"A New Beginning" Joshua 1:1-9 ~Pastor Mario Canedo~

A quick overview of The Life of Joshua

Scripture divides his life into 3 periods of time:

- 1. 40 years in Egypt –
- 2. 40 years in the Wilderness -
- 3. 25 years in subduing the Promised Land -

1. Encouragement from God's commission vv. 1-2

- 2. Encouragement from God's promises vv. 3-6
- 3. Encouragement from God's word vv. 7-8

4. Encouragement from God's commandment v. 9

1. Encouragement from God's commission vv. 1-2:

v. 1

The world desires and seeks different titles and positions. But, what is it we are seeking after? Understand; To serve the Lord is a great privilege, and honor.

What is it that I have learned? Or must learn?

Who else would we want to hear from in a time of transition?

*** I truly believe that we need to learn to be a servant before we can lead. It is the Lord that raises us up and gives us greater responsibilities, but only when we have proven ourselves to be faithful in the little things.

Matthew 25:21 – "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. <u>You were faithful with a few things</u>, <u>I will put you</u> <u>in charge of many things</u>; enter into the joy of your master.'"

*** We cannot limit ourselves by only seeing my mission, my ministry and not the overall objective. We need to know our pastor's mission and vision to be able to accomplish the objective and fulfill God's plan.

v. 2

"Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise," ~ my servant has passed, now because of this get up, the work, my work, The Lord's work has to continue on. He isn't done yet. We need to trust Him at His Word.

It was time to listen and obey, not to be questioning the new leader, Joshua.

Joshua 3:15-17 New Living Translation (NLT)

The people needed to understand this. It is not the servant who is of upmost importance, <u>it is the Lord</u>. <u>Servants will come and go</u>, <u>but the Lord remains in control</u>. He is the one that all of us need to trust. He is the focal point here, He is the Master.

What is it that the Lord is telling us? To move across what river? Sometimes we don't need to know all the particulars, the who, the what, where, and why's. We just need to trust and obey.

2. Encouragement from God's promises vv. 3-6:

v. 3

He is basically saying if you trust me and obey me, I will stretch you to the point where I will expand your borders.

v. 4

Sometimes we ourselves just need to take those steps of faith. When the Lord tells us to trust him, and to walk in faith, we are to be obedient.

v. 5

1 Corinthians 15:54-57

1 John 1:9

Matthew 28:20 – "teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and Io, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Hebrews 13:5-6 – "Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, '<u>I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU,</u>' ⁶ so that we confidently say, 'THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?'"

But the real question is, are we with Him? Are we trusting? Are we obeying? He will be with us in all of our troubles, through the storms of life, through the battles and spiritual battles. We simply just need to ABIDE in Christ and He will get us through these difficult times. HE IS WITH US.

Romans 8:31

v. 6

He promised it to Abraham, then it went to Isaac, then to Jacob, Joseph, Moses.

So we can see that we can be encouraged through this promises.

3. Encouragement from God's word vv. 7-8:

v. 7

Joshua would be encouraged, would be strengthened, and be able to be courageous by meditating on His Word.

James 1:22

We must be doers of the Word in order to not go astray. So we must study and find the application, and then follow through with the application.

v. 8

We learn to delight in His Word, as it says in **Psalm 1:2.**

We transform our thinking and actions by being in His Word, **Romans 12:1-2.**

We need to find the time to spend in God's Word, and if we are to be strong and courageous, we need to not only read His Word, but we need to live His Word.

So be encouraged by His Word.

4. Encouragement from God's commandment v. 9:

v. 9

What are your fears? What has rattled you? What giant obstacles are you facing? What storms?

Application:

- 1. We truly need to hang on to the promises of God.
- 2. We may not know all the particulars. But we need to trust and obey Him.
- 3. We need to know that He is with us.
- 4. We have the responsibility to meditate on God's Word. This will help us to know and remind us that He is with us. By being in His Word it will help us to **Be strong and courageous!**