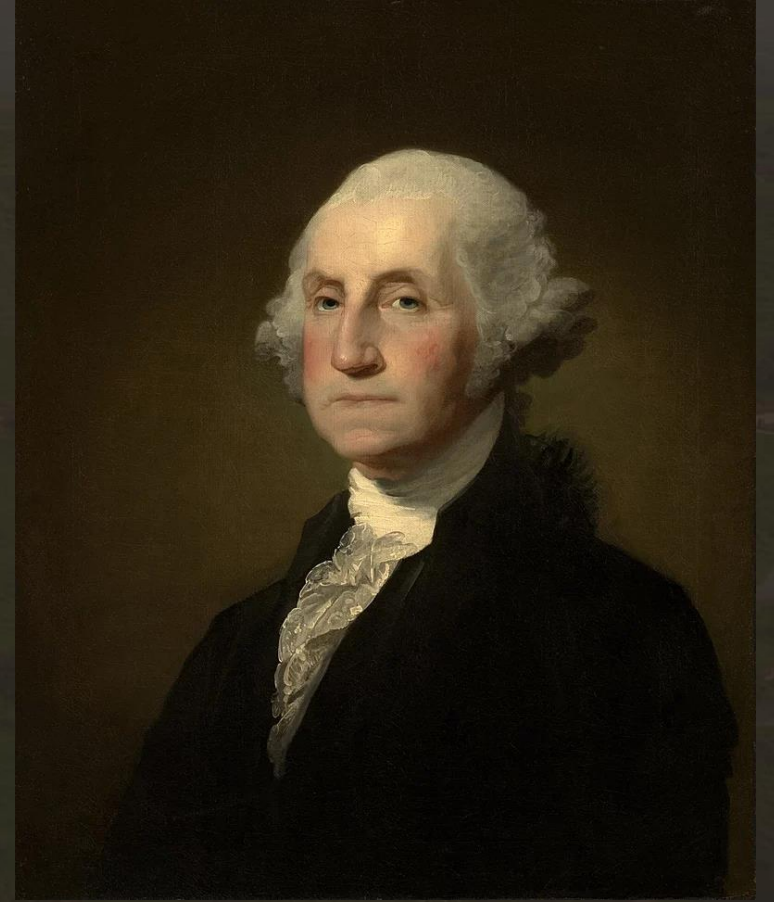




JOSHUA

COURAGEOUS FAITH IN THE GOD OF PROMISE



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Joshua 23

A long time afterward, when the Lord had given rest to Israel from all their surrounding enemies, and Joshua was old and well advanced in years, 2 Joshua summoned all Israel, its elders and heads, its judges and officers, and said to them, “I am now old and well advanced in years. 3 And you have seen all that the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the Lord your God who has fought for you. 4 Behold, I have allotted to you as an inheritance for your tribes those nations that remain, along with all the nations that I have already cut off, from the Jordan to the Great Sea in the west.

Joshua 23

5 The Lord your God will push them back before you and drive them out of your sight. And you shall possess their land, just as the Lord your God promised you. 6 Therefore, be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand nor to the left, 7 that you may not mix with these nations remaining among you or make mention of the names of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down to them, 8 but you shall cling to the Lord your God just as you have done to this day.

Joshua 23

9 For the Lord has driven out before you great and strong nations. And as for you, no man has been able to stand before you to this day. 10 One man of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the Lord your God who fights for you, just as he promised you. 11 Be very careful, therefore, to love the Lord your God. 12 For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you,

Joshua 23

13 know for certain that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the Lord your God has given you.

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.

Joshua 23

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.” (ESV)

Joshua's Main Encouragement: "Cling to the Lord."

1. Analyze the Past.
2. Action in the Present.
3. Anticipate the Future.

1. Analyze the Past

Joshua 23:3

And you have seen all that the Lord your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the Lord your God who has fought for you. (ESV)

1. Analyze the Past

Exodus 15:2

The Lord is my strength and my song;
he has given me victory.

