

12. Conquest: Home at Last!

30 Things
You Need to Know
About Your
BIBLE

Session 12 | Dr. Randy White | The Book of Joshua

A Little Background

- Approximately 1500 years before Christ, Israel was ready to enter into the Promised Land.
- This was 472 years after the circumcision of Isaac.
 - Isaac's circumcision to the journey to Egypt – 215 years
 - Time spent in Egypt – 215 years
 - Time spent in traveling to Kadesh-Barnea – 2 years
 - Time spent in Kadesh-Barnea (Aaron died here, on the 40th year after the Exodus, Numbers 33:38) – 38 years
 - Time spent traveling to the Jordan – 2 years
- The book of Joshua contains the account of the conquest, from the Jordan river to the death of Joshua.
 - From Joshua 4:9 and 6:25 we conclude that the book was written shortly after the events that are recorded.
 - Joshua was 85 at the conclusion of the conquest of Canaan, which means there was a five-year period of conquest (14:7-10).
 - Joshua was 40 at Kadesh-Barnea, and spent 38 years there, followed by 2 years of traveling to Jordan.
 - From age 80-85, Joshua led the conquest.
 - Joshua died at age 110, meaning the book of Joshua covers a 30-year time span (24:29).

The Spiritual Truths of the Book of Joshua

- The major promise of the book of Joshua was given to Joshua himself in Joshua 1:8.
 - This verse displays the need for good translations of the Bible.
 - NIV and HCSB call the **book of the Law** a “book of instruction,” which fails to adequately define the book in view.
 - GNB makes the command be that the book is “read in your worship.”
 - Note the *thou* and *thy* of the KJV. The knowledge of these words will spare you from error in application.

- Without the use of proper pronouns, untold harm has been done in the application of this verse.
 - HA Ironside - Young people, if you want to know what will make your life prosperous, get God's own recipe for good success. “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” There you have it. Do you want your life to be prosperous? Do you want a successful career? Then take God's Word, read it, and obey it, and God promises those two things.
 - David M Howard (NAC)- the two words we find here in our passage in Joshua (1:7–8) speaking of prosperity and success are almost never used in the Old Testament to speak of financial success. Rather, they speak of succeeding in life's proper endeavors. This happens when people's lives are focused entirely on God and obedience to him. The focus of people's endeavors is *not* to be prosperity and success but rather holiness and obedience.
 - JM Boice - Nearly everybody wants to be prosperous at what he or she is doing, yet most fail. What is the problem? The problem is that we do not follow the divine formula for success that was given to Joshua. According to the Bible, the secret of success is to know God's Word, speak about it, meditate on it, and then, above all, do it. In God's world there is no substitute for full obedience. That was why Joshua was so successful.
- The promise to Joshua is repeated in part to the nation, at Joshua's farewell speech. Joshua 23:6-13.
 - The promise includes protection, but not prosperity.

The Result of the Conquest

- The nation lived in Israel, having conquered a land that was promised to her.
- The conquest was started with amazing divine intervention but completed with military might and wisdom.
- The land would know 1600 years of Jewish history from this point to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD.