

Joshua

chapter

As for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD

Joshua 24:15

June 7, 2026

- 1 Strong & Courageous – Joshua's Call
- 2 Grace, Spies & Rahab – *Virginia Maness*
- 3-4 Remembering God's Work – Crossing Jordan
- 6 Winning Strategy – Jericho Conquered
- 7 Sin Revealed – *Michael Gracey*
- 14 Unwavering Determination – Dividing Land
- 24 Vital Decisions – Joshua's Final Words



Joshua Crossing the Jordan with Ark of Covenant
c. 1800, by Benjamin West

July 4, 1776



Joshua 1:5 – Lord to Joshua:
**No one will be able to stand against you
as long as you live. I will be with you....
I will not leave you or forsake you!**

**June 7, 1776 – Richard Lee introduced a
resolution for American Indpendence**



As for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD

Joshua 24:15

Joshua Crossing the Jordan with Ark of Covenant
c. 1800, by Benjamin West



Joshua Crossing the Jordan with Ark of Covenant
c. 1800, by Benjamin West

Moses dies!

When a **STRONG** leader
dies, a vacuum begins

Perhaps fear or dread too

Joshua is *THE MAN*

Nothing is said of the
Weight & PAIN he faced

Joshua GRIEVES his
best friend Moses

GOD sees & comforts

AND God Charges & Promises Joshua

There are days when you would give anything
to hear their voice interrupt your day.

Even for ten seconds.

Even if it was just to ask a simple question.

Because ten seconds with them
would be worth more than years without them.

You would trade anything for one moment
between earth and heaven.



Joshua 1 – LORD Speaks to Joshua

1-9 After Moses Dies, LORD Speaks to Joshua

1-4 **LORD**—Get READY to Cross, I Will Give You LAND

5-6 **LORD**—I Will Be with You, Be Strong & Courageous

7-8 **LORD**—Be Strong & Courageous, Obey Law to PROSPER

9 **LORD**—Be Strong & Courageous, I Will Be with YOU!

10-15 Joshua Tells All to PREPARE to Cross in 3 Days

16-18 Israel—Whatever You Command & Wherever You GO

Thus Begins the Long-Promised **CONQUEST**

Joshua 1:5

No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. I will be with you, just as I was with Moses.

I will not leave you or forsake you.

Ever been let down?

Ever have someone NOT keep their promise?

Ever know someone who did NOT do their duty?

When YOU *depended* on them –

When YOU *looked* to them –

When YOU *needed* them – and
they were *not available*

When you face *fearful* change –

When you face an *uncertain* future –

When the task – job – rugged road – seems *yuuge* –

When the suffering burden seems – *unbearable* –

There are NO BETTER words than these:

Joshua 1:5 – God tells Joshua:

I will not leave you or forsake you

God's GOLDEN words to Joshua

Let me share with you a story – *no cartoon today*

A personal story of tragedy –

We do NOT have to look far to see heartache –

This seems inconceivable – but it happened –

I suspect – you have a story too –

Yet, when one loves – they stay – how precious is

Key Verse Joshua 1:5

I will not leave you or forsake you.

June 6, 1944
82 Years ago

When Duty Calls,
Will You Be Ready?



Thoughts on Joshua's Duty
As New Testament Christians
We are all charged to
"Seek first the Kingdom of God."

What's YOUR place in that DUTY?
In Tyler County? in Woodville?
at FBC?

Everyone has a job, at the least
ALL have the job to PRAY

**What challenges
face us today?**



Moses & Joshua

Statue of Moses
Library of Congress

To grasp Joshua – see Moses

No other like Moses – not just a Great Law Giver

Two verses anchor Exodus – Ex. 13-18

then add 40 yrs in wilderness to Joshua 1

- ✓ 1 Kings 6:1, In **418** years after Israelites came out of Egypt in Solomon's 4th yr, **BEGAN** Temple
- ✓ Ex. 12:40, **430** years Israel "Lived in Egypt"

