

Joshua: The Early Years

Joshua 1, Exodus 17

July 11, 2010

Moses died. The Lord spoke to Joshua. The name Joshua means the Lord saves, the same name Joseph was commanded to give to “that which has been conceived in her,” Mary, his wife. The Lord acted to save, and He acted through a man, Jesus Christ. Whenever we look at any character in the Bible, we want to look beyond the various people, to THE MAN, Jesus Christ.

1. What are we commanded to do in Hebrews 13:7-8 and who is the focus?

2. A. What is Joshua commissioned to do?
Joshua 1:1-6

- B. How is Joshua commissioned to lead the people?
Joshua 1:6-9

- C. “Joshua, son of Nun;” we do not know much about Nun. Joshua’s dad, spiritually, was Moses, and his grandpa was Joseph, and his great grandpa was Jacob. Who is the strength behind this spiritual heritage?
Joshua 1:5, 9, Ephesians 6:10, Deuteronomy 31:1-8, Hebrew 13:5-6

3. A. Here in chapter 1 of Joshua, Joshua is pushing 90 years old. What about his early years? What was the Israelites condition when he was raised? When was Joshua first mentioned and what was going on at that time?
Exodus 17:1-16

- B. At this very first mention of Joshua, what is the emphasis?
Exodus 17:9

- C. In Joshua 1, how is Joshua tied to the past and how does the book of Joshua end?
Joshua 1:1, Deuteronomy 34:5-6, Joshua 24:29-33

4. A. Notice how the end of the book of Joshua spoke of three burials. One of them, Joseph's bones, reminds us these things did not just happen by chance.
Genesis 50:24-26, 49:8-10, Revelation 5:5

 - B. Take notice in this rich historical context of another burial, and then remember what Joshua is being commanded to do.
Genesis 49:33-50:26

 - C. We want to see the continuity of this book God is writing and Joshua's place in it, looking closely at Joshua's spiritual dad. Read on and be reminded of what happens next. Think of your own spiritual heritage as you look at the Biblical record of how God uses men, in this case, a man called Moses.
Exodus 1:1, 1:6-9, 1:15-16, 2:1-5, 2:10, Matthew 2:13-15, Exodus 2:11-12, 2:15, 2:23-3:12, Deuteronomy 31:7-8, Joshua 1:5
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5. A. Who is in charge of history?
Exodus 3:20, 4:1-4, 4:20, 7:8-12, 7:17, 8:5, 8:16-19, 14:15-16, 14:26

 - B. How important is Joshua's commission to lead the people into the land?
Genesis 13:14-15, 50:25, Exodus 3:15-17, 6:1-8, 13:19, Joshua 24:32

 - C. We have come full circle to the first mention of Joshua and we know the history behind it. What must have this been like for Joshua? He had grown up in slavery and lived through Exodus 6:6. Did he understand Who's power he was to go out in?
Exodus 17:9, Romans 8:1-3, Acts 17:30-31, Joshua 1:5-9