

SESSION 24: JOSHUA'S COMMISSION

A. General Introductory Information

1. Joshua is the first book after the Law is finished.
2. Book still covers the foundational phase of the national period.
 - a. *Exodus*- Israel is freed
 - b. *Law*- Israel is organized
 - c. *Conquest (Joshua)*- Israel is given the land.
3. Joshua is the key character to the book.
4. Possession is the key word.
 - a. Outline
 - i. **Possession through Entrance 1-5**
 - ii. **Possession through Warfare 6-12**
 - iii. **Possession through Division 13-24**
5. Key event-Crossing the Jordan River Ch. 3
6. Book takes about 15-20 years.
 - a. Begins immediately after the mourning for Moses.
 - b. Conquest takes about 7 years.

B. Joshua's Commission and the principle of victory

1. Note- God's work does not stop because of the death of His leaders.
2. Principle of the conquest
 - a. *Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given.*

Joshua 1:3

- i. God determines the limits of the blessing, 1:4
 - ii. God gives victory before the conflict. 1:3
 - iii. Joshua must take what has been given by active faith.
 - iv. No one can stop Joshua if he walks with God. 1:5
3. *Joshua's part-Strong, Courageous Faith.*
- a. Be strong and courageous is repeated three times.
 - i. Because the attack will be against Joshua to get him to quit.
 - ii. **Joshua must be strong by counting on God's promise.**
 - b. Where is courageous faith necessary?
 - i. **Strong to believe that there will be victory.**
 1. *Be strong and courageous for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 1:6*
 2. Joshua must resist with strong, courageous faith the temptation to quit because the going gets hard.
 - a. The promise is victory in the end

not ease along the way.

- ii. **Strong to believe the Word of God is the right way to go. 1:7-8**
 - 1. This is the point to which the most time is given.
 - 2. Maintain confidence by maintaining constant consideration of the word.
 - 3. Living by the Word takes courageous faith.
 - 4. Leading others to follow the Word takes courageous faith.

- iii. **Strong to believe the Lord is with you continually. 1:9**
 - 1. God is not always manifestly with us.
 - 2. Fear that He is no longer with and for us creates pressure to quit,
 - 3. I have commanded-I will see it through.

Assignment

Read Joshua 1-12. Make note of the different ways the Lord worked in different battles. What does that teach us concerning the way of faith?