working backward

966 B.C. Temple Started – good date

+ 418 years since Exodus

1384 B.C. Exodus 40 yrs wilderness = **1344 B.C. Joshua**

+ 430 years Lived in Egypt

1814 B.C. Jacob to Egypt during famine



Moses & Joshua

2550 – Great Pyramid of Khufu

2520 – Pyramid of Khafre

2091 – Abraham (75) to Canaan

2150-2030 – Gilgamesh epic

2000 – Stonehenge completed

1800-1300 – Troy flourishes

1875 – Jacob & family to Egypt

1792-50 – Hammurabi in Babylonia, oldest law code

1525 – Moses born in Egypt

1500 – Phoenicians develop alphabet

1446 – Exodus, then 40 yrs in desert

1406 B.C. Book of Joshua ...



Menkaure

Khafre

Great Pyramid of Khufu



Stele of Code of Hammurabi



<http://biblehub.com/timeline/old.htm>

Moses & Joshua

1445 – Exodus then 40 yrs in desert

1406 – Moses on Mt. Nebo

1406-1380 B.C. Book of Joshua

Movie *Ten Commandments* Pharaoh Seti 1290-79 B.C.
son Ramses frees Israel

Earlier Pharaoh Thutmose III 1479-1425 B.C.

Would date Exodus at 1447 – [Exodus 7](#)

1406 – Jericho taken, Conquest begins

1375 – Joshua's farewell, Joshua 23-24

1235 – Deborah & Barak, Judges 4

1169 – Gideon & Midianites, Judges 6-8

1140 – Naomi, Ruth and Boaz

1100 – Birth of Samuel, 1 Sam. 1

1090 – Israel oppressed by Philistines

1075 – Samson, Judges 14-16

1024 – David kills Goliath, 1010, David made King



Midianites put to Flight 1866
by Gustave Doré (1832 - 83)



<http://biblehub.com/timeline/old.htm>

Moses

Deuteronomy 34

Talk about résumés!!

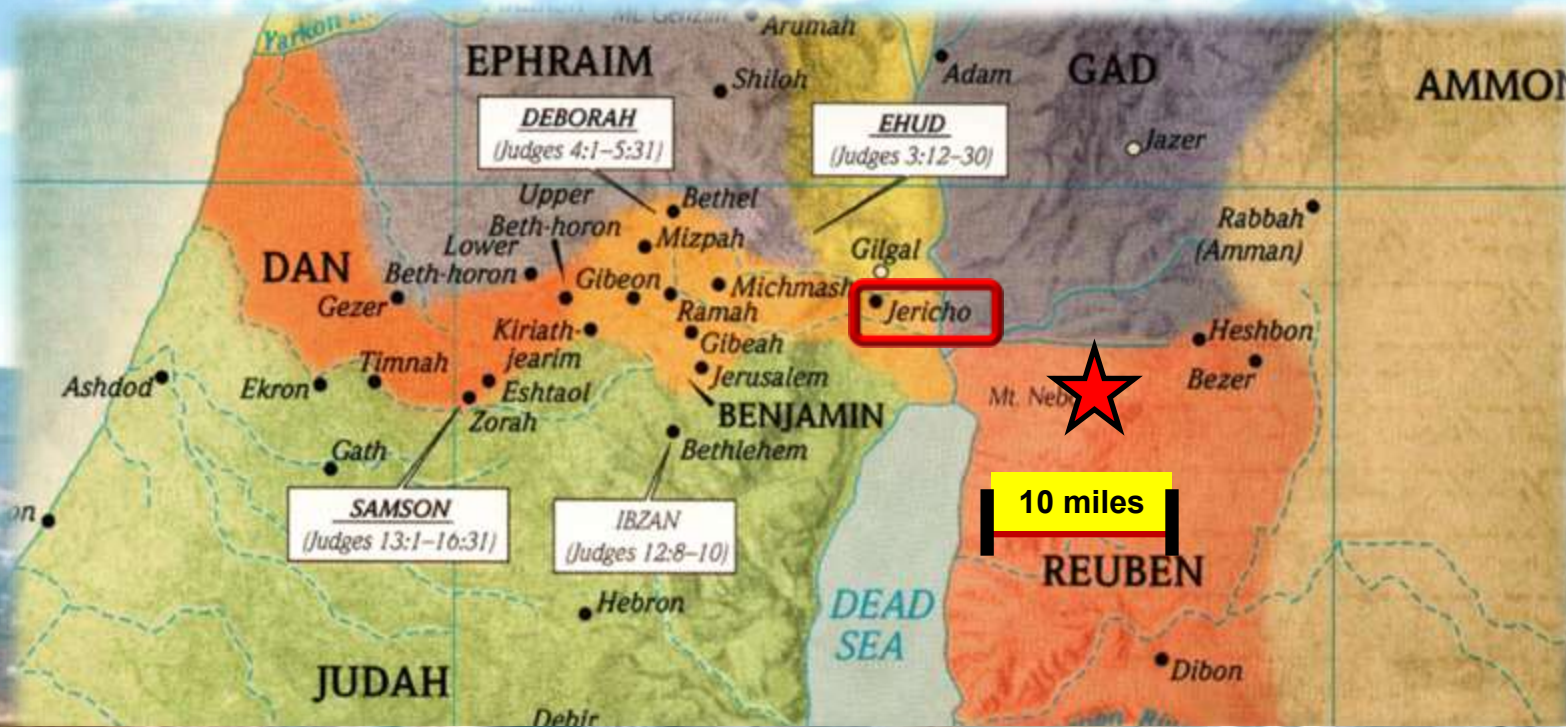
¹ Moses on top of Mt. Nebo
which looks to Jericho

