

THRU BIBLE

Joshua 1 | “Be Strong and Courageous”

INTRODUCTION:

A. THE TITLE:

1. **HEBREW** Title: *Yehoshua*

a. His original name was “*Hoshea*” (“*Salvation*”)

1) Cf. **Numbers 13:8, 16; Deuteronomy 32:34**

b. Moses changes his name to “*Yehoshua*” (“*YHVH is Salvation*”)

1) Cf. **Numbers 13:16**

a) *Yehoshua* is a compound word of the Hebrew words *YHVH* (“*LORD*” - the name of God) and *Hoshea* (“*salvation*”). Thus, “the LORD is Salvation”.

i. *Yeshua* is the shortened version of the name *Yehoshua*.

2) Variations in Hebrew: **Joshua 1:1 w/ Deuteronomy 3:21; 32:34; Nehemiah 8:17**

a) Joshua was to save his people by conquering the Land and dividing it among the Twelve Tribes.

2. **GREEK** Title: *Iesous Naus* (“*Jesus, son of Nun*”)

a. “*Joshua*” - Hebrew: *Yeshua*; Greek: *Jesus*

1) This book has the Name of Jesus on it!

3. **LATIN** Title: *Liber Josue* (“*Book of Joshua*”)

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B. THE AUTHOR: Joshua primarily (24:26), with some supplemental material possibly added by Phinehas.

1. What we know about THE AUTHOR:

a. It was written by an eyewitness (5:1, 6), thus a contemporary of that time.

1) A few options are available at that time:

a) Joshua.

i. Jewish Tradition makes him the author.

ii. Evidence:

a. Joshua at least wrote the terms of the covenant, if not the whole book. (24:26)

b. There are details that only Joshua would know, unless he told someone else about them.

b) Phinehas.

i. He was the High Priest during the time of Joshua. (Numbers 25:7-13; 31:6-8)

ii. He's the last one mentioned in this book. (22:10-34; 24:33)

2. What we know about JOSHUA:

a. In the Pentateuch, Joshua is mentioned 27x.

b. He was born as a slave in the land of Egypt around the time that Moses killed the Egyptian and fled.

c. His grandfather was Elishama, the leader of the Tribe of Ephraim during the wilderness wanderings. (Numbers 1:10; 1 Chron. 7:27)

d. His father was Nun (not a Catholic woman 😏). (1:1; Numbers 13:8; 1 Chronicles 7:27)

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- e. He is first mentioned in **Exodus 17:9**, where he appears as a military hero in the battle of Amalek.
 - 1) Josephus claims that Joshua led an Egyptian army against Ethiopia prior to the Exodus.
- f. Joshua went with Moses to Mount Sinai when Moses received the 2 tablets of the Law. (**Exodus 24:13-15**)
- g. He met Moses when he came down from Mount Sinai (**Exodus 32:16-18**).
- h. He did not depart from the Tabernacle (**Exodus 33:11**).
- i. He was jealous for Moses. He told Moses to forbid Eldad and Medad from prophesying. (**Numbers 11:28**)
- j. Joshua was one of the 12 spies that went from and to Kadesh-barnea. (**Numbers 13:7, 16; 26:65; 32:12; Deuteronomy 1:31-38**)
- k. Joshua and Caleb were the only 2 spies that brought back a good report, and they stood their ground at the threat of their lives. (**Numbers 14:6-10, 30, 38**)
- l. Joshua was ordained to succeed Moses, and Moses laid hands on him before the people. (**Numbers 27:15-23**)
- m. Only Joshua and Caleb were to enter the Promised Land from that first generation of the Exodus. (**Numbers 32:11-12**)
- n. He would be the one to divide the Land. (**Numbers 34:17; Deuteronomy 1:38; 3:21**)
- o. Moses’ final charge to Joshua. (**Deuteronomy 31:7-8**)
- p. Joshua took charge after Moses’ death and was Spirit-filled. (**Deuteronomy 34:9**)
- q. He led the people into the Promised Land and the Conquest of the Land of Canaan. (**Joshua 1-24**)
- r. He died at 110 years old (**24:29**).

