

# THE JOSHUA STUDY

## CHAPTER 23:1-16

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-340 JULY 11 1999

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

## How Then Should We Be Living? – Part 2

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THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

Joshua 1:6

"Be strong and of good courage"

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SUBJECT REFERENCE:

## Misunderstanding, Division, Unity

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2 Peter 3:10-12

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the celestial heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the atomic elements will melt with fervent heat; both this created earth and the human works men that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God (eternity)

## Chapter 22

### **To The Congregation of Israel, He Warns Them of The Perils to Avoid While in This Life**

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|--|-----------|
| 1.) In Obedience to the Will of God            | vv. 1-6   |
| 2.) By Living in the Joy of the Lord           | vv. 7-9   |
| 3.) By Acting Out God's Love Through our Lives | vv. 10-12 |
| 4.) Issuing Grace to Our Brothers              | vv. 13-20 |

5.) By Having **Faithfulness** toward God

vv. 21-29

6.) By Extending **Forgiveness**

vv. 30-31

7.) By Living **Holy** Before God

vv. 32-34

## Chapter 23

**To The Leaders of God's People,  
He Teaches Them The Principles That They are to Follow**

## Chapter 24

**To The Individuals of Their Homes,  
He Encourages Them to Enjoy Their Privileges in God**

## Last Week

## Holiness in Living

Joshua's Farewell Address is a Call to Holiness

**To The Leaders of God's People,  
He Teaches Them The Principles That They're to Follow**

1.) **Remember Back** to What God has Done for Us

vv. 1-4

Now it came to pass, a long time after the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua was old, advanced in age. 2 And Joshua called for all Israel, for their elders, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers, and said to them:

"I am old, advanced in age. 3 "You have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you, for the LORD your God is He who has fought for you. 4 "See, I have divided to you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, as far as the Great Sea westward.

a.) **That He Stayed With Us All The Way, - And Will**

v.1

Now it came to pass, a long time after the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua was old, advanced in age.

## With Age and Experience Comes Great Wisdom...

### Isaiah Spoke...

Isaiah 46:4

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

### Solomon Spoke...

Proverbs 16:31

The silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness.

### Paul Spoke...

Galatians 1:15-16

But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, 16 to reveal His Son in me

## He's Calling Them To Remembrance

1. That in Egypt, on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, The Lord Overcame Pharaoh
2. The Lord Led Them Through The Red Sea
3. The Lord Protected Them In The Wilderness
4. The Lord Destroyed the Amalekites Before Them
5. The Lord Held Back The Jordan River
6. The Lord Brought Down The Walls of Jericho
7. The Lord Rained Down Hail From The Sky

Romans 15:4

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

**The Great Missionary Leader A. T. Pierson Once Said;**

# “History is His Story”

Isaiah 46:8-10

8 Remember this, and show yourselves men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors. 9 Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure,'

Ecclesiastes 3:15

Whatever is has already been, and what will be has been before; and God will call the past

## Not A “Looking” Back – But “Remembering” Back

### “Looking” Back

Implies that there is a “Going Back” to try to undo or fix or to redo what was wrong then - - which often ends in destruction and bitterness.

### “Remembering” Back

Now That You Are In Christ, You See How God Was At Work  
Even When The World Seemed Against You, in Your Darkest Hour!

Philippians 3:13-15

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, **forgetting** those things which are behind and **reaching** forward to those things which are ahead, 14 **pressing** toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind;

## what mind ?

Forgetting the Past – do you have a past???

Reaching toward the Future

## Remember Back to What God has Done for Us

b.) That He, Being God, **Would Defend Us At All** v.2-3

And Joshua called for all Israel, for their **elders**, for their **heads**, for their **judges**, and for their **officers**, and said to them: "I am old, advanced in age. 3 "**You have seen all** that the LORD your God has done to all these nations because of you,

for the LORD your God is He who has fought for you

## The Battles of Life Can Be Overwhelming

**“Life is Hard, God is Good”**

1 Corinthians 15:54-57

...then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."  
55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Grave, where is your victory?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus **came** to a fallen world  
**walked** sinless through this life  
**suffered** unfairly the judgement of man  
was **crucified** by the ones He came to save  
**died** and went to the grave  
**rose** again from the dead for all of the above  
and **lives** eternally

**Remember Back** to What God has Done for Us

c.) **That He Had A Response To Every Event Of Our Lives** v.4

"Behold, I have divided to you by lot these nations that remain,  
to be an inheritance for your tribes, from the Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, as far as the Great Sea westward.

**to be an inheritance for you**

Romans 8:28-29

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

(when do, when did, all things **BEGIN** to work together?)

29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**The World Determined to ROB You**

**But God Determined to Work it Out for Good**

**The World Determined to ABUSE You**

But God Determined to Work it Out for Good

**The World Determined to BEAT You**

But God Determined to Work it Out for Good

**The World Determined to RAPE You**

But God Determined to Work it Out for Good

**The World Determined to DESTROY You**

But God Determined to Work it Out for Good

**to be an inheritance for you**

Ephesians 2:4-6

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

John 14:17-18

"the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

**to be an inheritance for you**

**He's Been here The Whole Time**

d.) That He Knew What It Would Take For Me To Turn

Ezekiel 33:11

...'I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die ?

**Do Not Be So Foolish**

**As To Think That You Can Out Wit God**

Genesis 6:3

And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive (**go direct toward**) with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; (**time runs out**) yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." (**mercy while living**)

What Tragedy Has Come to You ? – You Need to Come to Him!

What Concern Has Come to You ? – You Need to Come to Him!

What Blessing Has Come to You ? – You Need to Come to Him!

Jeremiah 8:20

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!"

## **To The Leaders of God's People, He Teaches Them The Principles That They're to Follow**

### **2.) Expect God To Do Great And Awesome Things vv. 5-8**

"And the LORD your God will **expel** them from before you and drive them out of your sight. So you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God promised you. 6 "**Therefore be very courageous to keep** and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, lest you turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left, 7 "and lest you go among these nations, these who remain among you. You shall not make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause anyone to swear by them; you shall not serve them nor bow down to them, 8 "but you shall hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.

### **a.) He Will War For Us Regarding All Things v.5**

"And the LORD your God will **expel** them from before you and **drive** them out of your sight. So you shall possess their land, as the LORD your God promised you.

"I will **expel** them from before you and **drive** them out"

## **By Expulsion**



expel

heb 1920 Hadaph (haw-daf');

to wipe away, to push back from, to run off. to make one a castaway

## **And By Eviction**



heb 3423 yarash (yaw-rash');  
to disinherit, to dispossess, to completely remove

- *So you shall possess... Peace*
- *So you shall possess... Rest*
- *So you shall possess... Contentment*
- *So you shall possess... Worth*

## b.) He Will Encourage Us Through All Things v.6

"Therefore be very courageous to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, lest you turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left,

Therefore be very courageous

to keep and to do

to have in your heart and to with your will

Psalm 91:9-10

Because you have made the LORD, who is my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place, 10 No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling;

## Simple, Factual, Encouragement

Luke 8:22-25

Now it happened, on a certain day, that He got into a boat with His disciples. And He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side of the lake." And they launched out. 23 But as they sailed He fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in jeopardy. 24 And they came to Him and awoke Him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" Then He arose and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water. And they ceased, and there was a calm. 25 But He said to them, "Where is your faith?"

## Where is your faith?

in peter's ability to row this thing

in james to say something smart

in judas to buy us a bigger boat

**"Let us cross over** to the other side of the lake."



**"Let us go under** to the bottom of the lake."

**c.) He Will Instruct Us Before All Things**

**v.7-8**

"and lest you go among these nations, these who remain among you. You shall not make mention of the name of their gods, nor cause anyone to swear by them; you shall not serve them nor bow down to them, 8 "but you shall hold fast to the LORD your God, as you have done to this day.

## **To The Leaders of God's People, He Teaches Them The Principles That They're to Follow**

**3.) Meditate On His Great Power To Save You**

**vv. 9-13**

"For the LORD has driven out from before you **great** and **strong** nations; but as for you, no one has been able to stand against you to this day. 10 "One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, as He has promised you. 11 "Therefore take careful heed to yourselves, **that you love the LORD your God**. 12 "Or else, if indeed you do go back, and cling to the remnant of these nations-- these that remain among you-- and make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you, 13 "know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

**a.) He Has Predestined Us To Spiritual Victory**

**v.9-10**

"For the LORD has driven out from before you **great** and **strong** nations; but as for you, no one has been able to stand against you to this day. 10 "One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, as He has promised you.

### **The Cause**

for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, as He has promised you.

### **The Effect**

no one has been able to stand against you to this day. 10 "One man of you shall chase a thousand,

"Therefore take careful heed to yourselves, that you love the LORD your God.<sup>12</sup> "Or else, if indeed you do go back, and cling to the remnant of these nations-- these that remain among you-- and make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you, <sup>13</sup> "know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land which the LORD your God has given you.

## Separated Lives of Love

Back Then God Expected His People To Be Dedicated To Him,  
Could the Same Be True Today ?

### Romans 12:1-2

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-- this is your spiritual act of worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-- his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

<sup>14</sup> Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? <sup>15</sup> And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people." <sup>17</sup> Therefore "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." <sup>18</sup> "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

## In Dating, In Marrying

### Verse 12b-13

and if make marriages with them, and go in to them and they to you, <sup>13</sup> "know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations from before you. But they shall be snares and traps to you, and scourges on your sides and thorns in your eyes,

**To The Leaders of God's People,  
He Teaches Them The Principles That They're to Follow**

#### 4.) **Considering Him In All Of Our Ways**

vv. 14-16

"Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed. 15

"Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all the good things have come upon you which the LORD your God promised you, so the LORD will bring upon you all harmful things, until He has destroyed you from this good land which the LORD your God has given you. 16 "When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and have gone and served other gods, and bowed down to them, then the anger of the LORD will burn against you, and you shall perish quickly from the good land which He has given you."

#### a.) **His Ways Embraced Are Better For Us Than Our Own**

v.14

"Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.

Proverbs 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

### **Joshua, Like Paul**

is filled with concern for the flock of God and with self

### **In Acts 20**

Paul wept for the church because he understood that pretenders would infiltrate the church of God and ruin many...

Acts 20:29-30

"For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 "Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.

Psalm 37:3-6

Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

### Again - Psalm 37:23

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, and He delights in his way.

## Joshua & Paul

2 Timothy 4:6-8

...and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

## Joshua's Calling is Complete

Matthew 25:14-21

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. 15 "And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. 16 "Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. 17 "And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. 18 "But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. 19 "After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' 21 "His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'

2 Peter 3:1-2

Beloved, I now write to you this second epistle (in both of which I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder), 2 that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior,

## **All of Us Who Are Christian's We Will Complete The Course**

b.) His Ways Rejected Bring Upon Us Certain Discipline v.15-16

15 "Therefore it shall come to pass, that as all the good things have come upon you which the LORD your God promised you, so the LORD will bring upon you all harmful things, until He has destroyed you from this good land which the LORD your God has given you. 16 "When you have transgressed the covenant of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, and have

Hebrews 13:7

**Remember those who rule over you**, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

Hebrews 13:17

**Obey those who rule over you**, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

Hebrews 13:24

**Greet all those who rule over you**, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

## Just The Beginning