

The Journey

Series 03: Covenant

Week 27: New Generation, New Leaders, a King

We are indebted to [Ethnos360](#) for providing the basis of these lessons

Review (Where We Have Been)

Laws were given at Mount Sinai. The Tabernacle was built, and God came to live with Israel. It was time for Israel to go to the land God had promised to their ancestors.

-**Spy Report** - (Israel wanted not God) -10 Negative and 2 positive

-**Plans to Kill the 2 positive spies (Joshua and Caleb)**

-**Israel gets what they ask for.** Death in the Wilderness is their punishment

40 Years wandering

-**Moses and Aaron disobey and are punished** - Not able to enter the promised land

It is time to enter the promised land. **But who will lead?**

BIG Idea

Can we trust God's Word? **God's Word is completely dependable.**

God's knowledge is perfect and his Word is unchanging. He is totally trustworthy.

People whose hearts are pleasing to God are those who choose to believe what He says about them.

Information (What We Need to Know)

God transitions leadership from Moses to Joshua

Numbers 27: 20, 22-23 (ESV) You shall invest him with some of your authority, that all the congregation of the people of Israel may obey.

22 And Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and made him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation, **23** and he laid his hands on him and commissioned him as the Lord directed through Moses.

Don't feel bad for Moses

Deuteronomy 34:1-5 (ESV) Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the Lord showed him all the land

4 And the Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there." **5** So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord, -God buries Moses

God's plan remain undeterred.

Deuteronomy 34:9 - We find that Moses had laid his hands on Joshua to show a transfer of leadership.

Joshua 1:1-3 (ESV) After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, **2** "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. **3** Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses.

Genesis 15:16 - God is using His people to bring judgement upon the Canaanite people. WERE THEY REALLY THAT BAD? Yes, God did not want His people poisoned with their idolatry. We are going to find that

God will use other nations in the future to bring judgement upon Israel because they look no different than the Canaanites. **God Keeps His Word!**

Deuteronomy 4:25-31 - Moses' Very clear warning about Israel and Idolatry and the consequences. Conquered and scattered - They pray to Idols for protection and blessing then God will grant their request.

Joshua reminds Israel of the same warning of Moses

Joshua 23:14-16 (ESV) 14 “And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one word has failed of all the good things that the Lord your God promised concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed. **15** But just as all the good things that the Lord your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so the Lord will bring upon you all the evil things, until he has destroyed you from off this good land that the Lord your God has given you, **16** if you transgress the covenant of the Lord your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them. Then the anger of the Lord will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from off the good land that he has given to you.”

Israel under Joshua saw the Lord do many miracles. But when Joshua died they quickly turned away from following the Lord.

Judges 2:8-13 (ESV) 8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of 110 years. **9** And they buried him ... **10** And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel.

11 And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. **12** And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after

other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger. **13** They abandoned the Lord and served the Baals and the Ashtaroth.

Repeated warnings: Numbers 33:51-53, 55-56, Deuteronomy 4:24-25, Joshua 23

We should never hold ourselves above the sins of these people (Israel). The enemy, Satan, is real. He is a deceiver and a master of disguise. His whole purpose is to draw people away from God. He likes to twist words and deceive impressionable minds. He doesn't care if you are a good person. Or whether you help others. As long as you do not believe God's Word and trust in God alone for the forgiveness of your sins.

So along with trying to stop and destroy the coming promised snake crusher and deliver from Genesis 3 he want to lead as many people away from God as possible.

With Joshua's death we move into the time of the Judges. They were regional deliverers. They are not like our Judges today. But through the book Israel develops this pattern. Follow God, Turn to Sin and Idolatry, God sends enemies to attack and conquer them, Israel cries out the God and repents and God sends a deliverer. As the book opens the first couple deliverers are pretty good but begin getting worse and worse until at the end of the book Israel is a reflection of Sodom and Gomorrah and they are killing each other. It is hard to believe that these are the folks who God set free from slavery in Egypt. Because in the promised land they have another type of bondage. Sin and their master is Satan. The last verse in Judges is a powerful repeated reflection of the sin problem in Israel.