LORD showed him all the land

From Mt. Nebo

One can see
a lot of the land

The Promised Land



Moses

top of Mt. Nebo
facing Jericho

north

70 miles WEST,
as bird flies, to
Great Sea, or
Mediterranean





**70 miles WEST,
as bird flies, to
Great Sea, or
Mediterranean**

View from Mt. Nebo

Moses

Deuteronomy 34

Gilead as far as Dan

all of Naphtali,

land of Ephraim & Manasseh

as far as to the Great Sea (Mediterranean)

Negev, and the region from the Valley of Jericho

⁴ The LORD then said to him, “This is the LAND I PROMISED Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, ‘I will give it to your descendants.’

I let you SEE IT WITH YOUR OWN EYES, but you’ll NOT cross into it.

⁵⁻⁶ So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, as the LORD had said. He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab ... no one to this day knows where his grave is.



Moses

Deuteronomy 34

⁸ The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab 30 days.

⁹ Joshua son of Nun was filled with the **SPIRIT OF WISDOM** because Moses had laid his hands on him.

So the Israelites obeyed him....

¹⁰⁻¹² No prophet has arisen again in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unparalleled for **ALL** the signs and wonders ... **ALL** the mighty acts of power and terrifying deeds that Moses performed in the sight of **ALL** Israel.

