

EMBRACING CHANGE

"The Pain of Change"

Joshua 22

INTRODUCTION:

1. WE must never fear conflict....because change is inevitable, so is conflict.
 - Change will occur whether you EMBRACE it or not.
 - AND when you fear conflict you don't ever want to see change.
2. From **Joshua 1** to **Joshua 22** we have covered about 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ years and 31 battles.
3. **Joshua 22:1-4**
 - a) All the battles are over and all military operations have ceased.
 - b) All the tribes now have their inheritances.
4. **Numbers 32:6-15**
 - a) Moses was furious with the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tribes.
5. **Numbers 32:16-22**
6. **Joshua 22:7-9**
7. **Vs 10**
 - a) "*of imposing size*" - super sized!!!
8. **Vs 11-12**

TWO THINGS THAT ARE VITAL TO KNOW IN THE MIDST OF CHANGE

I. IN THE MIDST OF CHANGE THERE ARE THINGS THAT MUST NEVER CHANGE

1. **Joshua 21:44-45**
2. **Vs 44**
 - a) "*rest*" - does not mean the absence of activity!!!
3. **JESUS DID NOT GO TO THE CROSS SO WE WOULD DO NOTHING.**

FIVE ABSOLUTE FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS THAT NEVER CHANGE

- A. NEVER CHANGE YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO GOD'S WORD

1. Vs 5a

- a) "observe the commandment and the law of Moses"

B. NEVER CHANGE YOUR COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP

1. Vs 5b

- a) "to love the Lord your God"

2. Luke 10:27

- a) "You shall love the Lord your God..."

1) "with all your heart"

- a) Emotions

2) "with all your soul"

- a) Your person...who you are.

3) "with all your strength"

- a) In your physical body.

4) "with all your mind"

- a) Your intellect

C. NEVER CHANGE YOUR COMMITMENT TO A GODLY WALK

1. Vs 5c

- a) "to walk in all his ways"

- 1) "walk" - refers to our lifestyle

D. NEVER CHANGE YOUR COMMITMENT TO GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE

1. Vs 5d

- a) "to cling to Him"

- 1) "cling" - means to hold on, to grab onto, to cleave.

E. NEVER CHANGE YOUR COMMITMENT TO HIS WORK

1. Vs 5e

- a) "and to serve him"

II. CHANGE DOES NOT MEAN CONFLICT

1. Vs 10-25

2. Vs 16

a) "*breach of faith*" - "*betrayal*" = unfaithful

3. Vs 16

a) "*turning away*" - means a change of direction

4. Vs 16

a) "*by building yourselves an altar this day in rebellion against the LORD*"

5. Three things:

a) "*betrayal*" -

b) "*turned away*" -

c) "*rebellion*" -

6. Two Illustrations

a) Vs 17

1) Cf. Numbers 25:1-3

2) Numbers 25:4

3) Numbers 25:5-9

4) Joshua 22:17-18

b) Joshua 22:20

1) Cf. 7:1

2) Joshua 22:21

7. Vs 22a

1) "*The Mighty One...God the LORD*"

a) El - The mighty one

b) Elohim - God

c) Yahweh - the LORD

8. Vs 22b-23

9. Vs 24-28

APPLICATION: *What do you do when you get in the midst of conflict?*

#1 Be sensitive to misunderstandings.

a) *Proverbs 18:13*

#2 Be serious about priorities.

a) *Joshua 22:5*

b) *We must choose priority over preference.*

#3 Be humble.

a) *Sometimes we need to admit our being wrong.*

1) *Joshua 22:22*

#4 Be sensitive of heart.

a) *Phineas needed to be sensitive first.*

1) *Vs 16-18*

2) *Vs 19*

#5 Glorify God

a) *Vs 30*

1) *"It was good in their eyes" Yes and Amen!*

b) *Vs 32-34*