever.”

**Key Thought:** If God did it before He can do it again.

3 Things Memorial Stones Signifies:

1. Renewed personal commitment.

**Joshua 4:8-9** So the men did as Joshua had commanded them. They took twelve **stones** from the middle of the Jordan River, one for each tribe, just as the Lord had told Joshua. They carried them to the place where they camped for the night and constructed the memorial there. Joshua also set up another pile of twelve **stones** in the middle of the Jordan, at the place where the priests who carried the

Ark of the Covenant were standing. And they are there to this day.

Secret to surviving in the enemy's territory:

- ✓ Remember what God has done.

**Genesis 28:16-18** Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I wasn't even aware of it!" But he was also afraid and said, "What an awesome place this is! It is none other than the house of God, the very gateway to heaven!" The next morning Jacob got up very early. He took the **stone** he had rested his head against, and he set it upright as a memorial pillar. Then he poured olive oil over it.

- ✓ Remember whose you are.

## 2. Rolling away of old defeats.

**Joshua 4:19-20** The people crossed the Jordan on the **tenth day** of the first month. Then they camped at **Gilgal**, just east of Jericho. It was there at **Gilgal** that Joshua piled up the twelve stones taken from the Jordan River.

**2 Corinthians 5:17** This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

## 3. Recognition for the future.

**Matthew 19:26** Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

**Revelation 12:11** And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony. And they did not love their lives so much that they were afraid to die.

As we look to our future, recognize:

- ✓ It will take faith. See it.
- ✓ It will take sacrifice. Choose it.
- ✓ It will take urgency. Do it today.

**Walk Away:** Today I will live as if this is the day that will be remembered.