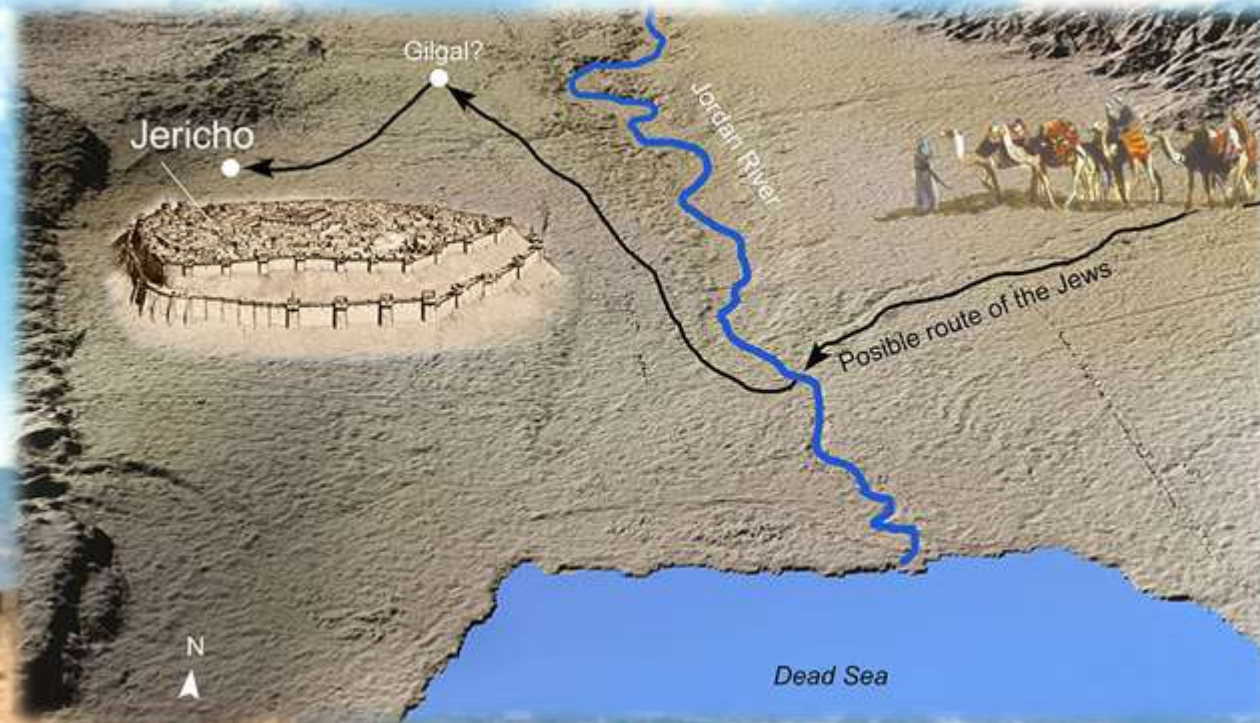
Moses—no other like Moses in history



Joshua 1:1-5 New Leader – After Moses, LORD spoke to Joshua

1-2 After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, who had served Moses: "Moses My servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites.

Joshua—ready to cross the Jordan to Jericho ...



Joshua 1:1-5 After Moses, LORD spoke to Joshua

¹⁻² After the death of Moses the LORD's servant, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, who had served Moses: "Moses My servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites."

"Joshua" means *Jehovah is his help*

Ex. 17:8-16 – Joshua led against Amalekites

Ex. 24:13 – Joshua waits for Moses at Mt. Sinai

Ex. 32:17 – Joshua watches by tent as **God spoke with Moses**

Num. 13:16 – Oshea "help" changed to Jehoshua "Jehovah is help"
Or "Jehovah is Salvation" – Greek version Joshua is Jesus ...

Num. 13-14 – Joshua, Caleb & 10 return – Joshua & Caleb w a GOOD report

Num. 27 – Moses charges Joshua as Israel's next leader

Deut. 31 – Moses, about to die, *finished "Book of Law" placed BESIDE Ark of Covenant – Read Every Year*



Joshua = Jehovah is his help

In Joshua 2-4, two spies spend time with Rahab and sneak back ...

Joshua leads them across the Jordan at Flooding but waters held back
12 stones placed in Jordan ... REMEMBER this day ...

Josh. 4:14, **That day the LORD exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel;
and they stood in awe of him all the days of his life, just as
they had stood in awe of Moses.**

They ...

Stood in Awe of Joshua





Ark Crossing Jordan, by Juan Montero de Rojas (1613-1683), Madrid, Museo del Prado

Joshua . . . to Gilgal



Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

In Joshua chapter 4, when the Amorite & Canaanite kings heard about miraculous crossing, **“their hearts melted in fear and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.”**

Israel camps at Gilgal

Lord orders flint knives and
circumcise Israelites – *ouuuch*

Military men who came out of
Egypt had died & new generation
they had NOT followed the Lord

clean up time before Jericho



Here we are at the beginning ...