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- 1) After Joshua finished the Conquest of Canaan, the Land was given “*a long time*” of rest. (23:1-2)¹
- 2) He was old enough to fight the Amalekites, thus at least 20 years old at time of the Exodus. (Exodus 17:9-16; Numbers 1:3)
- 3) He was counted with those that were 20 years old and above at the Exodus. (Numbers 14:28-35; 32:11-12)
- 4) He was a “*young man*” while at Mount Sinai (Exodus 33:11) and at Taberah where the Spirit was poured out on the elders in the camp (Numbers 11:27-28).
 - a) Cf. 2 Chronicles 12:13 - Rehoboam was 41 years old and was called “*young*”, thus the oldest a person was called *young* in the Bible is 41 years old.
 - b) Thus, if Joshua was 41 years old at the Exodus and lived to 110 years old (24:29), then he ruled for about 23 years after the Conquest of the Land. He also would have been around 1 year old when Moses fled Egypt after killing the Egyptian.
- s. Joshua had some relatives with a bad reputation — they were cattle thieves! (1 Chronicles 7:20-27)
- t. Joshua is called Jesus in KJV New Testament. (Acts 7:25; Hebrews 4:8)

u. Joshua is a TYPE of Christ:

¹ There is an undetermined amount of time between the Conquest of the Land and the oppression of Cushan where Joshua and the Elders ruled the land. In that time, Joshua died at 110 years old (24:29), the Elders died (Judges 2:6-10), and a gradual apostasy of the people (Judges 2:11-13, 20 — 3:7), until the eight-year oppression of Cushan (Judges 3). However, the rest of the timeline from Exodus to Solomon’s 4th year (1 Kings 6:1) adds up to 446 years, so there are 33 years left for that time between the Conquest and the oppression of Cushan. I estimated in my chronological timeline that Joshua ruled for 23 years after the Conquest and the next 10 years was when the Elders died and the apostasy began. However, many commentators believe that Joshua died 14 years after the Conquest. We don’t know for sure.

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1) Same name: *Yehoshua* (“*the LORD is Salvation*”)

a) Cf. **Matthew 1:18-25** - “*Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.*”

2) He came *after* Moses.

a) Cf. **John 1:17; Romans 8:3-4; 10:4-5; Galatians 3:23-25**

b) What the Law could not do, He did!

3) He leads God’s people to victory.

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a) Cf. [Romans 8:37](#); [2 Corinthians 1:10](#); [2:14](#)

4) He is an advocate when God’s people suffer defeat.

a) Cf. [Joshua 7:5-9](#) w/ [1 John 2:1-2](#)

5) He allots our inheritance.

a) Cf. [Ephesians 1:11, 14](#); [4:7-11](#)

C. **THE DATE WRITTEN:** ~1370 B.C.

1. **INTERNAL Evidence:**

- a. It was written by an eyewitness ([5:1, 6](#)).
- b. The Canaanites were still in control of certain cities that only later became Israelite.
 - 1) The Canaanites were still in control of the city of Gezar, which would make it prior to Solomon’s time because Gezar became a Jewish city under Solomon ([16:10](#); [1 Kings 9:16](#)).
- c. It was written even earlier because the Jebusites were still in control of Jerusalem, which would make this book before David’s time, since Jerusalem became a Jewish city under David. ([15:63](#); [2 Samuel 5:5-9](#))
- d. There are many towns mentioned that still had Canaanite names before they were changed to Hebrew names. ([15:9, 49, 54](#))
- e. We know that Joshua wrote at least part of the book. ([8:32](#); [24:26](#))
- f. There were certain parts of the book written after Joshua died because Joshua’s death is recorded in the book.
- g. Rehab was still living ([6:25](#)), thus it had to be written before Rahab’s death.

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- h. Sidon was the most important city of Phoenicia, which means it was written before the 12th century B.C. because at that time Tyre took priority over Sidon. (13:4-6; 19:28)
- i. The Gibeonites were still hewers of wood and drawers of water around the Tabernacle (Josh. 9:27), which was no longer true once Solomon built the Temple to replace the Tabernacle.
 - 1) Also, it had to be before the time of Saul since he tried to destroy the Gibeonites (2 Samuel 21:1-9).
- j. It had to be written before the year 1200 B.C. because the Philistines are not yet a problem during the time of Joshua, but they did become a problem after 1200 B.C.
- k. The phrase “*unto this day*” appears several times in this book (4:9; 5:9; 6:25; 7:26; 8:28-29; 9:27; 13:13; 14:14; 15:63; 16:10), which shows that the events are not exactly contemporary with the events described.
 - 1) This does not mean that it was written centuries later because the phrase “*unto this day*” could be applicable only 10 years after the events.

2. EXTERNAL Evidences:

- a. In archeology, we have the Amarna letters (~1400 B.C.), and they describe the Land of Canaan as having city-states that were threatened by the *Habiru* (or *Apiru*), which is described in the book of Joshua.
- b. The description of the Land (1:4) matches the Egyptian descriptions of the Land of Canaan in the 2nd century B.C.
- c. The book mentions the tribes expelled from the Land (3:10) Hivites, Perezites, and Gergashites, which are associated with the same time period.

