

First Baptist Poinciana

Sunday | April 3, 2022 | Message

“One Side or the Other”

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Key Scripture Passage: Joshua 1:10-18

Overview:

- Israel’s long period of wandering has ended.
- They were 40 years making their way to the Promised Land that God wanted to give them; it could have been reached in as little as 11 days by the most direct route.
- It had taken them 2 years to get to the point of sending the 12 spies, and another 38 years in unbelief and disobedience to God.

There’s a transition:

- The majority of them are ready to follow God and the leadership of Joshua
- The former generation refused to let God direct them (God’s call was repeated)
- The new generation was alive, grown, and ready to enter the Promised Land.

There’s a reminder:

- God has not forsaken/forgotten them over all of these years.
 - God is faithful
 - God never fails.
 - What God starts - He will finish. (Phil. 1:6)

Be Strong & Be Courageous!

Joshua 1:10-18

1. We are about to do this! **GET READY**
2. Prepare & Gather Provisions
 1. There is a part for us to do in **GOD’S PLAN**

Then - Joshua stops mid-orders and confronts an issue that is going to divide the nation of Israel.

The Promise of the Promised Land Made No Difference.

(Numbers 32:1-5)

- 2 1/2 Tribes here want to do their own thing. They went to Moses to state their case - and Moses agreed to their tactics under stated conditions.
- We know what God has for us on the other side - it's just really not what we want.
- They want to stay where they are and not move to the Promised Land.

Now there are 2 groups.

- One is interested in God's blessings towards them and the inheritance God swore to them.
- One is interested only in what benefits them and their early wealth, business, and prosperity.

There are Spiritual & Carnal (Worldly) Believers

SPIRITUAL Believers want to seek God and all that He wants to bless them with, they desire to press on to the Land and obtain everything God has promised. They are ready to possess the Land.

CARNAL/WORLDLY Believers (Border Dwellers) are not completely committed, they watch from a distance, they have never truly learned to live by faith. They watch as others do, their heart is still with their cattle on the other side of the Jordan, and so that dictates their faith; or lack thereof.

QUESTION: What are you allowing to keep you from God's full blessing on your life?

*Sometimes we pick the
mess over the message &
The Cows over the Kingdom.*

Crossing the Jordan (v. 10-15)

Crossings are a symbol of change and beginnings.

1. Crossing the Red Sea - Escape from demonic ruler.
2. Crossing the Jordan River - Leads to God's Blessing and Promise.

QUESTION: What is ruling your heart? Christ (or) Self?

The Carnal Believers fell to Sin, Pride, and Punishment. (1 Chron. 5:25-26)

We All Have a Jordan to Cross. (v. 16-17, 18)

- Like the faithful in Joshua we are called to press on (cross) into everything that God has for us.
- We are not called to settle.
- Our reminder can be found in **Phil. 3:10-21**
 - Let everything stay behind - But give me Jesus.
 - I will take my stand and be Strong & Courageous

This means putting God in His rightful place in our lives. **FIRST.**

It means making the decision right now -today- to follow Jesus.

It means committing to press on through difficulties and have Faith in God.

It means wholeheartedly saying - I will follow God because I trust Him.