Joshua – commissioned by the Lord himself

All of Israel not only **LOOKS** to Joshua ...

They are all in **AWE** at Joshua – just they were Moses

They LOOK across the Jordan – ready to take the land

The Canaanites, and others, are shaking in their boots

As an Israelite—What would YOU be *feeling*?
Among their MANY FEELINGS of fear & hope, then finally
so precious and dear

WHERE are the Psalms of David here?

Certainly, they carried Psalms thru the 40 years of wilderness

We have them TODAY in our beloved Bibles

With the Loss of Moses & God's CHARGE to Joshua—**WELL THEN?**

With a stretch – perhaps we could have used a Psalm

Yet in 1972, the band Climax's guitarist Walter Nims wrote

"Precious and Few" – sung by Sonny Geraci – became a HIT

Maybe Joshua felt kinship with Moses – and a KINSHIP WITH GOD

Precious and few are the moments we two can share

Quiet and blue, like the sky, I'm hung over you

And if I can't find my way back home, it just wouldn't be fair

‘ Cause precious & few are the moments we two can share



The Promised Land

2091 B.C. Abraham called to go to Caanan at 75 years young

Gen. 12:6-7, “Abram traveled through the land ... great tree of Moreh at Shechem.... The LORD ... said, ‘To your offspring I will GIVE THIS LAND.’”

So he built an altar there to the LORD.

After **430 YEARS** in bondage in Egypt ... *and many struggles*

1446 B.C., Lord told Moses Ex. 3:8, “So I have come down to rescue them from ... the Egyptians & to bring them ... into a good, spacious land, a LAND FLOWING WITH MILK AND HONEY”

After **40 YEARS** in the wilderness – *and many struggles*

1406 B.C., again, Lord told Moses Ex. 34:3,

“Go up to the LAND FLOWING WITH MILK AND HONEY.”

Joshua 1-2 After the death of Moses the LORD's servant,
the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun....

³ I have given you every place where the sole of your foot treads,
just as I promised Moses.

⁴ Your territory will be from the wilderness & Lebanon to the great
Euphrates River ... Hittites .. west to the Mediterranean Sea.

⁵ No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live.
I will be with you, just as I was with Moses.

I will not leave you or forsake you.”

I will not leave you or forsake you.

O'er all those wide extended plains
Shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns,
And scatters night away.
I am bound for the promised land



Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

Deut. 31:6 – Moses tells Israel he's 120 ... tells all
"Be Strong & Courageous"

Deut. 31:7, Moses to Joshua,
"Be Strong & Courageous"

Deut. 31:23, Moses to Joshua,
"Be Strong & Courageous"

Josh. 1:6 – God to Joshua, **"Be Strong & Courageous"**

1:9 – God to Joshua, **"Have I not COMMANDED you to
Be Strong & Courageous"**

1:18 – JOSHUA, after a LONG charge to Israel, including death to
any who disobey, then says, **"Be Strong & Courageous."**



Joshua 1:6 **“Be strong and courageous,
for you will distribute the land I swore to their
fathers to give them as an inheritance.**

“Be strong and courageous” at least 14x in O.T.

3x in Deuteronomy 31:6, 31:7, 31:23

2x in 1 Chronicles 22:13, 28:20

1x in 2 Chronicles 32:7

5x in Joshua 1:6, 1:7, 1:9, 1:18, 10:25

1x in 2 Samuel 2:7

2x in Psalm 27:14, 31:24

AI = **“Fear Not”** appears 90-300x in the Bible
in various ways

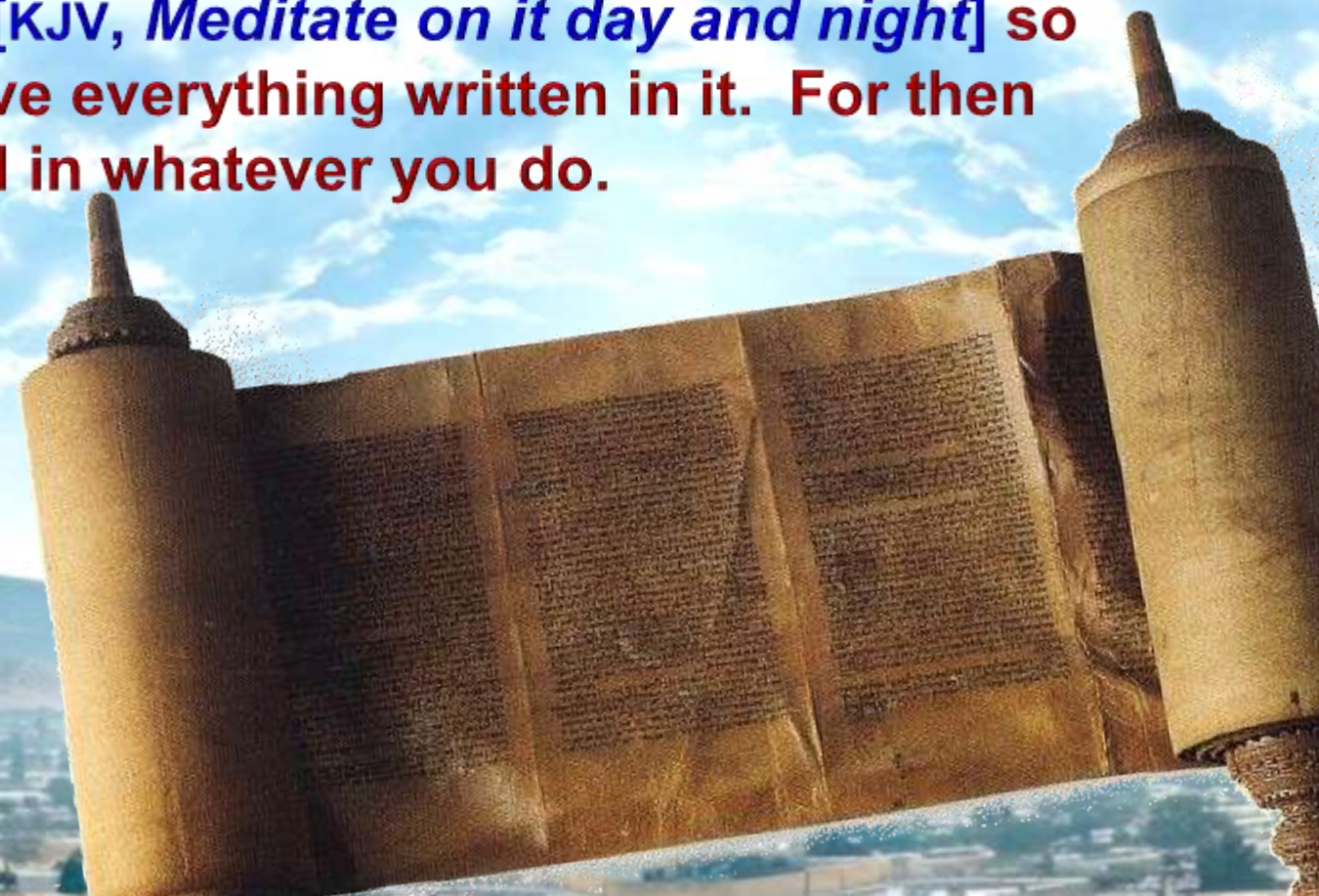




The passage of the Jordan River with the Ark of the Covenant, 1667
Juan Montero de Rojas (1613–1683) Museo del Prado, Madrid

Joshua 1:7 **Above all, BE STRONG & VERY COURAGEOUS to carefully observe the whole instruction My servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or the left, so that you will have success wherever you go.**

⁸ This Book of Instruction must not depart from your mouth; you are to recite it day and night [KJV, *Meditate on it day and night*] so that you may carefully observe everything written in it. For then you will prosper and succeed in whatever you do.



And then ... in a grand finale ... God once more says:

⁹ Haven't I commanded you: BE STRONG & COURAGEOUS?
Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD your God is
with you wherever you go."

We could ... leave it right there ...

Be Strong & Courageous ...

Do Not Be Afraid or Discouraged ...

for the LORD your God is WITH YOU

wherever you go

Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

Remember, **not ALL** can be strong or courageous

Not ALL are CALLED to be COURAGEOUS

But some are – and **JOSHUA was ONE**

In Joshua 24, he calls all together and charges them

There is a recollection of history with Moses

LATER – Joshua dies at 110 –

HERE—they are about to cross the Jordan River ...

Cross the river during Flood Season ...

Promoted to replace Moses –



Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

Oooh ... not sure I want to go here ...

Not sure YOU want to go here ...

Joshua believed in Moses ... seen miracles

Joshua ... don't have a LOT on Joshua ...

In Deuteronomy & in his book of 24 chapters,
what we DO KNOW ...

He WAS a strong and courageous ... never faltered

Very few people have **TALKED with GOD like them** ...

Moses ... then God ... to Joshua ... **“Be Strong and Courageous”**



Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

I am supremely confident that ALL there

All who **KNEW Joshua** thought him **BRAVEHEART**

All that Joshua and Moses had been through ...

Israel **BELIEVED** in Joshua ...

YET ... listen closely ... **VERY CLOSELY**

In Joshua's heart of hearts – looking across

looking across the river ... Joshua quivered a bit

Even when **NO ONE ELSE** sees your heart, *your precious heart*

God KNOWS – God SEES



Joshua . . . *Jehovah is his help*

Joshua trusted Moses and trusted God

Joshua does NOT appear to have had a choice

Danger seems inherent – people will die

Joshua never relents: “**depart from OTHER gods!**”

Serve God . . .

How does that apply to us today?

Is there anything in Joshua's life & promotion?

Anything that can truly *LIFT* us today?



YES – yes, there certainly is

Not to the DEGREE of burden as Joshua

Not to the RELATION to God's promises as Joshua

- ✓ But we face a FUTURE in a hostile country
- ✓ We face people who DO NOT believe in God
- ✓ We face a society MOST hostile to **MIRACLES**
- ✓ We face universities that TEACH our God is a **MYTH**
- ✓ We face a culture that DEMEANS all things **HOLY**

Yet, write this like an indelible tatoo: God has PROMISED us that we

WILL WIN in the end



Joshua . . . Jehovah is his help

Like Joshua – we **MUST** trust God ...

Like Joshua – we want to **APPEAR** strong ...

Yet – there are those who are weak – shallow

There are those who **CANNOT take a stand** to –
cannot take a stand to save a gold fish

We seem surrounded by **FEEL-good smoothies**

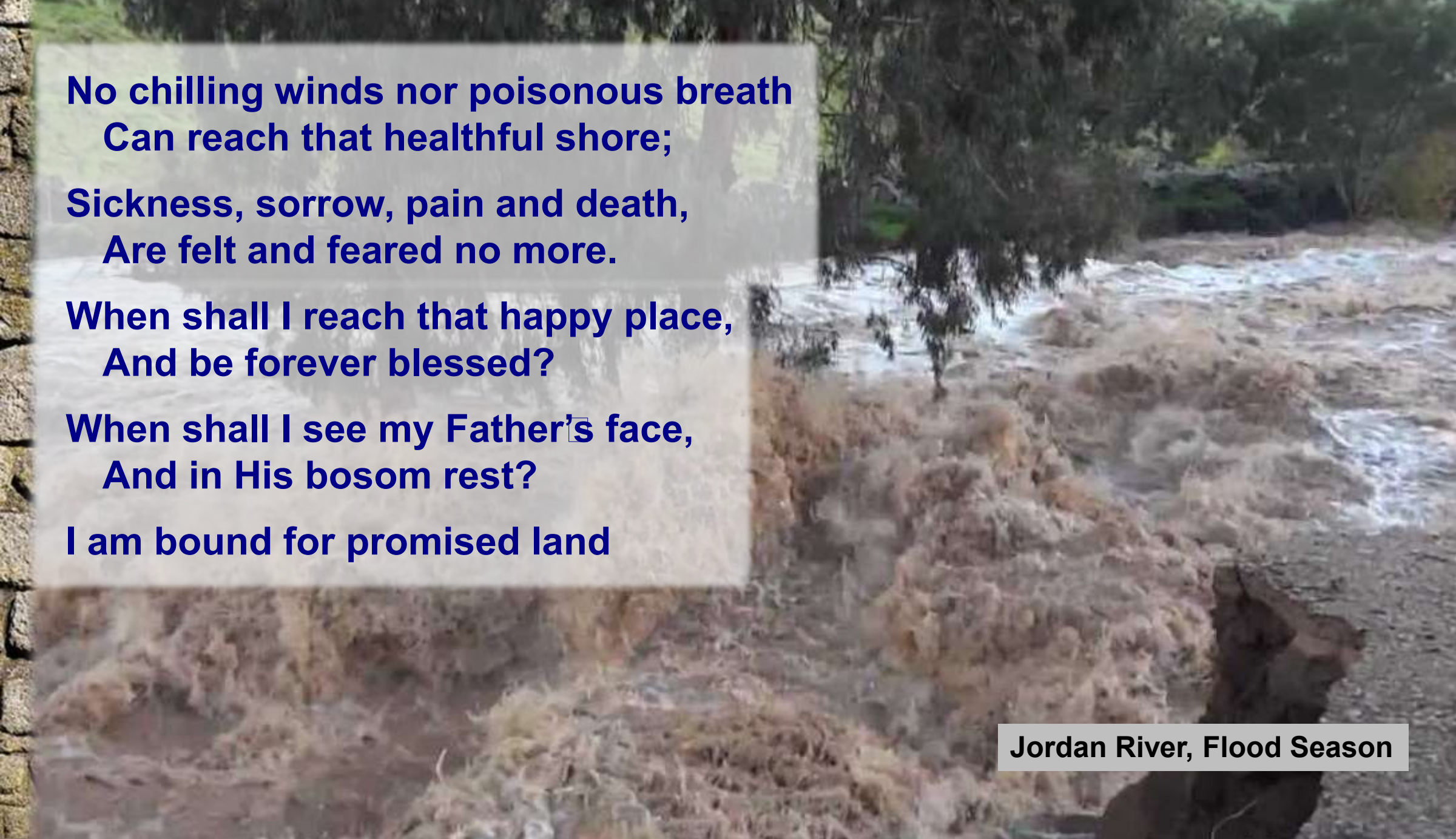
Surrounded by **Prosperity Gospel Goofballs**

Churches ordaining Gays – i.e.,
men who ___?___ #@*% with men



**Like Joshua – we LOOK across Jordan’s Stormy Banks
Like Joshua – we see Jericho very well fortified
Yonder is the Promised Land – we look – and we SING**

Jordan River, Flood Season



**No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
Can reach that healthful shore;**

**Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,
Are felt and feared no more.**

**When shall I reach that happy place,
And be forever blessed?**

**When shall I see my Father's face,
And in His bosom rest?**

I am bound for promised land

Jordan River, Flood Season

In many ways, Joshua is a symbol ...

Remember 1 Peter? – **we ARE pilgrims** here

Unlike Joshua with only 40 yrs in the wilderness

We have been 2,000 yrs in the wilderness

In some places, like AMERICA, we're doing good

But we're NOT home yet—**we're still PILGRIMS**

Joshua 1:9 – then, God's WORD to Joshua

Haven't I commanded you:

BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS?

Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the

LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Repeat – God is WITH you wherever you go!



As for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD

Joshua 24:15

Who will come with me

Who will come

Who will come

Come to the PROMISED LAND



Joshua Crossing the Jordan with Ark of Covenant
c. 1800, by Benjamin West



Though we might not always feel it
We're ALL Looking to the Promised Land
We must be Strong & Courageous
Having Faith & KNOWING God will

Never Forsake
You & Me

View from Mt. Nebo