Judges 21:25 (ESV) In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

In the midst the corruption we have Ruth - God is working (still a faithful remnant)

First Samuel opens and introduces us to a boy named Samuel. His mother like Sarah and Rebekah, Hannah was unable to have children and God opened her womb. He son, Samuel, was dedicated to the Lord and was raised by the priest, Eli. Samuel was the last Judge and was a priest and faithfully served the Lord. Unfortunately, his sons were not godly or honest men.

I Samuel 8:4-6(ESV) Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah **5** and said to him, “Behold, you are old and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now appoint for us a king to judge us like all the nations.” **6** But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to judge us.” And Samuel prayed to the Lord.

Deuteronomy 17:14-20 - Laws concerning Kings given about 400 years previously.

Israel gets what they ask for - GQ King Saul (warning signs were clear)

I Samuel 13:13-14 - Foolish Actions quickly showed he was not a good or godly king.

Samuel is sent to the family of Jesse to anoint another king. It is here we catch a glimpse of God’s view of a leader. Someone who no one (but God) would expect to do great things.

I Samuel 16: 6-7 (ESV) When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.” **7** But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Where have we seen this pattern before. A young boy who was not expected to do much and became a powerful leader? Joseph! A lot of very cool parallels.

King Saul is finally killed and after many many years of running and struggle and faithfulness to God David was prepared to take the throne.

II Samuel 5:1-4 (ESV) Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “Behold, we are your bone and flesh. **2** In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the Lord said to you, ‘You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.’” **3** So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. **4** David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.

At that time there was perhaps a question in the hearts and minds of God’s people. Is He the promised deliverer? They are looking and hoping for this snake crushing deliverer from Genesis 3. But David was not the promised one. He made some awful and tragic mistakes and yet he always repented and humbled himself before God (unlike Saul who had plenty of excuses). He too was waiting for the deliverer. And God made a covenant with David.

II Samuel 7:12-17 (ESV) When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. **13** He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. **14** I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, **15** but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. **16** And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your

throne shall be established forever.”” **17** In accordance with all these words, and in accordance with all this vision, Nathan spoke to David.

God moves the football further down the field. First, we have the promise given to Adam in Genesis 3. Then we have God’s covenant and promises with Abraham in Genesis 12:1-3 - Land, Nation and Leader. Now we know that this deliverer will come from David’s family.

God blessed David and he had a beautiful home made of Cedarwood, stone, and Gold. And David felt that God should have a home of great splendor since the he and the people are in the promised land and God is still in the tent (tabernacle). God tells David that his son will be the one to build the Temple. **2 Samuel 7:1-3** - So David gathers all the wood, gold, gemstones, fabrics that Solomon would need to build God His house.

I Chronicles 29 - David dies and Solomon becomes king.

II Chronicles 2 - Solomon begins the temple

II Chronicles 5:1 (ESV) Thus all the work that Solomon did for the house of the Lord was finished. And Solomon brought in the things that David his father had dedicated, and stored the silver, the gold, and all the vessels in the treasuries of the house of God.

The entire situation of the building of the temple is (to me) an amazing read. The layout of the temple (of course) was almost identical to the little tabernacle. And God’s response to this new home was as spectacular as his response to living in a tent among his people.

II Chronicles 7:1-3 (ESV) As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. **2** And the priests could not enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord filled

the Lord's house. **3** When all the people of Israel saw the fire come down and the glory of the Lord on the temple, they bowed down with their faces to the ground on the pavement and worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying, “For he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.”

Solomon just like his father, David, makes some awful tragic mistakes. And as we read in Ecclesiastes he repents and turns back to God. Unfortunately, Solomon’s women problem and idolatry leads to his son causing the split in the kingdom. We have the Southern Kingdom aka Judea and the Northern Kingdom aka Samaria. The kings of the Southern Kingdom are divided between Good and Bad Kings. And ALL of the Northern Kings are bad. This leads us to the time of the prophets. Which Tom will bring us to next week.

Application (What We Need to Do)

Throughout this week we see a strong tension between humanity, God, and sin. We clearly see that God’s Word is completely dependable. In spite of humanities sin God still loves and is ready to forgive. And in spite of all the sin, idolatry and mess of Israel’s lives God still keeps his promise of a deliverer. They have their land. They are a nation. And God assures them that one day He will send one who will defeat Satan and deal with humanities sin problem. We are so close.