

Into the Promise: A Journey Through Joshua

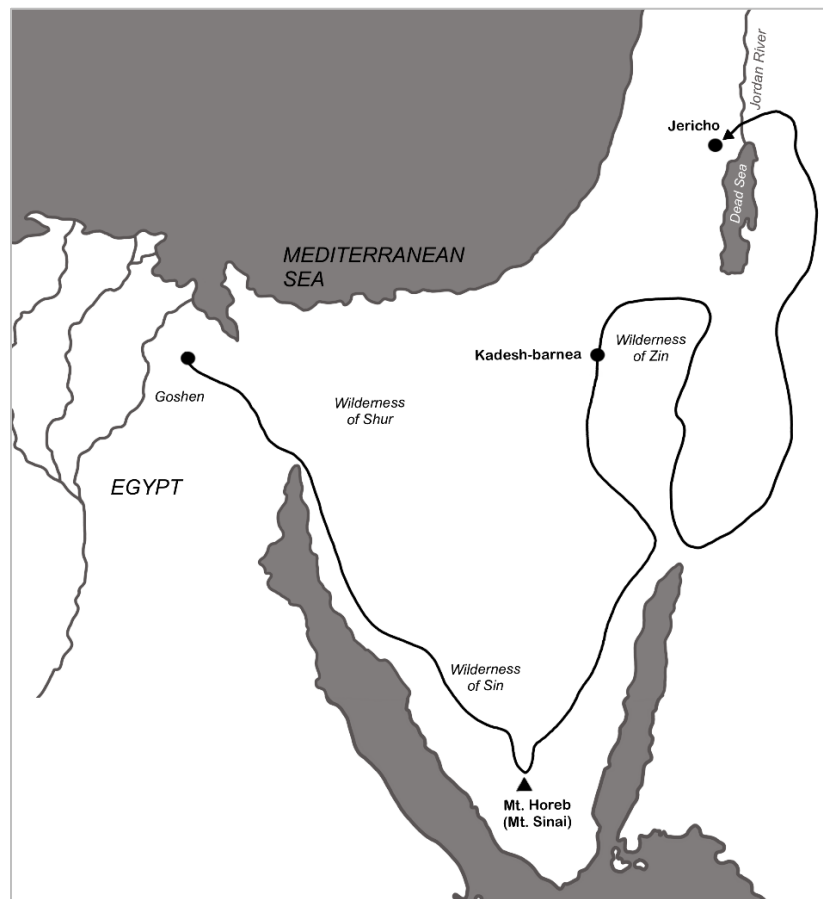
Lesson One: Be Strong and Courageous

Joshua 1

I would suggest that the clue to the interpretation of this Old Testament book is found in the epistle to the Ephesians and in the epistle to the Hebrews. For example, in the third and fourth chapters of Hebrews we find that the land of Canaan is a picture of the spiritual rest and victory which may be enjoyed here on earth by every believer, a rest of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. ¹

~Alan Redpath

The Route from Egypt



God said to Joshua three times – “Be strong and courageous” (Joshua 1:6, 7, 9) and then He added, “Do not tremble or be dismayed” (v. 9). God would not have told Joshua not to fear if he had not been afraid. Being afraid is not a sin. Allowing fear to rule you causes it to become sin.

Courage is acting by faith regardless of fear.

I. God’s Word to Joshua

- A. Moses is dead – “Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you” (Joshua 1:5)
- B. “Be strong and courageous” (Joshua 1:6, 7, 9)
- C. “For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9)

- II. Joshua Takes Command (Joshua 1:10-11)
“Cross this Jordan”
- III. God’s Command for the Tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the Half-Tribe of Manasseh
Deuteronomy 3:18-20 – quoted in Joshua 1:12-15
- IV. The Tribes Response (Joshua 1:16-18)
“Only be strong and courageous”

Joshua 1:6-9

Be strong (seize, grasp, keep hold of) and courageous. How big is your God?
Deuteronomy 31:6-7
2 Kings 18:5-6

Be careful to do...

Keep your mind tuned to God’s Word – we do what we think about.

He is with you!

Regardless of your circumstances – should you stand before Pharoah like Moses or the midwives, Be widowed in a foreign country like Naomi, stand up for God’s people like Esther, be imprisoned like Peter, exiled like John or beheaded like Paul. “You need not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

The blessing we are longing for is the Blessor.
The promise He has given is His Presence.
He is all we need!

The Clingers – Joshua 1:8-9

We will all experience tribulation in this life, but we are to be of good cheer, because Christ has overcome!
Ruth clung to Naomi; Mary Magdalene clung to Jesus.

Deuteronomy 13:4 – “You shall **follow** the Lord your God and **fear** Him; and you shall **keep** His commandments, **listen** to His voice, **serve** Him, and **cling** to Him.”

To cling is to hold on with all your might – to be determined not to let go.
Cling – “To hold fast or adhere to something, as by grasping, sticking, embracing, or entwining.”²

Consecrate yourself to Christ in 2025. May He be preeminent. May you know His ways that you may know Him. I have determined:

I will keep reading and studying God’s Word that I might know Him. I will keep looking for ways to communicate to others how to live as exiles of the only true Kingdom. And I will keep setting my hope on Christ alone. I will be a clinger!

¹ Redpath, Alan. *Victorious Christian Living*, p. 20-21. Unknown. Kindle Edition.

² *The American Heritage Dictionary*