

CONQUEST AND VICTORY

"Monuments of Victory"

Joshua 4

INTRODUCTION:

1. "We need to look backward, to prepare us to look forward, so we can live In the present."
2. Joshua 4 presents us with an immeasurable truth that our hope for the future is based on the memories of the past, and that gives meaning to the present.

I. NEVER FORGET WHAT GOD HAS DONE

- Vs 1a
 - "When all the nation had finished passing over the Jordan"
 - The Lord held back the Jordan.
 - A nation of 3.5 million crossed over on DRY ground.
 - The Israelites were finally and fully, crossed over the Jordan into Canaan.
 - The Ark of the Covenant was in plain sight.

A. PEOPLE WERE SANCTIFIED

1. Joshua 3:5

- a) "Consecrate" - means to get ready spiritually.

2. QUESTION: "What do you think they did to get ready spiritually so God could do something BIG?

- a) They made sure they were unified!
 - 1) Ephesians 4:1-3
- b) They prayed.
 - 1) Philippians 4:6-7
- c) They asked forgiveness of one another.
 - 1) Ephesians 4:32
 - 2) Colossians 3:13
- d) They personally repented of sins and got right in their own hearts.
 - 1) 1 John 1:9
- e) They were set apart.
 - 1) 1 Peter 1:15-16

B. THE LEADER WAS MAGNIFIED

1. Joshua 3:7

a) Pastor Duke

1) *"Before Goliath went down in public, a bear and a lion went down in private."*

2) **POINT:** *"Don't expect public displays of God's hand upon us if we don't seek His heart in public."*

2. Joshua 3:7

3. Joshua 4:14

a) "awe" - means to reverence and hold in high regard.

C. THE LORD WAS GLORIFIED

1. Joshua 4:23-24

a) WOW!!!

1) *"The moment God miraculously opened the waters of the Jordan for His people Word spread throughout Canaan, and wherever people met they talked about the God of Israel."*

2. AND GOD IS PASSIONATE ABOUT HIS GLORY.

a) Piper - *"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him"*

3. 1 Corinthians 10:31

D. GOD'S WORD WAS VERIFIED

1. Joshua 3:7-13

II. MEMORIALS ARE GOOD

1. Joshua 4:1-8

a) Vs 6

1) *"sign"* - points to something of greater significance.

b) It was to be a **public reminder!!**

2. Vs 9

a) "And Joshua set up"

1) This is something Joshua did on his own.

b) Cf. 4:2-3

1) Nothing about a monument in the river.

3. God wants us to remember and for us to have memorials so we don't forget.

a) **God saved Noah and his family through the flood, and gave the RAINBOW as a memorial.**

b) **God gave the Israelites the Ark of the Covenant to remind them of His presence. The Ark contained:**

1) The 10 Commandments - God's code of conduct by which to live.

2) A small jar of Manna - God took care of His people in the desert wilderness.

3) Aaron's Rod - God's leadership and guidance.

c) **Today's Memorials**

1) **Baptism** - is a memorial/reminder of our being raised in newness of life.

2) **Communion** - Reminder of His death, burial, and resurrection.

a) The **bread** - is a reminder that His body was broken.

b) The **cup** - the blood he shed

c) **1 Corinthians 11:17-32** Wow!!!

4. Three reasons for memorials:

A. **FOR ENCOURAGEMENT**

1. Israel was going to face some huge obstacles in the future.

a) The memorial @ Gilgal was to remind them of what God has already done.

2. **WOW!!!** They were going to fight against pure evil in Canaan.

B. **FOR EDUCATION**

1. **Joshua 4:6-7**

2. **Cf. Judges 2:10**

C. FOR DIRECTION

1. **Joshua 4:24**

a) Cf. 2:10-11

2. **Think about it!!!**

a) God wants us to have memorials so that we can be **ENCOURAGED AND EDUCATE**, so that the whole world might know that our *God is the one true and living God*.

3. **Isaiah 49:6**

4. **Genesis 12:1-3**

CONCLUSION:

3 QUESTIONS:

1. **What has God done in your life that you never want to forget?**

2. **What legacy are you leaving to your children concerning God's miraculous work on your behalf?**

3. **What do those closest to you know about your God?**