

# THE JOSHUA STUDY

## CHAPTER 24:1-33

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-341 JULY 18, 1999

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### THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

How Then Should We Be Living? - Part 3

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### THE THEME OF THE BOOK:

Joshua 1:6

"Be strong and of good courage"

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### SUBJECT REFERENCE:

Finishing the Race, Living the Life

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INTRODUCTION: Reviewing of Our Previous Message

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

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

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

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)

## Having Life and Experiencing Life are two totally different Things

Like Lazarus, he was given new life, but he had to be unwrapped before he could live

My Christians Today have Life  
But they do not have the experience of Life

A Body can Have Life – But be Living  
A Body Can Have Movement – But not Progress  
A Body Can Have Life – But not be Healthy  
There can be war – without a victory

example

ROMANS 7 & 1 CORINTHIANS 3

The Cross to Easter to Pentecost  
hopelessness to gripping fear  
until Pentecost

The Power of the Holy Spirit

**We Come Now to a More Fuller Understanding  
of Our Salvation and of Our Christian Faith**

The New Testament Commentary on Joshua

Ephesians 2:4-5  
THE REVELATION

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),

## Ephesians 2:6

### THE PRESENT

6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

### THE EXPERIENCE

7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Frustration: Having a Job to Do and not having the tools to do it

1.) vv. 1-13
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Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and called for the elders of Israel, for their heads, for their judges, and for their officers; and they presented themselves before God. 2 And Joshua said to all the people, "**Thus says the LORD God of Israel:** 'Your fathers, including Terah, the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, dwelt on the other side of the River in old times; and they served other gods. 3 '**Then I took** your father Abraham from the other side of the River, led him throughout all the land of Canaan, and multiplied his descendants and gave him Isaac. 4 '**To Isaac I gave** Jacob and Esau. **To Esau I gave** the mountains of Seir to possess, but Jacob and his children went down to Egypt. 5 '**Also I sent Moses and Aaron, and I plagued Egypt,** according to what I **did among them.** Afterward I **brought you out.** 6 '**Then I brought your fathers** out of Egypt, and you came to the sea; and the Egyptians pursued your fathers with chariots and horsemen to the Red Sea. 7 '**So they cried out to the LORD;** and He put darkness between you and the Egyptians, I **brought the sea** upon them, and covered them. And **your eyes saw what I did in Egypt.** Then you dwelt in the wilderness a long time. 8 '**And I brought you** into the land of the Amorites, who dwelt on the other side of the Jordan, and they fought with you. But I **gave them** into your hand, that you might possess their land, and I **destroyed them** from before you. 9 '**Then Balak the son of Zippor, king of Moab, arose to make war against Israel, and sent and called Balaam the son of Beor to curse you.** 10 '**But I would not** listen to Balaam; therefore he continued to bless you. So I delivered you out of his hand. 11 '**Then you went over the Jordan and came to**

Jericho. And the men of Jericho fought against you-- also the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **But I delivered** them into your hand. 12 'I **sent the hornet** before you which drove them out from before you, also the two kings of the Amorites, but not with your sword or with your bow. 13 'I **have given** you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant.'

## 2.) vv. 14-18

14 "Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! 15 "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." 16 So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; 17 "for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. 18 "And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

### a.) Verse 14

14 "Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!

### b.) Verse 15

15 "And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

### c.) Verse 16-18

16 So the people answered and said: "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; 17 "for the LORD our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, who did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way that we went and among all the people through whom we passed. 18 "And the LORD drove out from before us all the people, including the Amorites who dwelt in the land. We also will serve the LORD, for He is our God."

## THE REALITY

## Ephesians 2:11-16

11 Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh-- who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands-- 12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity.

### 3.) vv. 19-28

19 But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for He is a holy God. He is a jealous God; He will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. 20 "If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good." 21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the LORD!" 22 So Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD for yourselves, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses!" 23 "Now therefore," he said, "put away the foreign gods which are among you, and incline your heart to the LORD God of Israel." 24 And the people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!" 25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made for them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem. 26 Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the LORD. 27 And Joshua said to all the people, "Behold, this stone shall be a witness to us, for it has heard all the words of the LORD which He spoke to us. It shall therefore be a witness to you, lest you deny your God." 28 So Joshua let the people depart, each to his own inheritance.

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20 "If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then He will turn and do you harm and consume you, after He has done you good." 21 And the people said to Joshua, "No, but we will serve the LORD!" 22 So Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD for yourselves, to serve Him." And they said, "We are witnesses!"

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### **Galatians 3:1-3**

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? 2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

29 Now it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died, being one hundred and ten years old. 30 And they buried him within the border of his inheritance at Timnath Serah, which is in the mountains of Ephraim, on the north side of Mount Gaash. 31 Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the works of the LORD which He had done for Israel. 32 The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph. 33 And Eleazar the son of Aaron died. They buried him in a hill belonging to Phinehas his son, which was given to him in the mountains of Ephraim.