Be Strong and Courageous

Greg Kline · Joshua 1:1–9

INTRODUCTION

- Joshua is exhorted to be strong and courageous three times in Joshua chapter 1.
- The lesson clearly is about the message to Joshua be strong and courageous, do not fear or be dismayed, trust in God for the victory.

1 Joshua Was Given a Monumental Task

Joshua 1:1–9; Joshua 3:15–16

- Joshua was to lead the people, and he was to lead them in a particular way. He was given a monumental task.
- Obviously, it was to lead the people into the promised land. But another gigantic part of this task is who he was replacing. He was replacing Moses.
- Joshua had to deal with the flooding of the Jordan. They had to cross through this elevated water. This would be no easy task.

2 Just As I Was With Moses

Joshua 1:5–6; Joshua 12

- Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous.
- As God was faithful to Moses, he could take that and be strong and courageous, knowing God blessed Moses, and God is now promising the same to Joshua and his leadership.
- How is he to be strong and courageous? Because God promised that he would deliver him. God promised Joshua and his people, this land is for you.

3 Strong and Very Courageous: Do Not Turn From the Law

Joshua 1:7–8; Psalm 1

- Be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses, my servant, commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left.
- Joshua was to be strong and courageous, knowing what? That he should not depart from the will of God.
- If God promises victory to his people, but that same God promises a condition upon which that victory would be had, it is vital.
- If we're going to be a good, strong and courageous soldier of the Lord's, we need to constantly be emboldened by the words of God. And that includes sticking to his message.

4 Do Not Be Dismayed: The Lord Is With You

Joshua 1:9

- Be strong and courageous, do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed. Why? For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.
- If Joshua was being a little bit intimidated by the task, he shouldn't have, because God was behind him.
- Joshua needed to stand firm knowing God was with him. And with God with him, no one could move him.

5 Trust in God for the Victory

Joshua 3:7–17; Joshua 6:1–5

- Joshua was to trust in God for the victory. That's the essence of what God is telling Joshua. Stick with me, and you will have victory.
- Because God sees no boundaries. There is no obstacle that God cannot break before his people.
- See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor.
- It would not have been right for Joshua to sit back in Joshua chapter 6 and verse 2 and say, The Lord said I have victory, now I'm going to sit and do nothing.

6 Trust in Jesus to Lead Us to Heaven

John 14:1–6; Galatians 6:7–9; Hebrews 12:1–4

- We need to trust in Jesus to lead us to heaven. When God has said something, it is so.
- I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- And let us not grow weary of doing good. For in due season we will reap if we do not give up.
- Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.
- Put your trust in God today. But that's not just mental acceptance. It's submission to his will.
- God's condition to us is clear to submit to Christ.

THE CHALLENGE

I need to devote my life to him. That means getting off the couch, getting out of the pews, and going into the world and living a radically changed life because that's what Jesus commands of us. Are we up to the challenge?

MY NOTES