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- d. The names of the defeated kings fit the same period.
- e. Joshua 24 follows the Hittite treaty formula, which dates to this period.

3. Chronology based on **1 Kings 6:1**.

- a. Solomon began his reign in 970 B.C., thus his 4th year would be 967 B.C. Thus, the Exodus would be 1446 B.C.²

Chronology of Israel's Leaders From Exodus To Solomon Total of 479 years = 1 Kings 6:1		
Period of Israel's History		# Years
From Exodus To Promised Land		40
Conquest of the Land		6
Rule of Joshua and Elders after Conquest		33
Oppression by Cushan		8
Rule of Othniel and Rest		40
Oppression by Moab		18
Rule of Ehud and Rest		80
Oppression by Jabin and Midian		20
Rule of Gideon (w/ Barak and Deborah) and Rest		40
Rule of Abimelech		3
Rule of Tola		23
Rule of Jair		22
TWO SIDES OF THE JORDAN RIVER*		
THE WEST — The Philistines	THE EAST	49

² If Solomon's reign started in 970 B.C., and he started construction on the Temple after 3 years and 2 months (1 Kings 6:1), which was the beginning of the 4th year, then it would be 479 years and 2 months since the Exodus. The 480th year would mean that it was Year 479 since the Exodus. Once it hits the 481st year, then it would be Year 480, thus you wouldn't do the math using 480, but 479. Thus, 967 B.C. + 479 years = 1446 B.C. for the date of the Exodus.

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Chronology of Israel's Leaders From Exodus To Solomon Total of 479 years = 1 Kings 6:1		
Period of Israel's History		# Years
(1) The Loss of the Ark	(1) Oppression of Ammon - 18 yrs	
(2) Samson's deeds and Samuel	(2) Jephthah - 6 yrs	
(3) Defeat of Philistines; rule of Samuel	(3) Ibzan - 7	
	(4) Elon - 10	
	(5) Abdon - 8	
Rule of Eli		40
The Reign of Saul		14
David in Hebron		7
David in Jerusalem		33
The reign of Solomon until the beginning of the construction of the Temple		3
TOTAL # of years (compare with 1 Kings 6:1)		479
* Judges 10:7 implies that Jephthah and Samson ruled contemporaneously on the two different sides of the Jordan River, with Jephthah on the east side and Samson on the west side.		

b. **NOTE:** At the time of Jephthah's second year as judge, Israel had been in the Land for 300 years (**Judges 11:15, 26**), from the time that they defeated Sihon, king of the Amorites (**Numbers 21:23-30**).³

1) Sihon was conquered *after* the death of Aaron (**Numbers 20:28-29**) in the "fifth month of the fortieth year" (**Numbers 33:38**).

³ According to the timeline, it is exactly 313 years from the defeat of Sihon, king of the Amorites (Num. 21:23-30 w/ Num. 20:28-29), thus when Jephthah said it was "three hundred years", he may have been giving an estimate and not an exact number.

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4. Other Chronological Details:

- a. In ~Adar 2, 1407 B.C., we have the death of Moses (Deut. 1:3; 34:5-7), and we have the crossing of the Jordan River on Nisan 10, 1406 B.C.
- b. Then 6 years of conquest from Nisan 1406 B.C. until 1400 B.C. (6:1–13:7).
 - 1) Caleb was 40 years old at Kadesh-Barnea (14:7).
 - 2) Caleb was 85 years old at the time of the conclusion of the conquest (14:10), thus 1400 B.C.
 - 3) Thus, subtracting 39⁴ years from 45 years, we have 6 years of conquest.
- c. **KEY:** The Book of Joshua covers about 23 years of Israel’s history after the 5 books of Moses.

5. REFERENCES To the Book of Joshua in the Scriptures:

- a. Cf. 1 Kings 16:34; 1 Chronicles 2:7; Psalm 114:3, 5; Isaiah 28:21; Habakkuk 3:11-13; Matthew 1:5; Acts 7:45; 13:19; Hebrews 4:8; 11:30-31; 13:5; James 2:25

D. THE OUTLINE:

1. The Entrance of the Land. (1–5)
2. The Conquest of the Land. (6–12)
3. The Settlement of the Land. (13–21)
4. The Concluding Addresses and Exhortations. (22–24)

⁴ The spies went into the land in “the twentieth day of the second month, in the second year”, thus Iyar 20, 1445 B.C. It was at the beginning of Year 2, thus another 38 years and 10 months until they enter Canaan.

