

## COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP TRANSFORMING OUR NATION SERIES A Study in the Book of Joshua

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**TEXT: Joshua 1:1** Now it came about after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' servant, saying, **2** "Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, cross this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them, to the sons of Israel. **3** Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you, just as I spoke to Moses. **4** From the wilderness and this Lebanon, even as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and as far as the Great Sea toward the setting of the sun will be your territory. **5** No man will be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. **6** Be strong and courageous, for you shall give this people possession of the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. **7** Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. **8** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. **9** Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**INTRO:** We have just finished a series on the Ten Commandments, but we covered more than just the Commandments. We see the Gospel through the Passover Lamb, which released the Jewish people from the bondage of slavery. They went through the Red Sea. Paul says that this was all an example to teach us the Gospel from the Old Testament. **1 Corinthians 10:11** **Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.**

The lessons do not stop with the book of Deuteronomy. It goes on to teach us how to disciple a nation in the book of Joshua. Another way to say it: The book of Joshua teaches us how to transform a nation through the supernatural power of God and the authority of His Word. I want to do a brief series on Joshua and the transformation of our nation.

There is a battle for the soul of America. The difference in Joshua is a physical battle that is a lesson and metaphor of the spiritual battle that it takes to transform a nation. “Our battle is not against flesh and blood...” (Ephesians 6:12).

Nevertheless, Joshua and the people of Israel had to fight over every inch of what is now the land and the nation of Israel. It wasn't easy. It would be a combination of the supernatural intervention of God and yet the Israelites had to go to war. Once conquered, the land had to be farmed and worked on.

We want transformation of our society, but what does it look like? That revival and a glory mist is going to come and change everything? The Clapham Group met every night to strategize how to end the slave trade and slavery. Then they got people to vote for members of Parliament who were abolitionists. David Lane was telling me that his two adult sons had volunteered to knock on doors in Arizona in 100-degree weather to get people to register and pass out voter guides. It takes hard work to win an election.

I personally believe that President Trump will be reelected, but I felt that God told me to take most of September and October to go to the battleground states and do my part to see President Trump elected, because I believe that the major transformation that will take place in our nation will be through policies that will be implemented, but these policies must be based on biblical values.

**I. KNOW THAT GOD HAS CALLED YOU TO BE A TRANSFORMER**

**A. LEADERSHIP TRANSITION**

1. TRANSITION FROM MOSES TO JOSHUA
2. TRANSITION FROM PROFESSIONAL MINISTERS TO THE DAY OF THE SAINTS

**B. ALL OF YOU ARE LEADERS: YOU ARE ALL KINGS AND PRIESTS**

1. **1 Peter 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.**
2. YOUR IDENTITY DETERMINES YOUR DESTINY
3. **“The way you fulfill your destiny is by making God's purpose become your purpose.” Ché Ahn**

**II. KNOW THAT GOD HAS COMMISSIONED YOU**

**A. JOSHUA WAS COMMISSIONED BY GOD THROUGH MOSES**

1. **Deuteronomy 34:9 Now Joshua the son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; and the sons of Israel listened to him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.**

- B. THE FATHER COMMISSIONED JESUS AT HIS BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT CAME UPON JESUS
- C. THE EARLY CHURCH WAS COMMISSIONED IN THE UPPER ROOM WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS POURED ON THEM IN ACTS 2
- D. THE SAME HOLY SPIRIT HAS COMMISSIONED YOU!
- E. “THE DAY OF THE SAINTS” (EPHESIANS 4:11)

**III. MAKE THE GREAT COMMISSION A PRIORITY IN YOUR LIFE**

- A. GOD GAVE JOSHUA THE COMMISSION TO TAKE THE PROMISED LAND
  - 1. **Joshua 1:16** They answered Joshua, saying, “All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. 17 Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you; only may the **LORD your God be with you as He was with Moses.**”
- B. FOR US, GOD HAS GIVEN US THE COMMISSION TO DISCIPLE NATIONS BEGINNING WITH OUR NATION (Matthew 28:18-20)
  - 1. WHEN YOU MAKE THE GREAT COMMISSION THE TOP PRIORITY, GOD’S BLESSING AND FAVOR WILL FOLLOW YOU
  - 2. My recent trip to Dallas. Psalm 37:23. Open doors at Lance Wallnau’s. Steve Strang interview.
  - 3. **WE ONLY HAVE THIS LIFETIME TO SHARE THE GOSPEL**

**IV. RENEW YOUR MIND WITH THE WORD OF GOD AND BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

- A. THE KEY TO JOSHUA’S SUCCESS
  - 1. **Joshua 1:8** “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.”
  - 2. Romans 12:2: We can’t transform a nation without being personally transformed. **YOU ARE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND.**
  - 3. **Philippians 4:8** Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.

**V. BE RESOLUTE IN YOUR CALLING**

- A. COURAGEOUS MEANS TO BE RESOLUTE AND NOT WISHY-WASHY

B. PUT YOUR HAND TO THE PLOW AND DON'T LOOK BACK

1. Churchill won because he had a resolve to never give up.

CONCLUSION: Back in May, as I was seeking God whether we should open up or not, I was reading *American Gospel* by Jon Meacham. FDR and Churchill were meeting on a naval ship off of Newfoundland in April 1941, to discuss the United States' involvement in WWII. The meetings went into the weekend; knowing that, they had planned a Sunday service for the Naval men. The Navy Chaplain preached from Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." These words leaped off the page into my heart because I knew that I would be "breaking the law." I put this in quotes because I really don't believe that we are breaking the law. Gov. Newsom, who swore to uphold the Constitution, is breaking the law. But I knew that I would face potential fines and arrest. But what the city prosecutor is threatening is that you, too, could be arrested. Specifically, someone called me that has some connection to City Hall and told me that I will be arrested tomorrow. I am going to ask you, that if you feel that you do not want to be arrested or fined, please feel released from attending the in-person service. I personally am not backing down. I feel that this is more than discrimination, but I believe that this is specific persecution of His church. Ironically, we are letting criminals out because of COVID-19, but we are arresting law-abiding citizens who want to go to church. This is madness! It is time to demonstrate courageous leadership!