This is my God, and I will praise him—
my father's God, and I will exalt him! (NLT)

2. Action in the Present

Joshua 23:6

Therefore, be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand nor to the left, (ESV)

2. Action in the Present

Faith + Works \neq Salvation

Faith + Nothing = Salvation \rightarrow Good Works

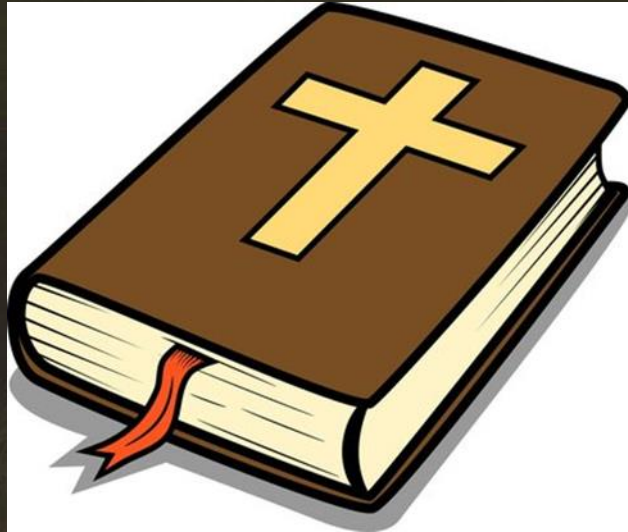
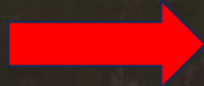
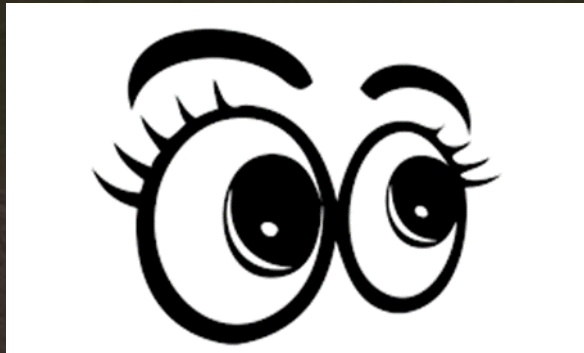
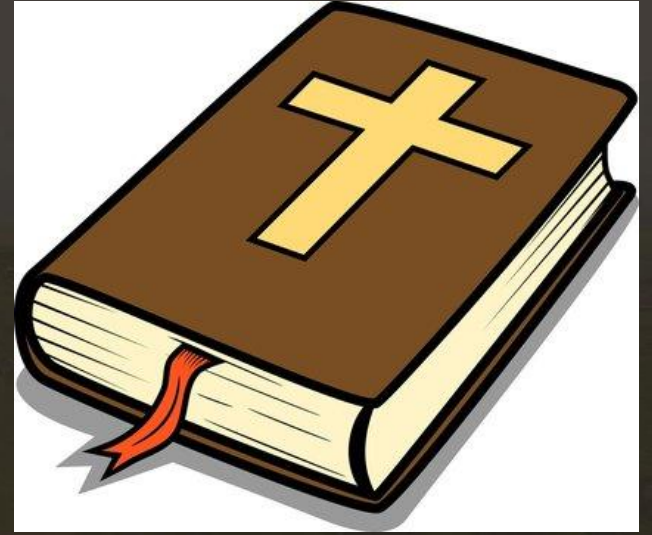
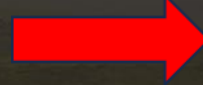
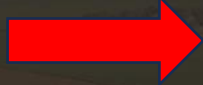
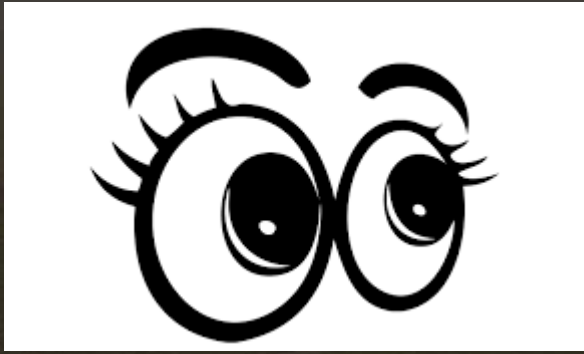
2. Action in the Present

Joshua 23:7-8

[Don't mix with neighboring nations and following their gods, but instead cling to the Lord!]

Joshua 23:12-13

[Forming a bond with people that don't follow the Lord will ensnare and entrap Israel into evil ways, it will be like getting whipped on your sides and having thorns in your eyes, until you perish.]



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2. Action in the Present

A. Motivation from Grace

Joshua 23:9-10

[The Lord has been fighting for you, so cling to Him.]

B. Motivation from Fear

Joshua 23:11-13

[If you turn back and cling to the world, you will perish.]



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3. Anticipate the Future

A. A Promise

Joshua 23:14-15a

[God has been faithful and will continue to be faithful to those that follow Him.]

B. A Warning

Joshua 23:16

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. (ESV)

Our Inheritance

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. (ESV)