

Joshua 1:1-18

Be Strong and Courageous Sunday, 1/9/22 Pastor Stuart Fraser

I. Introduction: The book of Joshua is a story of fearless faith and victory for God's people, because Yahweh had given His people the land of Canaan as a gift.

- II. Be Strong and Courageous (Josh 1:1-18).
 - A. Trust in God's Promises (vv. 1-4).
 - 1. God urged Joshua to cross over the Jordan and take possession of the land of Canaan because He had promised to give it to Israel's forefathers.
 - B. Trust in God's Power (vv. 5-6).
 - 1. God told Joshua that He would be with him and encouraged him to be bold and courageous, knowing that He was asking Joshua to do something unprecedented.
 - C. Trust in God's Precepts (vv. 7-9).
 - 1. God commanded Joshua not to compromise regarding His word, but to meditate on it as the source of his strength and courage.
 - D. Trust in God's Plan (vv. 10-15).
 - 1. Joshua commanded Israel to get ready to cross over the Jordan and prepare for battle. After forty years of wandering, Israel was finally entering Canaan.
 - E. Trust in God's People (vv. 16-18).
 - 1. The Israelites agreed to follow Joshua as they did with Moses, and they vowed that anyone who would not listen to him would be put to death.
- III. Conclusion: God encouraged Joshua and Israel to be bold and courageous because He promised to deliver Canaan into their hands and give them the land as a possession.

Questions About: Be Strong and Courageous

- 1. How do we live by faith and not fear? What stood between the Jews and the promised land? What is the central theme of Joshua? (**John 1:6-9**) Why did God reiterate this to Joshua?
- 2. What promises did Joshua receive from God? (Josh 1:1-4) How did God make promises to give the land to Abraham (Gen 12:2-3)? To Isaac (26:3-5)? And to Jacob (28:13)?
- 3. What were the dimensions of the land God promised to Joshua? (**Josh 1:4**) What physical barrier still lay in front of Israel? (**Josh 3:15**) How were they going to cross the Jordan?
- 4. What did God promise to Joshua? (**Josh 1:5-6**) Why was it necessary for God to be with Joshua? (**v. 5**) How was God with Moses? Do you feel as though God is with you?
- 5. What command did the Lord give to Joshua? (**Josh 1:6-7**) Why did God reiterate this command three times? (**vv. 6-7, 9**) What might Joshua have feared? (**Num 13:25-29**)
- 6. What did God say would be the source of Joshua's strength? (**Josh 1:6-9**) What did God say Joshua should do with His word? (**Josh 1:8**) What strikes fear in your heart? Why?
- 7. What did Joshua instruct the army to do? (Josh 1:10-15) What did Joshua remind the $2\frac{1}{2}$ tribes about their duties? (vv. 12-15) Why was this critical that they fight in the conquest?
- 8. How did the tribes respond to Joshua? (**Josh 1:16-18**) What did they say they would do to those who didn't obey his commands? (**v. 18**) How committed are you to God's people?

Prayer

- 1. Ask God to help you live a life of fearless faith in His power and promises.
- 2. Pray that God might reveal to you His plan and for you to commit yourself to His service.