

# COURAGEOUS

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | JANUARY 7, 2024

**Text:** Joshua 1:1-8

*"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, 2 Moses my servant is dead; 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. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. 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. 5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. 6 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. 7 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. 8 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." (Joshua 1:1-8)*

## INTRODUCTION

- Moses spent 40 years as shepherd for his father in law Bevel priest of Midian (Ex 2:18)
  - \* Jethro father in law to Moses (Ex 3:1) (Ex chap 18)
- Moses led Israelites in the wilderness for last 40 yrs of his life
- God chose Joshua to lead Israel after Moses died
  - \* Joshua leadership under Moses
    - x Num 13:2, 8, 16; 14:6, 37-38

**Quote:** "Courage is not the absence of fear, but ignoring one's fear to do what is needed and what is right."

**Quote:** "Godly courage is ignoring the fear of failure when attempting great things for God."

Gideon *"And the LORD said unto Gideon, The people are yet too many; bring them down unto the water, and I will try them for thee there: and it shall be, that of whom I say unto thee, This shall go with thee, the same shall go with thee; and of whomsoever I say unto thee, This shall not go with thee, the same shall not go." (Judges 7:4)*

David *"Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. 46 This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand..." (1 Samuel 17:45-46)*

*"If the LORD delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey. 9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not." (Numbers 14:8-9)*

*"For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south, but God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another." (Psalm 75:6)*

## 1. TRUST GOD'S Promises (v. 2-4)

**Quote:** "With God's calling comes God's enabling—and He enables through His Word."

### A. God Had Promised to Joshua

#### A LAND IS GIVEN

*"For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. 16 And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. 17 Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee." (Genesis 13:15-17) promise to Abraham*

#### A CLAIM MUST BE MADE

*"Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses." (Joshua 1:3)*

- go out & do (action)

"Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." (James 2:18)

**Quote:** "God is looking for people through whom He can do the impossible. What a pity that we plan only those things we can do on our own..."

B. God Has Promised to Us

HIS POWER

All power "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:" (Matthew 28:18-19)

God's church "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)

HIS PROVISION

God will supply "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:57)

2. TRUST GOD'S Presence (v. 5)

"And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel. 2 And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan. 3 The LORD thy God, he will go over before thee, and he will destroy these nations from before thee, and thou shalt possess them: and Joshua, he shall go over before thee, as the LORD hath said." (Deuteronomy 31:1-3)

A. God's Presence Is protective

"And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence." (Exodus 33:15)

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

- people will die, but God is always here

*"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. 5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:4-5)*

B. God's Presence Gives courage

**Quote:** "Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear."

—**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

*"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" (Romans 8:31-32)*

*"And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? 14 And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?" (Joshua 5:13-14)*

*"Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. 6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me." (Hebrews 13:5-6)*

**Quote:** "The will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you."—**Unknown**

**3. TRUST GOD'S** Precepts (principles) (v. 7-8)

A. Must Not Be compromised

**Quote:** "Jesus established the model for Christian leaders. It is not found in his "methodology." Rather, it is his absolute obedience to the Father's will."

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness." (2 Timothy 2:15-16)*

God's laws are not "maybe"s.

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B. Must Be observed

**Quote:** "Leadership begins with who we are, not what we do."

THE PURPOSE OF MEDITATION

**Quote:** "While we are zealously performing the duties of good citizens and soldiers, we certainly ought not to be inattentive to the higher duties of religion. To the distinguished character of Patriot, it should be our highest glory to add the more distinguished character of Christian."—**George Washington**

THE PROCESS OF MEDITATION

**Quote:** "Spiritual leadership flows out of a person's vibrant, intimate relationship with God."

**Quote:** "The most important thing I had to do was to read the Word of God and to meditate on it. Thus, my heart might be comforted, encouraged, warned, reproved, and instructed."

—**George Muller**

*"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." (Colossians 3:16)*

**Quote:** "The Bible is the best of all books, for it is the word of God and teaches us the way to be happy in this world and in the next."—**John Jay**

**CONCLUSION**

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*"The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? 2 The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? 3 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, They stumbled and fell." (Psalm 27:1-3)*