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EXPOSITION OF CHAPTER 1

I. THE COMMISSION OF JOSHUA. (v. 1-9)

A. The TIMING: (v. 1)

(v. 1)

1. "Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,"

a. "Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD"

1) The children of Israel have mourned for 30 days ([Deuteronomy 34:8](#)), and now things are different.

2) "servant" - Heb. *eved*

a) Moses is referred as God's *servant* 3x in this chapter ([1:1](#), [13](#), [15](#)), and about 30x in the rest of the book of Joshua.

b. "the LORD spake to Joshua"

1) Joshua had received his call to succeed Moses, but now that Moses is dead, the call comes a second time by Divine revelation from God. He is to begin to function in that office full time.

a) Their leader is gone.

b) There is some uncertainty ahead.

c) They are going into unknown territory.

d) But the Lord has a man that He has chosen to continue the work.

i. You might feel that you are in uncharted territory, and that the road ahead is uncertain.

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- ii. The Lord wants you to know that He has a plan, and He is still working!
 - iii. HE wants to be your leader! He wants you looking to *Him*!
- c. Joshua is referred to as the "*minister*" of Moses.
- 1) "*minister*" - Heb. *mesharet*
 - a) This is a different word than used of Moses.
 - b) Moses was called the *eved*, but the word used of Joshua is *mesharet*.
 - i. The word *mesharet* connects Joshua to the one in the 5 books of Moses since that was his title (**Exo. 24:13; 33:11; Num. 11:28**).
 - ii. This word also shows that the relationship between God and Moses was different than the relationship between Moses and Joshua.
 - iii. At the end of his life, Joshua will be called the *eved* of the LORD. (**24:29**)

B. The PROMISES of God: (v. 2-5)

(v. 2)

1. "Moses my servant is dead;..."

- a. **Q** = Why would God have to tell Joshua this? Why is the death of Moses repeated?... Probably to confirm that the leadership of Joshua may indeed begin.

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2. “...now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.”

a. The Land is about to be given to the people. This is the beginning of the fulfillment of the Land promise of the Abrahamic Covenant.

b. “all this people”

1) Could be as many as 2—3 million people!

2) These are the 2nd generation from the wilderness.

(v. 3)

3. “Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.”

a. **KEY:** The Lord gives us these HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS in the past with Israel as a picture of our SPIRITUAL REALITIES today as Christians!

1) Cf. **Romans 15:4** - Paul, in writing to the church at Rome, said, “*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*”

2) Cf. **1 Corinthians 10:11-13** - Paul the apostle, in writing to the church at Corinth, said, “*Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are*

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able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

3) Cf. [Ephesians 1:3](#) - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who **hath** blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:"

a) God has already given us EVERY spiritual blessing, now all we need to do is walk in them.

i. I'm excited to take this journey with Joshua and the children of Israel, that we might possess our possessions and begin that walk in the Spirit.

ii. **Q** = Are there battles? Yes! Are there areas in our lives that we need to conquer? Yes! Can we have the victory? Yes!

a. Cf. [Romans 8:35-37](#) - "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. **Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.**"

b) **NOTE:** We are NOT talking about *Material* prosperity, but *Spiritual* prosperity!

i. Cf. [Matthew 6:19-21](#) - "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay

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up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

b. “as I said to Moses”

- 1) Normally the promise of the Land is referred to the patriarchs — Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. But here, it refers to that expansion of the Land Covenant that God gave Moses ([Deut. 29:1; 34:4, 6](#)).

(v. 4)

4. “From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.”

a. “all the land of the Hittites”

- 1) Before the year 1906, there was no evidence that the Hittites ever existed, so the critics insisted that this was a Biblical error. However, in 1906, ten thousand tablets have been found in Turkey that prove a mighty Hittite empire that ruled a vast area that included the Land of Canaan.
 - a) The Hittite empire lasted from 1900 B.C. — 1200 B.C., but in later centuries it became a lot smaller and no longer controlled the land of Canaan.
 - b) During Joshua’s time, the Hittites did rule the area of Lebanon, so this is what is meant by *the land of the Hittites*. Not the Empire itself

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(which was also in Turkey), but the Land controlled by the Empire.

- b. "the great sea" = Mediterranean Sea
- c. These are the Borders of the Land that God gave to Israel at the widest extension. However, the closest they ever got to the range of these borders was during the reign of David and Solomon. Even then, there was much of the Promised Land that was not taken.
 - 1) Also, much of the Land was only occupied by military occupation and not by settlement.
 - 2) Israel will ultimately possess the whole Promised Land in the Messianic Kingdom.
- d. **NOTE:** It is possible as a child of God to come short of possessing all the spiritual blessings that God has for us.

