Discovering the Treasures of the Word

# <u>Joshua</u> <u>Lesson #4, Chapter 3</u>

As you read Chapter 3 before you begin this lesson, seek the Lord's help to glean the most you can from His Word.

1.	After receiving the news that the inhabitants of the land were afraid of the Israelites (2:24) how does Joshua proceed in 3:1?
2.	What do the leaders command the people concerning the ark of the covenant in verses 34? Note: 2,000 cubits is 3 thousand feet, approximately a mile.
3.	What reason is given in verse 4 for the people to keep their distance from the ark?
4.	Just what is the <i>ark of the covenant</i> and its role for Israel? Look up the following verses to see what you can learn about the ark of the covenant.  a. Ex. 25:10-22; 30:6
	b. Num. 3:29-31; 4:5-6; 10:33-36
	c. Deut. 10:2-5; 31:24-26
	d. I Sam. 5:1-4; I Chron. 13:1-10; I Kings 8:1-13

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e. Heb. 9:4

5.	Israel is told to follow the ark of the covenant. Was this a normal occurrence for them? How had the Lord been leading them the last 40 yrs.? See Num. 9:15-23.
6.	God was faithful to lead Israel in the way He wanted them to go, whether as a pillar of fire, a cloud, or with the ark of the covenant. God is faithful to lead us in the way He wants us to go too. What do the Scriptures have to say about who God leads and how He leads them? See Ps. 23:2-3; 25:4-5, 8-10; 27:11; 31:3; 2 Cor. 2:14.
7.	What does following God in your daily life look like? Are you endeavoring to follow Him in the way He prescribes, or do you follow in your own way? If you are following in your own way, can it really be called following? What are some examples of what following your own way might look like in your life?
8.	The people have been prepared physically and militarily to cross the Jordan; now Joshua tells them to consecrate themselves — their spiritual preparation. Define <i>consecrate</i> (NKJV <i>sanctify</i> ) from verse 5.

Look up the following verses and note what or who can be consecrated and for what

9.

purpose.

b. Lev. 11:44; 20:22-26; 22:32; 25:10; 27:14-16

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c. Deut. 26:19

10.	Is the idea of consecration still a valid one for us to understand today? What do you learn about consecration from Jn. 17:17; Rom. 6:22; 15:16; I Cor. 1:30; I Thess. 4:3-4, 7; 2 Thess. 2:13?
11.	You may not be entering the land with Joshua, but the command of God is still clear that you are to be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy" (1 Pet. 1:15-16). Consider what unholy attitudes, habits, or behaviors you might have that would keep you separated from God. What do you plan to do to get rid of them, so you can follow God in the way He commands?
12.	What promise did God make to Joshua in verse 7? What reason is given?
13.	Eager Beaver: Did God exalt Moses in a similar fashion? See Ex. 14:30-31
14.	What did God want the priests to do (verse 8)? For what purpose (verses 7, 10, 13)?
15.	Joshua tells the Israelites what God intends to do for them. Read verses 9-13 and list what you learn about God and His character.

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16.	In verse 10, God is described as the living God. Read the following verses, then describe what you learn about the <i>living God</i> : Deut. 5:26; Ps. 42:2; 84:2; Jer. 10:10; Dan. 6:26-27; Matt. 16:16; Acts. 14:15; Rom. 9:26; 2 Cor. 3:3; 6:16; I Thess. 1:9; I Tim. 3:15; 4:7-10; Heb. 9:14; 10:31.
17.	Verses 11 and 13 describe God as <i>Lord of all the earth</i> . What does that title teach us about God? See Ex. 19:5; Deut. 10:12-14; Job. 41:11; Ps. 24:1-2; Ps. 50:11-12.
18.	God is still the <i>living God, the Lord of all the earth</i> . He does not change. How does your understanding of those names of God encourage you?
19.	Read verses 13-17. What were the Israelites supposed to do?
20.	What do you learn about the Jordan that would make stepping into the river an act of faith (verse 15)?
21.	What details from verses 13-17 reveal the supernatural way in which God worked for His people?
22.	Based upon the details from this chapter and using the map provided at the end of this lesson, draw a simple picture illustrating the crossing of the Jordan River.

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23. The priests entering the Jordan with the water seeping into their sandals are a living illustration of Heb. 11:1, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Are you getting your feet wet in the waters of faith or are you standing upon the safety of the riverbank, holding back from trusting the Lord? John MacArthur challengingly asks, "What am I believing God for, that only God can do, so that when He does it, He gets all the glory?" What do you need to step out in faith for?

