

## I. An Uncompromised Altar (30-31a)

A. Joshua was obediently proactive (30) - “At that time Joshua built an altar to the LORD, the God of Israel, on Mount Ebal...”

B. Joshua was intentionally reverent (31a) - “just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded the people of Israel, as it is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, “an altar of uncut stones, upon which no man has wielded an iron tool.””

## II. An Unrestrained Sacrifice (31b)

“And they offered on it burnt offerings to the LORD and sacrificed peace offerings.”

Burnt offerings - sacrifice in which a choice animal offered to make atonement for sin was completely consumed by fire. The smoke ascended to God as an offering for sin and restoring fellowship with Him.

Peace offerings - They were of three kinds, (1) communion or thanksgiving offerings, expressive of gratitude for blessings received; (2) in fulfillment of a vow, but expressive also of thanks for benefits received; and (3) free-will offerings, something spontaneously devoted to God.

## III. An Unashamed Devotion (32-33)

A. The prophet was devoted to the word (32) – “And there, in the presence of the people of Israel, he wrote on the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he had written.”

B. The leaders were devoted to the word (33a) – “And all Israel, sojourner as well as native born, with their elders and officers and their judges {appointed leaders}, stood on opposite sides of the ark...”

C. The servants were devoted to the word (33b) – “before the Levitical priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD {the glory bearers}, half of them in front of Mount Gerizim and half of them in front of Mount Ebal just as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded at the first, to bless the people of Israel.”

## IV. An Unwavering Standard (34-35)

A. Every word mattered (34-35a) – “And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the Book of the Law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded that Joshua did not read...”

B. Every person listened (35b) – “...before all the assembly of Israel, and the women, and the little ones, and the sojourners who lived among them.”