(v. 5)

5. "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life:..."

- a. Joshua was PROMISED VICTORY.
 - 1) Nobody would be able to stand against Joshua *all the days of his life*.
 - 2) Our "Joshua" (Jesus) will always live, resurrected and glorified, and nothing will ever be able to overcome Him! The enemy will never have a chance to overcome us.
 - a) Cf. **Hebrews 7:16, 24-25** - "Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life. ... But this

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man, because he continueth ever, hath an unchangeable priesthood. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."

6. "...as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee:..."

- a. Joshua was also PROMISED GOD'S PRESENCE.
 - 1) That must have brought so much encouragement and comfort to Joshua.
- b. **NOTE:** As the Lord was with Joshua, so the Lord is with us today!
 - 1) Cf. **Matthew 18:20** - Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, **there am I in the midst of them.**"
 - 2) Cf. **Matthew 28:19-20** - Jesus also said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: **and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.** Amen."

7. "...I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

- a. "fail" - Heb. "relax; withdraw; let go; be weak toward"
 - 1) Lit. - "I will not be weak towards you"
 - a) Cf. **Isaiah 40:28** - "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?"
 - 2) The Lord will never give up on you! He will not relax or withdraw from you!

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a) In other words, the Lord will always be by your side!

C. The EXHORTATIONS of God: (v. 6-8)

(v. 6)

1. ***“Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.”***

a. Two Observations:

- 1) God promised the Land to Israel.
- 2) Joshua will succeed in his military campaigns only because it was promised to the patriarchs.

b. *“Be strong and of good courage”*

1) This phrase is used 3x by the Lord (v. 6, 7, 9) and once by the officers of the people (v. 18).

2) **Q** = Why would God have to tell this to Joshua 3 times?... He could have been feeling a little weak and afraid because there are Giants in the Land!

a) When Joshua was younger, he was totally confident to defeat the giants, but now that he’s older and spent 40 years in the wilderness, he may be feeling weak and afraid.

- i. **NOTE:** Joshua will be facing a huge enemy, but he has an even bigger God with him!
- ii. **KEY:** No matter what you’re up against, God is still bigger!

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(v. 7)

2. "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest."

a. As Joshua would obey the Law, he would receive power from God's Word.

1) Cf. **Romans 10:17** - "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

(v. 8)

3. "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

a. "This book of the Law"

1) "This book" (singular) refers to the previous 5 books of Moses which are really one *book of the Law*.

b. "to do according to all that is written"

1) Joshua was the first person that God told to *read His written Word* and put it into practice!

c. **NOTE:** Joshua was to do 3 things with the Word of God for success:

1) He was to TALK about the Word.

a) "the law shall not depart out of thy mouth"

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- i. This means that he was to read the Word with comprehension and meaning, and that he was to talk about it with others. He was to share the Word of God.
- b) Cf. **Deuteronomy 6:7** - *"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."*

2) He was to THINK about the Word.

a) *"meditate therein day and night"*

- i. He was to be thinking about it and reflecting on it.
- ii. **KEY:** Biblical meditation is not to empty the mind, but it is to FILL the mind with the Word of God!
- iii. **KEY:** It's not just about getting into the Word, but getting the Word into you!

3) He was to OBEY the Word.

a) *"that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein"*

- b) Cf. **Ezra 7:10** - *"For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, **and to do it**, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments."*
- c) Cf. **James 1:22** - *"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."*

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d. Cf. [Psalm 1](#)

II. THE PREPARATIONS BY JOSHUA. (v. 10-18)

A. The COMMAND of Joshua: (v. 10-15)

(v. 10)

1. “***Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,***”

a. “*officers*” - Heb. *shotrim*

- 1) This is the modern Hebrew word for “Police officers”, but that is not the connotation in classical Hebrew.
- 2) The *Shotrim* had 2 basic functions:
 - a) They issued orders for drafting men into the army.
 - b) As staff officers, they issued and carried out the orders of the commander.
- 3) We find out more details about the *Shotrim* in [Deuteronomy 20:5-9](#).
 - a) The *Shotrim* were the secular counterpart to the Priesthood.
 - b) They pronounced the exclusion clause for those going to war.
 - c) They appointed the commanders of the army.
- 4) In the books of the Chronicles, they appear as rural officials performing non-specific secular duties.

B. The RESPONSE of the People: (v. 16-18)