

Joshua

Lesson #5, Chapter 4

Read Chapter 4 before beginning this lesson, and as you do, seek the Lord's wisdom in understanding the rich truths hidden here.

1. Where is the nation at the beginning of Chapter 4? See Joshua 3:17 and 4:1. Where are the priests and the ark of the covenant (3:17)?
2. What does the Lord command the people to do in verses 1-5?
3. How do the people respond to this instruction (verses 8, 20)?
4. What is the purpose behind the command (verses 6-7, 21-24)?
5. The memorial stones were to be used as a tool to teach their children about God. What were some other ways the Israelites were to teach their children about the One, True God? See Deut. 6 and 11:18-25.
6. Define *memorial* (verse 7).

7. Memorials were to teach and remind the people of significant events, promises or covenants, miracles, and God's commandments. Look up the following verses and note what the memorial is and its purpose and significance.
- a. Gen. 9:13-16
 - b. Gen. 28:16-19
 - c. Gen. 35:14
 - d. Ex. 3:14-15
 - e. Ex. 12:1-14
 - f. Ex. 20:8-11
 - g. Num. 5:15
 - h. Num. 15:38-40
 - i. Deut. 6:4-9, 20-25
 - j. Josh. 22:34
 - k. Judg. 6:22-24

1. I Sam. 7:10-12
 - m. The New Testament has only one instituted memorial in I Cor. 11:24-25.
8. A second memorial is set up in verses 9-10. Who set up that memorial? Where is it located? What purpose does it serve?
9. Why were the tribes of Reuben and Gad and the half tribe of Manasseh specifically mentioned in verse 12? See Deut. 3:1-20.
10. Verse 14 is the fulfillment of a promise. What is it? See 3:7.
11. What was it about the crossing of the river Jordan that caused Joshua to be exalted and revered in the eyes of the people (verse 14)?
12. What happened when the priests came out of the riverbed (verse 18)?
13. According to Joshua 3:17 the priests who carried the ark of the covenant remained in the middle of the Jordan until all the nation finished crossing. How could nearly 2 million people cross in a day? Refer to Joshua 3:16 and the map at the end of this lesson to formulate your answer.

14. Compare this crossing with the crossing of the Red Sea in Ex. 14:21-31. What are some similarities and differences?

15. When Israel is told what to tell their children about this day, the crossing of the Jordan River and the Red Sea are linked together. Look up the following verses and note the author's purpose in recounting those events for their audience: Ps. 66:5-6; 74:12-13, 15; 114:3-8; Is. 50:2.

16. What day did Israel enter the land and what is its significance (verse 19)? See Ex. 12:1-12.

17. Where were the memorial stones set up after they were taken from the riverbed (verse 20)?

18. What were the 2 main reasons for setting up the memorial stones according to verse 24?

19. The Jordan River running at flood stage was a major obstacle in the way of entering the land. Yet in the midst of an impossible situation, God, through His power, worked a miracle. Are you currently facing a major obstacle or seemingly impossible situation? How will you begin to trust God today to divinely lead you through the crossing of your own Jordan River?

20. Chapter 4 introduces the use of memorials as a means of instruction, reminder, and praise about God. What are some *memorials* from your life that remind you of God’s faithfulness and care?
21. In this chapter we see God fulfilling His promises to the nation and to Joshua. No matter how much times elapses between the giving of the promise and the fulfillment of it, we know that God will honor His Word. How can that truth encourage you as you face different obstacles and trials along the way?

