

## Joshua One, Eight

Intro: Who was Joshua?

- 1) First mentioned - Ex 17:9, 10, 13, 14.
- 2) At ~~sinai~~ <sup>Ex. 33:11</sup> - Ex. 33:11.
- 3) One of the two courageous spies in Num. 13, 14. He was a man who was not afraid to stand alone.
- 3) Chosen to succeed Moses - Num 27:15-23. See esp. v. 21 (?).

now the moment had come. (Read Joshua 1:1-9.)

Three times he is told to be <sup>strong +</sup> courageous (Josh. 1:6, 7, 9). How could he be? v. 8 gives us our answer.

### THE WORD

I. "The Book of The Law" - all there was of the written Word of God at that time. Cf. Deut 31:24-27. It was a book which emphasized obedience to God.

What about it?

"Shall not depart out of thy mouth."

Cf. Moses' task - Ex. 13:9. What did it mean? <sup>before that</sup> Cf. Num. 22:38; Deut. 18:18. Ex. 4:11-16.

IT MEANT THAT HE WAS TO GIVE PEOPLE THE WORD. HE WAS NOT TO CHOOSE THE WAY, BUT TO GUIDE THEM BY THE WORD OF GOD. Nothing else was to be brought in! The Word of God is sufficient.

If that were true of 5 books, HOW MUCH MORE IS IT TRUE OF 66 BOOKS.

II. THE WORKER - "But thou shalt meditate therein day and night."

Think of spending every day of your life continually on Gen., Ex., Lev., Num.,

+ Dent! But what a wonderful amount of truth he had, & could learn! Here is evidence that it is the Word. It can never be exhausted - even the Law! Cf. Psa. 1:2.

Meditation - not done very often any more. But the more we study it, the more clearly we understand it, the better we can teach it, the more powerful will be its impact.

Who would think Joshua would have time for this?

Ill.: My own experience after teaching Gen for 10 years at MSB. Destroying notes, starting over.

For fathers: Deut. 6:7; 11:19.

For kings: Deut. 17:18-20.

Why all of this?

Obedience - "that thou mayest observe to do according to ALL that is written therein." All is important. A changed, obedient life is the object. This is even evident in the name: the LAW!

### III. THE WORK.

"Then" is used 2x in Eng as it is in Heb., meaning, after that.

To be "prosperous" is to accomplish what God had called him to do. It has nothing to do with prosperity as the term is used by the world.

To "have good success" means to "act wisely" (K+D, 30).

"Thy way" =

- 1) The life.
- 2) The work.

Concl: What a story the book of Joshua holds - the fulfillment of a prophecy over 450 years old - given by God to Abraham!

If this were true in Joshua's day, how much more should it be true now with more of the Word.

The one thing which was absolutely essential for Joshua was THE WORD - with his life lived in obedience to it. With the Word in his life + in his work, he could not hold back the blessing of God!

Today when we are made to feel that we need the Word + a lot of other things, it is good to be reminded that the person who will be a blessing will be the person who lives in the Word and according to the Word!